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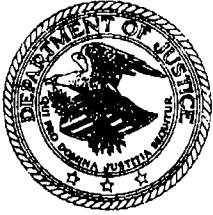
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Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

*File
Crime -
Talking Points*

Facsimile Transmittal Cover Sheet

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Crime Bill Talking Points

Conference Report - 4-page summary

THE CRIME BILL CONFERENCE REPORT

Congress has moved one important step closer to passing comprehensive legislation that will help make our neighborhoods, our homes and our families safer from crime. The Crime Bill contains the central elements of President Clinton's balanced anti-crime strategy -- more policing, more punishment, and more prevention. As the President said, it is "the toughest, largest, smartest Federal attack on crime in the history of our country."

MORE POLICE

100,000 More Police

The legislation will put 100,000 new police officers on the streets, walking the beat, working with citizens to prevent and solve crimes. Through "community policing" we can combine an increased police presence with the development of partnerships with communities -- to create safer neighborhoods.

The plan to put 100,000 police officers onto America's streets represents an almost 20% increase in the number of police officers nationwide. Half of the 100,000 new police will go to large cities and counties (over 150,000 persons); the balance will go to smaller cities and rural areas.

Law Enforcement Scholarships

The Crime Bill will improve the training of current and future police officers, and help recruit more officers to work with their communities. The Police Corps, similar to the ROTC program, will provide funds to individuals who are committed to joining police departments after graduation; another program provides scholarships to men and women already serving as police officers.

Assault Weapons

The Bill makes our police officers safer on the street by banning 19 listed weapons, copycats, and other clearly-defined semi-automatic guns, that are weapons of choice of drug dealers, gang members, and mass murderers. The Bill expressly protects over 600 other weapons from being regulated.

Kids and Guns

This provision makes it illegal for kids to carry handguns, except with parental authority.

Federal Agents

The bill funds hundreds of additional Federal law enforcement agents, at the FBI, DEA, and BATF.

Border Patrol

While strengthening immigration laws, the Crime Bill will also provide the resources necessary to enforce them. These measures include funding for an additional 1,000 Border Patrol agents, and funding for reforms to speed alien deportation.

MORE PUNISHMENT

Three Strikes and You're Out	The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision will keep off the streets those career violent offenders who do the most harm to society.
Death Penalty	The Crime Bill will reinstate the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of crimes, such as killing a Federal law enforcement officer.
Prisons	States will receive \$9 billion to help keep violent criminals and criminal aliens behind bars. Measures include a 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 "truth in sentencing" provisions. \$1.8 billion of this funding will reimburse states that incarcerate criminal aliens.
Truth in Sentencing	A total of \$6.5 billion in prison funding has some "truth in sentencing" requirements, with 40% of the funds set aside for the states that meet the most rigorous standards for jailing violent offenders for their full sentences (such as insuring that second offenders serve 85% of the time sentenced).
Drug Courts	Drug Court programs will support intensive court supervision of drug dependent defendants to provide the carrot-and-stick approach that can help them beat their addiction.
Youth Crime and Violent Young Offenders	The Crime Bill includes 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. The Bill also funds secure detention facilities for violent juvenile offenders.
Rural Crime	Special provisions will combat rural crime, by putting more police officers in rural areas, and by specifically targeting funds to reduce drug trafficking, gang and domestic violence in rural communities.
Safety Valve	While insuring that violent offenders serve longer terms, the Bill also sensibly insures that non-violent drug offenders do not tie up prison cells that could be used for more dangerous criminals.

MORE PREVENTION

Ounce of Prevention	Prevention programs in the Crime Bill will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and, as the President often says, "give them something to say 'yes'" to. The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs will help effectively coordinate and integrate the delivery of the Federal Government's new youth development and youth oriented crime prevention initiatives.
Y.E.S.	The President's Youth Employment Skills program, "Y.E.S.," will provide young people with job training and work opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas.
Community Schools	The Community Schools Program will give grants to community groups to keep schools open after hours and on weekends, so kids will have a place to go and stay out of trouble.
Violence Against Women	The Violence Against Women Act will increase Federal resources available to combat sexual and domestic violence, through education programs, law enforcement training and a national domestic violence hotline. The bill will also mandate higher penalties for perpetrators of gender-motivated crimes and strengthen victims' rights.
Local Partnership Act	The Local Partnership Act will provide grants to thousands of American cities to fund health and educational crime prevention programs.
Model Intensive Grants	The Model Intensive Grant Program will fund comprehensive crime prevention programs in chronic, high-intensity crime areas.
Gangs Prevention	The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, will help kids fight the allure of gang membership. Also, a Midnight Sports Program will prevent youth violence by getting kids off the streets and teaching them sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.
Police Partnerships	The Police Partnerships for Children program will encourage police officers to make a difference in young lives by becoming involved with children and family services agencies that deal with at-risk children.

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PAYING FOR THE CRIME BILL ... AND THE NEED FOR ACTION

By reinventing government and focusing our priorities, we will make the money necessary to achieve these goals -- without increasing the deficit or raising new taxes. With the savings realized by the elimination of more than 250,000 Federal Government jobs, the Crime Bill will set up a \$30 billion Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund to pay for the comprehensive police, punishment and prevention programs authorized in the anti-crime legislation.

