

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13498
Folder ID Number: 13498-010

Folder Title:
Fraternal Order of Police Convention, Oklahoma City (cancelled) 8/1/89 [1]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	4	4

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

89 JUL 26 P3: 55 ✓

July 26, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: BRENT O. HATCH *BH*
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Fraternal Order of Police
Convention (Oklahoma City, OK)

I have reviewed the above-referenced draft, and the Counsel's office has no legal objections to this speech.

cc: James W. Cicconi

Room 120

Document No. 057176

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 07/25/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: c.o.b. Wednesday 07/26

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
(07/25 6:00 p.m. draft three)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

89 JUL 26 15:05

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by close of business on Wednesday, 07/26, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE: No comment.

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

1989 JUL 25 PM 8

(McNally/Simon)
July 25, 1989, 6:00 p.m.
Draft Three (FOP)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.

Thank you, Dewey [[STOKES, F.O.P. PRESIDENT]]. I am pleased that the Attorney General is with us today -- and with the fine Sooner hospitality we've enjoyed from Governor Bellmon and Mayor Norick. Henry and Ron -- we're thrilled to be back with my home-state neighbors in the great land they call Oklahoma.

And thank you -- all 10,000 of you -- not only for your warm greeting today -- but also for the service and sacrifice you in law enforcement contribute every day.

Dewey was reminding me that -- since last summer alone -- this is the fourth time I've attended gatherings that include the Fraternal Order of Police. He warned that -- one more convention and they make me start paying dues.

Now Barbara's trying to get around it -- by having Millie certified for a K-9 squad.

Millie's a good watchdog. But for her to bark, the criminals have to do two things: Number one -- Millie's got to already know them. And number two -- they've got to be coming up the driveway by bicycle.

I told that to Dewey. He said it sounds like most of the federal programs he knows.

Earlier this summer -- on a dismal, drizzly, Washington afternoon -- I stood shoulder to shoulder with many of you here, gathered that day in a salute to those police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To honor that sacrifice, we invited Congress to join us in a new partnership with America's cities and states -- a new, national strategy to "take back the streets" -- by taking criminals off the streets.

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an arcane reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated "socio-babble" that turns "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts -- words without meaning.

But the nearly 10,000 men and women in this arena -- the men and women behind the badge -- know better. You know that crime -- and especially violent crime -- is not an academic exercise for dispassionate observation.

That's because you see it close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a nation that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself.

I am determined to see good protected and right defended.

There are people out there intent on doing wicked things. These street gang members and cop killers are society's scavengers -- as cowardly and amoral as wild dogs. And when they

spot someone vulnerable -- the elderly woman who has to cross the gang-controlled streets from the bus stop to her front door -- they see their fellow man the way a jackal sees a wounded doe.

As such barbarous acts reveal, a criminal thinks in a way simply unlike that of any other person. Some would like to believe that society is more to blame for crime than the criminal. Some say crime is caused by parents who are too distant -- others say it's parents who pamper their children too much. Some say crime is caused by America's poverty -- others say it's America's prosperity that's to blame. TV violence, boredom, passionate impulses -- everything and everyone is blamed. Except for the criminal.

You who work the streets know otherwise. The fact of the matter is, the criminal chooses his way of life, his companions, the kinds of crime he commits. He rejects society long before society rejects him. He is the victimizer -- not the victim.

And the law-abiding society you represent has a duty to punish wrongdoers. Punishment is not -- as some may see it -- an unseemly indulgence in revenge. Just punishment is a civilized response to wrong. Punishment is necessary not only as a deterrent to future crimes, but for its own sake. Which is to say -- for the sake of justice.

This tradition of justice speaks not of a society that disparages human life, but rather, one that treasures innocent human life as precious and unique. In Larry McMurtry's classic Western, Lonesome Dove, two pioneering lawmen finally put an end

to the deadly rampage of a brutal gang in the Oklahoma Territory. One of the outlaws turns out to be Jake Spoon, the lawmen's old partner.

"It's a bad situation," says Captain Call, in the moments before arresting his old friend. "But there he is... He put himself in it."

McMurtry's saga -- like the lives of the real-life pioneers who inspired it -- reveals some simple truths. Most Americans believe that each of us has an innate capability of succumbing to evil -- but always the freedom to choose instead to do good. We're talking about individual responsibility. We're talking about character.

We must do a better job of investing in character. We hear a lot about what our rights are -- but not enough about our duties. We need to rekindle a spirit of duty, decency and personal responsibility. Harry Truman said it plainly: "We must not permit the existence of conditions which cause our children to believe that crime is inevitable and normal."

Only the American people can make this change in attitude, this investment in character. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We won't do it by looking to the government. And we certainly won't do it by blaming injustice on abstract social forces.

But parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. They -- and probably only they -- can teach our kids right from wrong.

As the great criminologist, James Q. Wilson, has said: "In the long run, the public interest depends on private virtue."

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exists to serve others -- can also invest in the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

It's being done right now. By people like Kimi Gray, whose Washington tenants committee instilled such pride that they turned an open air drug market into the first public housing project to be purchased by its own tenants.

And by people like Father George Clements, whose private anti-drug crusade convinced more than 100 stores on Chicago's South Side to stop selling drug paraphernalia. When one store balked -- claiming the right to sell anything that's "legal" -- a local businessman spoke up. "It's not enough to be legal," he declared. "You must be ethical, too."

In both these cases, the communities were successful because the people had the guts to come forward and the police had the good sense to meet them half-way. Wherever the police have demonstrated that America can "take back the streets" -- following successful models like New York's "TNT's" -- the hard-hitting Tactical Narcotics Teams -- there is an opportunity to build new partnerships, to build new lives.

Of course, not every community is a success story. In the South Jamaica neighborhood where New York patrolman Eddie Byrne was executed, bars now cover the windows of businesses and homes.

Well, I've got some news. The wrong people are behind bars. And its time for us to turn the tables, to set things to rights.

When we joined you at the Capitol in May to honor Eddie and his fallen brothers and sisters, we came armed with a plan of attack -- a common sense plan to hold people accountable for their actions. Criminals have simply got to know that:

- o If they commit a crime -- they will be caught.
- o And if caught -- they will be prosecuted.
- o And if convicted -- they will do time.

The national strategy we sent to Congress seeks to take violent criminals off the streets with an attack on four fronts. New laws to punish them. New agents to arrest them. New prosecutors to convict them. And new prisons to hold them.

We propose to dramatically change the rules of the game. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no penalty is too tough.

The American people are overwhelmingly in favor of this kind of tough, anti-violence legislation. There are not two sides to this issue. These proposals are now before Congress and should be passed without delay -- this year. The American people are in no mood to abide tough talk while their leaders pursue the failed policies of liberal leniency.

And to be effective -- my colleagues in America's cities and states -- your Mayors and Governors back home -- have to back you

up with the same new tools we're proposing for the feds. That means not only tough new laws -- but also new resources -- the police, prosecutors and prisons you need not just to hold your own -- but to win.

Those of you who were with us on that rainy day at the Capitol know that, from the day I took office, Eddie Byrne's badge has had a special place in my desk in the Oval Office. It is you assembled here who know best the meaning of Eddie's sacrifice and commitment -- you who have gone to the lonely places where the streets sound with thunder on cloudless days.

And in this month of memories and heroes -- of men who walked on the moon, pilots who defied both physics and fate to save dozens of lives, and an entire town in Iowa that rose to the task --- it's hard not to be reminded of the everyday, quiet heroism of the men and women behind the badge -- you who have chosen to bring goodness into the world.

We are proud of you, we stand behind you, and -- like the American people -- we have high expectations for you. And here in this room -- and across this great land -- the Fraternal Order of Police represents 200,000 reasons why you are going to succeed.

Be careful out there. God bless you and those you are sworn to protect. And God bless the United States.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 07/25/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: c.o.b. Wednesday 07/26

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
(07/25 6:00 p.m. draft three)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by close of business on Wednesday, 07/26, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

26:37 92 JUL 26 @ 3:37

*See comments.
7/26/89*

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1989 JUL 25 PM 8:00

(McNally/Simon)
July 25, 1989, 6:00 p.m.
Draft Three (FOP)

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.**

Thank you, Dewey [[STOKES, F.O.P. PRESIDENT]]. I am pleased that the Attorney General is with us today -- and with the fine Sooner hospitality we've enjoyed from Governor Bellmon and Mayor Norick. Henry and Ron -- we're thrilled to be back with my home-state neighbors in the great land they call Oklahoma.

