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ROUGH DRAFT. PLS. COMMENT BEFORE FORMAL STAFFING AT 5:00.

(Askew/Bunton)
October 22, 1992
2:30 p.m.
CRIME

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INTERNAT'L POLICE CHIEFS
 COBO HALL, DETROIT
 SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 1992
 10:00 A.M.

Thank you for that introduction, and hello, everybody.

((Acknowledgements, local color, humor.))

I want to talk today about our government's first and most-basic function: to protect every American citizen from violence -
- at home and on the streets.

There's no point winning a Cold War if the neighborhoods back home are criminal territory, where grandparents and kids hide behind bars on windows, like prisoners in their own homes. That's perverse -- and it absolutely must change.

Easier said than done -- but it can be done. We've made progress already. You know better than anyone that we've slowed violent crime dramatically the past twelve years. And we're starting to turn the tide on the drugs that fuel the fire.

It's been tough. America got soft on crime in the 60s, and we paid for it. By the time we cracked down again in the 80s, violent crime had gone up 400% in twenty years. Since we fought back, it's gone up just 27% in about ten years, and the overall crime index is actually down.

So we've stemmed the tide, in a sense... prevented millions of crimes... but that's not enough. It's never enough.

Crime is a smart virus... always changing its face, and our laws need to react just as quickly... so we can beat it.

Here's a timely example. Carjacking -- a brand-new word for a brand-new crime. Someone figured out it's easy to steal a car that's already running, with keys in the ignition. But that means the criminal has to do away with a driver.

I want to tell you a story that sickened Barbara and me when we saw it on TV. But it shows what we're up against. In a nice neighborhood near D.C. recently, in broad daylight a woman sat in her car at a stop sign when two men forced her out and drove off.

But she got tangled in her seatbelt outside the car. Or maybe she hung on. What mother wouldn't? Her baby was inside.

That woman was dragged for almost two miles. The thieves finally crushed her to death by driving up against a fence. And they left her little baby laying near her body.

I know I'm preaching to the choir... I know you've got horror stories of your own, certainly here in Detroit... but we can't get jaded against outrage. This is sick, animal behavior, and we cannot as a nation abide it any longer.

People who do such things have no place in decent society. And as far as this President's concerned, they can go to jail... they can stay in jail... and they can rot in jail.

We need tough laws that don't bend over backwards sheltering the criminal... while saying to the victim, "Tough luck, buddy."

There are so many issues in this Presidential campaign... where the differences among candidates couldn't be more radical.

Crime is one -- Bill Clinton and I are about as far apart as Barney Fife and the Terminator.

I'll give him credit. He's learned to talk tough. But let me tell you: When push comes to shove, what he really believes is that same old baloney that it's society's fault when someone gets mugged, and society should be punished.

His record practically shouts it. An average Arkansas inmate served less than one-fifth of his sentence last year. Compare that to federal inmates -- inmates under my jurisdiction. They serve at least 85 percent of their full sentence.

Violent crime in Arkansas went up almost 60 percent in the 80s -- over twice the national average. That was the nation's single-biggest increase in overall crime in the 80s, and the third-biggest in violent crime.

Look at violent crimes committed for every 100,000 people in Arkansas. They went from 289 in 1983... up to 593 last year.

Catch those criminals in 1989 and put them in an Arkansas jail -- and they'd serve 31 months, on average.

But just two years later -- they're serving only 16 months.

The evidence goes on. Arkansas ranks near rock-bottom for every important per-capita crime dollar it spends. For prisons: 46th. Police officers: 49th. And when it comes to spending on judicial and legal systems, Arkansas ranks 50th.

That's right. Dead last.

This one's my favorite. Just the other day, Governor Clinton observed that America's number one in the world in the

percentage of people we have behind bars. And then he said he wants to reverse that. What does he want to do? Turn 'em loose?

No wonder crime went ballistic in Arkansas during the 80s. If you don't give law officers the tools they need, you can't expect them to hold the line.

His record and attitude are not right for Arkansas, and they're not right for America. If you don't believe me... just ask the Fraternal Order of Police in Little Rock, Arkansas. They know Bill Clinton's record best, and they're not endorsing their Governor for President. They're joining hands with their national organization -- and endorsing me.

They're endorsing me because they're on the front lines... and they believe Americans deserve a government that attacks the problem by preventing and punishing crime.

That's why I've been fighting to see this country make strong federal moves to support our state and local police in new and concrete ways. We need to help you fight.

For four years, we've been working hard at the federal level to do just that. You don't hear about it because it's good news, which to the media means 'no news.' I think the media theme song must be: "Accentuate the negative... eliminate the positive."

Well, let me tell you four big things we've been doing to fight crime and we'll see if the press bothers to mention them.

First, more resources. My 1993 budget calls for almost 60% more federal money than crimefighters got when I took office. We've got a program to double Federal prison capacity during the

1990s. We've hired more than 1,200 new Federal prosecutors since 1989 and told them to go after drug lords and violent criminals. And we've reassigned 300 FBI agents to help you fight gangs.

Second, reforming criminal justice. We want criminal punishment to be fair, fast and final, and we want victims to get at least the same respect. After all, they're the innocent ones.

That means stopping the ridiculous abuse of our appeals process... it means enforcing the death penalty... and it means letting cops use criminal evidence they seized in good faith.

And we've given more than \$200 million to crime victims since 1989, to help compensate their losses. You know where that money came from? Criminal fines. Sometimes justice is poetic.

Third, targeting the violent repeat-offender. You know this guy. The one with the nasty habit of walking out of jail, right back into the lives of innocent people. He's a huge part of the problem. Put him away for good, and crime takes a holiday.

One federal operation arrested 3300 of the most-dangerous fugitives in America in just 68 days last spring. And we're targeting repeat offenders with project Triggerlock, where the feds join state and local crimefighters work to take violent criminals to federal court. That way, we nail them on federal charges that put them away much longer. We just finished year one of Triggerlock, and federal firearms prosecutions more than doubled, to the average tune of 18 years with no parole.

And finally fourth, taking back our neighborhoods -- our weed-and-seed program. I believe in this program because tougher

laws won't fix everything. The other part of the crime problem has a more human face -- a kid's face. Tomorrow's criminals are just kids today. At some point early in life, a youngster at a critical juncture can be steered to a life of right... or a life of terrible wrong. It all depends on the kind of soil you plant these kids in... and how you nourish them.

So you weed the bad out of a neighborhood... and you seed it with good. We're trying pilot programs in 19 cities right now, with (need funding figures). Maybe with love and care like this, our kids won't suffer the scars of another Cabrini-Green.

We've fought for all four of these initiatives during my administration. Not just tough talk -- we're taking action. But the action would be more effective as part of a comprehensive national crime strategy with the full backing of Congress.

That's why, twelve-hundred and XXX days ago, on June 15, 1989 -- the same day Mikhail Gorbachev first hinted the Berlin Wall might someday fall -- I sent a comprehensive crime bill to Capitol Hill. I offered the hand of partnership to Congress, and asked for help fighting crime on a national level.

I guess crime isn't as high on their list as it is on mine. Since I first sent that bill to them in 1989, here in the United States, we've had almost 60,000 murders, 260,000 rapes, 1,600,000 robberies and 2,600,000 assaults. And XXX of those violent crimes took place right here in Detroit.

Think about that. Enough people to fill the city of Detroit more than X times over... were brutalized while that bill

languished on the Hill. At any given minute in this country, Americans who are beaten, robbed, raped or killed could fill Cobo Hall. (Check.)

I know the numbers are staggering. I know that Americans sit down in front of their TVs at night... watch the news and ask... why doesn't somebody do something about this incredible mess? People are dying in the streets, for Heaven's sake.

I couldn't agree more. And as frustrating as this crime bill has been for me... it's still my job as President to get results. So we've won some big battles in the past few weeks. I want to tell you about them, but I also want you to know what's on my overall crime agenda so you know what to expect in a second Bush term. I'm not asking for anything but common sense and reasonable justice... especially for women, children and elderly victims of crime.

Here are the eight goals I asked Congress to help me reach.

First, apprehend and severely punish carjackers, like the ones I just described. I want to make carjacking a Federal offense with harsh penalties. I want thugs who take cars at gunpoint to stay in a cell so long that when they get out -- they're too old to drive.

Second, call deadbeat dads onto the carpet. Right now, a single mother here in Detroit can be struggling to keep the kids fed and clothed on her small salary... while their father's in Chicago, picking out a new Chevy truck with terrycloth pom-poms and a gun rack. He could be 'way behind in child-support, but no

one can touch him because he's over state lines. Well, I think that's a disgrace, and it's about time the long arm of the law reaches out over that state line... taps that deadbeat dad on the shoulder... and says loud and clear -- time to pay up, buddy. Pay up... or go up the river.

Third, strengthen laws dealing with sexual and domestic violence. For starters, we need to protect the victim. It's bad enough a rape victim is attacked in the first place. Then she takes the stand and gets attacked by the rapist's lawyers. I say that's two too many attacks.

And I want repeat sex and domestic-violence offenders behind bars until trial. Today, even a repeat offender can get arrested and be out on bond hours later... stalking his next victim... or beating his wife and kids for turning him in. I want him detained until trial, and I want the prosecution to be able to use past convictions against him. Right now, certain details can't even be mentioned in court. So-called little details -- like the fact that everyone and their dog, within ten country miles, knows the guy has done this before. And that's wrong. Let him pay for what he's done.

Fourth, crack down on gang violence. I want gangs to be treated like the criminal enterprises they are. That way, we can go after the leaders, and we can deal harshly with them, and we can untie the hands of good cops so they can clean up decent neighborhoods. Little Dantrell Davis was killed by a gang sniper in Cabrini-Green last week. This was an innocent little seven-

year-old boy, on his way to school. And I say, the animal who shot him should be caged.

And I want to toughen the penalties for using juveniles in crimes. Gangs can send under-age kids out to do their dirty work, because they're minors who'll get off if they're caught. I want to make the big boys pay.

Fifth, protection for the elderly. It's absurd that the folks who've contributed to this society all through their lives have to live in terror when they're old and frail, just because some young punks see them as an easy target. I want to beef up the laws so instead of being on the streets mugging grandmothers -- they're down at precinct, mugging for the police camera.

