

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Domestic Policy Council

Series/Staff Member: Christa Robinson

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 17161

FolderID:

Folder Title:

[Assault Weapons Ban] [1]

Stack:

S

Row:

96

Section:

4

Shelf:

8

Position:

1

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: Law Enforcement Participants for Vice-President's Meeting at the Treasury Department; [Personally Identifiable Information] [Partial] (1 page)	00/00/0000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Christa Robinson
OA/Box Number: 17161

FOLDER TITLE:

[Assault Weapons Ban] [1]

2009-1305-F

jp3613

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

May 19, 1995

MEETING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

LOCATION: Cabinet Room
TIME: 10:00 am
FROM: Rahm Emanuel/Jose Cerda

I. PURPOSE

To thank the law enforcement community for their speaking out against the NRA's anti-law enforcement remarks, for their continued support of the Administration's anti-crime efforts and to seek their input and support on the Administration's terrorism bill.

II. BACKGROUND

Since the start of the crime bill fight, the Administration has kept an open line of communication with the leaders of every major national law enforcement organization. You have met with the leaders and representatives of these organizations several times: last year in April, to get their support for the House crime bill; last August, to get their support for the crime bill conference report; and briefly this February, to confirm their support for the 100,000 cops initiative, not block grants. Through this continued dialogue, the Administration has helped promote unity in an otherwise fractured law enforcement community -- and prevented Republicans from exploiting one of their traditional constituencies.

The two major agenda items for this particular meeting are: (1) Responding to the NRA's recent comments about law enforcement; and (2) seeking input on the Administration's terrorism proposal.

Response to the NRA

While the leadership of the national law enforcement groups are strong advocates of the ban on assault weapons, gun control remains a divisive issue for the rank-and-file. Law enforcement, however, has been incensed at the NRA's attack on federal law enforcement, many of the groups have publicly expressed their outrage. For example:

- The Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), the group which first released the NRA's inflammatory fund raising letter, issued a press release in support of former President Bush's comments and rejecting the need for congressional hearings on Waco. Instead, they proposed that Congress take the lead on finding out more about domestic terrorism and the threats posed by paramilitary militia.

- The National Association of Police Organizations (NAP0) released a poll showing the public's strong support for law enforcement, for more police on the street and for the ban on assault weapons.
- The National Sheriffs Association (NSA) -- one of the most pro-gun law enforcement groups -- wrote a letter to the NRA condemning their remarks and supporting federal law enforcement.
- Yesterday, the Executive Board of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) voted to ban the NRA from attending their annual conference.

Terrorism

The law enforcement organizations have not developed a consensus position on any of the terrorism proposals before the Congress. Moreover, they are concerned that all of the bills have been drafted without the input of state and local law enforcement, and that the proposed bills may only exacerbate the tension that already exists in some jurisdictions between federal, state and local law enforcement. Perhaps their two largest concerns are: (1) the role of the military and what impact this will have on state and local law enforcement; and (2) the need to support all federal law enforcement, not simply the FBI.

Thus, while terrorism is not the focus of this meeting, the groups will inevitably raise some of their concerns. We recommend that you ask for their input and suggestions, and reassure that the Administration will work with them to pass a reasonable, bipartisan bill that responds to the increased threat of terrorism.

II. PARTICIPANTS

The President

John Pitta, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA)

Dewey Stokes, Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

Jim Pasco, Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

Richard Gallo, International Brotherhood of Police Officers

Neil Behan, Major Cities Chiefs

Mark Spurrier, Major Cities Chiefs

Bob Scully, National Association of Police Organizations

Hubert Bell, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Bud Meeks, National Sheriffs Association (NSA)

James Rhinebarger, National Troopers Coalition (NTC)

Chuck Wexler, Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

Hubert Williams, Police Foundation

Dan Rosenblatt, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

Bob Kliesmet, International Union of Police Associations (IUPA)

Arthur Reddy, International Union of Police Associations (IUPA)

III. PRESS PLAN - Brief remarks to the press pool.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- President proceeds to Cabinet Room
- President makes brief remarks to press pool
- The press pool is ushered out
- President makes opening remarks
- Open discussion
- The President departs

V. REMARKS - See attached statement to press and talking points for meeting.

TALKING POINTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT MEETING

. Thank you for coming here today to meet with me. This is the fourth time now that we have a chance to sit down and have a direct dialogue on important issues. As I said the first time we met in last April, crime and violence is too important an issue for us to break faith with the American people and play politics with it.

. I also wanted to take the opportunity to thank those of you who have taken a stand against the inflammatory statements that the NRA and others have made about our federal law enforcement officers. As I said in my speech at the peace officers memorial on Monday, I strongly agree with former President Bush's decision to take a stand against the NRA's extremist actions. Law enforcement deserves our support and respect, and nobody -- I mean nobody -- has got the right to run them down or put them in harm's way.

. So I want you to know that I am not going to back down from any of our efforts to give law enforcement the tools and resources they need to do the job. Sooner or later, the NRA will come back and try to repeal the assault weapons ban, but I will be ready with my veto pen in hand.

. And sooner or later, some in Congress will try and undo our 100,000 more police initiative or cut funding for the crime bill in their budget. I'll fight that too. The crime bill and the crime fund represent a solemn commitment we made to the American people to do everything we could to drive down the crime rate, and it would be a terrible blow to the people if we turned around now and started using that money for ill-advised tax cuts or some other political purpose.

. But I need you to keep working with us -- to stick by our 100,000 more police initiative, the assault weapons ban and all of the crime bill. I know the House has already acted, but it's only a matter of time before the Senate takes these issues up again.

. Finally, let me add that I know you have some concerns about the various terrorism proposals before the Congress. I want to hear your suggestions and work with you to pass a reasonable, bipartisan package that will help law enforcement at all levels to deal with this problem. There are some good provisions in all of the proposals, and what we need to do now is decide what makes the most sense and act in a timely fashion.

. But one thing is for sure: we won't pass a terrorism bill without your help and support.

F- ASS. Weapons

May 4, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR RHAM EMANUEL

FROM: CHRIS WAYNE

SUBJECT: TOMORROW'S RADIO ADDRESS

The attached represents the names of two law enforcement officials who will be in attendance at the President's radio address tomorrow in East Lansing, Michigan.

[Kenneth Grabowski was shot in the line of duty by an assault weapon and has been outspoken throughout the debate in his support for the assault weapons ban.

In addition, David Hiller, a state trustee with the Fraternal Order of Police, will be in attendance.

Of you have any questions or concerns, please give me or Steve a call.

cc: Steve Hilton
Jose Cerda

Law Enforcement Participants for Vice-President's meeting at the Treasury Dept.

Colonel David Mitchell - Superintendent of the Maryland State Police.

