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Crime - Talking Points, Misc. Crime Bill [binder] [2]

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Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 6-28-94

TO: JENNIFER O'CONNOR AND SHANA TENSLEY

CABINET AFFAIRS, THE WHITE HOUSE

Fax No.: () 456 - 6704 Telephone No.: () 456 2572

FROM: D. ANTHONY WEST

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Fax No.: () 514 - 0467 Telephone No.: () 514 6907

TRANSMISSION CONTAINS 2 SHEETS INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET

SPECIAL NOTE(S): TALKING POINTS

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, June 28, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS TO REP. DAVID PRICE'S NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL

- Yesterday, Attorney General Janet Reno travelled to Raleigh, North Carolina to promote swift Conference action on the Crime Bill. Her visit took her to Chavis Heights, where a successful community policing program is in full swing, as well as a juvenile restitution program which helps steer young people away from the criminal path by enlisting them in neighborhood beautification projects.
- Governor James Hunt, who joined the Attorney General for her brief visit, has already initiated a successful, comprehensive youth anti-crime effort which includes a model after-school crime prevention program for students. It's the kind of local program that the Crime Bill can bring to communities around the country.
- At the Chavis Heights Housing Community, Attorney General Reno heard first-hand from Congressman David E. Price and Police Chief Mitchell Brown how community policing is making a positive difference in the lives of residents. Officers build one-on-one relationships with residents by walking in the community, talking with neighbors, handing out business cards and carrying pagers so that they may be accessible at any time.
- Through the community policing effort, Chavis Heights residents feel as if they have their own personal police officer. Moreover, officers attend community meetings and work with citizens to solve neighborhood problems, and citizens are encouraged to help the officers enforce the law. One officer has already solved two homicides using tips she received through her pager -- tips provided by residents eager to take their community back from crime.
- Passage of the Crime Bill will help other communities like Chavis Heights to build partnerships between law enforcement and local citizens by providing the nation with 100,000 new police officers on the beat -- an indispensable part of the President's balanced anti-crime strategy.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, June 23, 1994

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS CRIME BILL PROVISIONS PROTECTING WOMEN FROM VIOLENCE

- Curbing sexual and domestic violence is a fundamental part of President Clinton's balanced strategy to reduce crime in America. That's why the Administration strongly supports the Violence Against Women Act, a critical component of the Crime Bill that will protect women from crimes of violence and help the victims of such crimes.
- The Violence Against Women Act will increase the federal resources available to combat violence against women, including improved law enforcement training in the area of violent crimes against women, dedicated police and prosecution units targeting sexual and domestic violence, aggressive enforcement and prosecution in domestic violence cases, support for anti-stalking programs, support for a national domestic violence hotline, and improved victim assistance services.
- The Violence Against Women Act will also fund state grant programs which educate students about rape and violence prevention on college campuses.
- Other protections of the Violence Against Women Act include more effective federal laws relating to sexual violence, such as higher penalties for perpetrators, strengthening restitution for victims, and extension of the "rape shield law" which protects victims from abusive inquiries concerning their private sexual conduct.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they do not clog federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated; proof of the perpetrator's animus is a prerequisite to recovery.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 6-22-94

TO: JENNIFER O'CONNOR AND SHANA TENSLEY

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Wednesday, June 22, 1994

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS
MARYLAND MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

- Highlighting the difference that the Administration's Crime Bill prevention programs can make in the lives of young people, Attorney General Reno joined scores of teenagers last night for a game of midnight basketball at the Glenarden Community Center.
- A program which was the first of its kind in the nation, the Glenarden Midnight Basketball League is more than just a chance for young people to play basketball. In addition to sports, the Glenarden program offers youths college scholarship opportunities, educational programs and a chance to develop job-related skills.
- The Glenarden Midnight Basketball League has become a model for the nation. Since the program was started nearly a decade ago, 44 communities across the country have emulated the League. With the prevention funds provided by the Administration's Crime Bill, far more communities will be able to help their kids stay off the streets and out of trouble.
- The Attorney General's visit to Glenarden underscores the challenge now facing Congressional conferees: To pass a Crime Bill which fights crime and saves lives by funding prevention programs for at-risk youth. Such programs are an essential ingredient of the President's balanced anti-crime legislation that provides resources for police, punishment and prevention.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, June 20, 1994

HELPING AMERICANS LIVE "FREE FROM FEAR": PRESIDENT CLINTON AND ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO URGE CONFEREES TO PASS THE CRIME BILL

- In an effort to help the American people reclaim their communities from the plague of violence, drugs and crime, the President and the Attorney General both spent time this weekend urging Congressional conferees to take swift action and pass President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill. Passage of the President's anti-crime legislation is crucial to an effective offensive against crime.
- On Saturday, President Clinton travelled to Chicago where he visited a gang-ridden housing project and underscored the need for Congressional action on the Crime Bill. The President's balanced anti-crime plan will give children the chance to grow up safe and free from fear, give young people "something to say 'yes' to," and give families the "chance to live in safety."
- Reiterating the President's message, the Attorney General on Sunday spoke to a morning congregation at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Virginia. As Attorney General Reno noted, the focus of the President's Crime Bill is helping communities, both large and small, all across the nation.
- Safer streets, safer schools, real partnerships between local citizens and local law enforcement, job opportunities for young, tough punishment for career offenders -- these can be the reality for America's communities. But only with Congress' help. Congressional conferees must act swiftly and Congress must pass President Clinton's Crime Bill if America is truly to be "free from fear."

Punishment: Sending a Message To Criminals

- The Administration supports measures that swiftly punish violent criminals, particularly repeat violent offenders. To keep off the streets those who would prey upon our communities, the Crime Bill should include:
 - * The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision, which is aimed at those career violent offenders who do the most harm to society; and
 - * Reinstatement of the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of crimes, such as killing a Federal law enforcement officer.
- The President is committed to helping states keep violent criminals behind bars by providing them with the resources they need to create additional prison space. This includes the Administration-backed prison grant program which will help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting reasonable "truth in sentencing" provisions.
- The Administration supports smart incarceration programs and tough alternative approaches, such as:
 - * Boot camps that provide the discipline and training necessary to deter young people from embarking on a life of crime; and
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses.

Prevention: "Something to Say 'Yes'" To

- Congress has a special opportunity -- and responsibility -- to pass a Crime Bill that will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and, as the President often says, "give them something to say 'yes'" to: Programs that increase youth employment, recreational and educational opportunities.
- We endorse a broad range of new and ongoing preventive policies, from initiatives closely associated with law enforcement, such as community policing, to efforts aimed more toward empowering communities and individuals, like job and job training opportunities. These include:
 - * The President's Youth Employment Skills program, "Y.E.S.," which will provide young people with job training and work opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas;

- * The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs which can help effectively coordinate and integrate the delivery of the Federal Government's new youth development and youth oriented crime prevention initiatives;
- * The Police Partnerships for Children program, which will encourage police officers to become involved with children and family services agencies to divert at risk children;
- * Drug Court programs which will support intensive court supervision of drug dependent defendants to provide the carrot-and-stick approach that can help them beat their addiction; and
- * The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, which will help kids fight the allure of gang membership.

Paying for the Fight Against Crime

- Paying for these initiatives won't be easy. But failing to enact them will be much, much more expensive. The cost to society of a failure to act -- a cost measured not just in dollars and cents, but also in murders, rapes and assaults which need not have occurred -- is a cost we can not bear.
- By reinventing government and focusing our priorities, we can make the necessary money available to achieve these goals. With the savings realized by the elimination of 250,000 Federal Government jobs, we can set up a multi-billion dollar Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund. And by putting those savings in the Fund, we can make the money available for the police, punishment and prevention proposed in the President's anti-crime legislation.