Sixth, Habeas Corpus reform. Habeas Corpus is a fancy way of saying, if you're found guilty of something, you can challenge the decision in court. It's supposed to protect the innocent, but it's turned into a ridiculous perversion of the law. Can you believe that a lot of these petitions drag on for more than a decade? Criminal lawyers use it to postpone justice. A guilty verdict can mean seemingly endless appeals that choke our courts and delay justice. It's time we put a stop to this travesty. Let them have one Habeas Corpus petition, and be done with it.

Seventh, a Federal death penalty. I think certain acts of violence deserve the ultimate penalty. I'm talking about assassinations, murder for hire, terrorism and other depraved acts. And add to that the new urban violence we see with gangs. Drive-by shootings, random violence, gang massacres -- these

people are merchants of death, who trade in death... so when they kill someone, let's complete the transaction.

And eighth, firearms. This one's short and sweet. I want much-tougher penalties for criminal use of firearms. Period.

Those are the eight things I felt most-strongly about when I sent my Crime Bill to Capitol Hill. I fought to get the comprehensive Bill passed, but Congress wouldn't do it. So we took each of the items to the mat individually, and today I'm proud to announce that right after this speech, I'm going to sit down at (place) and sign two of those measures into federal law.

They're the two measures I mentioned first, carjacking and deadbeat dads.

The carjacking bill isn't as tough as I wanted, but it's a start. It makes carjacking a Federal offense, and it makes the chop-shops that buy stolen cars Federally liable, too.

And the deadbeat dads bill lets the arm of the law reach over state lines and hold fathers responsible child support.

So there are two tough new laws, and next year, we're going after the other six on my agenda that Congress wouldn't pass.

((Conclusion. Any thoughts on effective close? A story would be best.))

Porter edits

(Askew/Bunton)
October 22, 1992
5:00 p.m.
CRIME

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INTERNAT'L POLICE CHIEFS
COBO HALL, DETROIT
SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 1992
10:00 A.M.

Thank you for that introduction, and hello, everybody.

((Acknowledgements, local color, humor.))

Today I want to talk about ^{ONE OF} government's ^{MOST IMPORTANT} ~~first and foremost~~ function: ^s to protect every American citizen ~~from violence~~ -- at home and on the streets.

~~There's no point winning a Cold War if our neighborhoods back home are criminal territory, where grandparents and kids hide behind bars, like prisoners in their own homes. That's a perversion of the public peace, and it absolutely must not stand.~~

~~Easier said than done~~ ^{THIS IS AN OBLIGATION WE CAN AND MUST FULFILL. WE HAVE MADE SOME} -- but it can be done. You know,

better than anyone, that we've slowed ^{THE RISE IN} violent crime dramatically the past twelve years. And we're starting to turn the tide on the terrible drugs that so often fuel the fire.

I know it's been especially hard on you. America got soft on crime in the 60s, and you paid for it. By the time we ^{FOCUSED OUR} ~~cracked~~ ^{ATTENTION ON CRIME} ~~down~~, again in the early 80s, ^{IT} violent crime had gone up 400% in twenty years. But in the ten years since then, it's gone up a little over 25%, and the overall crime index is actually down.

^s So with your help, we've stemmed the tide... prevented millions of crimes... but that's not enough. ~~It's never enough.~~

PHOENIX

^{COMMITTED}
Crime ⁵ ~~is a smart virus... always changing its face, and our~~
~~laws need to react just as quickly~~ ^{AND EFFECTIVELY.} ~~so we can beat it.~~

^{FOR}
~~Here's a timely example, Carjacking,~~ ^g a brand-new word for
a brand-new crime. ~~Someone figured out~~ it's easy to steal a car
that's already running, with the keys in the ignition. But that
means the criminal has to do ^{SOMETHING ABOUT THE} ~~away with a~~ driver.

I want to tell you a story that ~~just~~ sickened Barbara and me
when we saw it on TV. But it shows what we're up against. In a
nice area near D.C. recently -- in broad daylight -- a woman was
forced from her car at a stop sign by two men who then drove off.

But she got tangled in her seatbelt outside the car. Or
maybe she hung on. What mother wouldn't? Her baby was inside.

That woman was dragged for almost two miles, ^{BEFORE SHE DIED.} ~~The thieves~~
~~finally crushed her to death against a fence.~~ And they tossed
her little baby out by the roadside. ~~like a piece of trash.~~

I know I'm preaching to the choir... I know you've got
horror stories of your own, certainly here in Detroit... but we
can't get jaded against outrage. This is sick, animal behavior,
and we cannot as a nation ^{LET} ~~abide~~ ^{STAND} it ~~any longer.~~

People who do such things have no place in ^{OUR} ~~decent~~ society.
~~And as far as this President's concerned, they can go to jail...~~
~~they can stay in jail... and they can rot in jail.~~

We need tough laws that don't bend over backwards sheltering
the criminal... while saying to the victim, "Tough luck, buddy."

~~You know,~~ there are ^{so} many issues in this Presidential
campaign... where ^{THERE ARE SHARP} ~~the~~ differences ^{BETWEEN THE} ~~among~~ candidates couldn't be

~~more radical. Crime is one of them -- Bill Clinton and I are about as far apart as Barney Fife and the Terminator.~~

~~I'll give him credit, though. He's learned to talk tough. But let me tell you: When push comes to shove, what the Governor really believes is the same old baloney that it's society's fault when someone gets mugged, and society should pay--~~

~~LET'S EXAMINE THE~~
~~His~~ record, ~~practically shouts it.~~ An average Arkansas inmate served less than one-fifth of his sentence last year. Compare that to federal inmates -- inmates under my jurisdiction. They serve at least 85 percent of their full sentence.

~~UNDER BILL CLINTON'S LEADERSHIP~~
Violent crime in Arkansas went up almost 60 percent in the 80s -- more than twice the national average. That was the nation's single-biggest increase in overall crime in the 80s, and the third-biggest in violent crime.

Look at violent crimes committed for every 100,000 people in Arkansas. In 1983, there were 289. ^{BY} Last year -- ^{IT HAD RISEN} ~~up~~ to 593.

Three years ago, the average Arkansas inmate was serving 31 months. ^{Now} ~~But just three years later~~ -- they're down to 16 ^{MONTHS}.

This one's my favorite. Just the other day, Governor Clinton observed that America is number one in the world in the percentage of people behind bars. And then he said he wants to reverse that trend. What does he want to do? Turn 'em loose?

The evidence keeps piling up. Arkansas ranks near rock-bottom for every important per-capita crime dollar it spends. For prisons: 46th. Police officers: 49th. And for spending on judicial and legal systems -- Arkansas ranks 50th.

That's right. Dead last.

No wonder crime went ballistic in Arkansas during the 80s.
If you don't give police the tools they need... you can't expect them to do their job.

Bottom line -- the Governor's record is ~~not right for~~ ^{UNEQUAL} ~~for~~ ^{STET} Arkansas, and it's not right for America. If you don't believe me... just ask the Fraternal Order of Police in Little Rock, Arkansas. They know Bill Clinton's record better than anyone... and they're not endorsing their Governor. They're joining hands with their national organization, and endorsing me for President. They're endorsing me because they're on the front lines... where it's clear that America needs a government that attacks the problem... by preventing and punishing crime.

~~I believe it, too.~~ That's why I've been fighting for strong federal support... so we can help our state and local police, ~~in new and concrete ways.~~ ~~We must help you fight.~~

For four years, I've been working hard to do just that. You don't hear about it -- ^{BECAUSE} it's good news, which to the media means no news. Well, ~~they've got a lot of things wrong. I heard them on my train the other day, singing their theme song: "Accentuate the negative... eliminate the positive."~~

Well, let me tell you four ^{ELEMENTS OF MY STRATEGY TO FIGHT CRIME.} ~~big things we've been doing to fight crime and we'll see if the press bothers to mention them.~~

^{INCREASED} First, ~~more~~ resources. [My 1993 budget calls for almost 60%

more federal money] than crimefighters ^{RECEIVED} ~~got~~ when I took office. ^{I'VE PROPOSED} We've ~~got a program to~~ ^{ING} double Federal prison capacity during the

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90s. We've hired more than 1,200 new Federal prosecutors since 1989, ~~telling them to~~ ^{HELP US} go after drug lords and violent criminals. And we've assigned 300 FBI agents to help you fight gangs.

Second, reforming criminal justice ^{SYSTEM}. We want criminal punishment to be fair, fast and final, and we want ~~at least~~ the same respectful treatment for innocent victims.

That means stopping the ridiculous abuse of our appeals process... it means enforcing the death penalty... and it means letting cops use criminal evidence they seize in good faith.

~~And we've given more than \$200 million to crime victims~~ ^{TO HELP COMPENSATE CRIME VICTIMS FOR THEIR LOSSES,} ~~since 1989 to help compensate their losses.~~ ^{STATES} You know where that money came from? Criminal fines. Sometimes justice is poetic.

Third, targeting the violent repeat-offender ⁵. You know this guy. ^{HE'S} The one with the nasty habit of walking out of jail, right back into the lives of innocent people. He's a huge part of the problem. Put him away for good, and crime takes a holiday.

One of our federal operations arrested 3300 of the most-dangerous fugitives in America in just 68 days last spring. And we're targeting ^{ARMED} repeat offenders with project Triggerlock, where the feds join state and local crimefighters to take violent criminals ^{WHO CARRY GUNS} to federal court. That way, we ^{PROSECUTE + CONVICT} ~~put~~ them on federal charges that ^{KEEP} ~~put~~ them ^{IN JAIL} ~~away~~ much longer. We just finished ^{THE FIRST} year ~~one~~ of Triggerlock, and federal firearms prosecutions more than ^{TRIGGERLOCK DEFENDANTS FACE SERIOUS TIME: AN} doubled ~~to the~~ average ~~time~~ of 18 years with no parole.

And finally fourth, taking back our neighborhoods ^{THROUGH} -- ~~our~~ weed-and-seed program. I believe in this program because tougher

OF DEFENDANTS PROSECUTED DOUBLED, NOT THE SENTENCE.

laws won't fix everything. ~~The other side of crime has a more human face -- and too often, it's a child's face.~~ At some point early in life, a kid at a critical juncture can be steered to a life of right or a life of terrible wrong. It all depends on the kind of soil you plant these kids in... and how you nourish them.