He will introduce the Vice-President at the Press Conference.

Stephen Sposato - spouse of victim.

His wife was murdered with an assault weapon at a law firm in San Francisco.

Art Reddy - Vice-President of the International Union of Police Associations (IUPA).

Art is a former narcotics officer from California for many years. IUPA endorsed the Clinton-Gore in '92 and every aspect of the Crime Bill.

Vic O'Boyski - President of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA).

Vic is also a U.S. Marshall from New York.

Dan Rosenblatt - Executive Director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

The Vice President recently met Police Chief David Walchak, the President of IACP, in his West Wing office for a photo op.

James Pasco - Executive Director the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP).

The FOP represents approximately 300,000 rank and file law enforcement officers nationwide. Jim Pasco formerly worked at the Congressional Affairs office at ATF until 2 years ago.

Mike Tenore - National Trustee of the Fraternal Order of Police from Ohio.

Marty Pfeifer - Sergeant of the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department and the F.O.P. Chairman for the Police Memorial Week.

~~SECRET~~
Mary Ann Daly

- wife of victim

Her husband, Hank Daly, was a D.C. Metropolitan Police Sergeant who was murdered with an assault weapon during the shoot out in the D.C. police building last year.

Chris Donnellan - Legislative Director of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers.

Bud Meeks - Executive Director of National Sheriff's Association

Chief Tom Frazier - Chief of the City of Baltimore, Maryland.

Major Wendell France - President of the National Black Police Officers Association.

John Cohen - Representing National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition.

John is a former California Police Officer.

There will also be 12 law enforcement officers in uniform sitting on the exterior of the table.

Chuck Wuxler

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: Law Enforcement Participants for Vice-President's Meeting at the Treasury Department; [Personally Identifiable Information] [Partial] (1 page)	00/00/0000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Christa Robinson
OA/Box Number: 17161

FOLDER TITLE:

[Assault Weapons Ban] [1]

2009-1305-F
jp3613

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

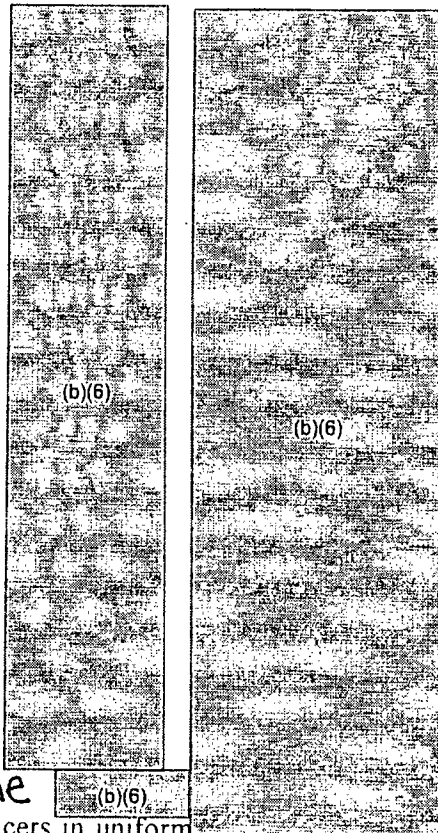
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

ATTENDEES

Art Reddy
*John Zook
*Mark Purcell
*Eric Ratliffe
*Guy Bishop
Vic O'Boyski
Melinda Lund
Beth McGee
Charles Meeks
Chris Donnellan
John Cohen
*Thomas Frazier
*Stephen T. Moyer
*David B. Mitchell
James Pasco
*Mike Tenore
Daniel Rosenblatt
Stephen Sposato
*Marty Pfeifer
Mary Ann Daly
*Wendell France
*Stephen Crum
+ plus six more officers in uniform



CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

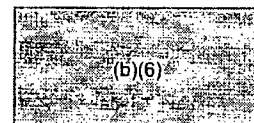
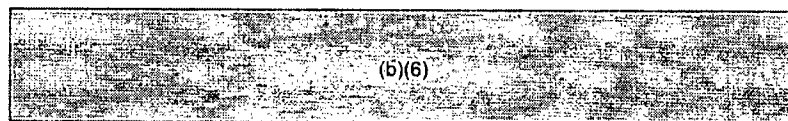
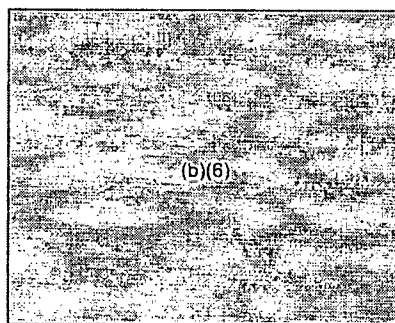
[001]

- Chief of Criminal Investigations Bureau

I'll fax list with complete DOB and SSC tomorrow morning. Thanks.

(* indicate officer in uniform)

TC Stamps
James Guest
Chuck Wexler
Kevin Burke
Terrence Burke



4121

THE LAW

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

The assault weapons ban prohibits the manufacture of 19 specific military-style assault weapons and others with specific combat features, "copy-cat" models, and certain high-capacity ammunition magazines. Since its effective date of September 13, 1994, the ban has kept countless military-style weapons off America's streets and is now also generating criminal prosecutions.

The assault weapons ban is an invaluable tool in deterring the manufacture and proliferation of combat-style firearms that are designed to kill as many people as quickly as possible.



Washington, D.C. 20530

FACT SHEET: THE BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS

WHEN IT BECAME LAW: September 13, 1994, as part of President Clinton's Violent Crime Control Act.

HOW IT WORKS: The law bans the manufacture of 19 military-style assault weapons, assault weapons with specific combat features, "copy-cat" models, and certain high-capacity ammunition magazines of more than ten rounds. The law also protects the rights of hunters by specifically exempting more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons by name.

HOW IT IS SAVING LIVES: After the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced to crimes dropped a full 18 percent -- even though they had been steadily rising before the ban was enacted.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ASSAULT WEAPONS TRACED TO CRIME</u>
9/92-9/93	3,328
9/93-9/94	4,269 (28% INCREASE)
(9/94 -- BAN GOES INTO EFFECT)	
9/94-9/95	3,504 (18% DECREASE)

[Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms]

HOW A SIMILAR BAN WORKED IN THE PAST: One year after the Bush Administration banned the importation of certain assault weapons, the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime fell by 45 percent (even as while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained the same). [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms]

THE WEAPONS OF CHOICE FOR CRIMINALS: Although assault weapons account for only one percent of privately-owned firearms in this country, they are eight times more likely to be used in crime than other guns. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms]

THE THREAT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT: More than one-third of all police who were killed by guns between January 1, 1994 and September 30, 1995 were killed by illegal assault weapons. Just last year, at least 11 police officers were killed by assault weapons. [Source: National Law Enforcement Monument Officers Fund, Handgun Control Inc.]