And thank you -- all 10,000 of you -- not only for your warm greeting today -- but also for the service and sacrifice you in law enforcement contribute every day.

Dewey was reminding me that -- since last summer alone -- this is the fourth time I've attended gatherings that include the Fraternal Order of Police. He warned that -- one more convention and they make me start paying dues.

Now Barbara's trying to get around it -- by having Millie certified for a K-9 squad.

Millie's a good watchdog. But for her to bark, the criminals have to do two things: Number one -- Millie's got to already know them. And number two -- they've got to be coming up the driveway by bicycle.

I told that to Dewey. He said it sounds like most of the federal programs he knows.

Justice - Dave Runkel - 633-2105

Earlier this summer -- on a dismal, drizzly, Washington afternoon -- I stood shoulder to shoulder with many of you here, gathered that day in a salute to those police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To honor that sacrifice, we invited Congress to join us in a new partnership with America's cities and states -- a new, national strategy to "take back the streets" -- by taking criminals off the streets.

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an arcane reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated "socio-babble" that turns "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts -- words without meaning.

But the nearly 10,000 men and women in this arena -- the men and women behind the badge -- know better. You know that crime -- and especially violent crime -- is not an academic exercise for dispassionate observation.

That's because you see it close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a nation that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself.

I am determined to see good protected and right defended.

There are people out there intent on doing wicked things. These street gang members and cop killers are society's scavengers -- as cowardly and amoral as wild dogs. And when they

spot someone vulnerable -- the elderly woman who has to cross the gang-controlled streets from the bus stop to her front door -- they see their fellow man the way a jackal sees a wounded doe.

As such barbarous acts reveal, a criminal thinks in a way simply unlike that of any other person. Some would like to believe that society is more to blame for crime than the criminal. Some say crime is caused by parents who are too distant -- others say it's parents who pamper their children too much. Some say crime is caused by America's poverty -- others say it's America's prosperity that's to blame. TV violence, boredom, passionate impulses -- everything and everyone is blamed. Except for the criminal.

You who work the streets know otherwise. The fact of the matter is, the criminal chooses his way of life, his companions, the kinds of crime he commits. He rejects society long before society rejects him. He is the victimizer -- not the victim.

And the law-abiding society you represent has a duty to punish wrongdoers. Punishment is not -- as some may see it -- an unseemly indulgence in revenge. Just punishment is a civilized response to wrong. Punishment is necessary not only as a deterrent to future crimes, but for its own sake. Which is to say -- for the sake of justice.

This tradition of justice speaks not of a society that disparages human life, but rather, one that treasures innocent human life as precious and unique. In Larry McMurtry's classic Western, Lonesome Dove, two pioneering lawmen finally put an end

may want to mention
Mehmet
in D.C.
Killed
last
week

to the deadly rampage of a brutal gang in the Oklahoma Territory. One of the outlaws turns out to be Jake Spoon, the lawmen's old partner.

"It's a bad situation," says Captain Call, in the moments before arresting his old friend. "But there he is... He put himself in it."

McMurtry's saga -- like the lives of the real-life pioneers who inspired it -- reveals some simple truths. Most Americans believe that each of us has an innate capability of succumbing to evil -- but always the freedom to choose instead to do good. We're talking about individual responsibility. We're talking about character.

We must do a better job of investing in character. We hear a lot about what our rights are -- but not enough about our duties. We need to rekindle a spirit of duty, decency and personal responsibility. Harry Truman said it plainly: "We must not permit the existence of conditions which cause our children to believe that crime is inevitable and normal."

Only the American people can make this change in attitude, this investment in character. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We won't do it by looking to the government. And we certainly won't do it by blaming injustice on abstract social forces.

But parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. They -- and probably only they -- can teach our kids right from wrong.

As the great criminologist, James Q. Wilson, has said: "In the long run, the public interest depends on private virtue."

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exists to serve others -- can also invest in the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

It's being done right now. By people like Kimi Gray, whose Washington tenants committee instilled such pride that they turned an open air drug market into the first public housing project to be purchased by its own tenants.

And by people like Father George Clements, whose private anti-drug crusade convinced more than 100 stores on Chicago's South Side to stop selling drug paraphernalia. When one store balked -- claiming the right to sell anything that's "legal" -- a local businessman spoke up. "It's not enough to be legal," he declared. "You must be ethical, too."

In both these cases, the communities were successful because the people had the guts to come forward and the police had the good sense to meet them half-way. Wherever the police have demonstrated that America can "take back the streets" -- following successful models like New York's "TNT's" -- the hard-hitting Tactical Narcotics Teams -- there is an opportunity to build new partnerships, to build new lives.

Of course, not every community is a success story. In the South Jamaica neighborhood where New York patrolman Eddie Byrne was executed, bars now cover the windows of businesses and homes.

Well, I've got some news. The wrong people are behind bars. And its time for us to turn the tables, to set things to rights.

When we joined you at the Capitol in May to honor Eddie and his fallen brothers and sisters, we came armed with a plan of attack -- a common sense plan to hold people accountable for their actions. Criminals have simply got to know that:

- o If they commit a crime -- they will be caught.
- o And ^{when} ~~is~~ caught -- they will be prosecuted.
- o And if convicted -- they will do time.

The national strategy we sent to Congress seeks to take violent criminals off the streets with an attack on four fronts. New laws to punish them. New agents to arrest them. New prosecutors to convict them. And new prisons to hold them.

We propose to dramatically change the rules of the game. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no penalty is too tough.

The American people are overwhelmingly in favor of this kind of tough, anti-violence legislation. There are not two sides to this issue. These proposals are now before Congress and should be passed without delay -- this year. The American people are in no mood to abide tough talk while their leaders pursue the failed policies of liberal leniency.

And to be effective -- my colleagues in America's cities and states -- your Mayors and Governors back home -- have to back you

up with the same new tools we're proposing for the feds. That means not only tough new laws -- but also new resources -- the police, prosecutors and prisons you need not just to hold your own -- but to win.

Those of you who were with us on that rainy day at the Capitol know that, from the day I took office, Eddie Byrne's badge has had a special place in my desk in the Oval Office. It is you assembled here who know best the meaning of Eddie's sacrifice and commitment -- you who have gone to the lonely places where the streets sound with thunder on cloudless days.

And in this month of memories and heroes -- of men who walked on the moon, pilots who defied both physics and fate to save dozens of lives, and an entire town in Iowa that rose to the task --- it's hard not to be reminded of the everyday, quiet heroism of the men and women behind the badge -- you who have chosen to bring goodness into the world.

We are proud of you, we stand behind you, and -- like the American people -- we have high expectations for you. And here in this room -- and across this great land -- the Fraternal Order of Police represents 200,000 reasons why you are going to succeed.

Be careful out there. God bless you and those you are sworn to protect. And God bless the United States.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 07/25/89

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: c.o.b. Wednesday 07/26 4:00

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
(07/25 6:00 p.m. draft three)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by close of business on Wednesday, 07/26, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

89 JUL 28 P 6: 28

Simon

(McNally/Simon)
July 25, 1989, 6:00 p.m.
Draft Three (FOP)

1989 JUL 25 11 0

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.

Thank you, Dewey [[STOKES, F.O.P. PRESIDENT]]. I am pleased that the Attorney General is with us today -- and with the fine Sooner hospitality we've enjoyed from Governor Bellmon and Mayor Norick. Henry and Ron -- we're thrilled to be back with my home-state neighbors in the great land they call Oklahoma.

And thank you -- all 10,000 of you -- not only for your warm greeting today -- but also for the service and sacrifice you in law enforcement contribute every day.

Dewey was reminding me that -- since last summer alone -- this is the fourth time I've attended gatherings that include the Fraternal Order of Police. He warned that -- one more convention and they make me start paying dues.

Now Barbara's trying to get around it -- by having Millie certified for a K-9 squad.

Millie's a good watchdog. But for her to bark, the criminals have to do two things: Number one -- Millie's got to already know them. And number two -- they've got to be coming up the driveway by bicycle.

I told that to Dewey. He said it sounds like most of the federal programs he knows.

Earlier this summer -- on a dismal, drizzly, Washington afternoon -- I stood shoulder to shoulder with many of you here, gathered that day in a salute to those police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To honor that sacrifice, we invited Congress to join us in a new partnership with America's cities and states -- a new, national strategy to "take back the streets" -- by taking criminals off the streets.

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an *obsolete (or ancient)* ~~arcane~~ reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated "socio-babble" that turns "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts -- words without meaning.

