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OA/ID Number: 13585
Folder ID Number: 13585-003

Folder Title:
Awards Ceremony for VANPAC Task Force 10/15/91 [OA 6038]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	17	3	7

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 OCT 16 A 8:30

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE/10/16
(10/15 Draft Three)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1991

31 OCT 15 P7:09

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*

SUBJECT: VANPAC AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I. SUMMARY

On Wednesday, October 16, at 11:45 a.m. in the Rose Garden, you will make remarks and present awards to the investigators and prosecutors (called VANPAC) who solved the mail bombing murder of Alabama Federal Judge Robert Vance. In addition to the VANPAC team members, the audience will be 150 local prosecutors brought to Washington by the Justice Department to lobby the House of Representatives for the crime bill.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (9 minutes, on cards) pay tribute to those who put Vance's killer behind bars and calls on those present to urge Congress to pass the crime bill.

Grant/Simon
A:Vance / Draft three
October 15, 1991

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991
11:45 A.M.**

Welcome, everyone, to the White House ... and a special hello to our very able acting Attorney General, Bill Barr.

It's an honor to have with us today the true experts on crime and justice in this country: our state and local law enforcement officials. Each of you is here today because you have made a solemn pledge -- and have made great personal sacrifices -- to protect and defend society against the threat of violent crime and drugs. Every American agrees that we have a crime problem in this country. And every American deserves a tough crime bill that strengthens our criminal justice system.

Let me share a story with you. Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America. The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest of the day's mail, a parcel arrived at the home of Federal Appeals Court Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

When Judge Vance sat down to open the package, a pipe bomb inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance was killed, and his wife was severely injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, a prominent official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. The pipe bomb inside exploded, and Robert Robinson died

too -- a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a federal courthouse in Atlanta and an N.A.A.C.P. office in Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, targeting federal judges, prominent blacks, and civil rights leaders.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by Department of Justice officials, including at the F.B.I. and the U.S. Marshals Service, but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; and the Internal Revenue Service.

Because of the hard work of the Task Force, they soon zeroed in on a suspect -- got an indictment -- and a conviction in the bombings and related crimes -- and brought a sentence of seven life terms without parole and 400 years imprisonment. The VANPAC case was a great success in the annals of law enforcement and a very important achievement in defense of civil rights.

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who led the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief

investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of one man's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our law enforcement officials on the front lines. This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. It means being on the cutting edge of law enforcement -- creating a 21st century law enforcement system to deal with 21st century criminals. Most importantly, it means holding the

rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for the mail-bombing murder of innocent Americans. We've proposed it. We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from being thrown out on a technicality that opens the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House votes on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress

-- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

The time has come. After over a thousand days of foot-dragging, the House is finally considering the crime bill. If you agree with what I've said here, act today. Let your Representatives know that the House Democrats' bill, as it stands now, is simply unacceptable. Tell them to support the Gekas death penalty amendment. Tell them to vote for the Hyde habeas corpus reforms and the Sensenbrenner amendment on the exclusionary rule. And finally, tell we need the McCollum equal justice act, so that we can have a death penalty that works.

Tell them our police, prosecutors and people stand behind these key provisions -- they stand behind a strong crime bill.

Tell them it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks to the VANPAC team for a job well done. As our men and women on the front lines, you have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

God bless you all and thank you.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 16, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN AWARD CEREMONY HONORING THE VANPAC TASK FORCE

The Rose Garden

11:45 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Everyone, welcome to the Rose Garden -- devoid of roses, but -- (laughter.) We are very pleased to see all of you here. A special hello, of course, to the man standing at my left, a man so well-known to those interested in law enforcement, Bill Barr. We're honored to have Bill Sessions with us, the FBI Director; Steve Higgins, the Director of ATF; Mike Moore, Director of the Marshals Service. And I want to welcome Judge Tjoflat, who came all the way from Alabama -- where is the Judge? I might get him to just stand since we're going to be talking about Alabama here in a minute. Welcome, sir. (Applause.)

It is an honor to have with us today the true experts on crime and justice in this country: our state and local law enforcement officials. Each of you is here today because you've made a solemn pledge, and have made great personal sacrifices, to protect and defend society against the threat of violent crime and drugs. Every American agrees that we have a crime problem in this country; that is the understatement of the year. And every American deserves a tough crime bill that strengthens our criminal justice system.