###

March 21, 1996

(202) 514-2008

Q/A – ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

Q: What proof do you have that the assault weapons ban is working?

A: After steadily rising until the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced to crimes dropped a full 18 percent in the year after the ban took effect.

This is consistent with the Bush Administration's experience banning the importation of certain assault weapons. One year after that ban the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime fell by 45 percent -- even as while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained the same.

Q: How many prosecutions have there been?

A: We don't have a current breakdown, but the bill is about keeping weapons off the street. Prosecutors often prefer to charge defendants on other charges -- like the case of Francisco Doran, who used an assault rifle to fire at the White House.

Q: Isn't this a lot of excitement about a very small share of all guns and of all crimes?

A: Although these weapons account for only one percent of privately-owned firearms in this country, they represent eight percent of the guns traced to criminal activities.

Q: What exactly is banned?

A: The law bans the manufacture of 19 military-style assault weapons, assault weapons with specific combat features, "copy-cat" models, and certain high-capacity ammunition magazines of more than ten rounds. The law also protects the rights of hunters by specifically exempting more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons by name.

Q: What about the bill's "Armed Violent Criminals Initiative" requiring new task forces, requiring the designation of an Assistant U.S. Attorney in each district to handle gun cases, and other steps to fight gun violence?

A: I'm afraid that they haven't checked on what we are doing lately -- the Attorney General announced her Anti-Violent Crime Initiative two years ago doing just those types of things, and it is having an effect. What we need along side ~~that~~ is an assault weapons ban that will also save lives.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

750 First Street, N.E., Suite 1020 • Washington, D.C. 20002-4241

(202) 842-4420 • (800) 322-NAPO • (202) 842-4396 FAX

President
THOMAS J. SCOTTO
President, Detectives'
Endowment Association
of New York City
New York, NY

Executive Vice President
ERNEST W. GEORGE
President, Palm Beach County
Police Benevolent Association
West Palm Beach, FL

Recording Secretary
O. J. HOLT
President, Central
Coast Chapter, PORAC
San Jose, CA

Treasurer
WILLIAM BIRDSEYE
Police Officers
Association of Michigan

Sergeant-at-Arms
MARTIN MCKEAN
Executive Secretary,
Ohio PBA
Barab, OH

Executive Secretary
B. D. "BUDD" STONE
Past President PORAC
Berkeley, CA

Executive Director
ROBERT T. SCULLY
General Counsel
WILLIAM J. JOHNSON
Legislative Consultants
JULES BERNSTEIN
LINDA UPSETT

March 21, 1996

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
United States House of Representatives
232 H-Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Gingrich:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) representing over 185,000 sworn law enforcement officers from 3,500 police unions and associations throughout the country, I would like to express our strong opposition to any repeal of the assault weapons ban.

As rank and file cops, our members walk the streets daily to protect the peace and they know only too well the threat that these cop-killer guns pose on our nation's streets. Criminals often opt for superior firepower when confronting well-armed law enforcement officers. That's why a battlefield weapon holding dozens of rounds is the gun of choice for the drug dealer, gang member and terrorist. Why does Congress want to make law enforcement's job more difficult by allowing thugs easier access to these dangerous weapons?

NAPO delegates have voted unanimously in support of the assault weapons prohibition since day one. We have worked long and hard to enact the ban into law and we will continue to ensure it remains so.

With many serious issues facing our nation, we simply do not understand why arming the country to the teeth with cop-killer guns is a priority of this Congress. Let there be no doubt, a vote for repeal of assault weapons ban is a vote against law enforcement.

I strongly urge you to support law enforcement by opposing this ill-conceived repeal of the assault weapon ban, a critical public safety measure. Law enforcement simply cannot afford more cop-killer guns on our streets.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Scully
Executive Director

c.c. The Honorable Richard Arney, The Honorable Richard Gephardt, The Honorable David Bonior.



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1996

AG
(202) 616-2777
TDD (202) 514-1888

AG RENO STATEMENT ON REPEAL OF THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

As Congress attempts to repeal the assault weapons ban, AG Reno made the following statement at a press availability:

"When I came to Washington three years ago, one of the first things I did was to sit down with America's law enforcement leaders and ask them what their priorities were.

"Without hesitating, they told me what assault weapons are doing to their communities and how rank and file police have come to fear criminals with these killing machines -- and how frustrated they were that special interests are preventing them from taking effective action.

"Assault weapons have become the weapons of choice for violent criminals, drug dealers, gangs and dangerous maniacs everywhere. They have been used on schoolyards, at airports, in bank lobbies, on trains, in traffic, and in front of the White House. They have no legitimate sporting purpose, and you won't find them in a duck blind or at the Olympics. And more than one-third of all police officers who are killed by guns are killed by illegal assault weapons.

"But then in 1994, with the support of President Clinton, every major police organization and an overwhelming majority of the American people, Congress enacted an historic ban on the manufacture of assault weapons. Without a doubt, the assault weapons ban is saving lives. For in just one year after the ban became law, the number of assault weapons traced to crime dropped 18 percent.

"The assault weapons ban has worked, and it is unconscionable to think that special interests in Congress should or could roll it back now. The price of going back is too high -- even though the ban is working, nine police officers lost their lives last year to these killing machines.

"This is a contest between the special interests and the public interest. That's an easy choice: we are standing up for the American people -- and President Clinton will veto any repeal attempt of this ban as it exists today."

###

**Proposed Remarks of Assistant Secretary (Enforcement)
James E. Johnson
on the Retention of the Assault Weapons Ban
March 21, 1996**

Congressman Schumer, thank you for asking me to appear before you today to discuss this important issue. As you know, last week I was confirmed as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement. Before taking this post, I served as Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division in the United States Attorney's office in the Southern District of New York. I was an Assistant United States Attorney for six years. As a federal prosecutor and in my current role, I have been, and continue to be, privileged to play a small part in fulfilling a fundamental duty of government: to protect the men, women and children of this Nation from crime and violence.

I am privileged to join the Clinton Administration which has worked tirelessly to promote this same goal. Working closely with you and many of your colleagues, this Administration has pursued initiatives such as the 1994 Crime Bill, which will place 100,000 more police on the streets, and the Brady Law, which has stopped 44,000 people with criminal records from buying guns. To date, as you know, these measures have been instrumental in the fight against crime.

The Assault Weapons Ban is another important anti-crime initiative. If we are to fulfill our obligation to protect our people, we must have laws which help us fulfill that obligation. It serves no purpose to put these guns in the hands of criminals at the risk of our citizens' lives.