So you weed out the ~~bad~~ ^{ELEMENTS} in a neighborhood^S... and you seed it with good. We're ~~trying~~ ^{IMPLEMENTING} pilot programs in ~~15~~ ²⁰ cities right now. With love and care ~~like this~~ ^I, we ^{WILL} give kids a chance to escape the scars of a Cass Corridor in Detroit... a Cabrini-Green in Chicago ... a Hough in Cleveland... or an East Lake Meadows in Atlanta.

We've fought ~~for all~~ ^{CRIME ON} these ~~initiatives~~ ^{FOUR FRONTS} during my FIRST TERM administration. ~~Not just tough talk -- we're taking action.~~ But our action^S would be ^{FAR} more effective as a part of a comprehensive national crime strategy with the full backing of Congress.

That's why, twelve-hundred and twenty-eight days ago, on June 15, 1989 -- the same day Mikhail Gorbachev first hinted the Berlin Wall might ~~some day~~ fall -- I sent a comprehensive crime bill to Capitol Hill. I ~~offered the~~ ^{EXTENDED MY} hand ~~of~~ ^{IN} partnership to ~~THE~~ Congress, and asked for help fighting crime on a national level.

I guess crime isn't as high on their list as it is on mine. Since I first sent that bill to the Hill in 1989, here in the United States we've had almost 60,000 murders, 260,000 rapes, 1.6 million robberies and 2.6 million assaults. And 69,000 of those violent crimes took place -- right here in Detroit.

Think about that. Enough people to fill the city of Detroit four times over... were brutalized while that bill languished on

Capitol Hill. (X) of those Americans were brutalized on Capitol Hill -- in the hard neighborhoods near the halls of Congress. The horrible truth is, if you started putting all the Americans who are beaten, robbed, raped or killed in this country into Cobo Hall, they'd fill every one of ~~your~~ ^{THESE} seats -- in ~~one~~ ^{A SINGLE} day. ~~You're~~ ^I ~~sitting in a victim's chair.~~

No wonder Americans stare at the news every night... shake their heads... and ask, why doesn't somebody do something about this incredible mess? People are dying in the streets!

I could not agree more. And as frustrating as this crime bill has been for me... it's still my job as President to get results. ~~So~~ we've won some big battles in the past few weeks. I want to share them with you, ~~but~~ ^{AND} I ~~also~~ ^I want you to know what's ^{IN} ~~on~~ my overall crime agenda, so you know what to expect in a second Bush term. ~~I'm not asking for anything but common sense~~ ~~justice, especially for women, kids and elderly victims of crime.~~

Here are the eight goals I ^{HAVE} asked Congress to help me reach.

One, severely punish carjackers, like the ones I just described. I ~~told~~ ^{ASKED} Congress ~~I want~~ to make carjacking a federal offense with harsh penalties. ~~I want~~ ^{SO THE} thugs who take cars at gunpoint ^I ~~to~~ stay in a cell so long that when they get out -- they're too old to walk, much less drive.

Two, call deadbeat dads on the carpet. Right now, a single mother here in Detroit can be struggling to keep the kids fed on her ~~small~~ ^{MODEST} salary... while their father's in Chicago, picking out a nice new Jeep Grand Cherokee with a CD player and leather

~~INTERIOR~~
~~seats~~. He could be ^{YEARS} ~~way~~ behind in ^{HIS} child-support, ^{PAYMENTS} but no one can touch him because he's over state lines.

Well, I think that's a disgrace, and it's about time the long arm of the law reaches out over that state line... taps that deadbeat dad on his shoulder... and says, Time to pay up, buddy. Time to pay up... or go up the river.

Three, strengthen laws dealing with sexual and domestic violence. For starters, we need to protect the victim. It's bad enough a rape victim is attacked in the first place. Then she takes the stand to testify -- and gets attacked by the rapist's lawyers. I say that's two too many attacks.

And I want ^{TO KEEP} repeat sex and domestic-violence offenders behind bars until trial. Today, even a repeat offender can get arrested and be out on bond hours later... stalking his next victim... or beating his wife and kids for turning him in. I want him detained until trial, and I want the prosecution to be able to use past ^{SIMILAR ACTS} ~~convictions~~ against him. Right now, certain details can't even be mentioned in court. ~~So called little details~~ like ~~the fact that everyone and their dog within a country mile~~ knows ~~the guy's done this before.~~ And that's wrong. Let him face what he's done and pay for ^{IT.} ~~what he's done.~~

Four, crack down on gang violence. I want gangs to be treated like the criminal enterprises they are. That way, we can go after the leaders, ~~and we can~~ deal harshly with them, and ~~we~~ ^{can} untie the hands of good cops so they can clean up decent neighborhoods. Little Dantrell Davis was killed by a gang sniper

CAN OFTEN
USE PAST
CONVICTIONS
ALREADY

in Cabrini-Green in Chicago last week. This was an innocent little seven-year-old boy, on his way to school. And I say, the animal who shot him should be caged.

And I want to toughen the penalties for using juveniles in crimes. Gangs can send under-age kids out to do their dirty work, because they're minors who'll get off easy if they're caught. I want to make the big boys pay.

Five, protection for the elderly. It's absurd that ~~the~~ folks who've contributed to ~~this~~ ^{OUR} society all their lives... have to live in terror, ~~when they're old and frail,~~ just because some young punks see them as an easy target. I want to beef up the laws so instead of stalking the streets, mugging grandma -- they're down at precinct, mugging for the police camera.

~~Six, Habeas Corpus reform. Habeas Corpus should protect the innocent, but it's turned into a ridiculous perversion of the law. Can you believe that these petitions can drag on for more than a decade? The fact is, criminal lawyers are abusing the law to postpone justice, and it's time we stop this travesty. Let them have one Habeas Corpus petition and be done with it.~~
^{REFORM THE APPEALS PROCESS THAT HAS}
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^{APPEAL}

Seven, a Federal death penalty. I think certain acts of violence deserve the ultimate penalty. I'm talking about assassinations, murder for hire, terrorism and other depraved acts. And you can add the new urban violence we see with gangs. Drive-by shootings, random violence, gang massacres -- these people are merchants of death, who trade in death... so when they kill someone, let's complete the transaction.

And eight, firearms. This one's short and sweet. I want much-tougher penalties for criminal use of firearms. Period.

Those are the eight things I felt most-strongly about when I sent my Crime Bill to Capitol Hill. I fought to get the comprehensive Bill passed, but Congress wouldn't do it. So we took each of the items to the mat individually, and today I'm proud to announce that after this speech, I'm going to sit right down here at Cobo Hall and sign two of those measures into law - - the two that deal with carjacking and deadbeat dads.

The carjacking bill isn't ^{QUITE} as tough as I wanted, but it's a ^{GOOD} start. It makes ^{ARMED} carjacking a federal offense, and it makes ^{THOSE WHO RUN} chop-shops that buy stolen cars ^{CRIMINALS} federally ~~liable~~, too.

And the deadbeat dads bill lets the arm of the law reach over state lines and hold fathers responsible for child support. ^{PAYMENTS}

So there are two tough new laws. And we've been able to work with the Congress to get these done. Next year, we're going after the other six on my agenda, and with ^A the new Congress, a Congress with 150 new members, we'll pass these ^{OTHER} six as well.

There's a ^{MUCH} ~~lot of~~ work still to be done. But ~~America is~~ ~~worth defending, at home as much as abroad.~~ For every hardened criminal you face down, there are countless thousands of good, decent Americans out there with strong values and big hearts. You don't hear from them too much... but I happen to know, on good authority, that they appreciate you.

I know because they tell me.

So let me pass it on. America stands behind you. And I stand behind you, with the full weight of the Federal government.

And on behalf of all those unheard but grateful Americans... thank you -- all of you -- for putting your lives on the line every day. Pass it on. Go back and tell your brave men and women that we love you and we need you.

You've done so much already... but there's more to be done.

And so I'm asking for your vote on November 3 -- because I want to be in Washington four more years... to help you do it.

God bless you... God bless all the law-enforcement officers across this great land... and God bless the United States of America.

(Askew/Bunton)
October 23, 1992
5:00 p.m.
CRIME

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

INTERNAT'L POLICE CHIEFS
COBO HALL, DETROIT
SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 1992
10:00 A.M.

Thank you, Chief Vaughn [IACP President], for that kind introduction, and hello, everyone.

Today I want to talk about government's first and foremost function: to protect every citizen at home and on the street.

We just won a Cold War. Now we need to focus on enemy territory in our own neighborhoods back home, where grandparents and kids hide behind bars, prisoners in their own homes. ~~That's~~ *Crime* *stet*

a perversion of peacekeeping, and it absolutely must not stand.

This is easier said than done -- but it can be done. We've slowed violent crime dramatically the past twelve years, and we're *(stet)*

(stet) ~~turning the tide on the drugs, that so often fuel the fire.~~

You've watched it first-hand. America got soft on crime in the 60s, and for twenty years you paid for it. But we fought back, and for the first time in decades the overall crime index is actually down. *I repeat -- down.*

So with your help, we've ~~prevented~~ *prevented* ~~millions of~~ *countless* crimes... but that's not enough.

Crime's a smart virus... always changing its face, and our laws need to react just as quickly... so we can beat it.

Take carjacking -- a brand-new word for a brand-new crime.

Crime knows no prejudice, it strikes young and old -- rich and poor. To a bullet or a blade -- we all look the same.

I want to tell you a story that just sickened Barbara and me when we saw it on TV. But it shows what we're up against. In broad daylight in a ~~nice~~ neighborhood near D.C., ~~recently~~, a woman was forced from her car at a stop sign by two men, who then drove off. But ^{however,} she got tangled in her seatbelt outside the car. Or maybe she hung on. What mother wouldn't? ^{Yours,} Her baby was ^{locked} inside.

That woman was dragged ~~for~~ almost two miles before the thieves crushed her to death against a fence. And then they tossed her little baby out by the roadside ^{like} like a piece of trash.

I know I'm preaching to the choir... but this sort of thing must provoke outrage. People who act like animals have no place in decent society. As far as this President's concerned, they can go to jail, they can stay in jail, and they can rot in jail.

There are so many issues in this Presidential campaign... where the differences among candidates couldn't be sharper. And crime is one of them: ^{On crime, crime,} Bill Clinton and I are about as far apart as Barney Rife and the Terminator.

I'll give ^{Governor Clinton} ~~him~~ credit; he's learned to talk tough. But ~~let~~ ^{if you look at the record,} ~~me~~ ^{Clinton} Governor ~~believes~~ believes the same old baloney that it's society's fault when someone gets mugged, and society should pay. ~~His record is a disgrace.~~

The average Arkansas inmate served less than one-fifth of his sentence last year. ^{Put} The average federal inmate, ~~though~~ -- an inmate under my jurisdiction -- served 85 percent of his.