June 19, 1994

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E

17-Jun-1994 06:04pm

TO: Jennifer M. O'Connor

FROM: Elizabeth A. Bernstein
 Office of Communications

SUBJECT: check to see if these are appropriate

TALKING POINTS ON THE CRIME BILL
6/17/94

PRIORITIES

This bill continues to be a very high priority for the administration. We are confident it will include the President's key principles -- more cops on the street, smart and aggressive prevention policies, tough enforcement provisions and adequate prison funding.

The President discussed the issues of fighting crime and the Administration's sweeps policy at the Robert Taylor Homes in Chicago on Friday and emphasized our key crime principles in his radio address on Saturday.

TIMING

The crime conference began last Thursday -- The leadership has assured us that they will work hard to get this bill passed as quickly as possible.

[note: we should be very careful not to put down any time parameters for floor action or the vote -- we are urging for swift action but are also in the process of negotiating some compromises on various issues and do not want to get locked in]

BIPARTISANSHIP

The crime bill is not about politics. Testimony to the spirit and strength of its bipartisan support is the commitment from both sides of the aisle to get this bill passed quickly. In addition, the Attorney General was joined by Republican Senator Danforth and Democratic Senator Bradley in a Thursday USA Today op-ed piece on the importance of the Community Schools provisions in the bill.

RACIAL JUSTICE

The Senate voted in May to reject the House's Racial Justice provisions, and both House and Senate Republicans are strongly opposed to its inclusion in the final bill.

As Attorney General Reno said in her letter to Biden and Brooks last Monday, we are willing to work with the conferees to make sure that the death penalty is fairly implemented while still maintaining the use of capital punishment for the most heinous crimes.

FUNDING

This bill has real dollars behind it. The Senate has agreed to set up trust fund, from workforce reduction savings, that would fully fund both the enforcement as well as the prevention components of the bill.

TALKING POINTS ON THE CRIME BILL

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, June 16, 1994

HOUSE AND SENATE CONFEREES BEGIN WORK ON THE CRIME BILL

- Today, House and Senate conferees begin meetings to reconcile both the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill and to craft the most comprehensive anti-crime legislation in history. Facing the Congressional conferees is a special opportunity and responsibility: To create a Crime Bill that adopts the national consensus now developing about how best to keep our neighborhoods, our homes and our families and friends safe from criminal activity.
- That consensus recognizes that old single-minded approaches aimed at suppressing crime won't work. Instead, we need a Crime Bill that strikes a balance between more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- President Clinton's anti-crime strategy offers America just such a Crime Bill. Comprised of three key components -- police, punishment, and prevention -- the President's Crime Bill is a tough, effective, and sensible approach to reducing crime in America.
- As the conferees hammer out the details Crime Bill, they should be sure to include those elements of the President's plan which has already gained broad, bipartisan support from elected officials, law enforcement officers, and ordinary American citizens. These measures include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 new police officers on to America's streets, in communities both large and small -- that's a twenty percent increase in the current number local police officers patrolling our neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting drug dealers and violent criminals off of our streets and away from our young people;
 - * A "Three Strikes You're Out" measure aimed at career offenders who repeatedly terrorize our citizens;
 - * A grant program which helps states put and keep violent criminals behind bars for a long time by giving them resources to create much needed prison space and by encouraging them to adopt "truth in sentencing" reforms;
 - * Reinstating the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of offenses, including the killing of Federal law enforcement officers;
 - * Drug Courts for those substance-addicted offenders who can, through mandatory court-supervised treatment, lead productive lives;
 - * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which continue to kill police officers out-gunned by the firepower such

weapons produce; and

- * A balanced crime prevention agenda which steers young people away from criminal activity by giving them something to say "yes" to, such as the President's Youth Employment and Skills ("YES") program, which targets job training and job creation efforts for youth and young adults in high crime, economically distressed neighborhoods, and the Midnight Sports League, which gives young people a safe, healthy place to go in the evenings.

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Jen -

(sorry - so swamped)

can we use
these Justice
TP's?

-Liz

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, June 13, 1994

WHAT THE CRIME BILL *REALLY* DOES

- Today's Wall Street Journal editorial, "What the Crime Bill Does", tries desperately to minimize the bipartisan, comprehensive, well-supported crime bill by ignoring critical provisions of the bill and distorting others. Here are the editorial's fictions contrasted with facts about the President's Crime Bill.
- **Fiction:** The editorial argues that the bill is primarily an expansion of "our social welfare programs."
- **FACT:** The vast majority of money in the President's Crime Bill is spent on two anti-crime approaches: 1) putting more police on our streets, and 2) ensuring swift and certain punishment of criminal acts. The third approach -- prevention programs that we already know work to help prevent crime in the long-term -- make up roughly a third of the total spending. The President's plan is smart, tough, and effective anti-crime legislation, pure and simple.
- **Fiction:** The Crime Bill will do little to get "muggers, drug kingpins, and murderers off the street."
- **FACT:** On the contrary, most of President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill is aimed at curbing violent crime on the streets now. That's one reason why law enforcement officials across the nation support the Administration's Crime Bill so enthusiastically. Some of the short-term crimefighting efforts implemented by the Crime Bill include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion earmarked to add 100,000 new police officers to America's streets -- that's a twenty percent increase in the number of cops patrolling neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting criminals off of the streets;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who do the most harm to society;
 - * Additional funds to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents to remove drug kingpins and drug dealers from our communities;
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and older, as adults for serious violent offenses; and

* A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which continue to kill police officers out-gunned by the firepower such weapons produce.

- **Fiction:** The Crime Bill makes it difficult for states to build more prison space by "steal[ing] money from the states and then hand[ing] it back . . . with a host of strings attached."
- **FACT:** The President's Crime Bill doesn't steal money from the states. Rather, it takes the savings from a reduction in the Federal workforce of over 250,000 employees and uses it to fight crime, pure and simple. Many of those saved dollars will help states lock up violent criminals quickly through a state prison grant program. The Administration's plan will provide states with the resources they need to create additional prison space, as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting reasonable and flexible "truth in sentencing" provisions which ensure that violent criminals do their time behind bars.
- **Fiction:** While stating that the death penalty is "a good thing," the editorial argues that \$30 billion is "a steep price to pay to get it."
- **FACT:** Reinstating a workable death penalty is only one component of a comprehensive, bipartisan plan attacking crime on a number of critical fronts. We already know that old, single-minded approaches don't work. Simply reinstating the death penalty without doing anything else won't reduce crime. We have to do other things that work -- such as increase the number of cops on the streets, help states build more prison space, and add funds for more prosecutors -- things that will be paid for by the funds saved from reducing the Federal workforce over the next five years.
- The President's anti-crime strategy is a plan America needs and supports. It strikes an effective balance among more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path. All of these things are crucial to our efforts to reduce crime in our country.

