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**Folder Title:**

Fact Check II (Assault Weapons Ban)

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DATE: AUGUST 1, 1996

# ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

CLIENT:

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YOUR SEARCH REQUEST IS:

DATE IS 9/1994 AND ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN AND SEMIAUTOMATIC AND AMMUNITION AND  
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LEVEL 1... 4

BAN SIGNED ON Sep 13, 1993

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10TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Newsday

September 14, 1994, Wednesday, NASSAU AND SUFFOLK EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A16

LENGTH: 688 words

HEADLINE: Ceremonial Signing of Crime Bill;  
Clinton: 'We have the tools now'

BYLINE: By William Douglas and Martin Kasindorf. WASHINGTON BUREAU

DATELINE: Washington

BODY:

Washington - In an elaborate White House ceremony that had the trappings and flavor of a political campaign, President Bill Clinton yesterday signed the \$ 30.2 billion crime bill into law.

"Let's roll up our sleeves to roll back this awful tide of violence and reduce crime in this country," Clinton said. "We have the tools now. Let us get about the business of using them."

About 2,000 people, including members of Congress from both parties, Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and law enforcement officials gathered on the South Lawn for the ceremony.

The lawn - still bearing skid marks from Monday's fatal light-plane crash - resembled an old-style campaign whistle stop yesterday. Clinton spoke from a large stage decked in red, white and blue bunting and topped with little American flags waving in a gentle breeze. A military band performed in the ceremony.

Vice President Al Gore reminded the audience that the signing fulfilled candidate Bill Clinton's promise to make America's streets safer.

"Americans said, 'We want guns off the street.' Well, President Clinton has heard you," Gore said. "Americans said, 'We want more police on the street.' President Clinton heard you."

The law bans 19 specific semiautomatic assault weapons and similar models. It also limits the magazine capacity of weapons to 10 rounds.

The anticrime measure also calls for spending \$ 10.8 billion to help state and local law enforcement hire 100,000 new officers over six years; \$ 9.85 billion on prison construction and federal reimbursement to states for incarcerating criminals who are undocumented immigrants; and \$ 6.9 billion for crime prevention measures that include after-school programs.

The bill expands the federal death penalty to 60 crimes and contains the

Newsday, September 14, 1994

"three strikes, you're out" provision that authorizes life prison sentences for three-time violent felons.

New York City estimates it will receive \$ 829 million in crime bill funds. Giuliani said the city plans to spend some of the money on technological improvements and civilian hires for the police department - which would free more officers for beat duty - and on expanding a public school program that currently keeps 37 school buildings open until 10 p.m.

"This is a bill that we can immediately put to use in New York for so many purposes - policing, prevention; the assault weapons ban will be of immediate use to us," he said.

The crime bill reached Clinton's desk after a bumpy ride in Congress, which had tried to craft a crime-fighting measure for the past six years.

But something always halted the process, and this session of Congress was almost no exception. Members of the Congressional Black Caucus railed against the added death penalties. Republicans along with some southern and suburban Democrats didn't like the assault weapons ban. And some members of both parties complained that the bill's prevention portion was "pork," despite a 10 percent cut from what was initially proposed.

Clinton said the bill's passage signals the end of congressional gridlock and partisan politics.

"Today the bickering stops, the era of excuses is over, the law-abiding citizens of our country have made their voices heard," Clinton said. "Never again should Washington put politics and party above law and order."

Noticeably absent from yesterday's ceremony were Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.). White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers said, "We don't generally invite people who don't support legislation to ceremonies where those pieces of legislation are signed."

Clinton thanked two New York politicians, Rep. Charles Schumer (D-Brooklyn) and Giuliani, for their roles in steering the bill toward passage. Schumer, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, helped write portions of the bill.

Giuliani, the former U.S. attorney viewed by many Republicans to be the party's law and order expert, broke party ranks and lobbied for the bill on behalf of Clinton.

"He's the hero here," said Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.), who supported the bill.

PD:

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 15, 1994

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1989 The Times Mirror Company  
Los Angeles Times

December 17, 1989, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 1; Column 3; Metro Desk

LENGTH: 776 words

HEADLINE: FINAL ROUNDS FIRED BEFORE STATE BAN ON ASSAULT RIFLES

BYLINE: By RON RUSSELL, TIMES STAFF WRITER

DATELINE: RAINBOW, Calif.

