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Crime Bill Rally (Stone) - 7/28/94 [3]

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July 28, 1994, 9AM

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
CRIME BILL RALLY
WASHINGTON, D.C.
JULY 28, 1994**

[Acknowledgements: Senator Biden (possible) and Chairman Brooks (possible); Attorney General Janet Reno; Secretary Bentsen; Director of National Drug Control Policy Lee Brown; Charles Moose, Chief of Police, Portland, Oregon: a man who has given nearly twenty years of service to his community, and is now helping to lead them and the nation towards community policing and other innovations that will make a difference; and, leaders of federal and state law enforcement groups representing every area of the country.]

We are on the verge of a major victory for America. For too long the people who work hard and play by the rules in this country have fought crime with one hand tied behind their backs. Well, we are about to even up the odds.

After six long years, we are very close to enacting the toughest, largest, smartest federal attack on crime in history. We are united, and we are going to keep pushing until this Crime Bill is the law of the land.

I say to Chairman Biden and Chairman Brooks and Members of Congress from both Parties -- in the name of every child whose playground has turned into a battleground, in the name of every senior citizen who is afraid to walk home alone, and in the name of every citizen paralyzed by fear -- thank you for your hard work, and for moving America forward into a safer future.

This victory for law-abiding Americans is a fundamental part of the vision at the very heart of my Administration: to put people first again.

Everything we have done, we have done so that our citizens can live the American Dream again. Every step we take is about making it possible -- at a time of rapid, often remarkable change here and around the world -- for our people to build good lives for themselves and to pass the chance of better lives onto their children.

In this great country, why has this been such a huge challenge? Because for more than a decade our leaders mismanaged our country, especially the economy. And the result was that our middle class worked harder for less, and as they did, our social fabric weakened. But the American people demanded better. And for 18 months, I have devoted myself to an aggressive strategy for economic and social renewal.

That strategy started where it had to: with putting our economic house in order by coming to grips with the soaring deficit. Barely a year ago, we enacted the biggest deficit cut in our history, including \$255 billion in specific spending cuts. Those tough decisions mean that our deficit is now going down for three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President.

We had to cut. But we also had to invest so that every American could compete and win in the most competitive global economy ever. From the first day of preschool to the first day on the job to the last day before retirement and beyond, the American people should know this: whatever the world brings, they and their children will be prepared.

Fulfilling our strategy has meant change -- which isn't always popular in Washington. But we have fought very hard, and it's working. Our economy is coming back, with 3.8 million jobs produced since I took office. Unemployment has fallen by more than 1.5 percent, and inflation is the lowest in two decades. We will do more, but this is an extraordinary start on our journey of renewal.

I am very proud of all this, and the American people should be proud of themselves. And, yet, none of this is enough to restore the American Dream. Not if we don't defeat the crime and violence that is pulling our people apart when we should be coming together to face our common challenges as one.

This nation cannot work if Americans aren't safe in their homes, or if the schools are too violent for our children to learn. For six years we have debated crime endlessly and fought it fitfully. But today's progress changes that: it is not about debate and delay; it's about hope and progress. It is about putting 100,000 more police officers on our nation's streets, helping our communities to restore themselves. It will make Americans safer, and more productive. Surely there is no more important piece in our strategy for national renewal.

No one has believed in community policing more than Chief Moose, who moved with his wife into a high risk neighborhood that he helped make safer. Perhaps the most compelling argument for this law is that this is the crime bill that law enforcement demands -- and that's the way it should be.

But it hasn't been easy. No matter how tough and smart this bill is, everytime we turned around, someone said it couldn't or it shouldn't be done. So we had to stand up to all those skeptics and critics who were standing in the way of this bill.

We stood up to the NRA to win the historic ban on assault weapons. We have finally put the public interest ahead of the

special interest, and when this bill becomes law 19 kinds of assault weapons will be banned for the first time.

We stood up to the view that prevailed for too long in my own Party about tougher punishment. Now, we will have capital punishment for anyone convicted of killing an officer. And violent repeat offenders will be sent to jail for life. As I promised, "three-strikes-and-you're-out" is going to be the law of the land.

We stood up to the forces in Washington opposed to cutting government to pay for our fight on crime. There's not a penny of new taxes in this bill. Instead, there will be fewer bureaucrats and more police.

And we stood up to the people who said that crime prevention programs are nothing but pork barrel politics. To anyone who says that, I say: tell it to our nation's police officers. They are the ones who wanted more support for programs like the Boys and Girls Clubs. They are the ones who want safer schools -- as more than 100,000 kids carry guns to school each day. And they are the ones who say our kids need more mentors and the police need more resources to help families in crisis.

Now, we are going to fight to make sure this bill becomes law in just a few short days. But we have to remember that a law is only a tool, a piece of paper. For it to make a difference, every single American must make it work.

Every one of us must take responsibility for making this a stronger country. When we see a youth from a tough neighborhood who is desperate for that first job, we have to reach out with opportunity. When we know a police officer is trying to turn a gang member into a productive citizen, we have to do our part. And when we see a child in trouble, we have to take personal responsibility for getting that child back to school and into the programs that can turn their life around.

We have stood up to all the forces that counted us out so many times on this Crime Bill, and we are about to win. Let that be a lesson to all those who have already written us off on our campaign to guarantee health care for all Americans. If we are really serious about renewing the American Dream, we must do this. It's the only way we can open up new opportunities for all Americans to learn and work and realize their God-given potential.

How do I know we can reform health care? Because I've heard the naysayers before, and I know how far we have come to give America the Crime Bill it has needed for so long. And because I know that, having come this far, we will not turn back on our vision of restoring the American Dream.

We have faced plenty of tough fights before. And we'll have plenty more ahead of us. But they are all worth it if they bring us to a day like this one. We must face all our challenges with the same confidence and spirit of common purpose that has brought us here today. That is what has always built America. And that, I promise, is what will renew America for yet another generation.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1994

LAW ENFORCEMENT CRIME BILL RALLY

DATE: July 28, 1994
LOCATION: Department of Justice – Courtyard
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
FROM: Liz Bernstein

I. PURPOSE

As the conference on the Crime Bill closes, this is an opportunity to rally support of the law enforcement community behind this legislation. This bill should not be defined by division on a few issues -- the rally gives you a chance to bring the discussion back to the smart, tough and sweeping provisions the bill offers.

II. BACKGROUND

As you know, the House and Senate conferees are expected to finalize the reconciliation between the two versions of the Crime Bill tonight. Yesterday they formally adopted many of the measures that are central to what you have personally fought for -- 100,000 community police officers, three-strikes, and substantial prevention programs. Critical to the House conference tonight is their consideration of the assault weapons ban.

In the coming days, we have been assured that the full House and Senate will work to pass the bill as soon as possible.