~~There's more.~~ Under Bill Clinton, Arkansas' violent crime rate went up almost 60 percent in the 80s -- more than twice the

How are the facts.

2 I say it's the criminals fault, and he should pay. 11

votes have a clear choice -- when the

national average. That was the nation's single-biggest increase in serious crime during the decade.

There were about 300 violent crimes for every 100,000 people in Arkansas In 1983. Last year, ^{that} it was almost 600. ~~It's~~ ^{Violent crime by} doubled on Governor Clinton's watch.

Three years ago, the average Arkansas inmate was serving 31 months. But now ~~it's~~ they're down to 15.

This one's my favorite. Just the other day, Governor Clinton observed that America is number one in the world in the percentage of people behind bars. And then he said he wants to reverse that trend. What does he want to do? Turn 'em loose?

The evidence keeps piling up. Arkansas ranks near rock-bottom for every important per-capita crime dollar it spends. For prisons: 46th. Police officers: 49th. And for spending on judicial and legal systems, Arkansas ranks 50th.

~~That's right.~~ Dead last.

No wonder crime went ballistic in Arkansas during the 80s.

You're supposed to handcuff criminals -- not the police.

It's obvious the Clinton ^{SCUM} record ~~isn't~~ ^{is wrong} right for Arkansas, and it ~~isn't~~ ^{wrong} right for America. If you don't believe me, ask the Fraternal Order of Police in Little Rock, ~~Arkansas~~. They know the Clinton record better than anyone, and they're joining hands with their national organization -- to endorse me for President.

They've taken the time to look at my record. ~~And given the media -- that's not easy.~~ Let me tell you ~~four~~ important things

The ~~things~~ you might not ~~see~~ ^{hear} on good news the network news every night.

of the United States

Governor Clinton doesn't understand.

we've been doing to fight crime -- and we'll see if the press bothers to mention them.

more money.

We've
First, ~~more resources~~ *We've* consistently called for more federal money to fight crime. Since I took office, we've increased the crime budget by almost 50% ~~not as much as I wanted, but it's a start.~~

We
I've also proposed a program to double Federal prison capacity during the 90s. We've hired more than 1200 new Federal prosecutors since 1989, just to fight fraud, violence and drugs.

And we've assigned 300 FBI agents to help you ~~fight~~ *get* gangs.

~~Second, reforming criminal justice.~~ We need criminal punishment to be fair, fast and final, and we don't need laws that bend over backward for the criminal... while saying to the victim, "Tough luck, buddy." That means stopping the abuse of our appeals process... it means enforcing the death penalty... and it means letting cops use evidence seized in good faith.

And here's an interesting fact. Since 1989, we've given more than \$400 million dollars to help crime victims. Know where it came from? ~~Criminal fines.~~ *Fining criminals.* (Sometimes justice is poetic.)

~~Third, targeting~~ *We've also* ~~the~~ *FCI* ~~the~~ violent repeat-offender. You know this guy. The one with the nasty habit of walking out of jail, right back into the lives of innocent people. He's a huge part of the problem. Put him away for good, and crime takes a holiday.

~~One of our federal efforts to do just that~~ *we* put ~~3300~~ *over 2,000* of the most-dangerous fugitives in America behind bars in just a couple

while you need more resources, you also need tougher

criminal justice procedures.

Number of the street...

of months last spring. And ^{we've} another one hits repeat offenders with federal charges that put them away much longer.

~~And fourth, taking back our neighborhoods.~~ ^{Phil [unclear] will} I believe in our ~~Weed and Seed~~ program. Tough laws won't fix everything. You have to save kids early, before they get sucked into crime. It all depends on the social soil you plant their dreams in.

So after you weed out the bad in a neighborhood, you seed it with good. We're trying pilot programs in 20 cities right now. With love and care, we can give kids a chance to escape the scars of a Cass Corridor in Detroit... a Cabrini-Green in Chicago... a Hough [HUFF] in Cleveland... or an East Lake Meadows in Atlanta.

We owe it to the overwhelming majority of people in these neighborhoods who are law-abiding citizens... to live free of terror from drugs and violence in their communities.

I've fought for all these initiatives. Not just tough talk -- we're taking action. But our action would be stronger if it were a part of a national crime strategy supported by Congress.

That's why, twelve-hundred and twenty-eight days ago, on June 15, 1989 -- the same day Mikhail Gorbachev first hinted the Berlin Wall might someday fall -- I sent a comprehensive crime bill to Capitol Hill. I extended my hand in partnership to Congress, and asked for help fighting crime on a national level.

I guess crime isn't as high on their list as it is on mine. Since I first sent that bill to the Hill in 1989, Americans have been assaulted ^{(to} the tune of almost 60,000 murders, 260,000

~~That~~

5
That's where our Weed and Seed program comes in.

rapes, 1.6 million robberies and 2.6 million assaults. And 69,000 of those violent crimes took place right here in Detroit.

Think about it. Enough Americans to fill Detroit four times over... were brutalized by assault, rape or murder while that bill languished on Capitol Hill. If you started putting victims here in Cobo Hall... they'd fill every one of these seats -- in a single day. Folks -- you're sitting in a victim's chair.

No wonder Americans stare at the news every night... shake their heads... and ask, why doesn't somebody do something about this incredible mess? People are dying in the streets!

Well, as frustrating as this crime bill has been for me... it's still my job as President to get results. So we've fought and won a couple of big battles the past few weeks. And today I'm proud to announce that right after this speech, I'm going to sit down here at Cobo Hall and sign two of the crime initiatives I've fought for... into tough new federal laws.

The first one severely punishes carjackers. I told Congress I wanted to make carjacking a federal offense with harsh penalties. Thugs who take cars at gunpoint should sit in a cell so long that when they get out -- they're too old to drive.

And the second one calls deadbeat dads on the carpet. Right now, a single mother in Detroit can struggle to keep the kids fed on a small salary while their father's on a lark in Chicago. He could be way behind in child-support, but no one can touch him over state lines. Well, that's a disgrace, and now the long arm

of the law can reach over that border, ^{and tell that dad} ~~tap dad on his shoulder...~~
~~and say, Bushy...~~ ~~time to pay up, or go up the river.~~

So there you have two tough new federal laws that go into effect today. We've been able to work with Congress to get them through. And you know why? Because national attention created national outrage that ~~I applied to~~ ^{forced} Congress ~~to force them~~ to act. It's a formula I want to use again and again in the next four years. So ~~let me make you an offer.~~ ~~Stick~~ ^{stick} with me in the election, and I'll stick with you after, ~~it~~, applying that formula over and over until law enforcement in this country has the federal support ^{you} ~~it~~ needs and deserves to do the job right.

Those two laws made it this year. But my ~~calendar~~ ^{have care} ~~at~~ least six other initiatives that Congress didn't pass -- that I happen to care a whole lot about. So next year, we're going after them as well. Given a new Congress -- with 150 new members next session -- we're going to pass those six items into law too.

So here's what to expect in a second Bush administration.

Number one, I want to strengthen laws dealing with sexual and domestic violence. For starters, we've got to protect the victim. It's bad enough a woman is attacked in the first place. Then she takes the stand for testimony -- and gets attacked by lawyers. I say that's two attacks too many.

And I want repeat offenders behind bars until trial. Today, even a repeat rapist can get arrested and be out on bond hours later. I say, detain him until trial and let the prosecution use past behavior against him. Right now, certain little details

can't even be mentioned in court -- like the fact that everyone within a country mile knows the guy has done this before. And that's wrong. Let him face what he's done and pay for it. //

Number two, we've got to crush gang violence. I want gangs to be treated like the criminal enterprises they are, so we can go after the leaders with federal medicine they deserve. And I want to toughen penalties for using juveniles in crimes. Gangs can send under-age kids out to do their dirty work, because they're minors who'll get off easy if they're caught. I want to make the big boys pay.

Three, protection for the elderly. It's absurd that the folks who've contributed to society all their lives... have to live in terror just because some young punks see them as an easy target. I want to beef up the laws so instead of stalking the streets, mugging ~~grandma~~ ^{grandmothers} -- they're down at precinct, mugging for the police camera.

Four, Habeas Corpus reform. Habeas Corpus should protect the innocent, but it's turned into a perversion of the law. Some petitions can drag on for more than a decade. Criminal lawyers are abusing the law to postpone justice, and it's time to stop it. Let them have one Habeas petition and be done with it.

Five, a Federal death penalty. I think certain acts of violence deserve the ultimate penalty. Assassinations, murder for hire, terrorism, random drive-by shootings, gang massacres: These depraved people are merchants of death who trade in death so when they kill someone let's complete the transaction.

That's disgraceful!

And six, firearms. This one's short and sweet. I want much-tougher penalties for criminal use of firearms. Period.

So there's a lot of work to be done. But America's worth it. For every hardened criminal you face down, there are countless thousands of good, decent Americans out there with strong values and big hearts. You don't hear from them much, but I happen to know on good authority that they appreciate you.

I know because they tell me.

So let me pass it on. America stands behind you. And I stand behind you, with the full weight of the Federal government.

And on behalf of all those unheard but grateful Americans... thank you -- all of you -- for putting your lives on the line every day. Now you pass it on. Go back and tell your brave men and women that we love you and we need you all.

You've done so much already... but there's more to be done.

To do it, I need your support. And I ask for your vote on November 3 -- because I want to be in Washington four more years fighting for the federal support you need to get your jobs done.

Thank you... God bless all the law officers across this great land... and God bless the United States of America.

~~Let's get on a blade!~~
~~We all love the~~
~~USA!~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10:00 P5:51

October 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAN MC GROARTY *DMG*

FROM: KEN ASKEW *KA*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS AT INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
POLICE CHIEFS

I. - SUMMARY

On Sunday, October 25th at 10:00 a.m., you will deliver remarks to an audience of 5,000 members of the International Association of Police Chiefs and their spouses at their annual convention in Cobo Hall in Detroit, Michigan.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (approximately 18 minutes / teleprompter) highlight your crime bill.

Following your remarks you will sign the deadbeat dads and carjacking measures of your crime bill into law.