BODY:

In what organizers predicted would be the last event of its kind in California, more than 200 gun enthusiasts gathered on a wind-swept ridge in northern San Diego County on Saturday for an old-fashioned assault rifle shoot.

"I just had to get my hands on an Uzi one more time," said Robert Anderson, a self-described "gun nut" who paid \$12 to enter and up to \$1 per round to fire a variety of military-style assault rifles.

The guns figure to be beyond his legal reach once a statewide ban on assault weapons takes effect Jan. 1.

The ban was ordered by the Legislature in the wake of the Stockton schoolyard massacre last January in which a drifter using an AK-47 rifle shot and killed five children and wounded 30 other people.

Since June 1, it has been illegal for anyone other than law enforcement personnel to buy any of 56 kinds of assault weapons without a difficult-to-obtain permit from the state Department of Justice. Beginning Jan. 1, it will be illegal for civilians to possess such weapons without a permit, regardless of when they were bought.

Many of the rifles affected by the ban were available to shooters at Saturday's event. But it was clear to those assembled that the days of free access to assault weapons in California are over. Angry gun enthusiasts were calling it the end of an era.

"They're kidding themselves if they think taking away assault weapons is going to lessen the crime problem," said Bart Montier, who showed up at Saturday's shoot with his own antique cannon that he grumbled may soon be banned if some lawmakers have their way. "The whole thing's absurd. You're not going to see gang members turn in their weapons."

Like other gun enthusiasts, Montier has focused his anger on state justice officials, saying the registration procedures for assault weapons announced thus far have been vague and confusing. "They're basically saying, 'Trust us,' " he said, "and we don't."

It was the chance to place his fingers in the trigger of an Israeli Gallil rifle that drew Montier to the event. "Now, that's a gun," he exclaimed, after firing several rounds into a row of clay pigeons set up against a hillside.

Others had their own favorites among the nearly 40 high-performance weapons available for shooting, including more than two dozen types of assault rifles and an assortment of pistols and shotguns.

For die-hard gun enthusiasts such as Elodie McKee of Burbank, who wore a T-shirt that read "Just Say No to Gun Control," the event was as much a chance to thumb one's nose at gun control proponents as it was a pleasurable way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

"Just by showing up here I think we make a statement," said McKee, a part-time actress who said she joined the National Rifle Assn. last year "as a way to express my indignation at the politicians who would take away people's right to bear arms."

Even some who said they do not own an assault weapon and who came to the shoot out of curiosity insisted that the upcoming ban has galvanized gun enthusiasts against all forms of gun control.

"I don't even own a gun, but I don't think the ban makes sense," said Glen Clover, a civil engineer who brought his 16-year-old daughter, Amy. After taking his turn on the firing line, he added, "I just may buy me a gun yet."

Cathy Tolly, a 26-year-old registered nurse who helped organize the event, called it "a last hurrah for law-abiding citizens who happen to like assault-type weapons. Once the ban takes place, you won't see events like this anymore."

Tina Tropiano of Garden Grove voiced a similar opinion.

Tropiano, who said she came out of curiosity, said she wasn't disappointed after firing several rounds with the same Uzi assault rifle that law enforcement officials say has become the weapon of choice for many gang members and drug criminals.

"It's lightweight, it doesn't cause much of a kick. It's a gun easy for me to handle," she said. "I'm glad I came," she added, noting that she and a friend drove to San Bernardino in August for a similar shoot only to learn the sponsor decided to cancel at the last minute for fear of negative publicity.

"You say assault weapons and it's like inviting the plague for some people, and that even includes gun lovers," said T. J. Johnston, another organizer of the event.

After greeting shooters from as far away as Ventura County, he sounded a wistful note for the future of assault weapons.

"These guns have gotten such a bad rap that a lot of enthusiasts would prefer to just go into hiding and not mention them," he said. "But I don't feel that way. That's why we held this thing, to show people what they're going to be

Los Angeles Times, December 17, 1989

missing."