But the nearly 10,000 men and women in this arena -- the men and women behind the badge -- know better. You know that crime -- and especially violent crime -- is not an academic exercise for dispassionate observation.

That's because you see it close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a nation that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself.

I am determined to see good protected and right defended.

There are people out there intent on doing wicked things. These street gang members and cop killers are society's scavengers -- as cowardly and amoral as wild dogs. And when they

arcane is just not the correct word here

spot someone vulnerable -- the elderly woman who has to cross the gang-controlled streets from the bus stop to her front door -- they see their fellow man the way a jackal sees a wounded doe.

As such barbarous acts reveal, a criminal thinks in a way simply unlike that of any other person. Some would like to believe that society is more to blame for crime than the criminal. Some say crime is caused by parents who are too distant -- others say it's parents who pamper their children too much. Some say crime is caused by America's poverty -- others say it's America's prosperity that's to blame. TV violence, boredom, passionate impulses -- everything and everyone is blamed. Except for the criminal.

You who work the streets know otherwise. The fact of the matter is, the criminal chooses his way of life, his companions, the kinds of crime he commits. He rejects society long before society rejects him. He is the victimizer -- not the victim.

And the law-abiding society you represent has a duty to punish wrongdoers. Punishment is not -- as some may see it -- an unseemly indulgence in revenge. Just punishment is a civilized response to wrong. Punishment is necessary not only as a deterrent to future crimes, but for its own sake. Which is to say -- for the sake of justice.

This tradition of justice speaks not of a society that disparages human life, but rather, one that treasures innocent human life as precious and unique. In Larry McMurtry's classic Western, Lonesome Dove, two pioneering lawmen finally put an end

to the deadly rampage of a brutal gang ^{through} ~~in~~ the Oklahoma Territory. One of the outlaws turns out to be Jake Spoon, the lawmen's old partner.

"It's a bad situation," says Captain Call, in the moments before arresting his old friend. "But there he is... He put himself in it."

McMurtry's saga -- like the lives of the real-life pioneers who inspired it -- reveals some simple truths. Most Americans believe that each of us has an innate capability of succumbing to evil -- but always the freedom to choose instead to do good. We're talking about individual responsibility. We're talking about character.

We must do a better job of investing in character. We hear a lot about what our rights are -- but not enough about our duties. We need to rekindle a spirit of duty, decency and personal responsibility. Harry Truman said it plainly: "We must not permit the existence of conditions which cause our children to believe that crime is inevitable and normal."

Only the American people can make this change in attitude, this investment in character. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We won't do it by looking to the government. And we certainly won't do it by blaming injustice on abstract social forces.

But parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. They -- and probably only they -- can teach our kids right from wrong.

As the great criminologist, James Q. Wilson, has said: "In the long run, the public interest depends on private virtue."

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exists to serve others -- can also invest in the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

It's being done right now. By people like Kimi Gray, whose Washington tenants committee instilled such pride that they turned an open air drug market into the first public housing project to be purchased by its own tenants.

And by people like Father George Clements, whose private anti-drug crusade convinced more than 100 stores on Chicago's South Side to stop selling drug paraphernalia. When one store balked -- claiming the right to sell anything that's "legal" -- a local businessman spoke up. "It's not enough to be legal," he declared. "You must be ethical, too."

In both these cases, the communities were successful because the people had the guts to come forward and the police had the good sense to meet them half-way. Wherever the police have demonstrated that America can "take back the streets" -- following successful models like New York's "TNT's" -- the hard-hitting Tactical Narcotics Teams -- there is an opportunity to build new partnerships, to build new lives.

Of course, not every community is a success story. In the South Jamaica neighborhood where New York patrolman Eddie Byrne was executed, bars now cover the windows of businesses and homes.

Well, I've got some news. The wrong people are behind bars. And its time for us to turn the tables, to set things to rights.

When we joined you at the Capitol in May to honor Eddie and his fallen brothers and sisters, we came armed with a plan of attack -- a common sense plan to hold people accountable for their actions. Criminals have simply got to know that:

- o If they commit a crime -- they will be caught.
- o And if caught -- they will be prosecuted.
- o And if convicted -- they will do time.

The national strategy we sent to Congress seeks to take violent criminals off the streets with an attack on four fronts. New laws to punish them. New agents to arrest them. New prosecutors to convict them. And new prisons to hold them.

We propose to dramatically change the rules of the game. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no penalty is too tough.

The American people are overwhelmingly in favor of this kind of tough, anti-violence legislation. There are not two sides to this issue. These proposals are now before Congress and should be passed without delay -- this year. The American people are in no mood to abide tough talk while their leaders pursue the failed policies of liberal leniency.

And to be effective -- my colleagues in America's cities and states -- your Mayors and Governors back home -- have to back you

up with the same new tools we're proposing for the feds. That means not only tough new laws -- but also new resources -- the police, prosecutors and prisons you need not just to hold your own -- but to win.

Those of you who were with us on that rainy day at the Capitol know that, from the day I took office, Eddie Byrne's badge has had a special place in my desk in the Oval Office. It is you assembled here who know best the meaning of Eddie's sacrifice and commitment -- you who have gone to the lonely places where the streets sound with thunder on cloudless days.

And in this ^{Summer} ~~month~~ of memories and heroes -- of men who walked on the moon, pilots who defied both physics and fate to save dozens of lives, and an entire town in Iowa that rose to the task --- it's hard not to be reminded of the everyday, quiet heroism of the men and women behind the badge -- you who have chosen to bring goodness into the world.

We are proud of you, we stand behind you, and -- like the American people -- we have high expectations for you. And here in this room -- and across this great land -- the Fraternal Order of Police represents 200,000 reasons why you are going to succeed.

Be careful out there. God bless you and those you are sworn to protect. And God bless the United States.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 25, 1989

*Copy
Speechwriters
for Crime
Alert*



MEMORANDUM FOR:

C. BOYDEN GRAY
DAVID Q. BATES, JR.
FREDERICK D. McCLURE
ROGER B. PORTER
DAVID DEMAREST
STEPHEN STUDDERT
GREGG PETERSMEYER
JOSEPH W. HAGIN II (FYI)

FROM:

Amy Miller for
SHIRLEY GREEN
93 OEOB

SUBJECT:

(Draft Proclamation)
National Neighborhood
Crime Watch Day, 1989

Attached for your review is the above mentioned proclamation designating August 8, 1989, as "National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day."

It was submitted by the Department of Justice and edited/revised by this office.

(IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED.) Written response required by no later than C.O.B., THURSDAY, July 27. For routine clearance, questions, or discussion, call Amy Miller, extension 2276. Thank you.

NE

cc: Ron Geisler



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUL 10 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

James C. Murr *JCM*
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

SUBJECT:

National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day, 1989

Attached is a proclamation which, in accordance with S.J.Res. 136, would designate August 8, 1989, as "National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day."

The proposed proclamation was submitted by the Department of Justice, and format changes were made in this Office.

S.J.Res. 136 has passed the Senate. This proclamation is being forwarded in anticipation of House action.

Attachment

NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH DAY, 1989

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Communities across the United States bear testimony to the great things Americans can accomplish through their own resourcefulness and the help of neighbors. In business, government, education, and social services, the ingenuity and hard work of individual Americans have been both the foundation and the catalyst for progress.

Individual private citizens represent a particularly important force in our Nation's fight against crime. Last year, crime struck one in four American households. While law enforcement officials do all they can to apprehend and prosecute those who prey upon innocent victims, the cooperation of law-abiding citizens is vital to their efforts.

Today, more than 19 million Americans participate in neighborhood crime watch programs. They remain vigilant against criminal activity in their neighborhoods and report suspicious behavior to the police. They also keep special watch over elderly persons and others who might easily become victims of theft or violence. These Americans who look out for their neighbors and make a personal commitment to help fight crime serve as positive role models for young people, thereby demonstrating not only respect for the law, but also active concern for the well-being of others. Participants in crime watch programs affirm that, as communities, we must not and will not tolerate contempt for civil order and disregard for the rights of innocent people.

On August 8, 1989, millions of Americans will join their neighbors in "National Night Out," an evening sponsored each year by the National Association of Town Watch. This event provides citizens an opportunity to demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of community participation in crime

prevention efforts. During the "National Night Out," families spend the period between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on the porches, steps, or lawns of their homes as a notice to criminals that their communities are off limits to drug trafficking and other illicit activities. "National Night Out" is a way for all Americans to express their determination to protect and enjoy the security of their homes and neighborhoods.