Photocopy-GB Handwriting

Photocopy-Preservation

(Askew/Bunton)
October 24, 1992
2:20 p.m.
CRIME

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INTERNAT'L POLICE CHIEFS
 COBO HALL, DETROIT
 SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 1992
 10:00 A.M.

Thank you, Chief Vaughn [IACP President], for that kind introduction, and hello, everyone.

Today I want to talk about government's first and foremost function: to protect every citizen at home and on the street.

Crime has no prejudices. It strikes young and old -- rich and poor. To a bullet or a blade -- we all look the same.

We just won a Cold War. Now we need to focus ^{even more} on enemy territory in our own neighborhoods back home, where grandparents and kids hide behind bars, prisoners in their own homes. That's a perversion of peacekeeping, and it absolutely must not stand.

This is easier said than done -- but it can be done. We've slowed violent crime dramatically the past twelve years, and we're turning the tide on the drugs that so often fuel the fire.

You've watched it first-hand. America got soft on crime in the 60s, and for twenty years you paid for it. But we fought back, and for the first time in decades the overall crime index is actually down. I repeat -- down.

~~So with your help, we've prevented countless crimes... but that's not enough.~~

But Crime's a smart virus... always changing its face, and our laws need to react just as quickly... so we can beat it.

Take carjacking -- a brand-new word for a brand-new crime.

I want to tell you a story that just sickened Barbara and me when we saw it on TV. But it shows what we're up against. In broad daylight in a neighborhood near D.C., a woman was forced from her car at a stop sign by two men, who then drove off. But the woman got tangled in her seatbelt outside the car. Or maybe she hung on. What mother wouldn't? You see, her baby was locked inside.

That woman was dragged almost two miles before the thieves crushed her to death against a fence. And then they tossed her little baby out by the roadside -- like a piece of trash.

I know I'm preaching to the choir... but this sort of thing must provoke outrage. People who act like animals have no place in decent society. ~~As far as this President's concerned, they~~ *should*
~~can go to jail, they can stay in jail, and they can rot in~~ *90* *and*
~~jail. //~~

There are so many issues in this Presidential campaign... where the voters have a clear choice -- where the differences among candidates couldn't be sharper. And crime is one of them: On crime, Bill Clinton and I are about as far apart as Barney Fife and the Terminator. *?*

I'll give Governor Clinton credit; he's learned to talk tough. But if you look at the record, Governor Clinton believes the same old baloney that it's society's fault when someone gets mugged, and society should pay. I say it's the criminals fault, and he should pay. //

I have big differences with Gov. Clinton on crime & law enforcement.

Here are ^{some} the facts. The average Arkansas inmate served less than one-fifth of his sentence last year. But the average federal inmate, -- an inmate under my jurisdiction -- served 85 percent of his.

Under Bill Clinton, Arkansas' violent crime rate went up almost 60 percent in the 80s -- more than twice the national average. That was the nation's single-biggest increase in serious crime during the decade.

In 1983, there were about 300 violent crimes for every 100,000 people in Arkansas. Last year, there were almost 600. Violent crime has doubled on Governor Clinton's watch.

Three years ago, the average Arkansas inmate was serving 31 months. But now -- they're down to 16.

The evidence keeps piling up. Arkansas ranks near rock-bottom for every important per-capita crime dollar it spends. For prisons: 46th. Police officers: 49th. And for spending on judicial and legal systems, Arkansas ranks 50th. Dead last.

No wonder crime went ballistic in Arkansas during the 80s. You're supposed to handcuff criminals -- not the police.

Governor Clinton is wrong. It's obvious -- the Clinton crime record is wrong for Arkansas, and it is wrong for America. If you don't believe me, ask the Fraternal Order of Police in Little Rock. They know the Clinton record better than anyone, and they're joining hands with their national organization -- to endorse me for President of the United States.

careful about blaming Ark. Police

you can't blame Arkansas dedicated police officers Look at these statistics

They've taken the time to look at my record -- the good news you might not hear on the network news every night. Let me tell you about some important things we've been doing to fight crime - - and we'll see if the press bothers to mention them.

First, more money. We've consistently called for more federal money to fight crime. Since I took office, we've increased the crime budget by almost 50%.

We've also proposed a program to double Federal prison capacity during the 90s. We've hired more than 1200 new Federal prosecutors since 1989, just to fight fraud, violence and drugs. And we've assigned 300 FBI agents to help you get gang members off the streets.

While you need more resources, you also need tougher criminal justice procedures. We need criminal punishment to be fair, fast and final, and we don't need laws that bend over backward for the criminal... while saying to the victim, "Tough luck, buddy." That means stopping the abuse of our appeals process... it means enforcing the death penalty... and it means letting cops use evidence seized in good faith.

And here's an interesting fact. Since 1989, we've given more than \$400 million dollars to help crime victims. Know where it came from? Fining criminals. (Sometimes justice is poetic.)

We've also targeted the violent repeat-offender. You know this guy. The one with the nasty habit of walking out of jail, right back into the lives of innocent people. He's a huge part

of the problem. Put him away for good, and crime takes a holiday.

We put over 3,000 of the most-dangerous fugitives in America behind bars in just a couple of months last spring. And we've hit repeat offenders with federal charges that put them away much longer.

Finally, we're, taking back our neighborhoods. Tough laws won't fix everything. You have to save kids early, before they get sucked into crime. It all depends on the social soil you plant their dreams in.

After you weed out the bad in a neighborhood, you seed it with good. That's where our Weed and Seed program comes in. We're trying pilot programs in 20 cities right now. With love and care, we can give kids a chance to escape the scars of a Cass Corridor in Detroit... a Cabrini-Green in Chicago... a Hough [HUFF] in Cleveland... or an East Lake Meadows in Atlanta. We owe it to the overwhelming majority of people in these neighborhoods who are law-abiding citizens... to live free of terror from drugs and violence in their communities.

I've fought for all these initiatives. Not just tough talk -- we're taking action. But our action would be stronger if it were a part of a national crime strategy supported by Congress.

That's why, twelve-hundred and twenty-eight days ago, on June 15, 1989 -- the same day Mikhail Gorbachev first hinted the Berlin Wall might someday fall -- I sent a comprehensive crime

??
live better?

bill to Capitol Hill. I extended my hand in partnership to Congress, and asked for help fighting crime on a national level.

~~I guess crime isn't as high on their list as it is on mine.~~
Since I first sent that bill to the Hill in 1989, Americans have been assaulted -- to the tune of almost 60,000 murders, 260,000 rapes, 1.6 million robberies and 2.6 million assaults. And 69,000 of those violent crimes took place right here in Detroit.

Think about it. Enough Americans to fill Detroit four times over... were brutalized by assault, rape or murder while that bill languished on Capitol Hill. If you started putting victims here in Cobo Hall... they'd fill every one of these seats -- in a single day. ~~Folks -- you're sitting in a victim's chair.~~

No wonder Americans stare at the news every night... shake their heads... and ask, why doesn't somebody do something about this incredible mess? People are dying in the streets!

Well, as frustrating as this crime bill has been for me... it's still my job as President to get results. So we've fought and won a couple of big battles the past few weeks. And today I'm proud to announce that right after this speech, I'm going to sit down here at Cobo Hall and sign two of the crime initiatives I've fought for... into tough new federal laws.

The first one severely punishes carjackers. I told Congress I wanted to make carjacking a federal offense with harsh penalties. Thugs who take cars at gunpoint should sit in a cell so long that when they get out -- they're too old to drive.

And the second one calls deadbeat dads on the carpet. Right now, a single mother in Detroit can struggle to keep the kids fed on a small salary while their father's on a lark in Chicago. He could be way behind in child-support, but no one can touch him over state lines. Well, that's a disgrace, and now the long arm of the law can reach over that border, and tell that dad to pay up, or go up the river.

So there you have two tough new federal laws that go into effect today. We've been able to work with Congress to get them through. And you know why? Because national attention created national outrage that forced Congress to act. It's a formula I want to use again and again in the next four years. Stick with me in the election, and I'll stick with you after, applying that formula over and over until law enforcement in this country has the federal support you need and deserve to do the job right.

Those two laws made it this year. But there are at least six other initiatives that Congress didn't pass -- that I happen to care a whole lot about. So next year, we're going after them as well. Given a new Congress -- with 150 new members next session -- we're going to pass those six items into law too.

So here's what to expect in a second Bush administration.

Number one, I want to strengthen laws dealing with sexual and domestic violence. For starters, we've got to protect the victim. It's bad enough a woman is attacked in the first place. Then she takes the stand for testimony -- and gets attacked by lawyers. I say that's two attacks too many.

And I want repeat offenders behind bars until trial. Today, even a repeat rapist can get arrested and be out on bond hours later. I say, detain him until trial and let the prosecution use past behavior against him. Right now, certain little details can't even be mentioned in court -- like the fact that everyone within a country mile knows the guy has done this before. And that's wrong. Let him face what he's done -- and pay for it.//

Number two, we've got to crush gang violence. I want gangs to be treated like the criminal enterprises they are, so we can go after the leaders with federal medicine they deserve. And I want to toughen penalties for using juveniles in crimes. Gangs can send under-age kids out to do their dirty work, because they're minors who'll get off easy if they're caught. That's disgraceful. ~~I want to~~ ^{We want} make the big boys pay.

Three, protection for the elderly. It's absurd that the folks who've contributed to society all their lives... have to live in terror just because some young punks see them as an easy target. I want to beef up the laws so instead of stalking the streets, mugging grandmothers -- they're down at precinct, mugging for the police camera.

Four, Habeas Corpus reform. Habeas Corpus should protect the innocent, but it's turned into a perversion of the law. Some petitions can drag on for more than a decade. Criminal lawyers are abusing the law to postpone justice, and it's time to stop it. Let them have one Habeas petition and be done with it.

Five, a Federal death penalty. I think certain acts of violence deserve the ultimate penalty. Assassinations, murder for hire, terrorism, random drive-by shootings, gang massacres: These depraved people are merchants of death who trade in death so when they kill someone let's complete the transaction.

And six, firearms. This one's short and sweet. I want much-tougher penalties for criminal use of firearms. ~~Period~~

So there's a lot of work to be done. But America's worth it. For every hardened criminal you face down, there are countless thousands of good, decent Americans out there with strong values and big hearts. You don't hear from them much, but I happen to know on good authority that they appreciate you.

I know because they tell me.

So let me pass it on. America stands behind you. And I stand behind you, with the full weight of the Federal government.