Note:

If the conferees finish tonight, then you will be joined by Senator Biden and Chairman Brooks on the program at this rally and they will speak instead of Secretary Bentsen and Lee Brown.

Police Chief Charles Moose: Portland, Oregon

Charles Moose was appointed Chief of Police in June 1993. He began his career with the Portland Police in 1975, working on the streets of the city's bleakest neighborhoods as a patrolman, a lieutenant, and Captain of the North Precinct. His beat included the Iris Court public housing project, which he later turned into a community policing station. Since that program started, crime has dropped 55% at the complex.

In November 1993, Chief Moose and his wife purchased an \$80,000 house in the Northeast section of Portland. The neighborhood has one of the highest crime rates in town and has been economically depressed for some time. The Chief moved into the house in order to put the philosophy of community policing into action and to show his officers that they could have a positive influence in the city's problem areas.

Although there are no hard statistics showing a decline in crime several changes have occurred since Moose moved into the neighborhood. So far, boards have come off the windows across the street from his house and neighbors are no longer afraid to keep their doors and windows open.

Chief Moose's move has led to a call for a community-sponsored program that would offer low-interest loans to attract police officers into buying homes in similar neighborhoods.

Community Policing in Portland

Portland's community policing program, begun in 1990, has received high marks. Citizen foot patrols have been set up across the city, and police and merchants have signed partnership agreements to alleviate chronic crime problems.

The Portland Police Bureau now uses Iris Court as a model for their Operation Target program, where police draw a circle on the map, ask neighbors about problems, assign officers to solve them and report back to the community.

Over the past four years, Portland's crime rate dropped and then leveled off. Police are responding more quickly to emergency calls and residents increasingly say they are satisfied with the performance of the police and feel more secure.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Program:

The President

Attorney General Janet Reno

Secretary Lloyd Bentsen (or Chairman Brooks)

Director Lee Brown (or Senator Biden)

Chief Charles Moose, Portland Police Department

Audience:

Dewey Stokes, Fraternal Order of Police

Ron Noble

John Magaw, Director of ATF

Around 300 police officers from all over the United States

U.S. Attorneys

Dewey Stokes, President, Fraternal Order of Police

Vic O'Boyski, President, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association

Dan Rosenblatt, Executive Director, International Association of Police Chiefs

Chief Neil Behan and Mark Spurrier (Baltimore), Major Cities Chiefs

Bob Scully, Executive Director, National Association of Police Chiefs

Ira Harris, Executive Director, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement

Sam Cabral, Secretary/Treasurer, International Union of Police Associations

Representatives from:

International Brotherhood of Police Officers

National Sheriffs Association

National Troopers Coalition

Police Executive Research Forum

Police Foundation

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- * You will arrive at Justice underground and go upstairs to a the hallway off the courtyard.
- * You will be joined by Reno, Deputy AG Gorelick, Bentsen, Brown (Biden, Brooks) and Chief Moose -- there will be a short briefing in the hallway.
- * You will proceed onto the stage with Reno, Bentsen, Brown (Biden, Brooks) and Moose.
- * Reno will speak first and will then introduce Secretary Bentsen. (or Brooks)
- * Secretary Bentsen will introduce Lee Brown. (or Biden)
- * Dr. Brown will introduce Chief Moose.
- * Chief Moose will give brief remarks and then introduce you.
- * After your remarks, you will work the ropeline and then depart.

VI. REMARKS

Remarks will be provided by the speechwriting department.

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Ruders plan a project groups for all around the country

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 13, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN SATELLITE FEED TO CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

Old Executive Office Building

12:05 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Thank you, Mayor Abramson, for what you said and for the outstanding leadership that you've given this year. I want to say hello to you and Mayor Ashe, and to your host mayor, Mayor Katz, my good friend. I wish I were there to be with all of you in the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I know you've had a wonderful stay and I wish that I could have come out there and seen you, especially in Portland, the city I always love to visit.

I appreciate what you said, Mayor Abramson, about the work we've done together. And I appreciate the leadership that you gave and the initiative and the energy that you put into making sure that I followed through on our common ambitious goals for our country.

Both of us want the same things. We want to bring our people back together. We want to move our country forward. We want to restore the importance of work and responsibility. We want to strengthen our families and our communities. We want to provide opportunity. We want to provoke values, but when we do, we know we are strengthening the fiber of American life in ways that will take this country into the 21st century; will make our cities and our communities work again, but will also ensure that our country will go into the next century still the greatest country in the world.

~~That's why our administration has sought to strengthen families by rewarding parents who work.~~ Tomorrow I will continue that effort when I present our blueprint for welfare reform in Kansas City, Missouri. I'll be there with one of your number, Mayor Emmanuel Cleaver, who, along with others in the U.S. Conference of Mayors, has been a terrific help to the White House on this welfare reform issue.

If our people are willing to work hard and to hold their families together, then it seems to me the rest of us have a shared responsibility to help them hold their lives and their communities together. That's also one reason why the crime bill is important to me.

I want to just thank all of you for helping to move that crime bill through both Houses of Congress. But I also want to remind you that the bill is not yet law. This week, members of the House and the Senate will sit down together and start to hammer out a conference report that both chambers can pass and that all of us can support; that I can sign into law this year, and begin to move this year.

We have now waited six long years for a national comprehensive crime bill, and we shouldn't have to wait much longer. So while you're out there in Portland, I hope you'll give your delegation in Congress a call. Take advantage of the boiler room that Mayor Abramson and the conference staff has set up to make it easier for you to send this message. And tell the Congress that our communities do need more police, more punishment, more prevention, and they need it now. Tell them you need that crime bill so we can hire 100,000 new police officers and put them to work in communities that need them most; that we need more certain punishment of criminal behavior, and smarter and more comprehensive prevention efforts.

Too many of our young people have grown up without appreciating that there are consequences to their behavior. The crime bill must change that. You and I both know that punishment, however, can only be part of the solution. We've got to give our children something to say yes to. We've got to reinforce the fact that responsible behavior will ultimately bring rewards. That's why we've got to have a crime bill with a youth employment and skills program to create opportunities for kids in places where very few now exist; why I want a crime bill with an Ounce of Prevention Council, to keep kids off the street by keeping schools open after hours and expanding boys and girls clubs; why I want to promote more partnerships between our police officers and our young people, and things like midnight basketball leagues that cost so little but make a very big difference in communities like yours.

Investing in our young people through activities and summer jobs builds self-esteem, respect for others, a healthy work ethic at an early age. It's an investment worth making, especially when you consider how we pay for it -- not through any new taxes, but by cutting spending elsewhere in the federal budget. What we do here in Washington, however, can only work if we give the people in your communities back home the tools they need to get the things done that have to be done.