Let me just share a story with you. Most of you know it. Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America. The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest of the day's mail, a parcel arrived at the home of Federal Appeals Court Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

And when Judge Vance sat down to open the package, a pipe bomb inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance was killed, and his wife severely injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, a prominent official of the NAACP, returned to his law office in Savannah after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. The pipe bomb inside exploded, and Robert Robinson died, too -- a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before more innocent persons were murdered. In fact, one investigator, a real pro, said it was nothing short of a miracle. A torrent of threatening letters followed, targeting federal judges, prominent blacks, civil rights leaders.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, named after its first victim, Judge Vance. And VANPAC was directed by Department of Justice officials, including at the F.B.I. and the U.S. Marshals Service. But other agencies all pitched in: ATF, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the Internal Revenue Service.

MORE

Because of the hard work of the task force, they soon zeroed in on a suspect -- got an indictment and a conviction in the bombings and related crimes, and brought a sentence of seven life terms without parole and 400 years of imprisonment. The VANPAC case was a great success in the annals of law enforcement and a very important achievement in defense of civil rights.

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who led the task force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney, now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan; and Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job so well done.

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: They were part of one man's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government. We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people.

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of that very first bombing.

And yet, when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases --time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our law enforcement officials on the front lines. This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. It means being on the cutting edge of law enforcement -- creating a 21st century law enforcement system to deal with 21st century criminals. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. Our crime bill -- and only the crime bill that we have up on the Hill -- supports our men and women on the front line.

I'll diverse a minute to mention yesterday's lovely ceremony at the new memorial in honor of the fallen law enforcement officers. I'm sure some of you were there. But I can tell you on a very personal basis that Barbara and I were deeply moved at that memorial, at the service itself, particularly when we met the two surviving young children of a fallen officer. And I wish every single American involved in this concept of legislation to do something about crime could have been there at that moving memorial. I believe it would have made a tremendous difference. We must support those who are on the front lines of law enforcement.

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for the mail-bombing murder of innocent Americans. We've proposed it. And we've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. And we need a workable federal death penalty, and we need it now.

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges and do serious time. And we need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from being

thrown out on a technicality that then opens the cell door and lets bad people just walk out of there scot-free.

Each of you knows the difference between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight and the anti-law enforcement proposals that some of the House Democrats call a crime bill. They call what they've got a crime bill, and it goes just the wrong way in many categories. This week, the House votes on a bill that marks a retreat from current law -- a retreat. And it's time we tipped the scales of justice back toward the side of dedicated men and women involved in law enforcement in one way or another -- people like yourselves.

So I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on criminals.

And the time really has come. After two years of foot-dragging, the House is finally considering the crime bill. And if you agree with what I've said, please act today. Let your representatives know that that House bill, the House Democrats' bill, as it stands now, is simply unacceptable. Tell them to support the Gekas death penalty amendment. Tell them to vote for the Hyde habeas corpus reform and the Sensenbrenner amendment on the exclusionary rule that I've mentioned. And finally, tell them we need the McCollum equal justice act so that we can have a death penalty that works.

And tell them our police, prosecutors and people stand behind these key provisions -- they stand behind a strong crime bill. I really believe that this issue transcends party politics. It gets right to the heart of what the American people want. And I think it's about time that we in the White House, working with the Congress, delivered. Tell them also that it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. And that's what I believe our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what I'd like to see these representatives stand for when the final vote is taken this week.

And again, my sincere congratulations. My thanks to the VANPAC team for this inspirational work, a job so well done. As our men and women on the front lines, you have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. And we're lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets. And now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

And speaking of messages, I have another message now that I want to reach the halls of Congress; and, indeed, I will see that it does reach the United States Senate very, very soon. It's an important message about a man that I respect enormously. And today I am announcing my choice for the Attorney General to lead our Department of Justice. And I have chosen an individual who is a thorough professional, a defender of individual rights, and a person absolutely committed to this fight against crime. And he's also been tested by fire, working with several of you as evidenced in the recent events at the Talladega prison. And I was proud of him then, and I am proud today to send Bill Barr's name to the Senate as the next Attorney General of the United States. (Applause.)

ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President. It's been a privilege to serve you these past three years at the Department of Justice, and I'm honored that you have selected me to serve in the position of Attorney General.