The 19 kinds of banned assault weapons are not hunting or sporting weapons. They have great value, however, for criminals who seek to outgun law enforcement and hold our neighborhoods hostage.

Similarly, large capacity magazine clips present a serious threat to public safety. They enable criminals to fire continuously and indiscriminately before reloading.

The assault weapons ban is working to help reverse this trend by stopping the spread of the dangerous, military-style weapons used by criminals. Indeed, preliminary figures indicate that the number of requests for traces of semi-automatic weapons linked to crimes has decreased in the year since the passage of the Assault Weapons Ban.

Congressman Schumer, I would like to thank you again for asking me to appear before you today and for reminding us of a vital fact: a repeal of the Assault Weapons Ban will not make America safer. To the contrary, it will constitute a step backward. Keeping the ban helps to stop the proliferation of these weapons; Repealing it could add tens of thousands of newly manufactured assault weapons to our streets.

We must continue to protect our citizens and law enforcement from the violent criminals who, for too long, have had access to ever-increasing firepower. It is our duty. The assault weapons is vital to this mission.

Thank you.

GETTING GUNS AND THUGS OFF THE STREETS

Protecting Puerto Rico:

- *In the first conviction under the assault weapons ban nationwide, on May 4, 1995, in Puerto Rico, Otoniel Rivera Miranda pleaded guilty to possessing a semiautomatic assault weapon, specifically a Norinco model MAK-90, 7.62 millimeter.*

On July 31, 1995, Rafael Noriega Millán and six members of his gang pleaded guilty in Puerto Rico to assorted gun offenses. Rafael Noriega Millán, the king pin of a gang involved in firearms dealings, bought "assault weapons" in Miami and sold them to Puerto Rican gangs that were involved in such violent crimes as drug trafficking, carjackings and bank robberies. Two Millán gang members were convicted of possessing assault weapons, and one of them was convicted of possessing a machine gun, a converted TEC-9. The purchaser of the weapons in Miami pled to a conspiracy count and, according to ATF, the Penichet Gun Shop, where the assault weapons were purchased, has been closed down. ATF videotaped several transactions there of assault weapons being sold to undercover agents.

Protecting Texas:

- *In the Northern District of Texas, Peter Koh of Fort Worth pleaded guilty to making a telephone bomb threat and possessing a semi-automatic rifle in connection with activities involving a bomb threat to the Fort Worth Independent School District. Sentencing is scheduled for November.*

LOOKING AHEAD

The ban on assault weapons will continue to dry up the supply of these killing machines on the streets. The assault weapons ban in the VCCA will make these weapons of choice for killers harder and harder to obtain.

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

21-Mar-1996 02:04pm

TO: (See Below)

FROM: Angus S. King
Office of the Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Assault Weapons Ban Talking Points

Assault Weapons Ban Talking Points
March 21, 1996

"I believe it would be deeply wrong for Congress to repeal this assault weapons ban and in essence to take the side of the Washington gun lobby over the interests of the law-enforcement people of this country and the law-abiding citizens of this country."

- President Clinton, March 21, 1996

Fair and effective. The assault weapons ban covers 19 deadly kinds of assault weapons and their copies.

- * After steadily rising until the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced to crimes dropped a full 18 percent in the year after the ban took effect.
- * The ban does not take any guns away from anybody; it expressly protects hunter's rights by exempting more than 650 hunting and sporting weapons for the first time in federal law.

A hard fought victory in the fight against crime. The ban on assault weapons was passed on September 13, 1994 as part of President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill. The ban was passed:

- * At the request of law enforcement officials,
- * At the cost of some members of Congress' seats,
- * With the support of every single major law enforcement organization in the country. These include:

- Organizations
 - * National Association of Police
 - * Fraternal Order of Police
 - * International Union of Police Associations
 - * National Sheriffs Association
 - * International Association of Chiefs of
- Police
 - * Federal Law Enforcement Officers
- Association

Enforcement Executives	* National Organization of Black Law
Coalition	* National Narcotic Officers Association
Officers	* International Brotherhood of Police
	* Major Cities Chiefs
	* Police Foundation

We cannot go back. It would be deeply wrong for this Congress to repeal the ban, giving up on the fight against crime in favor of the Washington gun lobby. Such an extreme step would:

- * Endanger the lives of our law enforcement officials;
- * Cost more innocent citizens their lives;
- * Provide criminals and gangs with more deadly weapons to fight the law and one another.

President Clinton will fight any effort to repeal the ban. The President calls on the Republican leadership in Congress to reconsider their decision to bring it to a vote. President Clinton has promised that he will veto any bill that repeals the ban.

Distribution:

TO: Adam R. Kreisel
 TO: John O. Sutton
 TO: Barry J. Toiv
 TO: Yusuf A. Khapra
 TO: Laura Capps
 TO: Marlene A. MacDonald
 TO: Virginia M. Terzano
 TO: Mary Ellen Glynn
 TO: Kathy McKiernan
 TO: APRIL K. MELLODY
 TO: Julie E. Mason
 TO: Teresa Wildman
 TO: Lorraine McHugh
 TO: Gordon Li
 TO: Karen L. Hancox
 TO: Margo L. Spiritus
 TO: Steven J. Naplan
 TO: Patricia A. McHugh
 TO: Stacey L. Rubin
 TO: R. Lawton Jordan III
 TO: Jennifer D. Dudley
 TO: Sheila D. Turner
 TO: Ruby G. Moy
 TO: Jason S. Goldberg
 TO: Daniel Taberski
 TO: Julie E. Demeo
 TO: Dena B. Weinstein
 TO: Lorraine A. Voles
 TO: Rica F. Rodman
 TO: Stephen B. Silverman
 TO: Joshua Silverman
 TO: Julia R. Green
 TO: Allison Wilkie
 TO: Peggy A. Lewis
 TO: Lauren J. Boyd
 TO: Daniel P. Collins
 TO: Chris Dorval
 TO: Marilyn Yager
 TO: Kevin M. O'Keefe
 TO: Tung K. Nguyen
 TO: Evelyn S. Lieberman
 TO: Brenda B. Costello

TO: William C. Hornish
TO: Jeremy D. Benami
TO: Deborah L. Fine
TO: David S. Beaubaire
TO: Russell W. Horwitz



U. S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, DC 20530

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Dennis Burke

FAX NO. 456-7028

FROM: Andrew Foiss

PHONE NO. 514-2141

FAX NO. 514-4482

DATE: 3-21-96

NO. OF PAGES: 6 (EXCLUDING COVER)

COMMENTS: _____

Christa Robinson
Rm. 118



U. S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

Honorable Alice M. Rivlin
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Ms. Rivlin:

Enclosed are copies of a proposed communication to be transmitted to the Congress relative to: a draft legislative proposal entitled the "Enhanced Prosecution and Punishment of Armed Dangerous Felons Act of 1996."