As a former governor who faced the burdens of federal mandates for 12 long years, I know how questions over funding concern everything else you do -- from putting more police on the street to providing clean water for people in your cities. That's why our people have been working with members of Congress who are focused on this mandates issue.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

March 9, 1994

ADMINISTRATION BACKS PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- The Administration and the Congress are developing a comprehensive offensive against crime in America that emphasizes the dual approach of **PUNISHMENT AND PREVENTION**. Law enforcement efforts to control crime are essential to making our communities safer, but equally important is developing effective policies to prevent crime.
- The Administration strongly endorses 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.
- Our focus is on those most vulnerable to the distress that crime and violence breeds: young Americans. The Administration supports programs aimed at offering young people real hope and better alternatives by creating youth services, providing educational, job training and placement opportunities, and reducing youth violence and crime.
- Crime prevention efforts are an important component in the Crime Bill. Among the many Crime Bill prevention programs supported by the Administration are:
 - * The Community Policing program which strikes the ideal balance between law enforcement and crime prevention by promising 100,000 more cops walking the beat on America's streets and in her communities;
 - * "Ounce of Prevention" program, providing \$600 million over the next three years to state and local governments, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and other public and private entities for youth-oriented recreational and educational programs (Midnight Sports League, after-school programs, etc.) and youth services (mentoring, job placement, substance abuse and treatment, etc.);
 - * GREAT, Gang Reduction Education and Training Project, which allots \$40 million for 50 projects nationwide aimed at reducing gang activity;
 - * Police Partnerships, giving \$20 million to working partnerships between local law enforcement and public or private organizations formed to help children and families whose lives are beset by crime, through training and crisis intervention services;
 - * Correctional Job Training, job training and placement services provided by Bureau of Prisons;
 - * 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.

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- * Drug treatment for crime-committing addicts, such as that available through Drug Courts; and

- * Safe Schools program to combat crime, violence and drugs in our children's classrooms.

- Other Administration crime prevention measures include:

- * The Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities initiative which targets certain economically distressed communities for revitalization, based on a community-driven, community-based strategy for revitalization;
- * Job Corps, a highly intensive, residential ("boarding-school" type) program whose services include basic skills, vocational training, social skills training, career and drug abuse counseling, job search assistance and placement. The program's success has led the Administration to propose a \$117 million increase in FY 1995, a boost of 11 percent from the previous year;
- * The National Service program which provides thousands of young Americans with an opportunity to acquire real skills through public service, while at the same time assisting in their educational costs; and
- * COMPAC, the Community Partnership Against Crime, which augments the public housing drug elimination program by supporting a community-based approach to public housing crime, including community policing, anti-gang programs, youth programs, and other initiatives that engage such groups and the Boys and Girls Clubs, churches, and private nonprofit organizations; and
- * Weed and Seed, an interagency initiative in 21 communities nationwide designed to combat crime and revitalize neighborhoods through enhanced law enforcement, community policing and prevention, early intervention, and treatment programs.

- These efforts do not comprise the entire panoply of prevention programs garnering Administration support. They do, however, demonstrate a real commitment to a new, multidisciplinary approach to curbing crime in America.

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
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.

In the last ten years the number of juveniles arrested for murder has more than doubled. [Bureau of Justice Statistics]

There were nearly 7 million violent crimes reported in this country in 1992. [FBI]

Between 1986 and 1991, nearly 20% of the nation's trauma centers were forced to close, largely due to the rise in gun-related violence.

According to the 1986 and 1987 National Crime Survey, nearly 3 million incidents of attempted or completed street crime took place inside schools or on school property. [Bureau of Justice Statistics]

According to the National Center on Health Statistics:

Homicide rates

1992: 26,570 people were murdered
510/week

9/92-9/93 24,596 murdered
473/week

1/93-9/93 18,590 murdered
516/week

My assessment is that we can say (conservatively), **on average**, that 500 people are murdered each week in America -- e.g., "The first week Congress went into recess, another 500 Americans were killed by a violent crime."

Only in the past five years has homicide been among the top ten causes of death [CDC]

Number of people killed last year by violence: 50,000

Number of AIDS-related deaths last year: 30,000

Number of deaths last year caused by drunk driving: 18,000

Percentage change in the number of 15-year-old males charged with murder from 1985 to 1991: +217

Percentage change in the number of teenagers murdered by guns since 1985: +100

Number of hours that go by before another child under 19 is killed by gunfire: 2

Leading cause of death among young African-Americans: Homicide

185 3114

Percentage of increase in the last five years in handgun-related murders: 59

Number of unsupervised, elementary-school age children who have access to a gun in their home: 1.2 million

Number of guns carried to school every day: 270,000

Number of crimes committed every day in, or near America's public schools in 1993: 16,000

Chances that a violent offender will commit another crime: 1 in 2

Percentage of Americans who see the influence of drugs as one of the most important causes of crime: 94

Increase in the juvenile arrest rate for violent crime from 1970 to 1992: 90%

Percentage of Americans who are willing to pay higher taxes to get more police on the street: 80

Rank of the United States among all other countries in percentage of citizens incarcerated: 1

Number of Americans injured by criminals in the past 20 years: 37 million

Estimated cost of crime to the American people 1991: \$19 billion

President William J. Clinton
Crime Bill Conference Agreement
The White House
July 27, 1994

The American people have demanded action against the surging **tide of crime and violence** that is threatening to overwhelm us.

And they have been waiting for an answer for six long years.

Today, because of hard work by Chairman Brooks and Biden, and **Members of Congress** from both parties, we have guaranteed them an answer **that will make a difference** in every town, every city, and every state.

Today's agreement by House and Senate negotiators is the largest, toughest, smartest, federal attack on crime in history. It will put 100,000 new **police officers** on the street, impose tough penalties like three-strikes you're out on **violent criminals**, and build more prisons to lock those violent felons up where they belong. **It will ban** deadly assault weapons that are designed only to kill people -- **and it will pay for** effective crime-prevention programs that will keep young people **away from crime** in the first place.

The House and Senate leadership have promised to bring this bill **up right away**. Congress should pass it immediately and send it to my desk so I **can make this crime bill law**.

Six years is a long time to wait.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 11, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Justice Department
Washington, DC

12:36 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Officer Williams. If you just keep doing your work, and I'll be glad to carry your notebook anytime. (Laughter.) There are a lot of days when you do more than we do up here anyway. (Laughter.)

I want to thank you, and thank you, Earline Williams, for your commitment and your remarkable statement and the work you and your husband are doing. Thank you, Eddie, for reminding us that we have an obligation to fight for your future. Thanks for bringing your friends, and thank you, officers for giving him something to look up to and believe in. (Applause.)

I want to welcome the new officers from Albany, Georgia, and thank them for their commitment to law enforcement and thank all the other people in law enforcement who are here at the local and state and federal level.

In the last congressional recess, like the Attorney General, I got out around the country and listened to people; talked to them about a lot of issues. And I found that all over the country in every region, among people from all walks of life, all races and income groups and political parties, there is a deep concern about the tide of crime and violence in this country and about the underlying strains on our fabric as a common people that these have imposed.