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, June 9, 1994

"SOMETHING TO SAY 'YES'" TO: THE PRESIDENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM

- Too many disadvantaged youth and young adults turn to criminal activity because they find no meaningful alternatives in areas of concentrated poverty. By improving the employment and long-term career prospects of youth and young adults, we can break the cycle of poverty, crime, and violence.
- As the President said in the State of the Union address, we must "give young people something to say 'yes'" to. The House Crime Bill contains the President's Y.E.S. initiative, a highly targeted program to prevent crime by improving the labor market prospects of at-risk youth in high crime and economically distressed areas.
- The Y.E.S. proposal includes a highly leveraged but flexible direct job creation component providing employment opportunities primarily for youth and young adults ages 16-25. Key program features include:
 - * Careful targeting to disadvantaged youth living in high crime, high poverty neighborhoods, including public housing;
 - * Neighborhood-wide interventions, intensive programming and a wide range of services to address the employment-related needs of participants;
 - * Linking participation to good behavior, such as completing school, paying child support and avoiding involvement in criminal activity or substance abuse;
 - * Emphasizing private sector job placement, while also supporting some public sector employment directed toward placing participants in private sector positions; and
 - * Leveraging other Federal, state, local, and private sector resources with matching commitments from the community.
- Proposals for ten grant awards (renewable up to four years) will be evaluated on the basis of: creativity in leveraging resources; ability to link the program effectively to permanent private sector placements for participants; evidence of need based upon the incidence of crime, poverty rate and other factors; and program design and implementation plan quality.
- Rigorous evaluation will track and assess the effectiveness of the programs, including the extent to which they reduce crime, enhance employment and earnings, promote entrepreneurship, reduce dropout rates, and increase educational attainment.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 8, 1994

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF CRIME

- Just as the President's comprehensive anti-crime program ensures the punishment of those who commit crimes, it also remembers crime's victims. Strong, pro-victim measures are one of the hallmarks of the Administration-supported Crime Bill.
- The Crime Bill encourages states to empower victims by giving them the right to be heard in sentencing; a victim of a violent crime or sexual abuse would have as much voice as an offender in sentencing and parole hearings.
- Victims would gain greatly expanded restitution rights and increased access to victim counseling and other assistance. Under Administration-supported provisions of the Senate Crime Bill, restitution for victims of sexual assault includes the cost of lost income, child care, transportation and other expenses related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault offenses.
- In addition, victims of gender-motivated violent crimes may seek redress under a new Federal civil rights remedy in the Senate Crime Bill. Victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse are protected under several other Administration-supported Senate Crime Bill provisions, including:
 - * Creation of a Federal remedy for interstate domestic abuse and a requirement that protective orders issued in one state are recognized and enforced in other states;
 - * Extension of the Victim Shield Law and other prohibitions against the introduction of evidence to show provocation or invitation by a victim of sexual assault; and
 - * Coverage of the cost of HIV testing and counseling for victims of serious sexual assault.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, June 7, 1994

ANTI-TERRORISM MEASURES IN THE CRIME BILL

- The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting Americans from crime at home and abroad. The Administration-supported proposals in the Crime Bill ease the prosecution of, and increase the penalties against, individuals who commit terrorist acts.
- Terrorists who use weapons of mass destruction against United States nationals or facilities abroad would face stiffer penalties. The death penalty could be used when a terrorist act results in the death of a U.S. national.
- Several provisions in the Crime Bill would greatly assist the prosecution of individuals who aid terrorist acts:
 - * The legislation would improve cooperation among nations in combatting acts of terrorism against ships and in airports.
 - * It would become a crime to knowingly provide a terrorist with materials, facilities or safe houses.
 - * It will be easier to prosecute terrorists for less violent, auxiliary offenses that make their crimes possible. Provisions in the Crime Bill would increase the penalties for using fraudulent travel documents, a means by which many criminals are able to commit international terrorist acts.
 - * By lengthening the statute of limitations for terrorist offenses committed abroad, the Crime Bill will further enable prosecutors to gather adequate evidence in foreign countries.
- With these stricter measures against terrorists, we can send a message that violent acts against American citizens will not be tolerated -- anywhere in the world.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 6-3-94

TO: Karen Hancock, WH
Jennifer O'Connor and Shana Tensley, WH
Jose Cerda, WH
Burge Reed, WH
Chris Lin, WH
Liz Bernstein, WH
Rahm Emanuel, WH
Carol Rasco, WH
Kathleen Townsend, DOJ/OJP
Director Louis Freeh, FBI
Director Thomas Constantine/Steve Greene, DOJ/DEA
Kathy Hawk, DOJ/BOP
Dan Dunne, DOJ/BOP
Polly William/DOJ/OJP

FROM: D. ANTHONY WEST

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Fax No.: () 514 - 0467 Tele. No.: () 514 - 6908

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, June 3, 1994

THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-GANG MEASURES: GIVING AMERICA'S YOUTH REAL ALTERNATIVES TO GANGS

- Gangs operate on the currency of crime and violence. They rob our citizens of dignity and safety. They deprive America's young people of opportunities for real success, giving them instead false sense of hope. Curbing gang activity and gang involvement among youth is one of our greatest national challenges, requiring our highest commitment.
- The Crime Bill can provide effective weapons in the Administration's battle to reduce gang crime and violence. Some Administration-supported Crime Bill programs include:
 - * Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Gang Prevention Grants aimed at reducing the participation of young people in gangs and drug-related crimes through a variety of programs, such as youth training in nonviolent dispute resolution.
 - * GREAT, the Gang Reduction Education and Training Project, allots \$40 million for 50 projects nationwide directed at reducing gang activity. This fund, which will go to local law enforcement and prevention organizations, as well as to ATF, represents an expansion of the GREAT program currently run by the Treasury Department.
- In addition, a key Administration effort in reducing gang terror is the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Focused on developing locally-based strategies and providing additional resources which target gang-related violent crime, the initiative combines the best efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to reduce gang-related crime.
- Part of that effort is the creation of an anti-gang information network, which will allow localities to share information about interstate gang activities and the effectiveness of different law enforcement techniques designed to decrease gang crime and recruitment.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, June 2, 1994

CURBING YOUTH VIOLENCE

- One of the most disturbing trends in recent years is the increasing incidence of crime committed by young Americans. Often, that crime involves young people victimizing each other.
- The President's comprehensive anti-crime plan addresses the particular challenge that youthful offenders face by combining swift and certain punishment with crime prevention programs that work.
- The Administration's strenuous efforts to divert young people from travelling down the criminal path include smart incarceration programs and tough alternative approaches, such as:
 - * Boot camps that provide the discipline and training necessary to deter young people from embarking on a life of crime;
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses; and
 - * Measures to keep guns out of the hands of kids, such as the Youth Handgun Safety Act, which bans selling handguns to minors or the possession of firearms by minors except in limited, authorized circumstances.
- The Administration's anti-crime plan also challenges House and Senate conferees to create a Crime Bill that will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and give them instead something to say "yes" to -- programs that give our youth real opportunities for employment, education and recreation.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 1, 1994

FIGHTING DRUGS THROUGH THE CRIME BILL

- The President's anti-crime strategy recognizes that there is a clear link between drug use and criminal activity. A major component of the Administration's anti-crime effort, therefore, is devoted to breaking the chain between drugs and crime.
- Various Administration-supported proposals in the Crime Bill offer drug-dependent criminal offenders an opportunity to beat their addiction. They include:
 - * Drug Court programs to intensively supervise and treat drug offenders and get them turned around before they commit more serious crimes, including the integrated administration of drug testing, substance abuse treatment, potential prosecution or incarceration for non-compliance with program requirements, and related programmatic and aftercare services;
 - * Drug testing of Federal offenders on post-conviction release;
 - * Expanded drug treatment for Federal prisoners and increased support for state correctional drug treatment programs; and
 - * Proven and extensive drug prevention and crime prevention programs, such as those administered through the Ounce of Prevention Council, that target young people and give them something to say "yes" to.
- In addition, the Crime Bill also includes Administration-backed provisions which assist law enforcement in their efforts at fighting drug traffic. Among these proposals are:
 - * Additional funding to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration agents to curb drug trafficking on our streets;
 - * \$250 million targeted for rural law enforcement grants to reduce drug trafficking in rural areas; and
 - * Increased penalties for drug trafficking in or near schools and public housing.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, May 25, 1994