To encourage all Americans to join with their neighbors in such crime prevention programs, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 136, has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating August 8, 1989, as "National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim August 8, 1989, as National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

day of _____, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH DAY, 1989

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Communities across the United States bear testimony to the great things Americans can accomplish through their own resourcefulness and the help of neighbors. In business, government, education, and social services, the ingenuity and hard work of individual Americans have been both the foundation and the catalyst for progress.

Individual private citizens represent a particularly important force in our Nation's fight against crime. Last year, crime struck one in four American households. While law enforcement officials do all they can to apprehend and prosecute those who prey upon innocent victims, the cooperation of law-abiding citizens is vital to their efforts.

Today, more than 19 million Americans participate in neighborhood crime watch programs. They remain vigilant against criminal activity in their neighborhoods and report suspicious behavior to the police. They also keep special watch over elderly persons and others who might easily become victims of theft or violence. These Americans who look out for their neighbors and make a personal commitment to help fight crime serve as positive role models for young people, thereby demonstrating not only respect for the law, but also active concern for the well-being of others. Participants in crime watch programs affirm that, as communities, we must not and will not tolerate contempt for civil order and disregard for the rights of innocent people.

On August 8, 1989, millions of Americans will join their neighbors in "National Night Out," an evening sponsored each year by the National Association of Town Watch. This event provides citizens an opportunity to demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of community participation in crime prevention efforts. During the "National Night Out," families spend the period between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on the porches, steps, or lawns of their homes as a notice to criminals that their communities are off limits to drug trafficking and other illicit activities. "National Night Out" is a way for all Americans to express their determination to protect and enjoy the security of their homes and neighborhoods.

To encourage all Americans to join with their neighbors in such crime prevention programs, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 136, has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating August 8, 1989, as "National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day."

more

(OVER)

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim August 8, 1989, as National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of , in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

#

app. to talk
w/ our
men -
about
drug)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1989

MEMORANDUM TO CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: President's Speech to the Fraternal Order of Police
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Tuesday, August 1, 1989

The following are my comments with respect to this draft speech:

1. At page 3, line 15, the sentence, "He rejects society long before society rejects him," should either be stricken, or softened.

Given the current atmosphere with respect to civil rights, this sentence strikes me as one that would be picked out and characterized as demonstrating an indifference to the impact of poverty on hope and opportunity.

The point of the central role of personal responsibility in choosing a life of crime has been well made. This sentence adds little to that thought and, in my view, could only serve to antagonize needlessly a constituency the President values.

2. At page 6, the third full paragraph sets forth the President's national strategy on violent crime. As written, three of the four elements involve a large expenditure of funds.

Following that paragraph, or perhaps the next paragraph, it may be advisable to state that those elements can be realized without increasing overall budget expenditures.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 07/25/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: c.o.b. Wednesday 07/26

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
(07/25 6:00 p.m. draft three)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by close of business on Wednesday, 07/26, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1989 JUL 25 PM 8

(McNally/Simon)
July 25, 1989, 6:00 p.m.
Draft Three (FOP)

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.**

Thank you, Dewey [[STOKES, F.O.P. PRESIDENT]]. I am pleased that the Attorney General is with us today -- and with the fine Sooner hospitality we've enjoyed from Governor Bellmon and Mayor Norick. Henry and Ron -- we're thrilled to be back with my home-state neighbors in the great land they call Oklahoma.

And thank you -- all 10,000 of you -- not only for your warm greeting today -- but also for the service and sacrifice you in law enforcement contribute every day.

Dewey was reminding me that -- since last summer alone -- this is the fourth time I've attended gatherings that include the Fraternal Order of Police. He warned that -- one more convention and they make me start paying dues.

Now Barbara's trying to get around it -- by having Millie certified for a K-9 squad.

Millie's a good watchdog. But for her to bark, the criminals have to do two things: Number one -- Millie's got to already know them. And number two -- they've got to be coming up the driveway by bicycle.

I told that to Dewey. He said it sounds like most of the federal programs he knows.

Earlier this summer -- on a dismal, drizzly, Washington afternoon -- I stood shoulder to shoulder with many of you here, gathered that day in a salute to those police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To honor that sacrifice, we invited Congress to join us in a new partnership with America's cities and states -- a new, national strategy to "take back the streets" -- by taking criminals off the streets.

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an arcane reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated "socio-babble" that turns "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts -- words without meaning.

But the nearly 10,000 men and women in this arena -- the men and women behind the badge -- know better. You know that crime -- and especially violent crime -- is not an academic exercise for dispassionate observation.

That's because you see it close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a nation that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself.

I am determined to see good protected and right defended.

There are people out there intent on doing wicked things. These street gang members and cop killers are society's scavengers -- as cowardly and amoral as wild dogs. And when they

spot someone vulnerable -- the elderly woman who has to cross the gang-controlled streets from the bus stop to her front door -- they see their fellow man the way a jackal sees a wounded doe.

As such barbarous acts reveal, a criminal thinks in a way simply unlike that of any other person. Some would like to believe that society is more to blame for crime than the criminal. Some say crime is caused by parents who are too distant -- others say it's parents who pamper their children too much. Some say crime is caused by America's poverty -- others say it's America's prosperity that's to blame. TV violence, boredom, passionate impulses -- everything and everyone is blamed. Except for the criminal.

You who work the streets know otherwise. The fact of the matter is, the criminal chooses his way of life, his companions, the kinds of crime he commits. He rejects society long before society rejects him. He is the victimizer -- not the victim.

And the law-abiding society you represent has a duty to punish wrongdoers. Punishment is not -- as some may see it -- an unseemly indulgence in revenge. Just punishment is a civilized response to wrong. Punishment is necessary not only as a deterrent to future crimes, but for its own sake. Which is to say -- for the sake of justice.

This tradition of justice speaks not of a society that disparages human life, but rather, one that treasures innocent human life as precious and unique. In Larry McMurtry's classic Western, Lonesome Dove, two pioneering lawmen finally put an end

to the deadly rampage of a brutal gang in the Oklahoma Territory. One of the outlaws turns out to be Jake Spoon, the lawmen's old partner.

"It's a bad situation," says Captain Call, in the moments before arresting his old friend. "But there he is... He put himself in it."

McMurtry's saga -- like the lives of the real-life pioneers who inspired it -- reveals some simple truths. Most Americans believe that each of us has an innate capability of succumbing to evil -- but always the freedom to choose instead to do good. We're talking about individual responsibility. We're talking about character.

We must do a better job of investing in character. We hear a lot about what our rights are -- but not enough about our duties. We need to rekindle a spirit of duty, decency and personal responsibility. Harry Truman said it plainly: "We must not permit the existence of conditions which cause our children to believe that crime is inevitable and normal."

Only the American people can make this change in attitude, this investment in character. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We won't do it by looking to the government. And we certainly won't do it by blaming injustice on abstract social forces.

But parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. They -- and probably only they -- can teach our kids right from wrong.

As the great criminologist, James Q. Wilson, has said: "In the long run, the public interest depends on private virtue."

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exists to serve others -- can also invest in the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

It's being done right now. By people like Kimi Gray, whose Washington tenants committee instilled such pride that they turned an open air drug market into the first public housing project to be purchased by its own tenants.

And by people like Father George Clements, whose private anti-drug crusade convinced more than 100 stores on Chicago's South Side to stop selling drug paraphernalia. When one store balked -- claiming the right to sell anything that's "legal" -- a local businessman spoke up. "It's not enough to be legal," he declared. "You must be ethical, too."

In both these cases, the communities were successful because the people had the guts to come forward and the police had the good sense to meet them half-way. Wherever the police have demonstrated that America can "take back the streets" -- following successful models like New York's "TNT's" -- the hard-hitting Tactical Narcotics Teams -- there is an opportunity to build new partnerships, to build new lives.

Of course, not every community is a success story. In the South Jamaica neighborhood where New York patrolman Eddie Byrne was executed, bars now cover the windows of businesses and homes.

Well, I've got some news. The wrong people are behind bars. And its time for us to turn the tables, to set things to rights.

When we joined you at the Capitol in May to honor Eddie and his fallen brothers and sisters, we came armed with a plan of attack -- a common sense plan to hold people accountable for their actions. Criminals have simply got to know that:

- o If they commit a crime -- they will be caught.
- o And if caught -- they will be prosecuted.
- o And if convicted -- they will do time.