Please advise this office as to the relationship of the proposed communication to the program of the President.

Sincerely,


Andrew Foia
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

*To coordinate clearance contact: Joe Graupensperger, 514-3951.



Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House of
Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am submitting today on behalf of the Administration a proposed bill entitled the "Enhanced Prosecution and Punishment of Armed Dangerous Felons Act of 1996." This bill makes significant and important changes in the federal firearms statutes relating to a criminal who unlawfully possesses a firearm.

First, the bill ensures that a criminal previously convicted of a state crime constituting a violent felony or a serious drug offense, as such terms are defined under section 924(e) of title 18, United States Code, cannot have his/her federal rights pertaining to firearms restored under state law. We believe that a conviction for one of these serious offenses warrants a lifetime bar. Hence, under this legislation, any subsequent possession which was not authorized by law, by a felon convicted of a state violent felony or a serious drug offense, would violate 18 U.S.C. § 922(g), which generally proscribes possession of firearms by convicted felons.

The bill also corrects the restrictive interpretation that the Supreme Court rendered of the verb "use" under section 924(c) of title 18, United States Code, in Bailey v. United States, ___ U.S. ___, 116 S. Ct 501, 133 L. Ed. 2d 472 (1995). Bailey held that a defendant violates the "us[ing]" prong of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1) only if the factfinder determines that the defendant "actively employed" the firearm in connection with the offense. Id. slip op. 6. The Department believes that section 924(c)(1) should also reach those situations, as most previous appellate opinions interpreting the statute had determined, where the defendant has a firearm present or available to him/her in the course of his/her criminal activity. This situation commonly exists in drug trafficking crimes. Hence, the bill would punish "possess[ion]" of a firearm in the course of a violent or serious drug felony, rather than "use." A conforming change would also be made to section 929(a) of title 18, United States Code, which deals with the use of restricted ammunition during the course of such offenses.

The bill also proposes that there should be a higher, mandatory ten-year penalty under section 924(c)(1) if the firearm is discharged or is otherwise employed to inflict serious bodily injury.

I urge that this legislation be promptly enacted so as to better protect the safety of all Americans.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised this Department that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

Andrew Foia
Assistant Attorney General



Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Al Gore
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

I am submitting today on behalf of the Administration a proposed bill entitled the "Enhanced Prosecution and Punishment of Armed Dangerous Felons Act of 1996." This bill makes significant and important changes in the federal firearms statutes relating to a criminal who unlawfully possesses a firearm.

First, the bill ensures that a criminal previously convicted of a state crime constituting a violent felony or a serious drug offense, as such terms are defined under section 924(e) of title 18, United States Code, cannot have his/her federal rights pertaining to firearms restored under state law. We believe that a conviction for one of these serious offenses warrants a lifetime bar. Hence, under this legislation, any subsequent possession which was not authorized by law, by a felon convicted of a state violent felony or a serious drug offense, would violate 18 U.S.C. § 922(g), which generally proscribes possession of firearms by convicted felons.

The bill also corrects the restrictive interpretation that the Supreme Court rendered of the verb "use" under section 924(c) of title 18, United States Code, in Bailey v. United States, ___ U.S. ___, 116 S. Ct 501, 133 L. Ed. 2d 472 (1995). Bailey held that a defendant violates the "us[ing]" prong of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1) only if the factfinder determines that the defendant "actively employed" the firearm in connection with the offense. Id. slip op. 6. The Department believes that section 924(c)(1) should also reach those situations, as most previous appellate opinions interpreting the statute had determined, where the defendant has a firearm present or available to him/her in the course of his/her criminal activity. This situation commonly exists in drug trafficking crimes. Hence, the bill would punish "possess[ion]" of a firearm in the course of a violent or serious drug felony, rather than "use." A conforming change would also be made to section 929(a) of title 18, United States Code, which deals with the use of restricted ammunition during the course of such offenses.

The bill also proposes that there should be a higher, mandatory ten-year penalty under section 924(c)(1) if the firearm is discharged or is otherwise employed to inflict serious bodily injury.

I urge that this legislation be promptly enacted so as to better protect the safety of all Americans.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised this Department that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

Andrew Foia
Assistant Attorney General

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Enhanced Prosecution and Punishment of Armed Dangerous Felons Act of 1996".

SECTION 2. CLOSING LOOPHOLE PERMITTING DANGEROUS CONVICTED FELONS TO ACQUIRE ARMS.

Section 921(a)(20) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: "Notwithstanding the previous sentence, if the conviction was for a violent felony or a serious drug offense (as defined in section 924(e)(2)(A) and (B)), the person shall be considered convicted for purposes of this chapter irrespective of any pardon, setting aside, expunction or restoration of civil rights."

SECTION 3. ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR DISCHARGING OR POSSESSING A FIREARM DURING A CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME.

(a) Sections 924(c)(1) and 929(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, are each amended by striking "uses or carries a firearm" and inserting "possesses a firearm."

(b) Section 924(c)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is further amended by inserting "or if the firearm is discharged or is used to cause serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365 of this title)," before "to imprisonment for ten years".



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

ARTHUR J. REDDY
International Secretary-Treasurer
Legislative Liaison

REMARKS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING ON THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN - March 22, 1996 - Arthur J. Reddy, International Union of Police Associations

The latest efforts by some Members of Congress to overturn the ban on assault weapons is too serious to view as just another exercise in power politics or a symbolic gesture toward gun control advocates. It is a real life and death issue to my brother and sister officers in law enforcement.

I have devoted my entire career to public safety, serving for thirty three years on the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department before retiring to continue that service as an officer in the International Union of Police Associations. If I were to take any other position than to strongly support banning assault weapons and to urge all decent thinking Members of Congress to stand just as firm, I would do a disservice to the 80,000 men and women our union represents and the thousands of other law enforcement officers in this nation.

Do not be misled by claims that the ban has not had a measurable affect on crime. Crime statistics are measured over long periods of time, not the months that have passed since the assault weapons ban took affect. Crime statistics are measured in cold statistical terms of deaths per thousand populations, not by listing the names of those stricken down in the line of duty.

Instead of statistics let me cite the names of some police officers, who until this past year served the public safety, laughed with friends, and gave comfort and joy to their families. Officer Keith Konopasek of the Oakland, California Police Department was shot to death in the line of duty by an assassin wielding an AK 47. Lieutenant Herbert Stovall of the Peralta Community College Police Department in California was also struck down by an AK 47, a weapon which has no purpose other than to kill human beings. Officer Jim Wilson of the Omaha, Nebraska Police Department was struck down by eleven, I repeat eleven, high powered, high velocity, rapid fire rounds from what was either an SKS or an AK 47.