We have simply got to do everything we can to move forward in helping the American people to reduce crime; to say no to those things which they ought to say no to; and to give our young people some more things to say yes to.

I came here today to emphasize how terribly important it is that the House of Representatives consider the crime bill immediately on its return. The Speaker has agreed to do that. I then want the Senate and the House to get

together and resolve their differences and send me the crime bill as soon as possible. The American people have waited long enough. We don't need to waste their time with frivolous or political amendments and delay. We don't need to take months on a task that can be done in a couple of weeks. If the bill is on my desk in weeks, I will only take a minute to sign it. And then the American people will begin to have the tools they need to solve so many of their problems.

This has been a good year for us in this country. Our deficit is going down, and our economy is going up. Twice as many private sector jobs have come into this economy in the last 14 months than in the previous four years. After seven years of gridlock, the Brady Bill became the Brady Law, and is already working to stop felons and fugitives from purchasing handguns. And I'm proud that it was passed with the help of America's law enforcement officers.

But everything that we are trying to do to move this country forward and to bring this country together will be undermined unless we can give the American people a greater sense that they are secure in their homes, on their streets, and in their schools. The number of murders has tripled since 1960, so has the number of crimes per uniformed police officer. Death by gunfire will soon surpass death by car accidents. Almost a third of all of our families have had someone victimized by crime. Today, one in 20 American children carry a weapon to school, and over 150,000 stay home every day because they're afraid of what might happen to them in school.

We know the crime bill cannot solve all these problems. We know many of them will have to be solved by those people who are here today in uniform and people like them, and the friends and neighbors they have, like Mrs. Williams. We know that. We know that unless there are young people like Eddie and his friends who are willing to work and be role models themselves and make something of their own lives, that everything we do here in Washington will be limited. But we know, too, that we have to take the lead. We have to take the initiative. And that we can give people like these people the tools they need to seize control of their lives and make their communities safer and better places to learn, to work and to grow.

The crime bill provides funding for another 100,000 police officers over five years for community policing because it works. It will make a difference. You already heard what Officer Williams said about 12 officers in Albany, Georgia. The Mayor of Houston put 655 more police officers on the beat. In 15 months, crime dropped 22 percent, murders went down 27 percent.

This can be done everywhere. This bill, with community policing will help the police officers of our country not only to catch more criminals and put them behind bars, but to reduce crime and to connect with more young people before it's too late.

I was very moved by what Eddie said about his attitude about the police, because of the work of these two fine police officers. We know that crime can be reduced and that lives can be enhanced. So as the Attorney General said,

policing is a big part of this crime bill.

If Congress passes the bill soon to give the American people more police officers, I'll make this commitment to you: I'll cut through the bureaucracy and the red tape in Washington so that within a year 20,000 of these new officers will actually be hired and trained and working to make our streets safer. If they'll send me the bill, we'll cut the red tape. No more politics in Congress; no more red tape in the bureaucracy. Let's give the police to the American people, and let's do it this year. (Applause.)

The second thing this bill is about is punishment. And I want to emphasize, if I might, three things. There's been a great deal of debate, and much honest disagreement about whether we ought to have some sort of three-strikes-and-you're-out bill. I would like to make two points about that, as someone who started my public career as a state attorney general almost two decades ago now. First of all, an overwhelming percentage of the really serious violent crimes are committed by a relatively few people. Even a small percentage of the criminals in our country commit an overwhelming percentage of the really serious violent crimes.

Secondly, this law is designed to be directed, if it's properly drawn, against a narrow class of people -- those who do not commit crimes for which it's already one strike and you're out. Keep in mind, many of our crimes today can get you a life sentence or a very long sentence just by doing it one time. But there are people that are clearly and demonstrably highly likely to take life or to commit serious, horrible crimes. We know them by their profiles -- who do things which clearly indicate this, and still they can wind up being paroled after relatively modest sentences.

This bill is designed, if properly drawn -- and the Attorney General has done a fine job of working on the bill that is coming through the House -- to be directed against that narrow class of people. I do think those folks, you can say, if you do this three times, we do not think you should be paroled. And I believe it will enable us, for those who think this is too harsh, to create more enlightened attitudes about other people who may be put in prison for too long a period of time, or who may need alternative rehabilitation strategies. But these police officers are out there putting their lives on the line, oftentimes in the face of people who are back on the street that they know are highly likely to do something that is life-threatening.

So respectfully, I dispute those who believe that we can't have a three-strikes-and-you're-out law that is good, that is properly drawn and that makes a difference. We shouldn't let a small percentage of even the criminal population terrorize the country if we can find a way to stop it. And this is our best effort.

The second point I want to make is that this bill does some other things about punishment, too. This bill encourages states and localities to find alternative punishments for first-time nonviolent offenders, for young people -- boot camps or other kinds of community-based programs which may reconnect

people to their communities before it is too late, and which will give them a chance not only to be punished but to learn something while they're doing their respective sentences. So this is a smart punishment bill.

The third thing this bill is about is prevention. We know these programs work, too, especially for young people. And I want to say a special word of thanks here to the Attorney General. When I appointed her, I wanted someone who had actual experience on the front lines fighting crime and who understood that you have to be both tough and smart. And her relentless, constant, compassionate but tough-minded advocacy for a sensible prevention strategy is critical to the fact that we now have about a billion dollars in this plan for jobs for young people in high crime neighborhoods and recreation programs and summer programs and opportunities for young people to bond with caring, concerned adults who care about their future. I thank her for that. And that's a very important part of this bill. It will make a huge difference to young people of America. (Applause.)

A big part of that is making the schools safe and drug-free and free of violence again. If our children can't be safe in school and going to and from school, they're going to have a very hard time. After all, a lot of the young people most at risk of being victims of crime as well as at risk of becoming criminals at a young age, live in communities very different from those that most of us grew up in -- communities where the family structure has been weakened; communities where other organizations are weaker than they once were; and communities in which there is almost no work for people to do. When you take work and community and family out of a neighborhood, you create an awful vacuum in which only bad things -- only bad things -- can occur unless someone moves in to fill the vacuum.

Our schools are trying. But we are asking them to do in many of our communities today, we are asking them to do things that no one ever thought the schools could do alone. And we have got to continue to support them through these safe school initiatives and the other prevention plans. So that's what we're trying to do in this crime bill -- more police, more punishment, more prevention.

In this time of budgetary constraints, the very idea that we're about to pass a program that will involve over \$20 billion in new money is an astonishing thing. It's a lot more money for state and local initiatives, but we have to do it. And I am proud of the fact that it is going to be paid for, not with a tax increase, but with the phase-down of the federal government. We are reducing over a five-year period the size of the federal bureaucracy by about 250,000 people. And all the savings are going to go on into a trust fund to pay for this crime bill, so that at the end of five years we will have a federal government that it is small as it was when President Kennedy was in office; and the money saved from that downsizing will be giving our communities a chance and the money saved from that downsizing will be giving our communities a chance to give our kids a future and our people a chance to be safe on the streets. I think that's a pretty good switch, and I appreciate the initiative in doing it. (Applause.)