The national strategy we sent to Congress seeks to take violent criminals off the streets with an attack on four fronts. New laws to punish them. New agents to arrest them. New prosecutors to convict them. And new prisons to hold them.

We propose to dramatically change the rules of the game. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no penalty is too tough.

The American people are overwhelmingly in favor of this kind of tough, anti-violence legislation. There are not two sides to this issue. These proposals are now before Congress and should be passed without delay -- this year. The American people are in no mood to abide tough talk while their leaders pursue the failed policies of liberal leniency.

And to be effective -- my colleagues in America's cities and states -- your Mayors and Governors back home -- have to back you

Budget Impact

up with the same new tools we're proposing for the feds. That means not only tough new laws -- but also new resources -- the police, prosecutors and prisons you need not just to hold your own -- but to win.

Those of you who were with us on that rainy day at the Capitol know that, from the day I took office, Eddie Byrne's badge has had a special place in my desk in the Oval Office. It is you assembled here who know best the meaning of Eddie's sacrifice and commitment -- you who have gone to the lonely places where the streets sound with thunder on cloudless days.

And in this month of memories and heroes -- of men who walked on the moon, pilots who defied both physics and fate to save dozens of lives, and an entire town in Iowa that rose to the task --- it's hard not to be reminded of the everyday, quiet heroism of the men and women behind the badge -- you who have chosen to bring goodness into the world.

We are proud of you, we stand behind you, and -- like the American people -- we have high expectations for you. And here in this room -- and across this great land -- the Fraternal Order of Police represents 200,000 reasons why you are going to succeed.

Be careful out there. God bless you and those you are sworn to protect. And God bless the United States.

#

REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.

THANK YOU. I AM PLEASED THAT DICK THORNBURGH, OUR
ABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL, IS WITH US TODAY -- AND WITH THE
FINE SOONER HOSPITALITY WE'VE ENJOYED FROM GOVERNOR
BELLMON AND MAYOR NORICK. HENRY AND RON -- WE'RE
THRILLED TO BE BACK WITH MY HOME-STATE NEIGHBORS IN THE
GREAT LAND THEY CALL OKLAHOMA. [[PAUSE]]

AND THANK YOU -- ALL 10,000 OF YOU -- NOT FOR
STANDING UP TO GREET US TODAY -- BUT FOR STANDING UP
FOR AMERICA EVERY DAY. [[PAUSE]]

[[STANDING HERE SURROUNDED BY SO MANY VETERAN
OFFICERS OF THE LAW -- THIS IS POSSIBLY THE SINGLE
SAFEST MOMENT OF MY ADULT LIFE. [[PAUSE]] BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN YOU ALL GET TO PUT IN FOR OVERTIME.]]

ACTUALLY, DICK THORNBURGH REMINDED ME THAT --
SINCE LAST SUMMER ALONE -- THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME I'VE
ATTENDED GATHERINGS THAT INCLUDE THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF
POLICE. DICK WARNED ME THAT -- ONE MORE CONVENTION AND
YOU'LL MAKE ME START PAYING DUES.

NOW BARBARA'S TRYING TO GET AROUND IT -- BY HAVING
MILLIE CERTIFIED FOR A K-9 SQUAD. [[PAUSE]]

[[IN TRUTH, ALL THIS GOOD PRESS HAS GONE TO
MILLIE'S HEAD. YESTERDAY WE SET OUT HER BOWL OF
ALPO -- AND SHE ASKED TO SEE THE WINE LIST.]]
[[PAUSE]]

EARLIER THIS SUMMER -- ON A DISMAL, DRIZZLY,
WASHINGTON AFTERNOON -- I STOOD SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
WITH MANY OF YOU HERE, GATHERED THAT DAY IN A SALUTE TO
THOSE POLICE OFFICERS WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

TO HONOR THAT SACRIFICE, WE INVITED CONGRESS TO
JOIN US IN A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S CITIES AND
STATES -- A NEW, NATIONAL STRATEGY -- A STRATEGY TO
"TAKE BACK THE STREETS" -- BY TAKING CRIMINALS OFF THE
STREETS.

THAT MEANS PUNISHING THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

TO SOME EARS, THE VERY WORD "EVIL" IS AN EMBARRASSMENT, AN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO OLD-FASHIONED ATTITUDES. WE'VE ALL HEARD THE SUPPOSEDLY SOPHISTICATED ARGUMENTS THAT TURNS "RIGHT" AND "WRONG" INTO EMPTY CONCEPTS -- WORDS WITHOUT MEANING.

BUT THE NEARLY 10,000 MEN AND WOMEN IN THIS ARENA -- THE MEN AND WOMEN BEHIND THE BADGE -- KNOW BETTER. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND ESPECIALLY VIOLENT CRIME -- IS NOT AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE FOR DISPASSIONATE OBSERVATION.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU SEE IT CLOSE-UP AND FIRST-HAND. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND CRIME FIGHTING -- IS USUALLY A QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG. GOOD AND EVIL. AND YOU KNOW THAT A NATION THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG WILL NEVER PROTECT ITSELF.

THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE INTENT ON DOING WICKED THINGS. THESE STREET GANG MEMBERS AND COP KILLERS ARE SOCIETY'S SCAVENGERS -- AS COWARDLY AND AMORAL AS WILD DOGS. AND WHEN THEY SPOT SOMEONE VULNERABLE -- THE ELDERLY WOMAN WHO HAS TO CROSS THE GANG-CONTROLLED STREETS FROM THE BUS STOP TO HER FRONT DOOR -- THEY SEE THEIR FELLOW MAN THE WAY A JACKAL SEES A WOUNDED DOE.

AS SUCH BARBAROUS ACTS REVEAL, A CRIMINAL THINKS IN A WAY SIMPLY UNLIKE THAT OF ANY OTHER PERSON. SOME WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT SOCIETY IS MORE TO BLAME FOR CRIME THAN THE CRIMINAL.

SOME SAY CRIME IS CAUSED BY PARENTS WHO ARE TOO DISTANT -- OTHERS SAY IT'S PARENTS WHO PAMPER THEIR CHILDREN TOO MUCH. SOME SAY CRIME IS CAUSED BY AMERICA'S POVERTY -- OTHERS SAY IT'S AMERICA'S PROSPERITY THAT'S TO BLAME. TV VIOLENCE, BOREDOM, PASSIONATE IMPULSES -- EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IS BLAMED. EVERYONE -- EXCEPT THE CRIMINAL.

YOU WHO WORK THE STREETS KNOW OTHERWISE. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, THE CRIMINAL CHOOSES HIS WAY OF LIFE, HIS COMPANIONS, THE KINDS OF CRIME HE COMMITS. HE REJECTS SOCIETY AND ITS VALUES. HE IS NOT THE VICTIM -- HE IS THE VICTIMIZER. AND IT'S ABOUT TIME TO DRIVE THAT POINT HOME. [[PAUSE]]

THE LAW-ABIDING SOCIETY YOU REPRESENT HAS A DUTY TO PUNISH WRONGDOERS. PUNISHMENT IS NOT -- AS SOME MAY SEE IT -- AN UNSEEMLY INDULGENCE IN REVENGE. JUST PUNISHMENT IS A CIVILIZED RESPONSE TO WRONG. PUNISHMENT IS NECESSARY NOT ONLY AS A DETERRENT TO FUTURE CRIMES, BUT FOR ITS OWN SAKE. WHICH IS TO SAY -- FOR THE SAKE OF JUSTICE. [[PAUSE]]

THIS TRADITION OF JUSTICE SPEAKS NOT OF A SOCIETY THAT DISPARAGES HUMAN LIFE, BUT RATHER, ONE THAT TREASURES INNOCENT HUMAN LIFE AS PRECIOUS AND UNIQUE. IN LARRY MCMURTRY'S CLASSIC WESTERN, LONESOME DOVE, TWO PIONEERING LAWYERS FINALLY PUT AN END TO A BRUTAL GANG'S DEADLY RAMPAGE THROUGH THE OKLAHOMA TERRITORY. ONE OF THE OUTLAWS TURNS OUT TO BE JAKE SPOON, THE LAWYERS' OLD PARTNER.

"IT'S A BAD SITUATION," SAYS CAPTAIN CALL, IN THE MOMENTS BEFORE ARRESTING HIS OLD FRIEND. "BUT THERE HE IS... HE PUT HIMSELF IN IT."