And on behalf of all those unheard but grateful Americans... thank you -- all of you -- for putting your lives on the line every day. Now you pass it on. Go back and tell your brave men and women that we love you and we need you all.

You've done so much already... but there's more to be done.

To do it, I need your support. And I ask for your vote on November 3 -- because I want to be in Washington four more years fighting for the federal support you need to get your jobs done.

Thank you... God bless all the law officers across this great land... and God bless the United States of America.

#

INTERNATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS
COBO HALL, DETROIT
SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 1992
10:00 A.M.

1

Steve Harris
Moon

THANK YOU, CHIEF VAUGHN [I.A.C.P.
PRESIDENT], FOR THAT KIND INTRODUCTION,
AND HELLO, EVERYONE. GOV. ENGLER.
DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MAY I
GIVE A SPECIAL WELCOME, TO THE CHIEFS OF
POLICE FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

Grateful for INTL

Terrorism

Anti-Narc

2

YOU'VE CHOSEN AN INTERESTING TIME TO VISIT OUR GREAT COUNTRY -- THE WEATHER IS TURNING COLDER -- AND IF YOU TURN ON THE TV -- YOU CAN'T HELP BUT NOTICE THAT THERE'S AN ELECTION -- IN JUST NINE DAYS. IN FACT -- SOME OF THE U.S. POLICE CHIEFS HERE -- MAY ASK IF THEY CAN GO BACK WITH YOU TO YOUR COUNTRY -- UNTIL ALL THE YELLING AND SHOUTING IS OVER.

BUT WE ARE GETTING DOWN TO THE HOME STRETCH, AND SO LET ME TALK THIS MORNING ABOUT GOVERNMENT'S FIRST AND FOREMOST FUNCTION: TO PROTECT EVERY CITIZEN AT HOME AND ON THE STREET.

3

LET ME START WITH A STORY, PROBABLY THE KIND OF STORY YOU HEAR ABOUT EVERYDAY, BUT ONE THAT SICKENED BARBARA AND ME WHEN WE SAW IT ON THE NEWS A MONTH AGO.

IN BROAD DAYLIGHT IN A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR WASHINGTON D.C., A WOMAN WAS FORCED FROM HER CAR AT A STOP SIGN BY TWO MEN, WHO THEN DROVE OFF. BUT THE WOMAN GOT TANGLED IN HER SEATBELT OUTSIDE THE CAR. OR MAYBE SHE HUNG ON. WHAT MOTHER WOULDN'T? YOU SEE, HER BABY WAS LOCKED INSIDE.

THAT WOMAN WAS DRAGGED ALMOST TWO MILES BEFORE THE THIEVES CRUSHED HER TO DEATH AGAINST A FENCE. AND THEN THEY TOSSED HER LITTLE BABY OUT BY THE ROADSIDE -- LIKE A PIECE OF TRASH.

I KNOW I'M PREACHING TO THE CHOIR... BUT THIS SORT OF THING MUST PROVOKE OUTRAGE. PEOPLE WHO ACT LIKE ANIMALS HAVE NO PLACE IN DECENT SOCIETY. THEY SHOULD GO TO JAIL, AND STAY IN JAIL.

5

AMERICA GOT SOFT ON CRIME IN THE 60'S,
AND FOR TWENTY YEARS YOU PAID FOR IT. BUT
WE HAVE FOUGHT BACK, AND FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN DECADES -- THE OVERALL CRIME INDEX
IS ACTUALLY DOWN.

WITH YOUR HELP -- OVER THE PAST 12
YEARS WE'VE SLOWED ~~THE RATE OF~~ VIOLENT CRIME
~~DRUGS~~ THE PAST TWELVE YEARS, AND
WE'RE TURNING THE TIDE ON DRUGS. BUT AS
YOU CAN TELL BY COMPARING OUR CRIME
STATISTICS WITH OTHER NATIONS. WE STILL
HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. THAT'S WHAT I WANT
TO TALK ABOUT TODAY.

6

THERE ARE SO MANY ISSUES IN THIS
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN... WHERE THE VOTERS
HAVE A CLEAR CHOICE. AND CRIME IS ONE OF
THE MOST IMPORTANT.

I HAVE BIG DIFFERENCES WITH GOV.
CLINTON ON CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. OUR
RECORDS REVEAL IT. HERE ARE SOME FACTS.

UNDER BILL CLINTON, ARKANSAS' VIOLENT
CRIME RATE WENT UP ALMOST 60 PERCENT IN
THE 80'S -- MORE THAN TWICE THE NATIONAL
AVERAGE. ARKANSAS HAD THE NATION'S
SINGLE-BIGGEST INCREASE IN SERIOUS CRIME
DURING THE DECADE.

7

IN 1983, THERE WERE ABOUT 300 VIOLENT
CRIMES FOR EVERY 100,000 PEOPLE IN
ARKANSAS. LAST YEAR, THERE WERE ALMOST
600. VIOLENT CRIME HAS DOUBLED ON
GOVERNOR CLINTON'S WATCH.

THE AVERAGE ARKANSAS INMATE SERVED
LESS THAN ONE-FIFTH OF HIS SENTENCE LAST
YEAR. BUT THE AVERAGE FEDERAL INMATE, --
AN INMATE UNDER MY JURISDICTION -- SERVED
85 PERCENT OF HIS.

8

YOU CAN'T BLAME ARKANSAS' DEDICATED
POLICE OFFICERS. LOOK AT THE THESE
STATISTICS. ARKANSAS RANKS NEAR ROCK-
BOTTOM FOR EVERY IMPORTANT PER-CAPITA
CRIME DOLLAR IT SPENDS. FOR PRISONS:
46TH. POLICE OFFICERS: 49TH. AND FOR
SPENDING ON JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SYSTEMS,
ARKANSAS RANKS 50TH. DEAD LAST.

NO WONDER CRIME WENT BALLISTIC IN
ARKANSAS DURING THE 80'S. YOU'RE SUPPOSED
TO HANDCUFF CRIMINALS -- NOT THE POLICE.//

IT'S OBVIOUS -- THE CLINTON CRIME RECORD IS WRONG FOR ARKANSAS, AND IT IS WRONG FOR AMERICA. IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, ASK THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE IN LITTLE ROCK. THEY KNOW THE CLINTON RECORD BETTER THAN ANYONE, AND THEY'RE JOINING HANDS WITH THEIR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION -- TO ENDORSE ME FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THEY'VE TAKEN THE TIME TO LOOK AT MY RECORD -- THE GOOD NEWS YOU DON'T HEAR ON THE NETWORK NEWS EVERY NIGHT. LET ME TICK OFF JUST A FEW OF OUR PRIORITIES.

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START WITH MONEY. SINCE I TOOK
OFFICE, WE'VE INCREASED THE CRIME BUDGET
BY ALMOST 50%.

WE'VE HIRED MORE THAN 1200 NEW FEDERAL
PROSECUTORS SINCE 1989, ASSIGNED 300 FBI
AGENTS TO HELP YOU GET GANG MEMBERS OFF
THE STREETS -- AND PROPOSED A PROGRAM TO
DOUBLE FEDERAL PRISON SPACE IN THE 90'S.

WORKING TO STOP
WE'RE ~~SUPPORTING~~ THE ABUSE OF OUR
APPEALS PROCESS... **ENFORCE** ~~ENFORCING~~ THE DEATH
LET
PENALTY... AND ~~REMOVING~~ YOUR COPS USE
EVIDENCE SEIZED IN GOOD FAITH.

SINCE 1989, WE'VE TAKEN MORE THAN \$400 MILLION DOLLARS FROM CRIMINALS -- AND USED IT TO HELP VICTIMS.

WE'VE ALSO TARGETED THE VIOLENT REPEAT-OFFENDER, PUTTING OVER 3,000 OF THE MOST-DANGEROUS FUGITIVES IN AMERICA BEHIND BARS IN JUST A COUPLE OF MONTHS LAST SPRING.

FINALLY, WE'RE HELPING TO TAKE BACK 20 WORST INNER-CITY NEIGHBORHOODS, WITH OUR ACCLAIMED "WEED AND SEED" PROGRAM. WE WEED OUT THE CRIMINALS AND THE DRUGS, AND THEN SEED THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

12

LISTEN TO BERNIE EDWARDS, A 70 YEAR OLD RESIDENT OF A TOUGH NEIGHBORHOOD IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS. HE SAW WEED AND SEED HELP TO KEEP THE YOUNG KIDS IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD OFF DRUGS AND OUT OF GANGS. AND HE SAYS -- "FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS I CAN SIT ON MY PORCH. IT SURE FEELS GOOD."

WE'VE FOUGHT FOR ALL THESE INITIATIVES. NOT JUST TOUGH TALK -- WE'RE TAKING ACTION. BUT OUR ACTION WOULD BE STRONGER IF IT WERE A PART OF A NATIONAL CRIME STRATEGY SUPPORTED BY CONGRESS.

THAT'S WHY, TWELVE-HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS AGO, ON JUNE 15, 1989 -- THE SAME DAY MIKHAIL GORBACHEV FIRST HINTED THE BERLIN WALL MIGHT SOMEDAY FALL -- I SENT A COMPREHENSIVE CRIME BILL TO CAPITOL HILL. I EXTENDED MY HAND IN PARTNERSHIP TO CONGRESS, AND ASKED FOR HELP FIGHTING CRIME ON A NATIONAL LEVEL.

SINCE I FIRST SENT THAT BILL TO THE HILL IN 1989, 60,000 AMERICANS HAVE BEEN MURDERED. THERE HAVE BEEN 260,000 RAPES, 1.6 MILLION ROBBERIES AND 2.6 MILLION ASSAULTS. AND 69,000 OF THOSE VIOLENT CRIMES TOOK PLACE RIGHT HERE IN DETROIT.

THINK ABOUT IT. ENOUGH AMERICANS TO
FILL DETROIT FOUR TIMES OVER... WERE
BRUTALIZED BY ASSAULT, RAPE OR MURDER
WHILE THAT BILL Languished ON CAPITOL
HILL.

NO WONDER AMERICANS STARE AT THE NEWS
EVERY NIGHT... SHAKE THEIR HEADS... AND
ASK, WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS INCREDIBLE MESS? PEOPLE ARE
DYING IN THE STREETS!