MORE

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN REMARKS - P.2

Many of my friends and colleagues own and use sporting firearms for legitimate recreation. They all know, and they all agree, there is nothing in the assault weapons ban that endangers their ability to compete in marksmanship matches or to hunt game. The firearms in their possession were made for legitimate sporting use and remain untouched by this ban.

Unlike legitimate, legal sporting firearms, assault weapons have one single purpose, to kill human beings, and the human beings at risk are on a real front line where real bullets are fired, not some verbal front line in a debate in the halls of Congress. I have given you but three names. I challenge each of you to go the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on the evening of May 13th this year. I challenge you to attend the candle light vigil and stare in the faces of veteran officers and rookies alike as they bid farewell to trusted partners. I challenge you to look honestly into the faces of young widows, bereaved mothers, stricken fathers, and confused and frightened children and tell me eye to eye that these weapons of human destruction should not continue to be banned as the 103rd Congress and this Administration in its wisdom has done.

Ask yourself, how many names will we have to add to the gray walls of our memorial because of the misguided and cynical self interest of those who seek to overturn this ban. Your answer is only as good as your resolve to continue the ban.

END

AT&T

2020 K Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

FAX

Date:

3/21/96

Number of pages including cover sheet: _____

To:

Dennis Burke

Phone:

456 76

Fax phone:

CC:

From:

John

Phone:

Fax phone:

202-776-5549

REMARKS:

☐

Urgent

☐

For your review

☐

Reply ASAP

☐

Please comment

NATIONAL NARCOTIC OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS COALITION

*24509 Walnut Street, Suite 201
Santa Clarita, California 91321
(805) 290-2834 • Fax (805) 287-9825*

CHAIRMAN

Richard M. Sloan
California Narcotic Officers' Assn.

TREASURER

Robert M. Ferris
County Narcotic Commanders Assn.
of New Jersey

VICE CHAIRMAN

Tim Nelson
North Carolina Narcotic Enforcement
Officers' Assn.

RECORDING SECRETARY

James E. Van Pelt
New Jersey Narcotic Enforcement
Officers' Assn.

Alabama Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Arkansas Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Arizona Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

California Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Connecticut
Narcotic Enforcement
Officers' Assn.

Florida Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Illinois Drug Enforcement
Officers' Assn.

Indiana Drug
Enforcement Assn., Inc.

Louisiana Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

New Jersey Narcotic
Enforcement Officers'
Assn.

County Narcotic Commanders
Assn. of New Jersey

New England Narcotic
Enforcement Officers' Assn.

North Carolina Narcotic
Enforcement Officers' Assn.

Narcotic Assn. of Regional
Coordinating Officers of
Ohio

Assn. of Oklahoma
Narcotic Enforcers

Oregon Narcotics
Enforcement Assn.

Pennsylvania Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Texas Narcotic
Officers' Assn.

Utah Narcotic Officers' Assn.

Washington State Narcotics
Investigators' Assn.

March 21, 1996

President Clinton
White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The National Narcotic Officers' Associations Coalition was formed in 1994 and now has a membership of 27 state narcotic officer associations representing over 50,000 drug law enforcement officers. The Coalition was created as an umbrella organization to allow state and local narcotic officers, working through their individual state associations, to have a much needed voice in our nation's capitol.

Assault weapons are the firearm of choice of drug dealers. The Coalition strongly opposes any effort to repeal the current ban on these types of firearms. If Congress repeals the assault weapons ban they will be making it easier for drug dealers to kill police officers.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Sloan
Chairman
National Narcotic Officers'
Associations Coalition

RMS96021.im

1120 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 930
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
PHONE: (202) 466-7820
FAX: (202) 466-7826
TTY: (202) 466-2670



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

CHUCK WEXLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Martha Plotkin or Ellen Painter, (202) 466-7820
Date: March 21, 1996

**Police Chiefs Support Assault Weapons Ban and
Urge House Not to Repeal**

Washington, DC—Members of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), an association of progressive police chiefs who represent more than 40 percent of the nation's citizens, are concerned over the House of Representatives plan to vote on a repeal of the assault weapons ban. In 1994, PERF members overwhelmingly supported the ban, which became law as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994.

"As police chiefs in America's cities, where the tragic effects of gun violence are all too apparent, PERF members are outraged that Congress is considering a repeal of the assault weapons ban," said PERF Executive Director Chuck Wexler. "This law seeks only to limit ownership of guns whose primary purpose is to kill and injure people as quickly and easily as possible—guns that are used increasingly in violent crimes. It makes sense that police and law-abiding citizens would want to keep these deadly weapons off the streets. PERF urges the House to keep the assault weapons ban as law."

The assault weapons ban required domestic gun manufacturers to stop production of semi-automatic assault weapons and ammunition clips holding more than ten rounds for civilian use. Law enforcement and military personnel are not affected by the ban. Imports of assault weapons not already banned by Presidents Bush and Clinton were also halted.

The assault weapons ban was supported by nearly every major police organization, and by a majority of American citizens. PERF believes that reasonable gun legislation, such as this ban, can keep weapons out of the hands of criminals without infringing upon the rights of law-abiding citizens.

###

INTRODUCTION:

Representative Schumer, other distinguished members, my name is Dan Rosenblatt and I am Executive Director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the world's largest and oldest non-profit, executive level law enforcement association. The IACP represents over 14,730 chief law enforcement executives, superintendents, directors, managers and commissioners from across the country and from eighty-one countries around the world. I am here today representing the IACP on behalf of our President, Mr. David G. Walchak, Chief of Police in Concord, New Hampshire -- as he is on association business overseas.

IACP HAS MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO:

Ordinarily, I am honored to be given the opportunity to come before Congress and offer testimony, on behalf of our nation's law enforcement community, concerning issues of critical importance to our citizens safety, protection, freedom and liberty. But I must tell you that I resent having to be here today. The IACP has plenty of other work to do -- from planning an upcoming IACP Summit on Youth Violence in April which will bring together police, criminal justice professionals, social workers, teachers and many others to address the issues of teen violence, victimization, juvenile delinquency and gang related violence, to continuing our cooperative efforts to collect police use of force data with state chief associations and the U.S. Department of Justice to utilize in formulating better training and education for police officers, to working to improve the Image & Ethics of Police through several venues to include legislative efforts to identify and "weed out" bad cops by improving background checks and uncovering prior police employment histories.