What makes it a particular honor is the opportunity to serve a President who is such a strong supporter of law enforcement.

(Applause.) And it's also a great honor to be nominated to succeed a great Attorney General like Dick Thornburgh. (Applause.) Now, as this ceremony clearly shows today, we have thousands of dedicated men and women at the Department of Justice who do an exceptional job, day in and day out, upholding the law, enforcing the law in an evenhanded way and with integrity. And I'm proud to be associated with each and every one of them, and if confirmed, proud to lead them.

Thanks again, Mr. President. (Applause.)

I'd like to ask Bob Mueller, the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, to come forward and assist in the presentation of the awards.

(The awards are presented.)

END

12:03 P.M. EDT

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 OCT 16 A 9:46



DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE

THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
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SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCBRIDE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Good for SF

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

31 OCT 15 P3:29

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991
11:45 A.M.**

Welcome, everyone, to the White House ... and a special
hello to our very able acting Attorney General, Bill Barr.
[other acknowledgements]

Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America.
The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest
of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal
Appeals Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

The package was marked as if it had been sent by a fellow
judge, but when Judge Vance sat down to open it, a pipe bomb
inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance died a horrible
death, right in front of his wife, who was herself severely
injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman
Robert Robinson, an official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his
law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court.
Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He
opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits.
Robert Robinson died a grisly death, a senseless and violent
tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a
federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in

Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before dozens more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by officials at the Department of Justice and the F.B.I., but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Marshals Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

The VANPAC case was one of the greatest successes in the annals of law enforcement. It also will be remembered as one of our most monumental achievements in defense of civil rights in this century. And most importantly, its successful conclusion put a terrifying episode in American life behind us.

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. We've proposed it. We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use ~~serious~~ weapons ~~face serious charges~~ -- and do serious time.

We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets ~~bad~~ people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

As opposed to non-new-serious weapons.

I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress -- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

The time has come. After three years of foot-dragging, 1,000 days after over Congress is finally considering the crime bill. But I need you to let your representatives know which crime bill we support. Tell them our police, our prosecutors and our people stand behind only one bill -- and that one is the Administration's crime bill.

Tell them it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks for a job well done in bringing Walter Moody to justice. You have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

God bless you all and thank you.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Office of Cabinet Affairs
Fax Transmission Cover*

TO: Mary Kate GALT

LOCATION: _____

FAX NUMBER: x 6218

FROM: *Jim Fitzhenry*

Number of pages to follow: 1

Office of Cabinet Affairs
Telephone: (202) 456-2800
Fax: (202) 456-2223

Comments:

* Honored Guests, Agency Heads (or Representatives) and Others

[JO - FLAT]
Gerald B. Tjoflat
Chief Judge of the U.S.
Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

William S. Sessions
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Stephen E. Higgins
Director
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Michael Hearst
Assistant Chief Inspector
for Criminal Investigations
U.S. Postal Inspection Service

David Palmer
Deputy Assistant Commissioner
Criminal Investigations
Internal Revenue Service

K. Michael Moore
Director
U.S. Marshals Service

Robert S. Mueller, III
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Department of Justice

Peter K. Nunez
Assistant Secretary for Enforcement
Department of the Treasury



WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE

SUBJECT: THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCBRIDE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Comments from Cabinet Affairs are attached.

Thanks,
EL
Elizabeth Luttig

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

31 OCT 15 P3:29

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991
11:45 A.M.**

Welcome, everyone, to the White House ... and a special hello to our very able acting Attorney General, Bill Barr.
[other acknowledgements]

Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America. The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal Appeals Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

The package was marked as if it had been sent by a fellow judge, but when Judge Vance sat down to open it, a pipe bomb inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance died a horrible death, right in front of his wife, who was herself severely injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, an ^{Prominent (Vance)} official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits. Robert Robinson died a grisly death, a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in

Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before dozens more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by officials at the Department of Justice and the F.B.I., but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Marshals Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

~~Despite~~ ^(Justice) skeptics and naysayers, ^{said the case would never be solved, but (Justice)} the Task Force Members ^{ese (Justice)} forged ahead ... fighting against this ^(Justice) brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms ^{without parole} and 400 years imprisonment.*

The VANPAC case was one of the greatest successes in the annals of law enforcement. It also will be remembered as one of our most monumental achievements in defense of civil rights in this century. And most importantly, its successful conclusion put a terrifying episode in American life behind us.