15

WELL, AS FRUSTRATING AS THIS CRIME BILL HAS BEEN FOR ME... IT'S STILL MY JOB AS PRESIDENT TO GET RESULTS. SO WE'VE FOUGHT AND WON A COUPLE OF BIG BATTLES THE PAST FEW WEEKS. AND TODAY I'M PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT RIGHT AFTER THIS SPEECH, I'M GOING TO SIT DOWN HERE AT COBO HALL AND SIGN TWO OF THE CRIME INITIATIVES I'VE FOUGHT FOR... ^{TWO} ~~THREE~~ TOUGH NEW FEDERAL LAWS.

16

THE FIRST ONE SEVERELY PUNISHES
CARJACKERS. WE TOLD CONGRESS I WANTED TO
MAKE ARMED CARJACKING A FEDERAL OFFENSE
WITH HARSH PENALTIES. THUGS WHO TAKE CARS
AT GUNPOINT SHOULD SIT IN A CELL SO LONG
THAT WHEN THEY GET OUT -- THEY'RE TOO OLD
TO DRIVE.

AND THE SECOND ONE DEALS WITH PARENTS -- MOSTLY FATHERS -- WHO REFUSE TO MAKE CHILD-SUPPORT PAYMENTS -- SO-CALLED "DEADBEAT DADS". RIGHT NOW, A SINGLE MOTHER IN DETROIT CAN STRUGGLE TO KEEP THE KIDS FED ON A SMALL SALARY WHILE THEIR FATHER'S ON A LARK IN CHICAGO. HE COULD BE WAY BEHIND IN CHILD-SUPPORT, BUT NO ONE CAN TOUCH HIM OVER STATE LINES. WELL, THAT'S A DISGRACE, AND NOW THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW CAN REACH OVER THAT BORDER, AND TELL THAT DAD TO PAY UP, OR GO UP THE RIVER.

WHY DID THESE TWO IDEAS BECOME LAW?
BECAUSE NATIONAL ATTENTION CREATED
NATIONAL OUTRAGE THAT BROUGHT PRESSURE ON
CONGRESS TO ACT. IT'S A FORMULA I WANT TO
USE AGAIN AND AGAIN IN THE NEXT FOUR
YEARS.

YOU SEE, THERE ARE AT LEAST SIX OTHER
INITIATIVES THAT CONGRESS DIDN'T PASS --
THAT I HAPPEN TO CARE A WHOLE LOT ABOUT.
SO NEXT YEAR, WITH A NEW CONGRESS ~~AND~~ ~~150~~
~~NEW~~ ~~MEMBERS~~, WE'RE GOING AFTER THEM AS
WELL. GIVEN A NEW CONGRESS -- WITH 150
NEW MEMBERS NEXT SESSION -- WE'RE GOING TO
PASS THOSE SIX ITEMS INTO LAW TOO.

NUMBER ONE, I WANT TO STRENGTHEN LAWS DEALING WITH SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. IT'S BAD ENOUGH A WOMAN IS ATTACKED IN THE FIRST PLACE. THEN SHE TAKES THE STAND FOR TESTIMONY -- AND GETS ATTACKED BY LAWYERS. I SAY THAT'S TWO ATTACKS TOO MANY.

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AND I WANT REPEAT ARMED OFFENDERS
BEHIND BARS UNTIL TRIAL. TODAY, EVEN A
REPEAT RAPIST CAN GET ARRESTED AND BE OUT
ON BOND HOURS LATER. I SAY, DETAIN HIM
UNTIL TRIAL AND LET THE PROSECUTION USE
PAST BEHAVIOR AGAINST HIM. RIGHT NOW,
CERTAIN LITTLE DETAILS ^{OFTEN} CAN'T EVEN BE
MENTIONED IN COURT -- LIKE THE FACT THAT
EVERYONE WITHIN A COUNTRY MILE KNOWS THE
GUY HAS DONE THIS BEFORE. AND THAT'S
WRONG. LET HIM FACE WHAT HE'S DONE -- AND
PAY FOR IT.//

NUMBER TWO, WE'VE GOT TO CRUSH GANG VIOLENCE. I WANT GANGS TO BE TREATED LIKE THE CRIMINAL ENTERPRISES THEY ARE, SO WE CAN GO AFTER THE LEADERS WITH FEDERAL MEDICINE THEY DESERVE. AND I WANT TO TOUGHEN PENALTIES FOR USING JUVENILES IN CRIMES. GANGS CAN SEND UNDER-AGE KIDS OUT TO DO THEIR DIRTY WORK, BECAUSE THEY'RE MINORS WHO'LL GET OFF EASY IF THEY'RE CAUGHT. THAT'S DISGRACEFUL. WE MUST MAKE THE BIG BOYS PAY.

22

THREE, PROTECTION FOR THE ELDERLY.
IT'S ABSURD THAT THE FOLKS WHO'VE
CONTRIBUTED TO SOCIETY ALL THEIR LIVES...
HAVE TO LIVE IN TERROR JUST BECAUSE SOME
YOUNG PUNKS SEE THEM AS AN EASY TARGET. I
WANT TO BEEF UP THE LAWS SO INSTEAD OF
STALKING THE STREETS, MUGGING GRANDMOTHERS
-- THEY'RE DOWN AT THE PRECINCT, MUGGING
FOR THE POLICE CAMERA.

23

FOUR, HABEAS CORPUS REFORM. HABEAS
CORPUS SHOULD PROTECT THE INNOCENT, BUT
IT'S TURNED INTO A PERVERSION OF THE LAW.
SOME PETITIONS CAN DRAG ON FOR MORE THAN A
DECADE. CRIMINAL LAWYERS ARE ABUSING THE
LAW TO POSTPONE JUSTICE, AND IT'S TIME TO
STOP IT. LET THEM HAVE ONE HABEAS
PETITION AND BE DONE WITH IT.

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FIVE, A FEDERAL DEATH PENALTY. I
THINK CERTAIN ACTS OF VIOLENCE DESERVE THE
ULTIMATE PENALTY. ASSASSINATIONS, MURDER
FOR HIRE, TERRORISM, RANDOM DRIVE-BY
SHOOTINGS, GANG MASSACRES AND CERTAINLY
KILLING A POLICE OFFICER -- ALL MUST BE
DEATH PENALTY CRIMES.

I notice that Gov. Clinton
is here today with Cuomo.

Gov. Clinton has met with Cuomo
for Supreme Court. We must
not go back to appointing judges
to the Supreme Court who oppose
tough anti-crime measures, who
oppose the death penalty, for
serious crimes

AND SIX, FIREARMS. THIS ONE'S SHORT AND SWEET. I WANT MUCH-TOUGHER PENALTIES FOR CRIMINAL USE OF FIREARMS. SO THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE. BUT AMERICA'S WORTH IT. FOR EVERY HARDENED CRIMINAL YOU FACE DOWN, THERE ARE COUNTLESS THOUSANDS OF GOOD, DECENT AMERICANS OUT THERE WITH STRONG VALUES AND BIG HEARTS. YOU DON'T HEAR FROM THEM MUCH, BUT I HAPPEN TO KNOW ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT THEY APPRECIATE YOU.

I KNOW BECAUSE THEY TELL ME.

SO LET ME PASS IT ON. AMERICA STANDS
BEHIND YOU. AND I STAND BEHIND YOU, WITH
THE FULL WEIGHT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

AND ON BEHALF OF ALL THOSE UNHEARD BUT
GRATEFUL AMERICANS... THANK YOU -- ALL OF
YOU -- FOR PUTTING YOUR LIVES ON THE LINE
EVERY DAY. NOW YOU PASS IT ON. GO BACK
AND TELL YOUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN THAT WE
APPRECIATE
~~DO~~ YOU AND WE NEED YOU ALL.

YOU'VE DONE SO MUCH ALREADY... BUT
THERE'S MORE TO BE DONE.

TO DO IT, I NEED YOUR SUPPORT. AND I
ASK FOR YOUR VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3 -- BECAUSE
I WANT TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOUR MORE YEARS
FIGHTING FOR THE FEDERAL SUPPORT YOU NEED
TO GET YOUR JOBS DONE.

AND NOW, I'D LIKE TO SIGN THESE TWO
BILLS -- TO HELP RESPOND TO THESE TWO
NATIONAL PRIORITIES: DEADBEAT DADS AND
CARJACKING.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Detroit, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

October 25, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO 99TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

Cobo Arena
Detroit, Michigan

10:20 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Chief Vaughn, and all of you -- thank you very much. (Applause.) Thank you so much. I'm just delighted to be here. Thank you, Chief Vaughn, the president, for that kind introduction. And may I salute Steve Harris, who I understand is the incoming leader of this most distinguished group.

I don't know where you get that enthusiasm. I fell asleep in the ninth inning and I'm sure some of you stayed up until the 11th. (Laughter.) But nevertheless, may I salute the distinguished members of the board. And a special welcome to the Chiefs of Police from around the world.

You'll have to excuse me if I'm not talking today about the importance of international cooperation. But don't think I've lost it. I understand. And I hear it from the domestic chiefs, from the local chiefs, how important cooperation is with the international component represented here today. Whether it's in antinarcotics, or whether it's in antiterrorism, we are very, very grateful to those law enforcement officers from overseas who are here today, and to your colleagues who may not have made it to this wonderful convention.

I would simply say to you that you're choosing, or you have chosen a very interesting time to visit our great country -- the weather's turning colder, and if you turn on the TV you can't help but notice that there's an election going on in just -- and Barbara and I were talking about this a few minutes ago -- just nine days. In fact, some of the U.S. police chiefs here may ask if they can go back with you to your country until all this hectic yelling and shouting is over with.

But we are getting down to the home stretch, and so let me talk this morning about government's first and foremost domestic responsibility -- function, and that is to protect every citizen at home and on the street.

Let me start with a story that most of the domestic chiefs have heard about, probably the kind of story you hear about every day, but one that just sickened Barbara and me when we saw it on the news I believe it was about a month ago.

In broad daylight in a neighborhood near Washington D.C., a woman was forced from her car at a stop sign by two men, who then drove off. But the woman got tangled in her seatbelt outside the car. Or maybe she hung on. What mother wouldn't? You see, her baby was locked inside.

And that woman was dragged almost two miles before the thieves crushed her to death against a fence. And then they tossed her little baby out by the roadside, like some kind of a piece of trash.

MORE

And I know that on this special Sunday in this special audience I am preaching to the choir, but this sort of thing must provoke outrage. People who act like animals have no place in decent society and they should go to jail, and stay in jail. And I strongly support you and your effort to do just that. (Applause.)