WHY LAW ENFORCEMENT NEEDS THE PRESIDENT'S CRIME BILL

- President Clinton's comprehensive anti-crime strategy is not only supported by citizens nationwide; it also enjoys the backing of law enforcement. Why? Because the President's Crime Bill gives law enforcement officials the tools they need to do their job effectively.
- It's up to Congressional conferees to adopt the President's plan and ensure that the Crime Bill emerging from Conference contains provisions which give law enforcement the assistance they need and deserve. Among the provisions supported by the Administration which help law enforcement the most are:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 more police officers on America's streets, ensuring that every community that needs police can receive assistance;
 - * Additional funding to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents to curb drug trafficking on our streets;
 - * Restoration of a workable, constitutional death penalty for the most heinous crimes, such as killing a federal law enforcement officer;
 - * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which continue to kill police officers out-gunned by the firepower such weapons produce;
 - * Funds to hire more prosecutors for gang prosecutions, as well as the support staff and resources new prosecutors require;
 - * Additional funds for law enforcement components and functions of the Treasury Department to help meet their increased law enforcement responsibilities;
 - * Law Enforcement Scholarships and the Police Corps program to provide police departments with officers who have the education and skills necessary to maximize their ability to fight crime; and
 - * Grants for computerized automation and other technological improvements in law enforcement, as well as for an expansion of federal training programs for state and local law enforcement officers.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Tuesday, May 24, 1994

PROTECTING AGAINST GENDER-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

- Protecting women against gender-motivated violence and improving restitution to victims of such crime is part of the President's overall, anti-crime strategy. Conferees from both Houses have the opportunity to ensure that the Crime Bill includes a strong Violence Against Women provision, one which creates a federal cause of action for violence perpetrated against an individual because of their gender.
- Under the Administration-backed Violence Against Women proposal currently in the Senate bill, victims of a felony crime of violence may bring a civil suit for damages or equitable relief in federal or state court, provided that the crime they suffered was committed because of gender and due, at least in part, to animus based on the victim's gender.
- The proposal would also create new federal offenses which protect victims of gender-motivated violence, such as fleeing across state lines in violation of a stay away or protection order.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they do not clog federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated; proof of the perpetrator's animus is a prerequisite to recovery.
- Also supported by the Administration are Violence Against Women grant programs aimed at reducing and preventing violence against women through state grants expanding and strengthening victim services and programs, funds to train law enforcement officers to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, and resources to prevent rape and violence on college campuses through education.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, May 23, 1994

CONGRESSIONAL CONFEREES PREPARE TO HAMMER OUT DETAILS OF THE CRIME BILL

- Now that both Houses of Congress have passed versions of the Crime Bill, House and Senate conferees prepare to work out the details. Facing the Congressional conferees is a special opportunity and responsibility: To create a Crime Bill that adopts the national consensus now developing about how best to keep our neighborhoods, our homes and our families and friends safe from criminal activity.
- That consensus recognizes that old single-minded approaches aimed at suppressing crime won't work. Instead, we need a Crime Bill that strikes a balance between more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- President Clinton's anti-crime strategy offers America just such a Crime Bill. Comprised of three key components -- police, punishment, and prevention -- the President's Crime Bill is a tough, effective, and sensible approach to reducing crime in America.
- The Crime Bill emerging from the Conference should include these key elements of the President's plan:
 - * Efforts to put 100,000 police officers onto America's streets, a twenty percent increase in the current number local police officers nationwide. The nearly \$9 billion requested by the President for this program will enable the Administration to help every community in the country that needs and wants assistance to strengthen its police force to improve public safety;
 - * A "Three Strikes You're Out" measure aimed at repeat offenders;
 - * A grant program which helps states put and keep violent criminals behind bars for a long time by giving them resources to create much needed prison space and by encouraging them to adopt "truth in sentencing" reforms;
 - * Restoration of an enforceable federal death penalty for the most heinous of offenses, including the killing of federal law enforcement officers;
 - * A balanced crime prevention agenda which gives young people something to say "yes" to, such as the Youth Employment and Skills program, after school community youth services, Boys and Girls clubs, Midnight Sports, Police Corps and Law Enforcement Scholarships, and other crime prevention programs that enhance the employment, educational and recreational opportunities of youth;
 - * Measures aimed at stopping violence against women.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, May 23, 1994

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 - * A balanced crime prevention agenda which gives young people something to say "yes" to, such as the Youth Employment and Skills program, after school community youth services, Boys and Girls clubs, Midnight Sports, Police Corps and Law Enforcement Scholarships, and other crime prevention programs that enhance the employment, educational and recreational opportunities of youth;
 - * Measures aimed at stopping violence against women.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Friday, May 20, 1994

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS
NEW YORK CITY BEACON SCHOOL**

- Emphasizing the difference that school-based community centers can make in young lives, Attorney General Reno joined scores of young people last night and kicked-off the "Peace Makers Tournament." A four-week, 3-on-3 midnight basketball tournament, the program is designed to prevent youth violence by teaching sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.
- The "Peace Makers Tournament" will involve approximately 120 young people between ages of 12 and 18 and will be held at P.S. 194, a Beacon school facility located in an area plagued with violent and drug-related crime. By offering evening activities to young people in the community, P.S. 194 is a safe haven for many kids, helping them to stay off the streets and out of trouble.
- The Attorney General's visit underscores the challenge now facing Congressional conferees: To pass a Crime Bill which fights crime and saves lives by funding prevention programs for at-risk youth. Such programs are an essential ingredient of the President's balanced anti-crime legislation.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, May 19, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS TO PHILADELPHIA IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL

- Today, Attorney General Janet Reno travels to Philadelphia to promote swift Conference action on the Crime Bill. She will visit a southwest Philadelphia neighborhood and a police mini-station to talk with residents and law enforcement officials about local community policing efforts.
- The Philadelphia Police Department is implementing a community policing strategy with 14 additional officers, hired with a \$1 million grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Police mini-stations in various neighborhoods and business districts around the southwest area have already enjoyed community support. Such mini-stations -- now staffed with more officers -- will continue to help local citizens protect and revitalize their neighborhoods.
- Passage of the Crime Bill will help other jurisdictions around the country build partnerships between law enforcement and local citizens by providing the nation with 100,000 new police officers. These officers will help departments establish effective community policing programs -- an indispensable part of the President's balanced anti-crime strategy.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE:

5-18-94

TO:

Jennifer O'Connor and Shana Tenslee
Cabinet Affairs, The White House

Fax No.:

()

456 - 6204

Telephone No.:

()

456 - 2572

FROM:

D. Anthony West

Office of the Deputy

Attorney General

Fax No.:

()

514 - 0467

Telephone No.:

()

514 - 6907

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, May 18, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS AFTERSCHOOL PREVENTION PROGRAM

- Highlighting the difference afterschool prevention programs can make in the lives of young Americans, Attorney General Reno yesterday visited a local Boys and Girls Club at the Montana Terrace Public Housing Project.
- Joined by young program participants, the Attorney General heard first-hand how the Boys and Girls Club serves the more than 500 kids who live in the housing development, as well as young people living in adjacent public housing and low-income communities of Northeast Washington, D.C.
- Montana Terrace is one of the District's most high-risk areas due to the violent and drug-related crime plaguing the neighborhood. The Boys and Girls Club at Montana Terrace offers young people an afterschool haven by providing them with a variety of programs from tutoring to dance to classes about abstinence from drugs and sex. Through these and other activities, young people are given an alternative to life on the streets -- an alternative which can save lives.
- Providing much-needed funds for programs like Montana Terrace's Boys and Girls Club is part of the President's sensible and balanced approach to fighting crime. It's a strategy that recognizes that in addition to enhanced law enforcement and certain, swift punishment, real crime reduction requires strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- The Crime Bill now in Conference offers the Congress an opportunity to help steer young people away from crime and drugs and give them instead, as the President often says, "something to say 'yes' to." Congress must not lose this chance.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 5-17-94
TO: Jennifer O'Connor and Shana Tenney
Cabinet Affairs, The White House