- On Thursday, President Clinton, Attorney General Reno, Secretary Bentsen, Drug Director Brown -- and hundreds of police officers from around the country -- held a rally at the Department of Justice to celebrate the completion of the Crime Bill Conference Report and to urge the House and Senate to swiftly pass the comprehensive anti-crime legislation.

- The President said:

"Let's not forget that the bill is not a law. It has been voted out of a conference committee. The House must vote a rule to permit it to come to the vote. Then the House and Senate must pass it.

"It is urgent that we send the message out of this meeting that not only the law enforcement community, but the American people want a 20 percent increase in the police forces in this country, 100,000 police, that you want the tougher punishment, that you want the capacity for imprisonment, that you want the prevention funds, that you want the assault weapons ban, that you want the ban on teenagers owning guns, that you want the protection for women against violence, that you want the schools to be safer -- that you believe the Crime Bill makes sense because it deals with the problem in a human, intelligent, and firm way. And it gives us a chance to come together again as a people.

"Let's go pass the bill!"

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

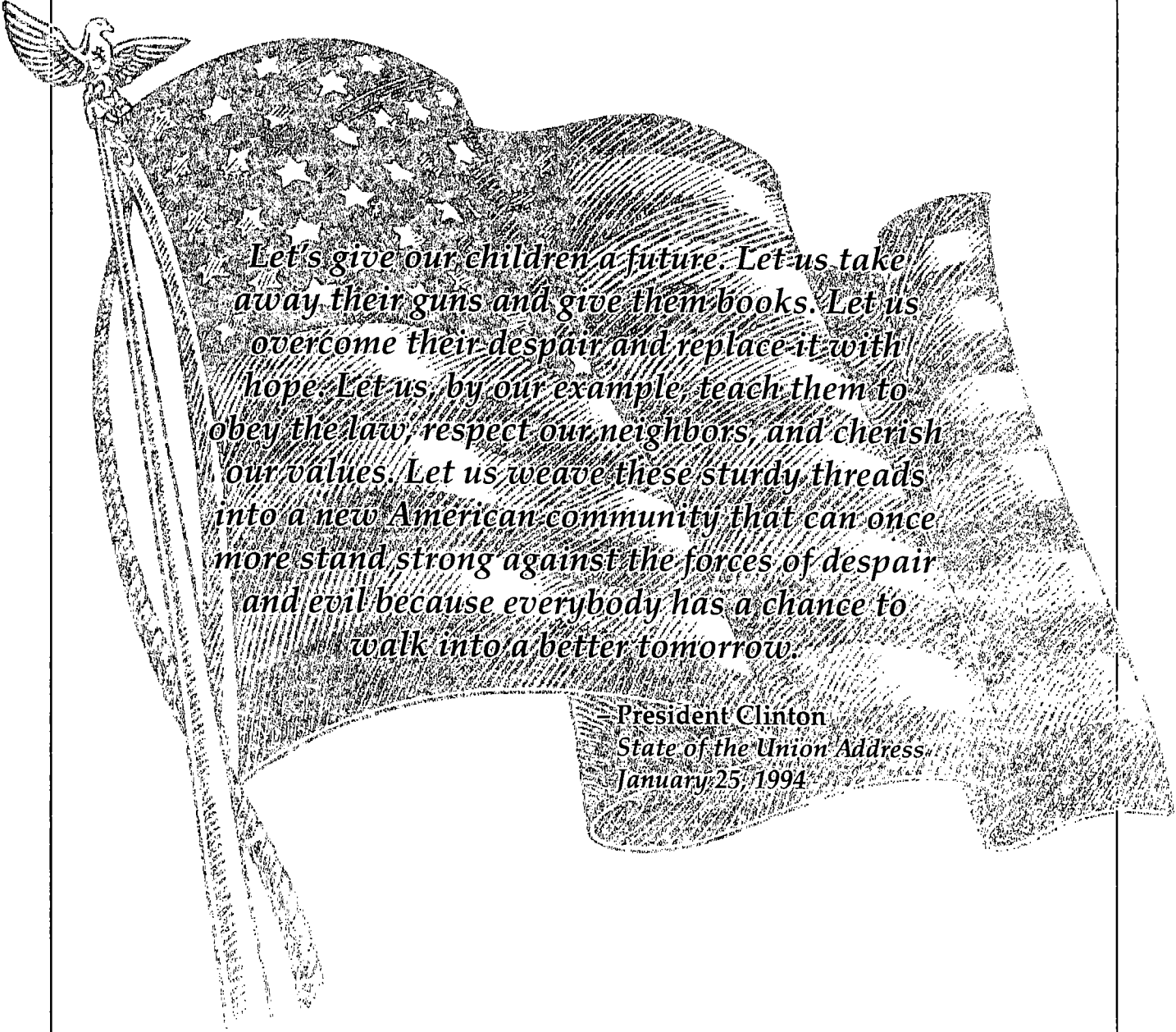
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The President's Anti-Crime Legislation:

Police, Punishment, and Prevention

A large, stylized illustration of the American flag, waving and filling the lower half of the page. The stars and stripes are clearly visible, and the flag is attached to a pole with an eagle finial.

Let's give our children a future. Let us take away their guns and give them books. Let us overcome their despair and replace it with hope. Let us, by our example, teach them to obey the law, respect our neighbors, and cherish our values. Let us weave these sturdy threads into a new American community that can once more stand strong against the forces of despair and evil because everybody has a chance to walk into a better tomorrow.

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 25, 1994