MCMURTRY'S SAGA -- LIKE THE LIVES OF THE REAL-LIFE PIONEERS WHO INSPIRED IT -- REVEALS SOME SIMPLE TRUTHS. MOST AMERICANS BELIEVE THAT EACH OF US HAS AN INNATE CAPABILITY OF SUCCUMBING TO EVIL -- BUT ALWAYS THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE INSTEAD TO DO GOOD. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CHARACTER.

WE MUST DO A BETTER JOB OF CULTIVATING CHARACTER. WE HEAR A LOT ABOUT WHAT OUR RIGHTS ARE -- BUT NOT ENOUGH ABOUT OUR DUTIES. AS ALWAYS, HARRY TRUMAN SPOKE THE TRUTH WHEN HE SAID: "WE MUST NOT PERMIT THE EXISTENCE OF CONDITIONS WHICH CAUSE OUR CHILDREN TO BELIEVE THAT CRIME IS INEVITABLE AND NORMAL." SO LET US REKINDLE THAT SPIRIT OF DUTY, DECENCY AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN MAKE THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE, THIS CULTIVATION OF CHARACTER. IT IS NOT A FEDERAL PROBLEM FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIMPLE FEDERAL SOLUTION. WE WON'T DO IT BY LOOKING TO THE GOVERNMENT. AND WE CERTAINLY WON'T DO IT BY BLAMING INJUSTICE ON ABSTRACT SOCIAL FORCES.

BUT PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND RELIGIOUS AND NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS CAN DO IT. THEY -- AND PROBABLY ONLY THEY -- CAN TEACH OUR KIDS RIGHT FROM WRONG. AND IT'S TIME OUR KIDS STARTED LEARNING WHAT I LIKE TO CALL THE FOUR "R"S -- READING, WRITING, 'RITHMETIC -- AND RESPECT. [[PAUSE]]

WHAT I HAVE CALLED THE "THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT" -- THAT GALAXY OF SMALL UNITS OF SOCIETY THAT EXISTS TO SERVE OTHERS -- CAN ALSO CULTIVATE THE CHARACTER OF OUR CHILDREN BY WORKING TO PREVENT NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME.

AS THE GREAT CRIMINOLOGIST, JAMES Q. WILSON, HAS SAID: "IN THE LONG RUN, THE PUBLIC INTEREST DEPENDS ON PRIVATE VIRTUE."

IT'S BEING DONE RIGHT NOW. BY PEOPLE LIKE KIMI GRAY, WHOSE WASHINGTON TENANTS COMMITTEE INSTILLED SUCH PRIDE THAT THEY TURNED AN OPEN AIR DRUG MARKET INTO THE FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT TO BE PURCHASED BY ITS OWN TENANTS.

AND BY PEOPLE LIKE FATHER GEORGE CLEMENTS, WHOSE PRIVATE ANTI-DRUG CRUSADE CONVINCED MORE THAN 100 STORES ON CHICAGO'S SOUTH SIDE TO STOP SELLING DRUG PARAPHERNALIA. WHEN ONE STORE BALKED -- CLAIMING THE RIGHT TO SELL ANYTHING THAT'S "LEGAL" -- A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN SPOKE UP. "IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BE LEGAL," HE DECLARED. "YOU MUST BE ETHICAL, TOO."

IN BOTH THESE CASES, THE COMMUNITIES WERE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THE PEOPLE HAD THE GUTS TO COME FORWARD AND THE POLICE HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO MEET THEM HALF-WAY. BUT WE CAN DO MORE, AND WE WILL DO MORE. NEXT WEEK, MANY OF YOU HERE WILL BE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THOSE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS EXPECTED TO JOIN IN OUR NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH DAY.

AND WHEREVER THE POLICE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT AMERICA CAN "TAKE BACK THE STREETS" -- FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL MODELS LIKE NEW YORK'S "TNT'S" -- THE HARD-HITTING TACTICAL NARCOTICS TEAMS -- THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD NEW PARTNERSHIPS, TO BUILD NEW LIVES.

OF COURSE, NOT EVERY COMMUNITY IS A SUCCESS STORY. IN THE SOUTH JAMAICA NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE NEW YORK PATROLMAN EDDIE BYRNE WAS EXECUTED, BARS NOW COVER THE WINDOWS OF BUSINESSES AND HOMES.

WELL, I'VE GOT SOME NEWS. THE WRONG PEOPLE ARE BEHIND BARS. [[PAUSE]]

WHEN WE JOINED YOU AT THE CAPITOL IN MAY TO HONOR EDDIE AND HIS FALLEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WE CAME ARMED WITH A PLAN OF ATTACK -- A COMMON SENSE PLAN TO HOLD PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. CRIMINALS HAVE SIMPLY GOT TO KNOW THAT:

IF THEY COMMIT A CRIME -- THEY WILL BE CAUGHT.

AND IF CAUGHT -- THEY WILL BE PROSECUTED.

AND IF CONVICTED -- THEY WILL DO TIME.

THE NATIONAL STRATEGY WE SENT TO CONGRESS SEEKS TO TAKE VIOLENT CRIMINALS OFF THE STREETS WITH AN ATTACK ON FOUR FRONTS. NEW LAWS TO PUNISH THEM. NEW AGENTS TO ARREST THEM. NEW PROSECUTORS TO CONVICT THEM. AND NEW PRISONS TO HOLD THEM.

WE PROPOSE TO DRAMATICALLY CHANGE THE RULES OF THE GAME.

FIRST -- MANDATORY TIME FOR FIREARMS OFFENSES.
YOU USE A SEMI-AUTOMATIC FOR CRIME -- AND YOU'LL GET A
FULLY AUTOMATIC SENTENCE. 10 YEARS. NO PROBATION. NO
PAROLE. NO MATTER WHAT. [[PAUSE]]

SECOND -- WE CAN'T PLEA BARGAIN AWAY THE LIVES OF
OUR COPS AND OUR KIDS. IF A CRIMINAL CARRIES A GUN --
ALL DEALS ARE OFF.

AND FOR THE MOST HEINOUS CRIMES -- YOU REMEMBER MY
PROMISE. FOR ANYONE WHO KILLS A LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER -- NO PENALTY IS TOO TOUGH. [[PAUSE]]

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF
THIS KIND OF TOUGH, ANTI-VIOLENCE LEGISLATION. THERE
ARE NOT TWO SIDES TO THIS ISSUE. THESE PROPOSALS ARE
NOW BEFORE CONGRESS AND SHOULD BE PASSED WITHOUT DELAY
-- THIS YEAR. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE IN NO MOOD TO
ABIDE TOUGH TALK WHILE SOME PURSUE THE FAILED POLICIES
OF LIBERAL LENIENCY.

AND TO BE EFFECTIVE -- MY COLLEAGUES IN AMERICA'S CITIES AND STATES -- YOUR MAYORS AND GOVERNORS BACK HOME -- HAVE TO BACK YOU UP WITH THE SAME NEW TOOLS WE'RE PROPOSING FOR THE FEDS. THAT MEANS NOT ONLY TOUGH NEW LAWS -- BUT ALSO NEW RESOURCES -- THE POLICE, PROSECUTORS AND PRISONS YOU NEED NOT JUST TO HOLD YOUR OWN -- BUT TO WIN.

AND THE BATTLE DOESN'T STOP AT OUR NATION'S BORDERS. COCAINE IS THE SCOURGE OF THE AMERICAS. EVERY ACRE ERADICATED IN THE ANDES -- EVERY KILO INTERCEPTED ON THE ATLANTIC -- REPRESENTS THOUSANDS OF POISONOUS VIALS THAT WILL NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO HARM OUR KIDS. AT THE HEMISPHERIC SUMMIT IN COSTA RICA IN OCTOBER -- THE WAR ON DRUGS WILL BE OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY.

THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE WITH US ON THAT RAINY DAY AT THE CAPITOL KNOW THAT -- FROM THE DAY I TOOK OFFICE -- EDDIE BYRNE'S BADGE HAS HAD A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY DESK IN THE OVAL OFFICE. IT IS YOU, ASSEMBLED HERE, WHO KNOW BEST THE MEANING OF EDDIE'S SACRIFICE AND COMMITMENT -- YOU WHO HAVE GONE TO THE LONELY PLACES, WHERE THE STREETS SOUND WITH THUNDER ON CLOUDLESS DAYS.