Fax No.: () 456 - 6704 Telephone No.: () 456 - 2522

FROM: D. Anthony West
Office of the Deputy
Attorney General

Fax No.: () 514 - 0467 Telephone No.: () 514 - 6907

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Tuesday, May 17, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TESTIFIES BEFORE THE SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE ON CRIME BILL PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- Today, Attorney Janet Reno will testify before members of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on one of the key elements in the President's anti-crime strategy: workable and effective prevention programs.
- The Attorney General's testimony draws upon her own experience of the last few months, when she travelled across the country and spoke with private citizens, public officials, and members of law enforcement. She has witnessed the development of a broad consensus on the problem of crime -- one which says that any successful anti-crime effort requires a sensible balance between law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- The key components of the President's anti-crime program are police, punishment, and prevention. Yet, as Attorney General Reno points out in her testimony, there is a special opportunity -- and responsibility -- facing Congressional Conferees: to create a Crime Bill that will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and give them instead, as the President often says, "something to say 'yes' to."
- Through this Crime Bill, Congress can break the cycle of violence by developing crime prevention programs for young Americans that work -- programs that increase youth employment, recreational and educational opportunities.
- Some of the key prevention programs in the Crime Bill that the Attorney General will highlight include:
 - * The President's Youth Employment Skills program "Y.E.S.", contained in the House Crime Bill, which will provide young people with job training and work opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas;
 - * The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs, in both the House and Senate bills, which, with some adjustment, can provide the vehicle for effectively coordinating and integrating the delivery of the federal government's new youth development and youth oriented crime prevention initiatives;

- * The Police Partnerships for Children program, in both versions of the Crime Bill, which will encourage police officers to become involved with children and family services agencies to divert at risk children;
- * Drug Court programs which will support intensive court supervision of drug dependent defendants to provide the carrot-and-stick approach that can help them beat their addiction; and
- * The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, which will help kids fight the allure of gang membership.

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, May 16, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON MOVES CLOSER TO PUTTING 100,000 POLICE OFFICERS ON AMERICA'S STREETS

- President Clinton last week made another important downpayment on his promise to deliver 100,000 police officers to the communities of America. Last Thursday, the President announced the final round of Police Hiring Supplement grants to communities around the country. The 142 law enforcement grants, distributed through a competitive program, comprise about \$74 million and will put 1,001 cops on our streets.
- Overall, 250 police departments, sheriffs' departments, and other law enforcement agencies received police hiring grants totalling \$150 million. These grants are being used to hire over 2,000 police officers and will enable the American people to become partners with law enforcement to help end the crime and violent plaguing their neighborhoods.
- Across the nation, city and county officials, law enforcement officers, and ordinary citizens recognize the need to hire more police officers. As a result, the response to the Police Hiring Supplement program has been overwhelming. Unfortunately, this grant program has only enough money to fund fewer than one in ten of the nearly 3,000 applicants who applied.
- Passing the Crime Bill can change that, because with nearly \$9 billion appropriated for hiring new police officers, every community that needs police can receive help.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, May 16, 1994

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Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE:

5-13-94

TO:

Jennifer O'Connor and Thana Tensley
Cabinet Affairs, The White House

Fax No.:

()

456

- 6704

Telephone No.:

()

456

- 2572

FROM:

D. Anthony West

Office of the Deputy

Attorney General

Fax No.:

()

574

- 0467

Telephone No.:

()

574

- 6907

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Friday, May 13, 1994

WHY REGIONAL PRISONS WON'T WORK

- Around the country, states are being forced to prematurely release violent criminals from prison due to lack of space. The Clinton Administration is committed to halting this trend by making it easier for states to get violent offenders off the streets quickly and efficiently and to keep such criminals locked up for a long time. The Administration-backed state prison grant program would accomplish these objectives by providing assistance directly to states, enabling them to expand their correctional capacity.
- By contrast, the Regional Prisons proposal in the Senate Crime Bill sounds tough on crime but really isn't. For example:
 - * Building and opening ten, federally-administered regional prisons would take a long time. As a result, states would not be able to benefit from additional prison space for at least several years. That means more violent criminals on our streets for a longer period of time. On the other hand, the prison grant program supported by the Administration would facilitate states' ability to bring new prison space on-line quickly, because it allows both for the new construction and the expansion of existing correctional facilities.
 - * Moreover, many states have existing prison space that can be immediately activated, but are unable to fill this space because of sparse resources. Over 15,000 state prison beds cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital. The Regional Prisons proposal does nothing to help those states fill their existing space, while the Administration-supported state prison grant program will assist such states in meeting their operational needs.
 - * In addition, the Regional Prisons proposal is inefficient. It involves a massive and uncontrolled expenditure of precious crime-fighting dollars. The state prison grant program, however, will lock up more violent criminals much more quickly and at a much lower cost. Allowing states to administer their own correctional systems for their own prisoners is far more efficient than deeply involving the federal government in a cumbersome, costly, time-consuming and marginally beneficial venture of building and running big regional prisons.
 - * Finally, operating a federally-administered regional prisons system is fraught with difficulties. Differences in state correctional policies and the difficulties and risks of transporting inmates to and from centralized federal facilities make the administration and safe operation of a regional prison system extraordinarily difficult and expensive.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, May 12, 1994

ENHANCING LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ABILITY TO FIGHT CRIME

- The Clinton Administration's Crime Bill is a blueprint for the effective reduction of crime in both the short- and long-term. Part and parcel to the bill are specific authorization requests that will give law enforcement the resources it needs to successfully implement the President's comprehensive anti-crime plan. Crime Bill authorizations supported by the Administration include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put an additional 100,000 local police officers on the nation's street -- a twenty percent increase in the current number of local cops nationwide;
 - * Funds to hire more prosecutors for gang prosecutions, as well as the support staff and resources new prosecutors require;
 - * Additional funding to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents to curb drug trafficking on our streets;
 - * Additional funds for law enforcement components and functions of the Treasury Department to help meet their increased law enforcement responsibilities;
 - * \$250 million targeted for rural law enforcement grants to reduce drug trafficking in rural areas;
 - * A comprehensive grant program with increased funding for criminal justice and law enforcement assistance in sexual and domestic violence cases;
 - * \$300 million in increased judiciary funding for effective crime bill implementation;
 - * Grants administered through the Gangs and Juveniles programs to local prosecutors who are trying to deal with the serious and growing problem of juvenile violence;
 - * \$3 billion for state grants to construct prisons, build boot camps, and otherwise expand their capacity to ensure that criminals do their time;
 - * Authority necessary to increase the number of Border Patrol agents by 6,000 over the next five years; and
 - * Grants for computerized automation and other technological improvements in law enforcement, as well as for an expansion of federal training programs for state and local law enforcement officers.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 5-12-94

TO: Jennifer O'Connor and Shana Tensley
Cabinet Affairs, The White House

Fax No.: () 456 - 6704 Telephone No.: () 456 - 2522

FROM: D. Anthony West
Office of the Deputy
Attorney General

Fax No.: () 514 - 0467 Telephone No.: () 514 - 6907

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, May 11, 1994

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION CRIME BILL: TOUGH AND SMART PUNISHMENT OF VIOLENT CRIME

- Critical to the effectiveness of the President's anti-crime strategy is a Crime Bill complete with punishment provisions aimed at curbing violent crime on the streets right now. The Administration-supported Crime Bill contains an array of effective punishment solutions which will aid in reducing crime in the short term.
- **Swift and Certain Punishment for Violent Crimes.**

The Administration supports measures that swiftly punish violent criminals, particularly repeat violent offenders. To keep those who would prey upon our communities off of the streets, the Crime Bill that emerges from Conference should include:

- * The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision, which is aimed at those career violent offenders who do the most harm to society; and
- * Reinstatement of the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of crimes, such as killing a Federal law enforcement officer.