THE 104TH CONGRESS HAS MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO DEBATE:

Furthermore, this Congress has many more important issues to deal with and very limited time left on the legislative calendar to get it done -- from providing tribal law enforcement with adequate funding for 1996 through the Interior Department Appropriations, providing a commission to study the issues surrounding the proliferation of legal gambling, providing continued funding for 1996 through the DOJ for various state and local law enforcement initiatives combating crime, gang and drug-related violence, to reforming Habeas and providing law enforcement with adequate tools through appropriations and anti-terrorism legislation to fight worldwide organized crime, terrorism, and international drug trafficking.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORTS THE BAN:

Law enforcement came to Capitol Hill united in support of the Assault Weapons Ban as part of the 1994 Crime Bill, a sensible gun regulation which has proven to decrease police vulnerability to death and injury in the performance of the job. The hearings were held, the debate was fierce, and the ban was passed into law, and, while the critics said that police officers were not threatened by these guns, these guns have become the weapons of choice among the youngest and most violent in our society - and they use them against cops! Now, when studies are beginning to show that the law is working by squeezing out the available supply of these military style, assault weapons in the legal and illegal black markets (and jacking up the costs), opponents are attempting to repeal the law. There is still a huge pool of these weapons out there, but it is diminishing, and will continue to if we allow the law to work.

In February 1995, the IACP leadership reaffirmed its support for the Assault Weapons Ban by

stating, "As there is no legitimate sporting or hunting purposes recognized for certain semi-automatic, military-style guns, the IACP supports efforts to eliminate the proliferation of these weapons that police face each day. Therefore, the IACP will strenuously resist any attempt to repeal or diminish the assault weapons ban provided for by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1995." (P.L. 104-322)

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC EXPECTS BETTER THAN THIS:

It is time for this 104th Congress to move on. You need to stop rehashing this same issue over and over again. As you know, President Clinton has promised a veto -- which the IACP and law enforcement stands firmly behind -- and you do not have the votes to override a veto, let alone overcome Senator Feinstein's promise to filibuster any attempts at repeal in the Senate. The American public supports the Assault Weapons Ban. You must move on and let this sensible gun regulation continue to protect police and law abiding citizens alike.



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

309 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.E. • WASHINGTON, DC 20002
PHONE: (202) 547-8189 FAX: (202) 547-8190



GILBERT G. GALLEGOS
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BERNARD H. TEODORSKI
NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF SERGEANT MARTY PFEIFER NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE March 21, 1996

I am Marty Pfeifer, a sergeant with the Metropolitan Police of the District of Columbia. I am here as a representative of the National Fraternal Order of Police

More importantly, I was a friend of a cop named Hank Daly for many years. Hank never wanted to be thought of as a hero -- he was just a cop doing his job and doing it well. Then one day about a year and a half ago Hank and two young FBI agents, Martha Dixon Martinez and Michael Miller, were murdered by a criminal with a Tec-9 assault pistol while they were working at police headquarters. The TEC-9 assault pistol is one of the guns that the NRA would like to see more of on our streets. Last April, Corporal John Novabilski of the Prince George's County Police Department was assassinated as he sat in his patrol car. A month later FBI Agent William Christian was killed by the same man as he sat in his car. The weapon? A MAC-11, also banned by the 1994 Assault Weapons law that the NRA would repeal.

I could go on and on, but the evidence speaks for itself. Statistics from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms establish that assault weapons comprise less than one half of one percent of all privately held weapons, yet they account for about 8.5 percent of all weapon traced in crime. In other words, assault weapons are 17 times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons.

There are over 5,000 more Hank Daly's out there on the streets of the District of Columbia every day - often risking their lives in an increasingly dangerous effort to protect the citizens of the District of Columbia from violent crime. They wear different uniforms, Metropolitan Police, Capitol Police, Park Police, Secret Service Uniform Division; they serve in ATF, the FBI, DEA, and other agencies -- but they all work for you.

All we ask for is your support -- and one thing you can do for us is continue to support the assault weapons ban. We need to do whatever we can to get guns like the one that killed Hank and the others, off the streets of our cities.

page 2

On behalf of the 270,000 members of the National Fraternal Order of Police, I urge you to uphold the ban on assault weapons. More assault weapons means more murders -- that's not a trade off we can live with. Again, these brave officers and agents didn't want to be heroes - and we don't want them to have died for nothing. The best thing we can do in their memory is work to protect the brothers and sisters they have left behind -- by reducing the firepower on the streets.



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

309 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.E. • WASHINGTON, DC 20002
PHONE: (202) 547-8189 FAX: (202) 547-8190



GILBERT G. GALLEGOS
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BERNARD H. TEODORSKI
NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF GILBERT G. GALLEGOS NATIONAL PRESIDENT FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN March 21, 1996

The Fraternal Order of Police is not made up of politicians, it's made up of cops -- and a policeman's world is made a lot more dangerous by assault weapons.

Members of Congress on the other hand, work in a building where the civilian possession of a firearm -- any firearm -- is a crime. I have a modest proposal for them -- let's legalize the possession of firearms here on Capitol grounds -- including assault weapons. Then, the place where they work will be as dangerous as the places where we work. Maybe then they'd have a different perspective on the Second Amendment. For some reason, though, I just don't think that's likely to happen.

On behalf of the 270,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I urge all members of Congress to vote to uphold the assault weapons ban.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

750 First Street, N.E., Suite 1020 • Washington, D.C. 20002-4241

(202) 842-4420 • (800) 322-NAPO • (202) 842-4396 FAX

President

THOMAS J. SCOTTO

President, Detectives'
Endowment Association
of New York City
New York, NY

Executive Vice President

ERNEST W. GEORGE

President, Palm Beach County
Police Benevolent Association
West Palm Beach, FL

Recording Secretary

O. J. HOLT

President, Central
Coast Chapter, PORAC
San Jose, CA

Treasurer

WILLIAM BIRDSEYE

Police Officers
Association of Michigan

Sergeant-at-Arms

MARTIN McKEAN

Executive Secretary,
Ohio PBA
Berea, OH

Executive Secretary

B. D. "BUD" STONE

Past President PORAC
Berkeley, CA

March 21, 1996

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
United States House of Representatives

232 H-Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Gingrich:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) representing over 185,000 sworn law enforcement officers from 3,500 police unions and associations throughout the country, I would like to express our strong opposition to any repeal of the assault weapons ban.

As rank and file cops, our members walk the streets daily to protect the peace and they know only too well the threat that these cop-killer guns pose on our nation's streets. Criminals often opt for superior firepower when confronting well-armed law enforcement officers. That's why a battlefield weapon holding dozens of rounds is the gun of choice for the drug dealer, gang member and terrorist. Why does Congress want to make law enforcement's job more difficult by allowing thugs easier access to these dangerous weapons?