AND IN THIS SUMMER OF MEMORIES AND HEROES -- OF MEN WHO WALKED ON THE MOON, PILOTS WHO DEFIED BOTH PHYSICS AND FATE TO SAVE DOZENS OF LIVES, AND AN ENTIRE TOWN IN IOWA THAT ROSE TO THE TASK --- IT'S HARD NOT TO BE REMINDED OF THE EVERYDAY, QUIET HEROISM OF THE MEN AND WOMEN BEHIND THE BADGE -- YOU WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO BRING GOODNESS INTO THE WORLD.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, WE STAND BEHIND YOU, AND -- LIKE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE -- WE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR YOU. AND HERE IN THIS ARENA -- AND ACROSS THIS GREAT LAND -- THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE REPRESENTS 200,000 REASONS WHY WE ARE GOING TO SUCCEED. [[PAUSE]]

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE. GOD BLESS YOU AND THOSE YOU
ARE SWORN TO PROTECT. AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES.

#

FILE

REMARKS: FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONVENTION
JIM NORICK ARENA, STATE FAIRGROUNDS
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989 -- 10:30 A.M.

THANK YOU. [I AM PLEASED THAT DICK THORNBURGH, OUR
ABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL, IS WITH US TODAY] -- AND WITH THE
FINE SOONER HOSPITALITY WE'VE ENJOYED FROM GOVERNOR
BELLMON AND MAYOR NORICK. HENRY AND RON -- WE'RE
THRILLED TO BE BACK WITH MY HOME-STATE NEIGHBORS IN THE
GREAT LAND THEY CALL OKLAHOMA. [[PAUSE]]

AND THANK YOU -- ALL 10,000 OF YOU -- NOT FOR
STANDING UP TO GREET US TODAY -- BUT FOR STANDING UP
FOR AMERICA EVERY DAY. [[PAUSE]]

[[STANDING HERE SURROUNDED BY SO MANY VETERAN
OFFICERS OF THE LAW -- THIS IS POSSIBLY THE SINGLE
SAFEST MOMENT OF MY ADULT LIFE. [[PAUSE]] BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN YOU ALL GET TO PUT IN FOR OVERTIME.]]

ACTUALLY, DICK THORNBURGH REMINDED ME THAT --
SINCE LAST SUMMER ALONE -- THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME I'VE
ATTENDED GATHERINGS THAT INCLUDE THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF
POLICE. DICK WARNED ME THAT -- ONE MORE CONVENTION AND
YOU'LL MAKE ME START PAYING DUES.

NOW BARBARA'S TRYING TO GET AROUND IT -- BY HAVING
MILLIE CERTIFIED FOR A K-9 SQUAD. [[PAUSE]]

[[IN TRUTH, ALL THIS GOOD PRESS HAS GONE TO
MILLIE'S HEAD. YESTERDAY WE SET OUT HER BOWL OF
ALPO -- AND SHE ASKED TO SEE THE WINE LIST.]]
[[PAUSE]]

↙ EARLIER THIS SUMMER -- ON A DISMAL, DRIZZLY,
WASHINGTON AFTERNOON -- I STOOD SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
WITH MANY OF YOU HERE, GATHERED THAT DAY IN A SALUTE TO
THOSE POLICE OFFICERS WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

TO HONOR THAT SACRIFICE, WE INVITED CONGRESS TO
JOIN US IN A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S CITIES AND
STATES -- A NEW, NATIONAL STRATEGY -- A STRATEGY TO
"TAKE BACK THE STREETS" -- BY TAKING CRIMINALS OFF THE
STREETS.

THAT MEANS PUNISHING THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

TO SOME EARS, THE VERY WORD "EVIL" IS AN EMBARRASSMENT, AN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO OLD-FASHIONED ATTITUDES. WE'VE ALL HEARD THE SUPPOSEDLY SOPHISTICATED ARGUMENTS THAT TURNS "RIGHT" AND "WRONG" INTO EMPTY CONCEPTS -- WORDS WITHOUT MEANING.

BUT THE NEARLY 10,000 MEN AND WOMEN IN THIS ARENA -- THE MEN AND WOMEN BEHIND THE BADGE -- KNOW BETTER. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND ESPECIALLY VIOLENT CRIME -- IS NOT AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE FOR DISPASSIONATE OBSERVATION.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU SEE IT CLOSE-UP AND FIRST-HAND. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND CRIME FIGHTING -- IS USUALLY A QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG. GOOD AND EVIL. AND YOU KNOW THAT A NATION THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG WILL NEVER PROTECT ITSELF.

THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE INTENT ON DOING WICKED THINGS. THESE STREET GANG MEMBERS AND COP KILLERS ARE SOCIETY'S SCAVENGERS -- AS COWARDLY AND AMORAL AS WILD DOGS. AND WHEN THEY SPOT SOMEONE VULNERABLE -- THE ELDERLY WOMAN WHO HAS TO CROSS THE GANG-CONTROLLED STREETS FROM THE BUS STOP TO HER FRONT DOOR -- THEY SEE THEIR FELLOW MAN THE WAY A JACKAL SEES A WOUNDED DOE.

AS SUCH BARBAROUS ACTS REVEAL, A CRIMINAL THINKS IN A WAY SIMPLY UNLIKE THAT OF ANY OTHER PERSON. SOME WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT SOCIETY IS MORE TO BLAME FOR CRIME THAN THE CRIMINAL.

SOME SAY CRIME IS CAUSED BY PARENTS WHO ARE TOO DISTANT -- OTHERS SAY IT'S PARENTS WHO PAMPER THEIR CHILDREN TOO MUCH. SOME SAY CRIME IS CAUSED BY AMERICA'S POVERTY -- OTHERS SAY IT'S AMERICA'S PROSPERITY THAT'S TO BLAME. TV VIOLENCE, BOREDOM, PASSIONATE IMPULSES -- EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IS BLAMED. EVERYONE -- EXCEPT THE CRIMINAL.

YOU WHO WORK THE STREETS KNOW OTHERWISE. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, THE CRIMINAL CHOOSES HIS WAY OF LIFE, HIS COMPANIONS, THE KINDS OF CRIME HE COMMITS. HE REJECTS SOCIETY AND ITS VALUES. HE IS NOT THE VICTIM -- HE IS THE VICTIMIZER. AND IT'S ABOUT TIME TO DRIVE THAT POINT HOME. [[PAUSE]]

THE LAW-ABIDING SOCIETY YOU REPRESENT HAS A DUTY TO PUNISH WRONGDOERS. PUNISHMENT IS NOT -- AS SOME MAY SEE IT -- AN UNSEEMLY INDULGENCE IN REVENGE. JUST PUNISHMENT IS A CIVILIZED RESPONSE TO WRONG. PUNISHMENT IS NECESSARY NOT ONLY AS A DETERRENT TO FUTURE CRIMES, BUT FOR ITS OWN SAKE. WHICH IS TO SAY -- FOR THE SAKE OF JUSTICE. [[PAUSE]]

THIS TRADITION OF JUSTICE SPEAKS NOT OF A SOCIETY THAT DISPARAGES HUMAN LIFE, BUT RATHER, ONE THAT TREASURES INNOCENT HUMAN LIFE AS PRECIOUS AND UNIQUE. IN LARRY MCMURTRY'S CLASSIC WESTERN, LONESOME DOVE, TWO PIONEERING LAWYERS FINALLY PUT AN END TO A BRUTAL GANG'S DEADLY RAMPAGE THROUGH THE OKLAHOMA TERRITORY. ONE OF THE OUTLAWS TURNS OUT TO BE JAKE SPOON, THE LAWYERS' OLD PARTNER.

"IT'S A BAD SITUATION," SAYS CAPTAIN CALL, IN THE MOMENTS BEFORE ARRESTING HIS OLD FRIEND. "BUT THERE HE IS... HE PUT HIMSELF IN IT."

MCMURTRY'S SAGA -- LIKE THE LIVES OF THE REAL-LIFE PIONEERS WHO INSPIRED IT -- REVEALS SOME SIMPLE TRUTHS. MOST AMERICANS BELIEVE THAT EACH OF US HAS AN INNATE CAPABILITY OF SUCCUMBING TO EVIL -- BUT ALWAYS THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE INSTEAD TO DO GOOD. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CHARACTER.