Let me say again in closing, there is not a moment to lose. People are trying everywhere to do something about this, and everywhere they are being frustrated. The case of the Chicago Housing Authority has been in the news because just a few days ago, a federal district court declared that the Housing Authority's own policy of sweeping their units for guns, for ineligible people living there and for drugs, was unconstitutional. As soon as I heard about that, I asked the Attorney General and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Henry Cisneros, to develop another policy that is constitutional and effective; because I have been to the Chicago housing projects. And I have been in the places where the sweeps occurred, and where the housing units were cleaned up, and where the people who were living in the housing units were hired to work with the police to ride up in the elevator and walk down the stairs and keep the places clean. And I saw children pouring out of housing units -- pouring out -- to run up to the head of the Chicago Housing Authority, Vince Lane, as if he were their saviour because he simply gave them a safe place to live.

So does this administration want to follow the Constitution of the United States? You bet we do. But I can't believe that we can't find a way to have a constitutional search of places that we know are full of victims of crime because they harbor criminals. We are going to find a way to solve this problem.

Thirteen people died in Chicago violently last weekend -- three of them in the Robert Taylor Homes Project. Last night, Secretary Cisneros spent the night in that project, and he called me today from there and we had a conversation about this. He and the Attorney General are working on it. But I say this just to make this point: Those folks living out there in those housing projects, most of them are not criminals, most of them are good people. They are obey the law; they're doing the best they can to raise their children. They deserve -- they deserve our best and our quickest efforts.

So I say to you again in closing -- I thank you for coming here, but we know we're all preaching to the saved today. Tomorrow when the Congress comes back, there are many other things that will claim their attention. I will ask them to think about many other things. You must say, "Pass the crime bill now."

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END12:53 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

**Office of the Press Secretary
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)**

**Embargoed for Release
Until 10:06 A.M. EDT,
Saturday, July 16, 1994**

**REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN RADIO ADDRESS TO THE NATION**

**The Public Ledger Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. My radio address this weekend is being hosted by Philadelphia station KYW.

When I was running for President, I met Americans all over our country who were uncertain about their future; worried about a tough economy in which every new day made it harder and harder to make ends meet; worried about a sudden health care crisis that could drown them in a sea of debt; and most often, worried about the surging tide of crime and violence that has become a familiar threat in almost every neighborhood in our country.

We've made real progress toward renewing the American dream since I took office a year and a half ago -- putting our economic house in order with \$255 billion in spending cuts; tax cuts for 15 million working families; an increase for the wealthiest 1.5 percent of our citizens, all of it going to deficit reduction. Our deficit will go down three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President. And we've got 3.8 million new jobs and record numbers of new businesses to show for it.

Expanded trade, real progress on health reform -- we're moving in the right direction. But no matter how impressive these lists of accomplishments is, we will have failed to do our jobs if this year ends and Congress hasn't passed legislation to answer the urgent call of the American people to do something about crime and violence. For many millions of Americans, this is our number one concern.

The random violence violates our values, our sense of family, our community, our whole hope for the future.

For six long years, the American people have waited while Congress and the President have debated on what to do about crime. The American people have asked for action, but all they've gotten is gridlock. As Americans have waited, children have been killed, terror has flourished. That waiting has to end, and end now.

Both chambers of Congress have now passed sweeping anti-crime bills. Both

versions will provide the most significant federal attack on crime in the history of the United States. They include every major element of the crime fighting program I first called for when I was running for President -- 100,000 more police officers on our street in community policing units; a ban on the most serious assault weapons that make our police officers often out-gunned by the gangs they face; a ban on ownership and possession of handguns by minors; a very tough penalty law, including a three-strikes-and-you're-out law; and prevention programs to help give kids something to say yes to.

The crucial task before Congress now is to prevent a few remaining differences in the House and the Senate bill from threatening the whole bill. Congress is close to finishing this bill. Hard work by members of both parties has resolved all the major differences.

In the past, Congress has been stymied by an either-or debate over the false choice between tougher punishment or smarter prevention. One of the first things I noticed during the presidential campaign was that every place I went Americans -- and police officers, especially -- rejected that argument. Our citizens want criminals to be punished. They want young people, particularly in our poorest communities, also to have something to say yes to, to turn away from a life of crime.

The crime bill before Congress does both. It provides tough punishments for violent criminals, like three strikes and you're out. And it provides about \$8 billion to build prisons to ensure that violent criminals can be locked up. But it also provides about \$8 billion for effective prevention programs, like the Youth Employment and Skills Program that will give youth in high-crime areas a chance to learn skills on the job; midnight basketball programs; after-school programs; summer jobs programs -- things that our young people can do to avoid getting into trouble.

After passing the Brady Bill last year, we also worked very hard to earn an impressive victory that guarantees the bill will include a ban on deadly assault weapons that don't belong on our streets or in our schoolyards. And perhaps most important of all, this crime bill will put 100,000 new police officers on the streets of America -- walking the beat, getting to know the neighborhoods, providing a strong role model for local youth -- the best protection, toughest enforcement, and smartest prevention you can find.

In Philadelphia today, I have nearly a dozen of Philadelphia's finest police officers. This city has an effective community policing program, but like all cities, they need more help to do the job right.

So don't let anybody fool you -- this crime bill will make a real difference across our country in every neighborhood, every city and every town. It will help to lower the crime rate. It's what the American people are waiting for.

Let me close with a terrible story about a little boy who understood why we can't wait any longer. James Darby, a nine-year old from New Orleans, wrote me on April the 29th. "Dear Mr. Clinton," he said, "I want you to stop the killing in the city. I think somebody might kill me. I'm asking you nicely to stop it. I know you can do it."

Just nine days later, walking home from a Mother's Day picnic, James Darby,

age nine, was shot in the head and killed.

I can't tell you that our crime bill would have saved James' life. But I can tell you with absolutely no doubt that it will save other lives; and without it, we have no hope of giving a new sense of purpose and safety to our people.

Like thousands of children across our country, James Darby was terrified of the violence ravaging his own neighborhood. He knew it wasn't right; he knew it shouldn't continue; and he knew it could endanger him.

His letter to me was just the best way he knew to ask for help. Well, we can help. This crime bill will help. All the major elements of the bill have been endorsed by the United States Conference of Mayors, by every major law enforcement organization in the country -- including the Law Enforcement Steering Committee, with over half a million police officers in its memberships -- and by countless local police chiefs, sheriffs, community leaders, elected officials.