- **Helping States Keep Violent Criminals Behind Bars.**

The President is committed to helping states keep violent criminals behind bars by providing them with the resources they need to create additional prison space. The final version of the Crime Bill should include the Administration-backed prison grant program which will help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting reasonable "truth in sentencing" provisions.

- **Smart and Tough Approaches to Youth Crime and Violence.**

The increasing incidence of crime committed by juveniles has led the President to propose proven and extensive drug and crime prevention programs, giving young people something to say "yes" to. In addition, the Administration supports smart incarceration programs and tough alternative approaches, such as:

- * Boot camps that provide the discipline and training necessary to deter young people from embarking on a life of crime; and
- * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, May 10, 1994

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS HELPING STATES KEEP VIOLENT CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS

- The Administration is committed to helping states that are struggling to keep violent criminals and criminal aliens from being released prematurely because of overcrowding. While the Federal Government builds enough prisons and detention facilities to insure that federal inmates are not released early for lack of space, many states are forced to release criminals routinely due to space limitations.
- States must also contend with severely shrinking resources. There are currently over 15,000 state prison beds which cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital. The safety of our citizens depends upon states being able to keep violent criminals behind bars to do their time.
- Both the Senate and House versions of the Crime Bill provide funds to help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently. The best way to accomplish this objective and make our streets safer is by providing assistance to state correctional and detention systems at a level which approximates that contained in the Senate Crime Bill -- \$6.5 billion. Such funding, when made available to the states on a discretionary basis, will allow states to build and operate appropriate facilities for housing serious drug and violent offenders -- including boot camps, prisons, jails, and community detention facilities.
- Moreover, the Administration believes that the prison grant program should also be used to encourage states to adopt "truth in sentencing" policies and other criminal justice system improvements to insure that violent criminals remain locked up for a long time.
- Towards that end, the Administration supports the concept behind Congressman Chapman's (D-TX) "truth in sentencing" provision in the House Crime Bill, which aims to restore the credibility of our criminal sentencing system by ensuring that violent inmates serve their time. This approach is more effective than the Senate Crime Bill's Regional Prisons alternative -- a proposal that is inefficient, unduly expensive, and will fail to get violent criminals off of the streets quickly.
- Locking up the largest number of violent offenders and criminal aliens, as quickly as possible, at the lowest possible cost: this is the Administration's objective in seeking a Crime Bill that combines the best of both the Senate and House proposals -- the prison grant programs authored by Senator Biden (D-DE) and Congressman Hughes (D-NJ), coupled with reasonable "truth in sentencing" provisions.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, May 6, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON VICTORIOUS AS HOUSE PASSES ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

- Standing with the law enforcement community, the vast majority of American citizens, and the national interest, the House of Representatives yesterday voted 216 to 214 to pass Administration-backed legislation banning the future manufacture of semiautomatic assault weapons.
- Led by Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY), House supporters of the ban were able to reverse momentum against the legislation and produce a victory.
- Also instrumental in persuading House members to support the legislative ban was the persistent leadership of President Clinton and members of his Cabinet, led by Attorney General Reno and Treasury Secretary Bentsen.
- The bipartisan anti-crime vote is a triumph for every American who desires safe streets, and particularly for those who know first-hand the tragedy that semiautomatic assault weapons can cause. Parents who've lost children, individuals who've lost spouses, police officers who've lost partners -- all know that taking assault weapons off of the streets and out of the hands of violent criminals means saving lives.
- The House members who supported this legislation, as President Clinton noted right after the historic vote, "demonstrated extraordinary courage in the face of extraordinary political pressure to walk away."
- As part of a larger, comprehensive Administration anti-crime strategy, the House's action brings the nation closer towards controlling violent crime on America's streets.

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, May 5, 1994

HOUSE TO VOTE ON CRITICAL ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

- Today, the House votes on a crucial piece of crime control legislation: a ban on semiautomatic assault weapons. A victory in the House today will mean safer streets and saved lives.
- Every year, semiautomatic assault weapons kill children, spouses, parents, and police officers. They are the weapons of choice for violent criminals. Designed for battlefield combat, assault weapons have no place on our streets, in our neighborhoods or on our schoolyards.
- Among the ban's staunchest supporters are law enforcement officials -- men and women who put their lives on the line day in and day out to keep our communities safe. Opponents of the ban cannot expect these brave individuals to risk their lives in the fight against crime, yet deny them the help they desperately need.
- The legislative ban supported by the Administration is carefully crafted to specifically safeguard hunter's rights. In fact, over 650 hunting and recreational guns -- including 60 semiautomatic rifles -- are explicitly exempted from the ban.
- Moreover, not all semiautomatic firearms are covered by the ban; only semiautomatic assault weapons -- weapons designed for military combat -- are prohibited.
- House members must decide today whether to stand with the overwhelming majority of their constituents and the law enforcement community, or to vote the way the gun lobby wants them to vote. Those who choose to stand with the American people and with law enforcement will be making their voices heard in the fight against crime.

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, May 4, 1994

THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN: A VOTE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, A VOTE AGAINST CRIME

- Thursday's House of Representatives vote on legislation to ban semiautomatic assault weapons is not about controlling guns; it's about controlling crime.
- Semiautomatic assault weapons are the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists. While they represent only one percent of privately-owned firearms in this country, assault weapons account for eight percent of the firearms traced to crime -- a disproportionately high number which has been rising in recent years.
- And every year, these weapons kill police officers -- men and women who put their lives on the line everyday to keep our communities safe. They are the ones who are out-gunned by the firepower that street criminals now wield with assault weapons.
- This was tragically demonstrated last week in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, when a police officer was murdered -- the first officer in ten years to be killed in the line of duty in Waukesha -- during a gun battle involving a Springfield M1A1 assault rifle.
- As a result of this and too many incidents like it, law enforcement officials have been unified in their support of taking these weapons off of the streets and out of criminal hands. We cannot ask them to risk their lives in the fight against crime -- and then deny them the help they need.
- Today, Attorney General Reno carries that message of support for the nation's law enforcement community to Capitol Hill. She, along with Congressman Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Senator Metzenbaum (D-OH), will reiterate the Administration's support for a legislative ban on semiautomatic assault weapons.
- The Administration-supported legislative ban prohibits weapons designed for military combat, but specifically safeguards hunters' rights by explicitly exempting over 650 hunting and recreational guns. Moreover, not all semiautomatic firearms are covered by the ban; only semiautomatic assault weapons -- weapons designed for the battlefields of war -- are prohibited.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, May 3, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON SEEKS SUPPORT OF HUNTERS IN BATTLE TO FIGHT CRIME