I think when the history of this century is written, America -- it will see -- it will be clearly seen that America got too soft on crime in the 60's, and for twenty years you and your brothers and sisters in law enforcement paid for it. But we fought back, and for the first time in decades -- the overall crime index is actually down.

And with your help, your leadership, we've slowed the rate of violent crime the past 12 years. We are turning the tide on drugs. I take heart from the fact that there's 60 percent use of cocaine by teenagers. But as you can tell by comparing our crime statistics with other nations, we still have a way to go, a long way to go. And that's what I really want to talk to you about today.

There are so many issues in this presidential campaign where the voters have a clear choice. And crime is one of the most important. And I do have big differences with Governor Clinton on crime and law enforcement. And I would only ask a simple, objective look at the record. Records reveal it. And here are some facts. Under Governor Clinton, Arkansas' violent crime rate went up about 60 percent in the 80's -- more than twice the national average. They had the nation's single-biggest increase in serious crime during the decade.

In '83, there were about 300 violent crimes for every 100,000 people in Arkansas. Last year, there were almost 600 violent crimes. It has doubled on the Governor's watch. The average inmate there served less than one-fifth of his sentence last year. But the federal inmate, as I'm sure most know here, an inmate for which I had responsibility -- he served 85 percent of his time.

You can't obviously -- and I don't mean to leave that impression -- blame the dedicated law enforcement officers from that state. Because you've got to look behind that at the statistics. Arkansas ranks near the bottom for every important per-capita crime dollar that it spends -- 46th -- for police officers: 49th. Spending on judicial and legal systems. Arkansas ranks 50th. Dead last in the country.

And so, no wonder crime goes ballistic there during the 80's. You're supposed to handcuff criminals -- not tie the hands of the police.

It's obvious -- (applause) -- and I firmly believe, and I'll get to the positive aspects of this in a minute -- that that crime record, that Clinton record is wrong for Arkansas, and, clearly, it would be wrong for America. And if you don't believe me, ask the Fraternal Order of Police in Little Rock. They know the Clinton record better than anyone, and they're joining hands with their national organization -- to endorse me for President of the United States. (Applause.)

And I think they did take the time to look at the overall record -- the good news that you don't hear out there on the network news every night. And let me just tick off a few of our priorities.

Start with money. Since I took office, we've increased the crime budget by almost 50 percent. We've hired more than 1,200 new federal prosecutors since 1989, assigned 300 FBI agents to help you get the gang members off the streets -- and proposed a program to double federal spending for prison

MORE

space in the 1990's. We're working to stop the abuse of our appeals process, to enforce the death penalty, and to let your cops use evidence seized in good faith. (Applause.)

Since 1989, we've taken more than \$400 million from criminals and used it to help the victims of crime. And we've also targeted the violent repeat offender, putting over 3,000 of those most dangerous fugitives in America behind bars in just a couple of months last spring.

Finally, we're helping to take back 20 worst inner-city neighborhoods. And, again, I salute the police chiefs and the law enforcement officers for this. Take it back with our acclaimed "Weed and Seed" program. Weed out the criminals and the drugs, and then seed the neighborhood with education and training. And, hopefully, if we can ever get enterprise zones enacted into law with jobs in the private sector.

Now, listen to Bernie Edwards, a 70-year-old resident of a tough neighborhood in Fort Worth, Texas -- Tarrant County. He saw Weed and Seed help to keep the young kids in his neighborhood off drugs and out of gangs. And he says, "For the first time in years I can sit on my porch. It sure feels good." There's example like example all across this country. And you know them far better than I do.

We've fought for these initiatives, though. Not just tough talk -- and we're taking action. But our action would be stronger if it were part of a national crime strategy supported by Congress.

That's why, 1,228 days ago, on June 15, 1989 -- the same day Mikhail Gorbachev first hinted that the Berlin Wall might someday come down -- I sent a comprehensive crime bill to Capitol Hill up to the Congress. And I extended my hand in partnership to Congress, and I asked for help fighting crime on a national level.

Since I first sent that bill to the Hill in 1989, 60,000 Americans have been murdered. There have been 260,000 rapes, 1.6 million robberies and 2.6 million assaults. And 69,000 of those violent crimes took place, regrettably, right here in Detroit.

Think about it. Enough Americans to fill Detroit's Cobo Hall four times over were brutalized by assault, rape or murder while that bill languished on Capitol Hill. No wonder Americans stare at every news every night, shake their heads and ask, why doesn't somebody do something about this incredible mess? People are dying in the streets.

Well, as frustrating as this crime bill has been for me, it is still my job as President to get results. And so we've fought and won a couple of big battles the past few weeks. And today I'm proud to announce that right after this speech, I'm going to sit down here at Cobo Hall and sign two of the crime initiatives that I've fought for -- two tough new federal laws.

The first one severely punishes carjackers. And we told -- (applause) -- and we told the Congress that I wanted to make armed carjacking a federal offense with harsh penalties. And thugs who take cars at gunpoint should sit in a cell so long that when they get out they're going to be too darn old to drive. (Applause.)

And the second one deals with parents -- mostly fathers -- who refuse to make child-support payments -- they're called "deadbeat dads". And right now, a single mother in Detroit can struggle to keep the kids fed on a small salary while their father's on a lark in Chicago. And he could be way behind in child support, but no one can touch him across state lines. Well, that's a disgrace, and now the long arm of the law can

reach over that border, and tell that dad to pay up, or go up the river.

Why did these two ideas become law? Because national attention created national outrage that brought pressure on Congress to act. It's a formula I want to use again and again in the next four years.

You see, there are at least six other initiatives that Congress didn't pass -- that I care a great deal about and that I think would benefit your work. So next year, with a new Congress -- and there's going to be a new one. You might ask why and I would say to some of the foreign officials here you have been spared the sight of a Congress controlled by one group for 38 years that can't even run a two-bit bank or a two-bit post office. And so there's going to be a lot of new members. (Applause.) And those members, regardless of what party, are going to do what the people want. They'll be listening to the same voters I do. And so, then we're going to go after them and we're going to be given a new Congress. And with 150 new members next session -- maybe up to that many in the House -- we're going to pass those six items into law, too.

And here they are: Number one, I want to strengthen the laws dealing with sexual and domestic violence. It's bad enough -- (applause) -- it's bad enough when a woman is brutally attacked in the first place. Then, she takes the stand for testimony and gets attacked by some clever lawyers. And I say that's two attacks too many. And so we're going to go after tightening up these laws. (Applause.)

Two, I want repeat armed offenders behind bars until trial. Today, even a repeat rapist can get arrested and be out on bond hours later. I say, detain him until the trial, let the prosecution use past behavior against him. (Applause.) Right now, certain little details often can't even be mentioned in court. Like the fact that everyone within a country mile knows the guy's done this before. And that's wrong. Let him face what he's done and pay for it.

We've got to -- on the second major point here, we've got to crush gang violence. I want the gangs to be treated like the criminal enterprises that they are, so we can go after the leaders with federal medicine that they deserve. And I want to toughen penalties for using juveniles in crimes. (Applause.) I've talked to many chiefs about this, and they tell me that gangs send out these under-age kids -- send them out to do the dirty work of the leaders, and because they're minors who will get off easy if they're caught. That's disgraceful.

I remember going out to South Central in L.A. and hearing about two that were apprehended by the law enforcement community. I think they were 13 or 14. And they had been assigned targets to fire bomb during the outbreaks -- two little kids. It's a heartbreak. It's disgraceful. We've got to go after the big guys, make the big boys pay -- those that would use little kids in this way. (Applause.)

And, three: Protection for the elderly. It's absurd that the folks who have contributed to society all their lives have to live in terror just because some young punks see them as an easy target.

And I want to beef up the laws, so instead of stalking the streets -- (applause) -- and mugging grandmothers, they're down at the precinct, mugging for the police camera. (Laughter and applause.) Four -- and I've heard from many of you on this one, and we promise you we're going to keep on trying -- habeas corpus reform. (Applause.) Habeas corpus? Yes, habeas corpus should protect the innocent. But it's turned into a perversion of the law.

Some petitions can drag on for more than a decade, more than 10 years. And criminal lawyers are abusing the law to postpone justice, and it's time we put a stop to it. Let them have one habeas petition and be done with it. (Applause.)

Five -- and I know this one's controversial, but I'll tell you exactly how strongly I feel about it -- and I'm talking about a federal death penalty. I think certain acts of violence deserve the ultimate penalty. The sentence should be carried out fairly, but swiftly. Assassinations, murder for hire, terrorism, random drive-by shootings, gang massacres, and certainly and especially the killing of a police officer. All must pay with the death sentence. (Applause.)

And there is another collateral point here, and that has to do with justices. And I notice that Governor Clinton is here today with Mario Cuomo. But Governor Clinton has mentioned Cuomo for the Supreme Court. And it is my conviction to get this kind of tough crime legislation through, that we must not go back to appointing judges to the Court who oppose tough anticrime measures, who oppose the death penalty for these most heinous of crimes. (Applause.)

And the sixth one is firearms. This one's short and sweet. I want much tougher penalties for the criminal use of firearms.

So there's a lot of work to be done. But America's worth it. For every hardened criminal you face down, there are countless thousands of good and decent Americans out there with strong values and big hearts. And you don't hear much from them. But I happen to know on good authority that they certainly appreciate you, and I know because so many people tell me this.

So, in conclusion, let me just pass it on to you: America stands behind you. And you should never understand some of these crazy liberal appeals as an attack on our law enforcement officers. And I am with you 100 percent, bringing to bear the full weight of the federal government. And on behalf of all those unheard but grateful Americans, I really do thank you. I thank your families.

I know sometimes it must be a real strain when your chief or your officer goes out there and you're not going to know how he's going to be treated by these thug elements out on the street. So we can identify with that. And I really came here to say thank you to every single one of you for putting your lives on the line for us every single day.

Now you pass it on -- that support -- and go back and tell your brave men and women that we appreciate you and we need you all. You've done so much already. But let's face it, there is much more to be done. And to do it, I'd be remiss if I saw this many voters out here if I didn't say to you I need your support and I ask for your vote on November 3rd -- (applause) -- because I want to be in Washington for four more years.

Thank you. And may God bless our great country on this beautiful fall day. (Applause.) May God bless the United States. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

10:40 A.M. EST