Join them. Together, the American people will be a mighty coalition with a simple but essential demand -- Congress pass the crime bill, and pass it now. Remember what James Darby wrote. I know you can do it. Thanks for listening.

END

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

26-Jul-1994 02:25pm

TO: Jessamyn Sarmiento
TO: Gabrielle M. Bushman

FROM: Elizabeth A. Bernstein
 Office of Communications

SUBJECT: basics on the Moose man

Biography on Police Chief Charles Moose: Portland, Oregon

Charles Moose was appointed Chief of Police in June 1993. He began his career with the Portland Police in 1975, working on the streets of the city's bleakest neighborhoods as a patrolman, a lieutenant, and Captain of the North Precinct. His beat included the Iris Court public housing project, which he later turned into a community policing station, and after working with the community, crime dropped 55% at the complex.

In November 1993, Chief Moose and his wife purchased an \$80,000 house in the Northeast section of Portland. The neighborhood has one of the highest crime rates in town and has been economically depressed for some time. The Chief moved into the house in order to put the philosophy of community policing into action and to show his officers that they could have a positive influence in the city's problem areas.

Although there are no hard statistics showing a decline in crime several changes have occurred since Moose moved into the neighborhood. So far, boards have come off the windows across the street from his house and neighbors are no longer afraid to keep their doors and windows open.

His move has led to a call for a community-sponsored program that would offer low-interest loans to attract police officers into buying homes in similar neighborhoods.

Portland's community policing program, begun in 1990, has received high marks. Citizen foot patrols have been set up across the city, and police and merchants have signed partnership agreements to alleviate chronic crime problems.

The Portland Police Bureau now uses Iris Court as a model for their Operation Target program, where police draw a circle on the map, ask neighbors about problems, assign officers to solve them and report back to the community.

Over the past four years, Portland's crime rate dropped and then

leveled off. Police are responding more quickly to emergency calls and residents increasingly say they are satisfied with the performance of the police and feel more secure.

MISC
quotes

(thought they might
be helpful)

In the last year there has been a sea change in the crime debate. To be sure, there is still a national consensus in support of the rights of hunters and sportsmen to keep and bear their arms. And as long as I am President, those rights will continue to be protected. But we have also overcome the partisanship and the rhetoric that has divided us too long and kept us from our responsibilities to provide for law and order, to protect the peace and safety of ordinary Americans.

We have come together in the belief that more police, more prisons, tougher sentences and better prevention, together can make our neighborhoods safer, our streets, our schools and our homes more secure.

This legislation passed today now becomes part of a larger strategy to fight crime to make the American people safer. That's what the elected mayors and governors want without regard to party. That's what every major police organization wants, representing people who put their lives on the line to protect the rest of us. And, most importantly, that is what the American people want -- the right to be safe and secure without having their freedoms taken away by criminals or by an unresponsive or unreasoning national government.

FROM INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

- The first duty of any government is to try to keep its citizens safe, but clearly too many Americans are not safe today. We no longer have the freedom from fear for all our citizens that is essential to security and to prosperity.

It's time we put aside the divisions of party and philosophy and put our best efforts to work on a crime plan that will help all the American people and go beyond the cynicism of mere speeches to clear action.

It is the beginning -- just the beginning, but a major beginning of a long-term strategy to make America a more law abiding, peaceful place, and to make Americans more secure, and to give our young people, wherever they live, a better chance to grow up, to learn, to function, to work, and to have a decent life.

The plan is designed to make the major downpayment on the pledge that I made in the campaign to put 100,000 police officers on the street.

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 Monday, July 18, 1994

WORKING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TO COMBAT CRIME

- Attorney General Janet Reno met yesterday in Richmond, Virginia with representatives of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) to discuss a shared anti-crime strategy of tougher punishment, more police, and effective prevention. She stressed the need for real cooperation among community leaders, elected officials, federal, state and local law enforcement officers, and ordinary citizens.
- Earlier in the day, the Attorney General, Congressman Bobby Scott and other community leaders toured Richmond's Gilpin Court housing project, a community where such a partnership is succeeding in the fight against crime. A police substation and cops on the beat have cut the crime rate since their introduction to the complex six years ago.
- The Crime Bill will substantially increase the ranks and the capabilities of police officers across the nation. The Attorney General discussed provisions that will help law enforcement work with the community to solve and prevent crimes, including:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 more police officers on America's streets, ensuring that every community that needs police can receive assistance;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision, aimed at career criminals who do the most harm to society;
 - * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists who use these weapons of destruction to out-gun and kill police officers;
 - * Law Enforcement Scholarships and the Police Corps program to provide police departments with a diverse pool of 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 training programs for state and local law enforcement officers.

Dee Dee - 7/14/94
press conf

Q The Black Caucus has given up on racial justice with a blast at the White House for breaking faith on the issue. First of all, is that the -- giving up on that, is that what you were referring to earlier today as something happening on that? And, second, what is your reaction?

MS. MYERS: Well, I think discussions are ongoing. The White House and the President have consulted broadly with reference to the crime bill and specifically racial justice. The President has said all along he didn't want any one issue to hold up the crime bill, which includes \$30 billion -- to put 100,000 new police officers on the street, to create prevention and punishment programs that crack down on crime, which has become increasingly a focus of President Clinton, something he feels very strongly about. He wants to see this bill completed soon. We've been working with Congress on this -- the Conference Committee asked the President for more time to pursue a resolution to the racial justice measure and the bill overall. We think that that's going to happen soon. It has not happened yet.

Q Do you think you broke faith with them on the issues of --

MS. MYERS: Absolutely not.

Q -- seemed originally to support the idea.

MS. MYERS: We've never taken a position on it. We've been working with members of Congress on this. I don't think there's any consensus in Congress on that particular measure. We've been, again, have been working with them on this and expect that it will be resolved soon. As of right now there is no resolution.

Q Why did it take so long to come to this issue? Why did you sit this one out for so long?

MS. MYERS: I think this is something that we were letting members of Congress work out. And I think it's been a contentious issue among members of Congress, and there has been no consensus in Congress about how to proceed on it. I think it's becoming increasingly clear that this is very difficult, very difficult issue. Discussions at this point are ongoing and I just have nothing concrete for you.

Q But didn't you say this morning that there would be movement today?

MS. MYERS: I think we thought that there would be some movement today. At this point I'm not exactly sure where it's going to go.

Q There are reports from some Democratic members of Congress that the President agreed to lobby members of the Senate over the last several

days before they came back to get them to go along with the racial justice provision in the Senate, where, as you know, that's where your major problem is. Did the President, in fact, lobby anyone on behalf of accepting this provision?

MS. MYERS: Well, the President has been out of the country, as you know, and we have been -- the White House has been broadly working with members of Congress on this. Again, I think we will continue to consult broadly. I think that we're getting close to the end game on this. We expect this to be resolved soon, but I don't know whether or not it will happen today.