- In an open letter to hunters reprinted in Roll Call yesterday, President Clinton sought to enlist the help of hunters to control crime by taking weapons designed for military combat off of the streets and out of the hands of violent criminals. Semiautomatic assault weapons are the "weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists," wrote the President, "[a]nd every year they kill children and police officers, mothers and fathers."
- As the President has repeatedly noted, the battle to ban semiautomatic assault weapons is not about gun control; it's about crime control.
- "I know the difference between a firearm used for hunting and target shooting and a weapon designed to kill people," the President wrote, who himself has been a hunter since he was 12 years old. Semiautomatic assault weapons "have no place on a deer hunt, in a duck blind, or on a target range -- and they certainly don't belong on our streets, in our neighborhoods or on our schoolyards."
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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, May 2, 1994

THE MESSAGE FROM AMERICA: BANNING SEMIAUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS MEANS SAVING LIVES

- The overwhelming majority of Americans supports a legislative ban on semiautomatic assault weapons. Why? Because a ban will save lives, pure and simple. It will take weapons designed for military combat off the streets and out of the hands of violent criminals. In nearly every part of America, the evidence is clear:
 - * A legislative ban would prohibit the Springfield M1-A1 assault rifle -- one of the weapons used by two men last Thursday in a gun battle following a bank robbery in Wisconsin. The gun battle resulted in the murder of a Waukesha, Wisconsin police officer.
 - * The ban would also outlaw the AK-47 -- the weapon chosen by four drug traffickers who engaged in a gun battle with Federal agents outside their drug manufacturing site in Pushmataha County, Oklahoma in 1990.
 - * Also prohibited would be the Intratec TEC-22 and semiautomatic assault pistols manufactured by Norinco -- weapons used by six young men last year to rob seven Ohio banks in six months.
 - * Had a legislative ban been in place in December, 1992, it might have saved the life of a teacher at Atlantic Shores Christian School in Virginia Beach, Virginia. There, a student, using a Cobray M-11/9 semiautomatic assault pistol, went on a killing spree, murdering one of his teachers and seriously wounding another.
- Critics are quick to argue that semiautomatic assault weapons represent less than 1 percent of privately-owned firearms. Yet these same assault weapons account for 8 percent of the firearms traced to criminal activities -- a number which has been on the rise in recent years. As the weapon of choice for violent criminals, assault weapons make up a disproportionately high number of crime-related firearms.
- We already know that when the Bush Administration banned the importation of certain assault weapons, the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime declined by 45% in the first year, while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained the same. We can achieve the same dramatic impact on the number of domestically manufactured assault weapons traced to criminal activity by passing the legislative ban.

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, April 29, 1994

ADMINISTRATION-BACKED ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN PASSES HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

- The momentum behind the Administration-backed effort to ban semiautomatic assault weapons continued to build yesterday as the House Judiciary Committee approved Rep. Charles Schumer's (D-NY) and Rep. Mike Synar's (D-OK) bill to remove assault weapons from our streets.
- The Assault Weapons Ban Bill, which currently has 59 co-sponsors, was passed on a 20 to 15 bipartisan vote, which included the support of Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL).
- The bill effectively bans the future manufacture and importation of semiautomatic assault weapons. Hunting and sporting weapons, however, are specifically exempted.
 - * Although the bill bans the future manufacture and importation of semiautomatic assault weapons, currently-owned guns are grandfathered.
 - * Moreover, the bill uses very specific criteria in defining which semiautomatic rifles, pistols and shotguns would be prohibited.
 - * 650 types of hunting and sporting rifles and shotguns are explicitly exempt from the ban.
 - * The bill also contains explicit exceptions for experimental or governmental use.
- In addition, the Assault Weapons Ban Bill prohibits the manufacture and importation of large-capacity magazines and requires private sellers and buyers of assault weapons to keep a record of the transaction.
- The bill's provisions also contain penalties for those who violate the ban: Up to five years in jail, except for those who violate of the record-keeping provision, who face up to six months in jail.
- The Assault Weapons Ban will save lives by taking weapons intended for military combat off of the streets and out of the hands of violent criminals. Although they represent less than 1 percent of privately-owned firearms, assault weapons account for 8 percent of the firearms traced to criminal activities — a number which has been on the rise in recent years.
- The Assault Weapons Ban now moves to the full House of Representatives where a vote on final passage is expected anon.



Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

DATE: 4-29-94
TO: Jennifer O'Connor

Fax No.: () 456 - 6704 Telephone No.: () 456 - 2572
456 - 2983
FROM: Tony West

Fax No.: () 514 - 6467 Telephone No.: () 514 - 6407

TRANSMISSION CONTAINS 2 SHEETS INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET

SPECIAL NOTE(S): Talking Points

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AND CABINET APP. 4/29

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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, April 28, 1994

THE REALITY BEHIND THE STATISTICS: BANNING ASSAULT WEAPONS WILL SAVE LIVES

- Critics of a ban on assault weapons can continually attempt to cloud the real issues behind the debate by throwing out statistics that reveal only part of the assault weapons picture.
- For example, critics are quick to point to statistics showing that assault weapons make up less than 1 percent of the privately owned guns in America. But the critics won't tell you that these same weapons account for 8 percent of the firearms traced to criminal activities. That means that as one of the weapons of choice for violent criminals, assault weapons make up a disproportionately high number of crime-related firearms.
- Additionally, critics try to minimize the terror that assault weapons cause by arguing that assault weapons were used in about 1 percent of murders nationwide. But behind these numbers are real stories of human tragedy:
 - * Stories such as Steven Sposato's, whose wife, Jody, was among eight killed when a gunman armed with two assault pistols opened fire in a San Francisco law firm last year.
 - * Or the stories of five elementary school children who died, or the 29 others who were wounded, when a man fired 106 rounds in less than 2 minutes into a Stockton, California schoolyard where the kids were playing.
 - * Nor do the numbers tell Ken Brondell's story, whose sister, Los Angeles Police Officer Christy Brondell Hamilton, was killed last February 18 when a teenager fired an assault weapon through the door of her squad car. "If it would save one life . . . obviously the law is worth it," says Mr. Brondell.
- The Statistics the Critics Don't Like to Cite
 - * When the Bush Administration banned the importation of certain assault weapons, the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime declined by 45%, while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained the same.
 - * There are no current restrictions on the sale of 30, 50 or even 100 round ammunition magazines. They can be legally sold to anyone, yet have no conceivable sporting purpose. They are intended for military weapons designed for combat, not for hunting firearms.

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Tuesday, April 26, 1994

Answering the Call

- Yesterday, the New York Times called on the Administration to "stake a legitimate claim to leadership" in the development of the final version of Congress' crime bill. The fact is, the President, the Attorney General, and other cabinet members have staked out dozens of tough positions during debate on the crime bill and have already had a substantial impact on the bill.
- The President and his Administration vigorously supported a balanced approach to the bill, working hard to make sure that the money spent was not just on police, not just on punishment, and not just on prevention, but on all three. Without the President's insistence on this balanced approach, a skewed crime bill might have resulted.
- The President and his Administration helped reign in and fight back the ill-conceived "regional prisons" notion which would have wasted time and money in the effort to lock up violent criminals. With strong support from the Administration, prison funding in the House bill is to be made available in grants to the states for use in the ways most appropriate in each individual circumstance. And the Administration will continue to work to encourage conferees to adopt this approach.
- The President and his Administration designed a more focused "three-strikes-and-you're out" provision, which the Administration will continue to encourage the conferees to adopt. And the Administration has supported a "safety valve" provision, taking low level, non-violent, first time offenders out of the rubric of mandatory minimum sentencing, returning those matters to sentencing under the sentencing guidelines.
- The President and his Administration also continue to fight for the passage of an assault weapons ban, whether adopted as part of the crime bill or adopted as a separate piece of legislation. And, despite the urgings of the Times, the Administration will continue to support "truth in sentencing" provisions so that criminals recognize that there are consequences for their actions.
- The President and the Administration will continue to play the most important role possible in this debate — keeping it balanced, on course, and moving forward. While even we may not like certain provisions adopted by the Congress, the basic structure of the crime bill is sound. The Congress should not delay in drafting and passing a conference report.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, April 22, 1994