NAPO delegates have voted unanimously in support of the assault weapons prohibition since day one. We have worked long and hard to enact the ban into law and we will continue to ensure it remains so.

With many serious issues facing our nation, we simply do not understand why arming the country to the teeth with cop-killer guns is a priority of this Congress. Let there be no doubt, a vote for repeal of assault weapons ban is a vote against law enforcement.

I strongly urge you to support law enforcement by opposing this ill-conceived repeal of the assault weapon ban, a critical public safety measure. Law enforcement simply cannot afford more cop-killer guns on our streets.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Scully
Executive Director

c.c. The Honorable Richard Armey, The Honorable Richard Gephardt, The Honorable David Bonior.

Executive Director

ROBERT T. SCULLY

General Counsel

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON

Legislative Consultants

JULES BERNSTEIN

LINDA LIPSETT

bert T. Scully

Cop Killer Guns

ne gun lobby doesn't like the term "assault weapon" applied to semi-automatic guns like MAC-11 or the AK-47. It conjures up the wrong image. So, in the interest of clarification, I call them what they really are: cop killer guns.

For a simple mugging, an assault weapon is overkill. Against a single, unarmed opponent, it doesn't matter what kind of firearm you use; a cheap, highly concealable .22 caliber revolver will work as well as any other gun. But your intended target is a police officer, your opponent becomes a major consideration. Against a well-armed opponent, criminals opt for a battlefield weapon equipped with an ammunition magazine holding 30 or more rounds.

Last November, a suspect walked into police headquarters in Washington, D.C., armed with a MAC-11, he opened fire on local police and federal law enforcement officers. They never had a chance. Before killing himself, the gunman murdered a D.C. police sergeant and two FBI agents.

In March of this year, when Tampa police pursued two robbery suspects, one of the suspects opened fire on two of the officers with an SKS rifle equipped with a 30-round magazine. Both officers were critically wounded, one was shot in the chest, the other shot twice in the leg. At least 19 shots were fired.

On April 20 of this year, police in Haddon Heights, N.J., responded to complaints that a man was molesting a 3-year-old child. After discovering that the suspect had a prior arrest record for illegal weapon possession, the police attempted to search his house for weapons. After a long standoff with police, a police officer and an investigator were dead, and another

police officer was shot four times. The suspect was armed with an AK-47. Witnesses reported that more than 100 shots were fired.

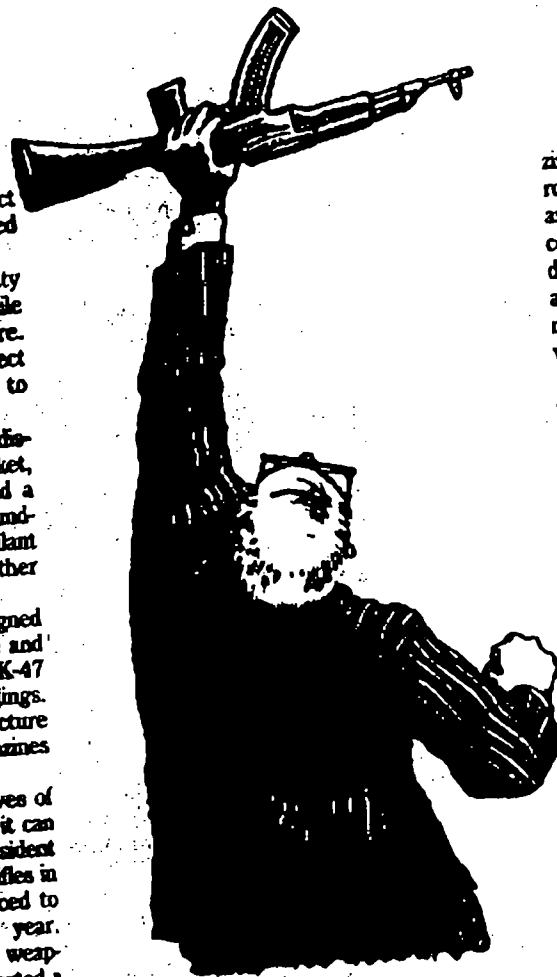
Then on April 26, a Prince George's County police officer, John Novakowski, was shot while sitting in his cruiser outside a liquor store. Eleven or more shots were fired. Police suspect that a MAC-11 assault pistol, converted to automatic fire, was the murder weapon.

Two days later, in Littleton, Colo., a distraught gunman opened fire at a supermarket, killing three people, including his wife and a sheriff's sergeant. A fourth person was wounded in the leg. Police reported that the assailant was armed with an assault rifle and three other guns.

Last September, President Clinton signed into law a ban on the future manufacture and importation of assault weapons like the AK-47 and the MAC-11 used in these cop killings. Congress also banned the further manufacture of the large-capacity ammunition magazines that were used in all these shootings.

That ban came too late to save the lives of the police officers mentioned above, but it can save lives of other officers. After President Bush banned the importation of assault rifles in 1989, the number of such weapons traced to crimes dropped sharply the following year. Similarly, after California banned assault weapons in 1989, cities such as Oakland reported a sharp drop in the number of assault weapons being confiscated by police.

The 1994 ban on assault weapon production is not a miracle cure for gun violence, but it will reduce the firepower of criminals and in time save the lives of police officers and the American public. First, however, it must be given a chance to work.



BY SHARON MAGUIRE

Critics of the 1994 law argue that manufacturers are getting around the ban by simply redesigning weapons to comply with the requirements of the law. Instead of manufacturing weapons with 30-round ammunition maga-

zines, they are producing magazines holding 10 rounds. Instead of producing guns with multiple assault weapon features like a folding stock (for concealability) and a pistol grip (for stability during rapid fire), they are putting only one assault weapon feature on their new guns (the maximum allowed by the new law). So what's wrong with that?

If critics of the ban are convinced it's not working, why don't they join in an effort to strengthen the law? The answer is simple—they don't want it to work. They don't patrol our streets, and they don't care how many law enforcement officers and civilians are killed, they just want the ban repealed.

Opponents of the assault weapon law also like to portray the ban as an anti-gun conspiracy. And that's dead wrong. Police, like most Americans, are not anti-gun. Law enforcement can count hunters, target shooters, and Olympic gold medalists among our ranks. The ban is not about anyone's right to own a gun, it's about reasonable limitations on the kind of firepower that gun manufacturers can produce. simply put, Who needs a MAC-11 to go hunting or to defend their home?

Virtually every major national law enforcement organization—including the National Association of Police Organizations, which represents more than 180,000 sworn law enforcement officers—worked for years to pass the ban on these cop killer guns. And we're not about to give up now.

The writer, a 26-year veteran of the Detroit police department, is executive director of the National Association of Police Organizations Inc.