* Unfortunately, the ^{current} death penalty, the more appropriate sentence, is not available under federal law for his crime. (Justice)

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. **To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //**

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's **swift, professional response** to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, **the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.**

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, **Congress slumps into inaction.**

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to **support** our ^{law (judges)} enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. **Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.**

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. **We've proposed it.** We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. **We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.**

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from ^{being thrown out on (Justice)} becoming a technicality that ~~throws~~ ^{opens} the cell door and ~~lets~~ ^{frees criminals to prey again on the law abiding public (Justice)} bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

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God bless you all and thank you.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE: *See Comments*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

31 OCT 15 P3:29

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The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, an official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits. Robert Robinson died a grisly death, a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

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A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by officials at the Department of Justice and the F.B.I., but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Marshals Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

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My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. **Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.**

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. **We've proposed it.** We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. **We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.**

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

House Republicans are concerned that the President is bashing "Congress" as opposed to the "Democrat-controlled Congress!" Some partisan references are needed.

5

Taylor
43192

I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress -- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

The time has come. After three years of foot-dragging, the Congress is finally considering the crime bill. But I need you to let your representatives know which crime bill we support. Tell them our police, our prosecutors and our people stand behind only one bill -- and that one is the Administration's crime bill.

Tell them it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks for a job well done in bringing Walter Moody to justice. You have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

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#

Democrat-
Controlled →

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE

SUBJECT: THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>nlc</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>Wendt</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
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Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

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[other acknowledgements]

*Reason here crime problem Experts
People here know how to take back streets*

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The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest
of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal
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Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect ~~named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr.~~ ^{he} ~~Moody~~ was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

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Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

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Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. **Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.**

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We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

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#

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

10/15
John
Please put
my comment into the
system
Vance
D.L.
91 OCT 15 11:29
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*Strong
language?*

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VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Good Tony please send DR

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

31 OCT 15 P3:29

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991
11:45 A.M.**

Welcome, everyone, to the White House ... and a special hello to our very able acting Attorney General, Bill Barr.

[other acknowledgements]

Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America. The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal Appeals Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

The package was marked as if it had been sent by a fellow judge, but when Judge Vance sat down to open it, a pipe bomb inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance died a horrible death, right in front of his wife, who was herself severely injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, an official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits. Robert Robinson died a grisly death, a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in

Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before dozens more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by officials at the Department of Justice and the F.B.I., but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Marshals Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

The VANPAC case was one of the greatest successes in the annals of law enforcement. It also will be remembered as one of our most monumental achievements in defense of civil rights in this century. And most importantly, its successful conclusion put a terrifying episode in American life behind us.

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. **Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.**

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. **We've proposed it.** We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. **We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.**

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress -- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

The time has come. After three years of foot-dragging, Congress is finally considering the crime bill. But I need you to let your representatives know which crime bill we support. Tell them our police, our prosecutors and our people stand behind only one bill -- and that one is the Administration's crime bill.

Tell them it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks for a job well done in bringing Walter Moody to justice. You have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

God bless you all and thank you.

#

Document No. 278155ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCBRIDE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

mk
less on moving Van Pac general art. against statement to dep. opening
 PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

Grant/Simon
 A:Vance
 October 15, 1991
 Draft two

31 OCT 15 P3:29

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 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991
 11:45 A.M.**

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 hello to our very able acting Attorney General, Bill Barr.
 [other acknowledgements] *Crime P. here*

Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America.
 The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest
 of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal
 Appeals Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

The package was marked as if it had been sent by a fellow
 judge, but when Judge Vance sat down to open it, a pipe bomb
 inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance died a ~~horrible~~
~~death, right in front of his wife, who was herself severely~~ *and his wife was*
 injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman
 Robert Robinson, an official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his
 law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court.
 Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He
 opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits.
 Robert Robinson died a ~~grisy~~ ^{too} death, a senseless and violent
 tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a
 federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in

2

Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before ~~dozens~~ more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

(Brady) With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by ~~officials~~ ^{officials, including at the} ~~at the~~ Department of Justice ~~and~~ the F.B.I., but other agencies ^{and the US Marshals Service} joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; ~~(the U.S. Marshals Service)~~ and the Internal Revenue Service.

Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. ^{got an indictment -} They soon zeroed in on a suspect ~~named~~ Walter ~~Erroy~~ ^{got a conviction} Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, ~~this~~ ^{was in} Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and ^{brought} sentenced ~~to~~ ^{and a} seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

(Brady) The VANPAC case was ~~one~~ ^e of the greatest successes in the annals of law enforcement. It also will be remembered as ^{a very} ~~one of~~ ^{important} our most monumental achievements in defense of civil rights. ~~in~~ ^{this} century. And most importantly, its successful conclusion put ^{this} a terrifying episode in American life behind us.

*21st century crime
need 21st century
law enforcement*

3

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of ~~Moody's~~ terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

4

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.

*that results in death
mail bomb
murder?*

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. We've proposed it. We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime.

Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free. *21st C. law enforcement w/ 21C Criminals cutting edge*

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

I need your help in turning the House crime bill around. Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress -- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

(Hart)

The time has come. After three years of foot-dragging, ^{the House} Congress is finally considering ^{the} ~~the~~ crime bill. ~~But~~ I need you to let your representatives know) which crime bill we support. *insert below*

Tell them our police, our prosecutors and our people stand behind ~~only one bill -- and that one is the Administration's crime bill.~~ *These key provisions -- they stand behind a strong crime bill*

Tell them it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks ^{to the Van Pelt group} for a job well done in ~~bringing Walter Needy to justice.~~ ^(Expects) You have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

God bless you all and thank you.

*act today! * let that House bill as it is simply unacceptable. If agree with me, tell your Reps know ~~which~~ stands is simply unacceptable. Tell them sup get as death pen amend. vote for Hyde habeas corp reforms and The Sensenbrenner amend on the Exclusionary Rule and McCollum equal justice act so that we can have a death*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 OCT 16 A 7:35

October 15, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Awards Ceremony for VANPAC
Task Force

We have reviewed the attached remarks and have two suggested comments.

The second sentence of the fourth paragraph on page 2 states that "It also will be remembered as one of our most monumental achievements..." Given the importance of Brown v. Board of Education, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act this seems a bit overstated. Perhaps it should be changed to "It will be remembered as an important achievement..."

Second, the first paragraph on page 4 states "Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals." Again, this might be a bit strong. Perhaps revising it to read "It means holding the rights of victims at least as high as the rights of criminals," would get the same point across without bordering on unconstitutional language.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

cc: PHILLIP D. BRADY

^{91 OCT 16 4 37 35}
WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE
THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCBRIDE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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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"/>
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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

31 OCT 15 P3:29

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

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THE ROSE GARDEN
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[other acknowledgements]

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God bless you all and thank you.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 OCT 16 11:03

October 16, 1991

MEMORANDUM TO TONY SNOW

FROM: NELSON LUND *NL*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

RE: PRESIDENT REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK
FORCE

Counsel's office has reviewed the attached presidential remarks
and has noted some changes on the attached hard copy.

Thank you.

cc: Phil Brady

COUNSEL'S OFFICE
RECEIVED

Document No. 278155ss

OCT 15 1991

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 10/15/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 10/15/91 6:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AWARDS CEREMONY FOR VANPAC TASK FORCE

THE ROSE GARDEN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

31 OCT 15 P3:29

Grant/Simon
A:Vance
October 15, 1991
Draft two

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Two years ago, a series of gruesome crimes shocked America. The terror began one peaceful morning when, along with the rest of the day's mail, a package arrived at the home of Federal Appeals Judge Robert Vance in Mountainbrook, Alabama.

The package was marked as if it had been sent by a fellow judge, but when Judge Vance sat down to open it, a pipe bomb inside blasted him across the room. Judge Vance died a horrible death, right in front of his wife, who was herself severely injured.

The nightmare didn't stop there. Two days later, Alderman Robert Robinson, an official of the N.A.A.C.P., returned to his law office in Savannah, Georgia, after spending the day in court. Along with other papers, a package awaited him in his office. He opened it, and the pipe bomb inside blew his office to bits. Robert Robinson died a grisly death, a senseless and violent tragedy brought about by an anonymous terrorist.

That same day, packages containing bombs also arrived at a federal courthouse in Atlanta and an NAACP office in

Jacksonville. Thank God those bombs were found before dozens more innocent persons were murdered ... in fact, one investigator said it was nothing short of a miracle.