HOUSE PASSES THE CRIME BILL

- By an overwhelming margin of 285 to 141, the House of Representatives yesterday voted to pass the Crime Bill. The win is a big victory for Americans around the country who value smart action over mere tough talk on the issue of crime in America.
- The House's action brings the nation a step closer towards fully realizing the President's comprehensive anti-crime program -- a plan which has won broad praise from ordinary citizens to law enforcement officials alike.
- The next task is for House and Senate conferees to hammer out a joint Crime Bill which includes the best measures from both the House and Senate bills and reflects the Administration's balanced approach to fighting crime -- police, punishment, and prevention.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, April 21, 1994

HOUSE POISED TO PASS CRIME BILL

- After making significant progress in their deliberations over the Crime Bill, the House is now on the verge of passing comprehensive anti-crime legislation by week's end.
- The House's work over the last two weeks answers the call echoed around the nation that the nation desperately needs the Crime Bill and wants its passage now.
- The package emerging from the House includes several key crimefighting elements, such as:
 - * A substantial start towards putting an additional 100,000 police officers on our streets, engaged in community policing in both large cities and rural areas;
 - * A "Three Strikes You're Out" measure aimed at repeat offenders;
 - * A program which helps states put and keep violent criminals behind bars for a long time by giving them grants to create much needed prison space and by encouraging them to adopt "truth in sentencing" reforms;
 - * Restoration of an enforceable federal death penalty for the most heinous of offenses, including the killing of federal law enforcement officers;
 - * A balanced crime prevention agenda which gives young people something to say "yes" to, such as after school community youth services, Boys and Girls clubs, Midnight Sports, and other programs which enhance the educational opportunities of youth, such as Police Corps and Law Enforcement Scholarships; and
 - * Measures aimed at stopping violence against women.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, April 20, 1994

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS POLICE CORPS

- The President has repeatedly indicated that he wants crime legislation which is both tough and smart. That is why the Administration supports the McCurdy Amendment to the House Crime Bill, a proposal which ensures that we are smart about the way we fight crime by establishing a Police Corps program and funding Law Enforcement Scholarships.
- We must do all we can to ensure that our law enforcement officials are equipped not only with the weaponry and technology they need, but also with the education and skills necessary to maximize their ability to fight crime. By providing educational funds for individuals committed to joining police departments after graduation, we can develop well-educated police officers who have focused for years on training for that job.
- The McCurdy Amendment creates a Law Enforcement Scholarships matching grant program for current law enforcement personnel and young people interested in a career in law enforcement.
- Law Enforcement Scholarships would provide educational opportunities for in-service officers seeking to improve their skills and abilities, as well as law enforcement related summer and part-time employment for high school students.
- The McCurdy Amendment also establishes a Police Corps program through which state and local law enforcement agencies can recruit young people to serve with local police while simultaneously earning financial aid for a college education.
- The police corps, frequently analogized to the ROTC, would require program participants to participate in police training activities during the summer months of their college education.
- The police corps will develop a new group of well-educated police officers annually available for recruitment into police departments around the country.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, April 19, 1994

HELPING STATES TO LOCK UP VIOLENT CRIMINALS FAST

- The Administration is committed to helping states lock up violent offenders. The federal prison system, with over 80,000 inmates, does not release prisoners early because of overcrowding. By contrast, many states are forced to do so routinely. We want to help states expand their prison capacity so that in the future, violent criminals will not be returned to the streets because of lack of prison space.
- The Crime Bill provides funds to help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently. Currently, there are 13,000 state prison beds which cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital.
- The Crime Bill's prison grant program also aims to strengthen state sentencing schemes. In order to participate in the grant program, states should adopt improved criminal justice policies to protect the public from violent criminals, including "truth in sentencing" reforms. But the conditions of state participation must be reasonable, realistic and practical.
- "Truth in sentencing" provisions contained in both the Chapman and Hughes Amendments will encourage states to move in the right direction -- restoring the credibility of our criminal sentencing system by ensuring that violent inmates serve their time behind bars.
- We must be tough on crime, but we must also be smart. The McCollum Amendment, which requires states to adopt burdensome sentencing policies in order to be eligible for prison grant funds, looks tough but really isn't. The requirements are so costly to meet that few states, if any, would actually participate in the grant program, meaning more violent offenders on our streets.
- The President's anti-crime plan represents a comprehensive, balanced approach to reducing crime in both the short-term and long-term. While the Administration supports increased assistance to states for the incarceration of criminals, spending on prisons alone is not enough. The Administration supports the availability of adequate funding for all components of the President's anti-crime program -- police, punishment and prevention.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Friday, April 15, 1994

CRIME BILL MOVES IN THE HOUSE

- The full House today began consideration of the President's Crime Bill and made substantial progress, disposing of 42 of the 67 amendments made in order under the rule.
- After general debate on the bill, the House considered and passed a range of amendments which further improved the bill.
- Included among the amendments adopted were:
 - Increased funding for Treasury Department law enforcers -- ATF, Customs, and Secret Service agents -- to make our streets and borders safer. (\$210 million) (Hoyer)
 - Authorization and support for full funding for the Byrne Grant program, so vital to many local communities. (Rangel; Wise; Fazio)
 - A new rural crime initiative, to provide additional efforts to fight crime and drugs in rural areas. Also, special funding to combat domestic violence in rural areas. (\$385 million) (Long/Baesler/Ewing)
 - Funding for Boys and Girls Clubs in public housing projects. (\$12 million) (Rostenkowski)
 - New penalties for criminals who use explosives to commit crimes, and measures to make it harder for criminals to obtain explosives. (Slaughter)
 - Increased border controls, expedited deportation for those denied asylum, and expanded special deportation proceedings. (Becerra)
 - Tougher penalties for visa and passport fraud, which contribute to immigration abuse. (Gilman)
- Among the amendments adopted was an "en bloc" group of 35 amendments, which were approved on a bipartisan 395 to 25 vote.
- Consideration of the Crime Bill will begin again in the House on Tuesday, April 19, with a vote on final passage expected next week.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, April 14, 1994

RULE ON CRIME BILL APPROVED -- HOUSE CLEARS WAY FOR DEBATE AND VOTE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ANTI-CRIME PROGRAM

- The President's anti-crime program continues to pick-up speed as the full House today begins consideration of the Crime Bill.
- Yesterday, the House signalled its readiness to consider the most comprehensive anti-crime package in history by approving the Rule on the Crime Bill by a big margin of 244 to 176.
- Some key crime-reduction elements in the House bill include:
 - * **More Police and Community Policing:** The bill funds 50,000 new police officers, evenly-divided between large and small cities and deployed in community policing programs.
 - * **Swift and Certain Punishment for Violent Crimes:** Among the bill's tough provisions are:
 - Tough but smart "Three Strikes and You're Out" mandatory life imprisonment legislation based upon the Administration's proposal;
 - Restoration of an enforceable federal death penalty for the most heinous of federal offenses, another element of the President's comprehensive anti-crime program; and
 - A prison grant program encouraging states to take appropriate measures to ensure that the most serious violent offenders are put behind bars for a long time.
 - * **A Balanced Crime Prevention Agenda:** The Administration's prevention package includes programs such as Y.E.S. (Youth Employment Skills), Ounce of Prevention, after-school Community Youth Services, and Midnight Sports, which all underscore the President's dual punishment-and-prevention approach to reduce crime.