Q As you frequently say, there's great communication -- is from Air Force One and other locations when the President's out of the country.

MS. MYERS: I think the President was focused largely on the trip while he was overseas.

Q So he didn't talk to anybody about this?

MS. MYERS: Not to my knowledge. And I'll double-check that, but I don't believe so.

Q Some in the Black Caucus are saying, though, that the President actually pulled the plug on negotiations and -- it won't work, it's too late, forget it. What do you say to that?

MS. MYERS: Well, the negotiations were happening among members of Congress. I think that if -- I would refer you to their statements on this, and to things that are coming off the Hill as to how much support there is for racial justice among members of both the Democratic Caucus and the Congress, generally.

Q Did the President pull the plug?

MS. MYERS: I think this is something that Congress has been working on; it is not something that the President is in a position to pull the plug on. But, again, we're continuing to consult on this and we expect it to be resolved soon.

Q Is he happy that it's gone away?

MS. MYERS: We didn't take a position for or against it. I think he made it clear that he didn't want any single issue to hold up passage of the crime bill. He's continually urged Congress and the Conference Committee on this to put a bill on his desk soon, something that he would sign. He said he would sign it either way.

Q Why hasn't he taken a position on it?

MS. MYERS: He took a position on -- he laid out in the beginning of the debate what he wanted to see in the crime bill. And I could go through it

MORE

#184-07/14

again, but I'll spare you. He fought very hard for those provisions. As for the racial justice provision, I think he made it clear that he doesn't believe that race factor should influence the death penalty in any way whatsoever. He's firmly against anything like that. However, he did not take a position on this; said it was something that members ought to work out and send him a crime bill.

Q If the House provision could pass in the Senate, is that something he would support -- he would agree with the purpose of that legislation?

MS. MYERS: He said he would sign it either way. If the House provision could pass the Senate, he said he'd sign the bill with that provision included.

Q Dee Dee, you said a couple of times that discussions are ongoing. What exactly are they going on about? I mean, Mfume and the rest of the Caucus say that it is dead, what are you still talking about?

MS. MYERS: I think just generally about how to resolve this and how to move forward from here. And I'm just not sure that we'll have anything more specific to say about it today.

Q Is there still consideration being given to this idea of establishing a commission that would look into the whole question of race and the death penalty, or is that a non-starter?

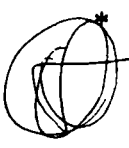
MS. MYERS: I think that -- again, conversations are ongoing, and I don't think that all of the issues have been resolved.

Q But is that one of the subjects in the conversation?

MS. MYERS: There has been some discussion of that notion.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, July 22, 1994

MAYORS ACROSS AMERICA: "PASS THE CRIME BILL"

- Republican and Democratic mayors, representing communities of all sizes and in all regions, have spoken out: America's cities need the Crime Bill.
- Several provisions of the Crime Bill are particularly critical to mayors' efforts to work with law enforcement agencies and their communities to combat crime and violence, including:
 - *  Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 new community police officers on the streets -- an almost 20 percent increase in the number of local police officers nationwide. The President's program is a flexible approach aimed at meeting the different crime control needs of individual cities;
 - * The Local Partnership Act, which authorizes direct payments to qualifying units of local government to fund crime prevention programs;
 - * The Model Intensive Grant Program, to fund comprehensive crime prevention programs in chronic, high-intensity crime areas; and
 - * Byrne Grants for existing multi-jurisdictional crime and drug control efforts.
- Letters to the conferees on Capitol Hill have come from mayors across the country and across ideological lines, including prominent Republicans such as: Rudolph Giuliani of New York City; Richard Riordan of Los Angeles; Gregory Lashutka of Columbus, OH (President of the National Conference of Republican Mayors and Municipal Elected Officials); and Victor Ashe of Knoxville, TN (President of the United States Conference of Mayors).
- A group of African-American mayors -- from cities such as Seattle, Atlanta, Detroit and Newark -- joined to write a letter arguing that we must pass the Crime Bill now: "It includes too many important provisions: funding that will increase the availability of drug treatment, a ban on semi-automatic weapons, a range of crime prevention programs that will provide alternatives and real hope to our young people, and the ability to hire additional police officers. It also includes provisions that could prevent people from turning to crime in the first place and having to face stiff penalties, including the death sentence. We cannot afford to lose the opportunities this bill provides to the people of our cities."

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. And a coalition of law enforcement groups have expressed their strong support for many of the bill's prevention programs.

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 a trust fund, from workforce reduction savings, that would fully fund both the enforcement as well as the prevention components of the bill.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, July 20, 1994

PASS THE CRIME BILL FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN

- Across the country, tragic stories abound of crimes committed by and against young people — in our schools, on the streets and in children's own homes. The Department of Justice issued a study this week showing an alarming increase in violent crimes that claim juveniles as victims.
- In 1992, one of every 13 juveniles was a victim of violent crime, compared to one of every 72 adults. These kids, aged 12 through 17 were raped, robbed or assaulted five times as frequently as adults 35 and older — and at a rate 23 percent higher than five years earlier.
- Attorney General Janet Reno called these statistics disturbing and said "they are compelling proof that we must get the Crime Bill to President Clinton's desk. One out of thirteen young people is a victim of violent crime. For America's children and for America's future, we need the Crime Bill."
- Yesterday, President Clinton reminded us of children behind the statistics: Polly Klaas, who was murdered by a career criminal who kidnapped her from her home in Petaluma, California; and nine-year-old James Darby of New Orleans, who was gunned down nine days after sending a letter to the President pleading, "I think somebody might kill me, and I'm asking you nicely to do something about it." The President said, "The names of Polly Klaas and James Darby and all the others we're going to lose if we don't act — it's time to put all our differences aside, to work out the problems we have to work out and pass that crime bill."
- The Crime Bill would help combat violence against children, with provisions including:
 - * Putting 100,000 new community police officers on the streets, working with citizens to prevent and solve crimes;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who do the most harm to society;
 - * Grants for victims' services, aggressive prosecutions and the establishment of a national domestic violence hotline;
 - * 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 the possession of firearms by minors except in limited circumstances.
- We can also steer young people away from crime and gangs by giving them "something to say yes to": after-school programs, summer youth activities, and employment, sports and recreation opportunities. We can bring community groups, law enforcement officials and struggling young Americans together in an effort to direct kids off the dangerous streets and away from a life of crime.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 22, 1994

Statement by the President

For over a year, Congress and others have worked to pass a tough, smart crime bill. I am very grateful to Chairmen Jack Brooks and Joe Biden for their leadership throughout the crime bill debate, and I am heartened to know that the House-Senate Conference will convene next Tuesday to begin its final work on the proposal.

We have put together a tough and serious legislative remedy to reduce violence and prevent crime. But until a bill is passed by Congress and signed into law, our work is not finished. I am confident that committee members will act quickly on the conference and that we will see a final bill passed.