A torrent of threatening letters followed, vowing to spread death and destruction across the nation. The letters targeted federal judges, prominent blacks, and leaders in the civil rights movement.

With the first bombings, federal authorities began a massive investigation, spearheaded by a task force named VANPAC, after its first victim, Judge Vance. VANPAC was directed by officials at the Department of Justice and the F.B.I., but other agencies joined in: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Marshals Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Despite skeptics and naysayers, the Task Force Members forged ahead ... fighting against this brutal attack and defending our most cherished principles of Constitutional law and civil rights. They soon zeroed in on a suspect named Walter Leroy Moody, Jr. Because of the hard work of the Task Force, Moody was convicted of the bombings and related crimes --and sentenced to seven life terms and 400 years imprisonment.

The VANPAC case was one of the greatest successes in the annals of law enforcement. It also will be remembered as one of our most monumental achievements in defense of civil rights in this century. And most importantly, its successful conclusion put a terrifying episode in American life behind us.

My congratulations to the two selfless public servants who guided the Task Force to its amazing achievements: Louis Freeh, the chief prosecutor and Assistant U.S. Attorney; now a Federal District Judge in Manhattan. And Larry Potts, the chief investigator and a Deputy Assistant Director of the F.B.I. To both of them and to their VANPAC colleagues, we owe a debt of gratitude for a job well done. //

Each murder in this country is a tragedy. But the random murders of Judge Vance and Robert Robinson took on added meaning: they were part of Moody's terrorist war against our courts, our rule of law, our civil rights, and upon our very system of government.

We will not tolerate assaults on these ideals. No American should live in fear of random, senseless violence. No one will be allowed to terrorize our people. //

We are constantly struggling to fight crime of all types. The VANPAC investigation is an excellent example of law enforcement's swift, professional response to violent crime in this country. Despite the many obstacles they faced in the criminal justice system, the VANPAC Task Force leapt into action from the moment of the first bombing.

Yet when it comes to removing those obstacles before prosecutors and investigators -- on this and many other cases -- time and again, Congress slumps into inaction.

I firmly believe that lawmakers must do everything in their power to support our enforcement officials on the front lines.

This means sufficient resources -- particularly for prisons -- tough penalties, and reforms to the criminal justice system. Most importantly, it means holding the rights of victims higher than the rights of criminals. **Our crime bill -- and only our crime bill -- supports our men and women on the front lines.**

The VANPAC case illustrates well where federal law is lacking. Under current federal law, no death penalty exists for mail bombing innocent Americans. **We've proposed it.** We've also proposed a death penalty for murdering federal judges and for killing someone in the course of a civil rights crime. Perpetrators of these heinous crimes should be prepared to pay with their lives. **We need a workable federal death penalty -- and we need it now.**

We need a crime bill that will stop the endless abuse of habeas corpus. We need a bill that guarantees that criminals who use serious weapons face serious charges -- and do serious time. We need a bill that prevents evidence gathered in good faith from becoming a technicality that throws open the cell door and lets bad people walk scot free.

Each of you knows the difference -- between a tough crime bill that gives you what you need to win this fight -- and the anti-law enforcement proposals that the House Democrats call a crime bill. This week, the House will vote on a bill that marks a retreat from current law. It's time we tipped the scales of justice back -- toward the side of dedicated men and women like you.

~~I need your help in turning the House crime bill around.~~

Your presence here today sends a powerful warning to the Congress -- that the American people will not accept a crime bill that is tougher on law enforcement than it is on the criminals. //

The time has come. After three years of foot-dragging, Congress is finally considering the crime bill. But I ^{hope the Members} need you ~~to let your representatives know which crime bill we support.~~

of Congress know that ~~Tell them~~ our police, our prosecutors and our people stand behind only one bill -- and that one is the Administration's crime bill.

~~Tell them~~ it's time for a criminal justice system that allows us to see the truth come out, the guilty punished, the law upheld, and justice done. That's what our crime bill stands for, and that's what we stand for, and that's what our Representatives should stand for -- when the final vote is taken this week.

Again, my congratulations and thanks for a job well done in bringing Walter Moody to justice. You have shown what we can achieve when we stand united against criminals. We are lucky to have men and women like you defending us on the streets -- now we just need your powerful message to reach the halls of Congress.

God bless you all and thank you.

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