WE MUST DO A BETTER JOB OF CULTIVATING CHARACTER. WE HEAR A LOT ABOUT WHAT OUR RIGHTS ARE -- BUT NOT ENOUGH ABOUT OUR DUTIES. AS ALWAYS, HARRY TRUMAN SPOKE THE TRUTH WHEN HE SAID: "WE MUST NOT PERMIT THE EXISTENCE OF CONDITIONS WHICH CAUSE OUR CHILDREN TO BELIEVE THAT CRIME IS INEVITABLE AND NORMAL." SO LET US REKINDLE THAT SPIRIT OF DUTY, DECENCY AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN MAKE THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE, THIS CULTIVATION OF CHARACTER. IT IS NOT A FEDERAL PROBLEM FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIMPLE FEDERAL SOLUTION. WE WON'T DO IT BY LOOKING TO THE GOVERNMENT. AND WE CERTAINLY WON'T DO IT BY BLAMING INJUSTICE ON ABSTRACT SOCIAL FORCES.

BUT PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND RELIGIOUS AND NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS CAN DO IT. THEY -- AND PROBABLY ONLY THEY -- CAN TEACH OUR KIDS RIGHT FROM WRONG. AND IT'S TIME OUR KIDS STARTED LEARNING WHAT I LIKE TO CALL THE FOUR "R"S -- READING, WRITING, 'RITHMETIC -- AND RESPECT. [[PAUSE]]

we
WHAT ~~I HAVE~~ CALLED THE "THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT" -- THAT GALAXY OF SMALL UNITS OF SOCIETY THAT EXISTS TO SERVE OTHERS -- CAN ALSO CULTIVATE THE CHARACTER OF OUR CHILDREN BY WORKING TO PREVENT NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME.

AS THE GREAT CRIMINOLOGIST, JAMES Q. WILSON, HAS SAID: "IN THE LONG RUN, THE PUBLIC INTEREST DEPENDS ON PRIVATE VIRTUE."

IT'S BEING DONE RIGHT NOW. BY PEOPLE LIKE KIMI GRAY, WHOSE WASHINGTON TENANTS COMMITTEE INSTILLED SUCH PRIDE THAT THEY TURNED AN OPEN AIR DRUG MARKET INTO THE FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT TO BE PURCHASED BY ITS OWN TENANTS.

AND BY PEOPLE LIKE FATHER GEORGE CLEMENTS, WHOSE PRIVATE ANTI-DRUG CRUSADE CONVINCED MORE THAN 100 STORES ON CHICAGO'S SOUTH SIDE TO STOP SELLING DRUG PARAPHERNALIA. WHEN ONE STORE BALKED -- CLAIMING THE RIGHT TO SELL ANYTHING THAT'S "LEGAL" -- A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN SPOKE UP. "IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BE LEGAL," HE DECLARED. "YOU MUST BE ETHICAL, TOO."

IN BOTH THESE CASES, THE COMMUNITIES WERE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THE PEOPLE HAD THE GUTS TO COME FORWARD AND THE POLICE HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO MEET THEM HALF-WAY. BUT WE CAN DO MORE, AND WE WILL DO MORE. NEXT WEEK, MANY OF YOU HERE WILL BE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THOSE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS EXPECTED TO JOIN IN OUR NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH DAY.

AND WHEREVER THE POLICE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT AMERICA CAN "TAKE BACK THE STREETS" -- FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL MODELS LIKE NEW YORK'S "TNT'S" -- THE HARD-HITTING TACTICAL NARCOTICS TEAMS -- THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD NEW PARTNERSHIPS, TO BUILD NEW LIVES.

OF COURSE, NOT EVERY COMMUNITY IS A SUCCESS STORY. IN THE SOUTH JAMAICA NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE NEW YORK PATROLMAN EDDIE BYRNE WAS EXECUTED, BARS NOW COVER THE WINDOWS OF BUSINESSES AND HOMES.

WELL, I'VE GOT SOME NEWS. THE WRONG PEOPLE ARE BEHIND BARS. [[PAUSE]]

WHEN WE JOINED YOU AT THE CAPITOL IN MAY TO HONOR EDDIE AND HIS FALLEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WE CAME ARMED WITH A PLAN OF ATTACK -- A COMMON SENSE PLAN TO HOLD PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. CRIMINALS HAVE SIMPLY GOT TO KNOW THAT:

IF THEY COMMIT A CRIME -- THEY WILL BE CAUGHT.

AND IF CAUGHT -- THEY WILL BE PROSECUTED.

AND IF CONVICTED -- THEY WILL DO TIME.

THE NATIONAL STRATEGY WE SENT TO CONGRESS SEEKS TO TAKE VIOLENT CRIMINALS OFF THE STREETS WITH AN ATTACK ON FOUR FRONTS. NEW LAWS TO PUNISH THEM. NEW AGENTS TO ARREST THEM. NEW PROSECUTORS TO CONVICT THEM. AND NEW PRISONS TO HOLD THEM.

WE PROPOSE TO DRAMATICALLY CHANGE THE RULES OF THE GAME.

FIRST -- MANDATORY TIME FOR FIREARMS OFFENSES.
YOU USE A SEMI-AUTOMATIC FOR CRIME -- AND YOU'LL GET A
FULLY AUTOMATIC SENTENCE. 10 YEARS. NO PROBATION. NO
PAROLE. NO MATTER WHAT. [[PAUSE]]

SECOND -- WE CAN'T PLEA BARGAIN AWAY THE LIVES OF
OUR COPS AND OUR KIDS. IF A CRIMINAL CARRIES A GUN --
ALL DEALS ARE OFF.

AND FOR THE MOST HEINOUS CRIMES -- YOU REMEMBER MY
PROMISE. FOR ANYONE WHO KILLS A LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER -- NO PENALTY IS TOO TOUGH. [[PAUSE]]

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF
THIS KIND OF TOUGH, ANTI-VIOLENCE LEGISLATION. THERE
ARE NOT TWO SIDES TO THIS ISSUE. THESE PROPOSALS ARE
NOW BEFORE CONGRESS AND SHOULD BE PASSED WITHOUT DELAY
-- THIS YEAR. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE IN NO MOOD TO
ABIDE TOUGH TALK WHILE SOME PURSUE THE FAILED POLICIES
OF LIBERAL LENIENCY.

AND TO BE EFFECTIVE -- MY COLLEAGUES IN AMERICA'S
CITIES AND STATES -- YOUR MAYORS AND GOVERNORS BACK
HOME -- HAVE TO BACK YOU UP WITH THE SAME NEW TOOLS
WE'RE PROPOSING FOR THE FEDS. THAT MEANS NOT ONLY
TOUGH NEW LAWS -- BUT ALSO NEW RESOURCES -- THE POLICE,
PROSECUTORS AND PRISONS YOU NEED NOT JUST TO HOLD YOUR
OWN -- BUT TO WIN.

AND THE BATTLE DOESN'T STOP AT OUR NATION'S
BORDERS. COCAINE IS THE SCOURGE OF THE AMERICAS.
EVERY ACRE ERADICATED IN THE ANDES -- EVERY KILO
INTERCEPTED ON THE ATLANTIC -- REPRESENTS THOUSANDS OF
POISONOUS VIALS THAT WILL NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO HARM
OUR KIDS. AT THE HEMISPHERIC SUMMIT IN COSTA RICA IN
OCTOBER -- THE WAR ON DRUGS WILL BE OUR HIGHEST
PRIORITY.

THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE WITH US ON THAT RAINY DAY AT THE CAPITOL KNOW THAT -- FROM THE DAY I TOOK OFFICE -- EDDIE BYRNE'S BADGE HAS HAD A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY DESK IN THE OVAL OFFICE. IT IS YOU, ASSEMBLED HERE, WHO KNOW BEST THE MEANING OF EDDIE'S SACRIFICE AND COMMITMENT -- YOU WHO HAVE GONE TO THE LONELY PLACES, WHERE THE STREETS SOUND WITH THUNDER ON CLOUDLESS DAYS.

AND IN THIS SUMMER OF MEMORIES AND HEROES -- OF MEN WHO WALKED ON THE MOON, PILOTS WHO DEFIED BOTH PHYSICS AND FATE TO SAVE DOZENS OF LIVES, AND AN ENTIRE TOWN IN IOWA THAT ROSE TO THE TASK --- IT'S HARD NOT TO BE REMINDED OF THE EVERYDAY, QUIET HEROISM OF THE MEN AND WOMEN BEHIND THE BADGE -- YOU WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO BRING GOODNESS INTO THE WORLD.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, WE STAND BEHIND YOU, AND -- LIKE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE -- WE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR YOU. AND HERE IN THIS ARENA -- AND ACROSS THIS GREAT LAND -- THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE REPRESENTS 200,000 REASONS WHY WE ARE GOING TO SUCCEED. [[PAUSE]]

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE. GOD BLESS YOU AND THOSE YOU
ARE SWORN TO PROTECT. AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES.

#