The American people have asked us to help in our nation's fight to curb the problem of violence and crime. We can meet this common goal by putting aside differences and partisanship. By working together, we will enact an historic crime law before the end of this legislative session. The American people demand and deserve no less.

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After six long years, Congressional leaders have agreed on the toughest, largest, smartest federal attack on crime ever. Senator Biden and Chairman Brooks have assured me it will be on my desk in days. And I have promised them I will sign it into law without delay.

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
CRIME BILL FORUM
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APRIL 11, 1994**

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO; EDDIE CUTANDA, A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS MADE FRIENDS WITH OFFICERS THROUGH COMMUNITY POLICING; EARLINE WILLIAMS, A SENIOR CITIZEN INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY POLICING; AND, THE OFFICERS FROM ALBANY, GEORGIA.]

Like the Attorney General, I've used this Congressional recess to visit communities across America. I've had a chance to listen to the hopes and the fears of the American people. I'm here today because law enforcement is probably more important to the American people -- and to our future -- than it has ever been in the history of America.

The fact is crime and violence don't take a recess. They continue to destroy lives and tear apart communities. Generations of politicians -- of both parties -- have denounced crime, but that's a far cry from doing what's right and what needs to be done -- and the American people know it.

The most important task before us right now is to put more police on the street and more criminals in jail. I've come here today to ask Congress to bring the Crime Bill up immediately, so we can do both of these things, and the Speaker has agreed.

The American people have waited on a solution long enough. We can't waste their time and risk their safety any longer by delaying with frivolous and political amendments. We don't need to take months on this. We can do it now. We can have this on my desk in weeks, and I will sign it in a minute -- and give the American people some of the solutions they want and deserve.

This has been a good year. We've reduced the deficit. The economy is growing. Twice as many private sector jobs have been produced in fourteen months than in the previous four years. It took us 7 years and a change of Administrations, but we finally turned the Brady Bill into the Brady Law. It's already working to stop felons and fugitives from purchasing handguns. I'm proud that we passed it with the help of America's police officers.

But everything we do to create jobs, educate our children and bring our people together will fail if we continue to let crime and violence tear us apart.

The number of murders each year has nearly tripled since 1960. So has the number of crimes per police officers. Death by gunfire will soon surpass death by car-accident. Almost one-third of all Americans have had someone in their family victimized by crime, or been victimized themselves. And one in

twenty children carry a weapon to school each day in this nation. It's surely time to act.

This crime bill is balanced. It's tough and it's smart. This is what it does.

First, it gives us a much stronger police presence in America. This bill adds 100,000 police officers over five years, for community policing, and community policing works.

In community policing the police know the neighbors, they know the children, they understand the problems and personalities that they are dealing with. 100,000 more police make a big difference if they are in touch with their communities and deployed where the problems are greatest. The Mayor of Houston put another 655 police on the streets. Crime dropped 22 per cent and murders dropped 27 per cent in 15 months. Every town I just visited would like to do this. We must pass this bill and give them that chance.

Eddie Cutanda has a different attitude about the police because community policing gave him a chance to get to know Officers White and Platt as persons. These fine officers from Albany, Georgia -- who have already reduced crime in Albany because Congress wisely made a downpayment on community policing last year -- can now do the job they were trained to do and that the taxpayers of Albany want them to do. Community policing engaged them as professionals and as citizens. Community policing is an American solution, based on community values and mutual respect and personal responsibility.

If Congress passes this bill soon and gives the American people more officers, I'll make this commitment: I'll cut through the bureaucracy and red-tape in Washington so that within a year 20,000 of these new officers will already be hired and trained to make our streets safer.

The second thing the Crime Bill does is stiffen penalties. It does add capital punishment for a number of crimes. In my opinion when someone kills a law enforcement officer in the line of duty we need a completely clear and unambiguous deterrent, and it should be the death penalty.

We must also find a way to protect ourselves from repeat offenders, the relatively small number of criminals with no conscience who prey on us again and again. If they keep doing these things they've got to know that what's in store for them is certain and severe punishment, and not another parole. Ever. For us, baseball season just began. But for them it's going to be "three strikes and you're out at the old ball game."

Third, this is also a crime prevention bill. We know prevention programs work, especially for young people. We want to invest a billion dollars in jobs for young people in high crime neighborhoods, and in recreation programs and summer programs. We've got to give them skills and something to say yes to, or the pressures of broken families and jobless communities will suck them into drugs and crime -- and then our work will be ten times more difficult and expensive. We can do better.

A big part of prevention is making our schools gun free, drug free, and violence free. If our kids can't go to school safely, we can't prepare America for the twenty-first century. We've got to make our schools safe, and this bill provides more resources to do just that.

That's our plan. More police. More punishment. Better prevention.

It is a big commitment in a time of very tight budget constraints. It is a lot more money for local governments. But we must do it, so the police and the courts can be tougher, and every American can be safer.

This Administration will use every resource it has to fight crime and violence -- from public schools to public housing.

Just a few days ago a Federal District Court declared the Chicago Housing Authorities policy of searching for guns in public housing to be unconstitutional. Within hours I asked the Attorney General and Secretary Cisneros to develop another policy that is constitutional and effective. Thirteen people died violently in Chicago the last weekend in March, three of them in the Robert Taylor Homes. More than 300 incidents were reported to police. There has to be a way to stop this madness, and we're going to find it.

The next few weeks are very important. Congress will soon consider health care and welfare reform and other very important matters. But we cannot be distracted. We've waited long enough for a tough crime bill. Too long.

This is a Congress that hears the American people. In our first year we had the best cooperation in thirty years between a White House and Congress. I challenge Congress to meet the same standard, to forget politics and partisanship, and pass the crime bill now. We can put more police on the street. We can put more criminals in jail. We can keep more kids out of trouble. And we can start next month. Let's do it.

Thank you very much.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

(1)

This is a chance to stand tall
for the values we believe in -
and begin to give ^{our} ~~the~~ ^{children} the
tools we need to solve these problems
to create the future they want
for themselves & their children.

Have to take the lead, the
initiative - the issue is a
national prob, the long term impact
is overwhelmed by what is
happening - the citizens
wanted to go beyond permission to
action.

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

If people are willing to work
 hand & hold their forms together,
 the rest of us have a shared response
 to help them hold their communities
 together... $\therefore$ crime bill

Let's make the political system
 work, first what the

America people want
 They're business are
 stretched for time & money &
 they are trying very hard to
 hold their lives & families &
 futures together - They want
 this political system to work
 they want their safety
 people's property
 secured.

This is what
 they want
 we still
 have to
 put it
 into
 practice.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

(3)

We can say yes to gay people,
+ we have tried our best since
our 1st day here. Our 1st
big domestic initiative was
vocal service. We've got
to put our gay people 1st
again. They want a chance
to work + connect w/ family
gl in their communities.