GRAPHIC: Photo, Bonnie LaViolette of Placentia listens to instructor at shooting event that featured assault rifles. ROBERT GABRIEL / Los Angeles Times  
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

on Clinton signed legislation to ban semi-automatic assault

3RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format. weapons &

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Roanoke Times & World News

large capacity  
ammunition magazines

September 4, 1994, SUNDAY, METRO EDITION

SECTION: VIRGINIA, Pg. B1

LENGTH: 1240 words

HEADLINE: BUYING OUT GUN SHOPS TO BEAT THE BAN

BYLINE: RICHARD FOSTER STAFF WRITER

BODY:

GUN DEALERS PROFIT as buyers move faster than a speeding bullet to buy assault weapons before President Clinton signs the crime bill.

Greg Reynolds never seriously considered buying a semiautomatic gun until a few months ago, when he heard that the Clinton crime bill would ban the manufacture of many such firearms.

Last Monday, four days after the Senate passed the crime bill, Reynolds was at Valley Guns in Roanoke, purchasing a Ruger P-89, a 9 mm semiautomatic handgun with a 15-shot capacity. Under the new legislation, the weapon is categorized as an assault-style firearm and will be banned.

"When you see them taken away from you, you better get it now, or you'll never get one," said Reynolds, who lives in the New Castle area of Craig County and works for Terminix Co. in Roanoke.

A self-described outdoorsman and gun collector, Reynolds said he would probably never shoot the gun. "I'll put it up ... and one day I'll take it down and show it to my son and say, 'Look, son, this is what we used to be able to have before the government got involved.'"

President Clinton is expected to sign the crime bill into law this week. Once signed, the bill will ban the manufacture of more than 19 categories of assault weapons for 10 years, though it will not be illegal to possess or sell a gun made before the ban.

During the past week, sales of banned guns were booming and prices were rising at many gun shops in and around the Roanoke Valley. The popular Colt AR-15 assault rifle could be had for between \$ 400 and \$ 700 two or three weeks ago at most gun shops. Last week, the price was about \$ 1,200. Even the inexpensive Chinese-made SKS assault rifle, which usually sells for about \$ 100, was between \$ 150 and \$ 200 at some shops.

Most gun buyers wanted to beat further price increases. Others feared they would never be able to buy the guns again.



In less than 30 minutes Tuesday at Custom Gun Shop Inc. in Christiansburg, one customer bought a Glock semiautomatic pistol. Another put a down payment on an AR-15 assault rifle. And a third customer was buying 30-round ammunition magazines. The crime bill stops the manufacture of clips that hold more than 10 rounds.

A farmer who was browsing at the shop said he already owned a couple of semiautomatic rifles that he used to shoot gophers, and he was thinking of buying more. "There's nothing better for killing rodents," he said.

The customer who bought the Glock would not give his name, but said he was an emergency room physician. He said he already owned one semiautomatic gun and decided to buy more when he heard that the crime bill had passed the Senate. He purchased a Ruger 10-22 semiautomatic rifle last month and picked it up the same day he bought the Glock.

"If you're going to protect yourself and your family, you've got to use the best firepower available," he said.

Echoing a sentiment that was voiced many times by House and Senate Republicans who opposed the weapon ban, the physician said, "All this (crime bill) does is take guns out of the hands of law-abiding citizens and put them into the hands of the damn criminals who can get the guns anyway."

Don Harkrader, owner of Custom Gun Shop, said eliminating parole is the answer, not gun control. He said the state's current laws, which require background checks on would-be gun purchasers and limit gun purchases to one a month, are enough. "The bad guys don't buy their guns at a gun shop anyway," he said.

Rick Birnbach, owner and president of Valley Guns, agreed. He predicted that the bill will cause a black market for illegally manufactured guns and ammunition clips.

Pointing to a 30-round ammunition clip, he asked, "How much brains do you think it takes to make this? It's just a folded piece of metal. It's two seconds of technology. I'm sure the criminals are getting out their hydraulic presses."

Bob Terry, a Bedford County gun dealer, said all he could see that Congress is accomplishing with the crime bill is a run on semiautomatic weapons.

At Terry's Country Corner, the small general store he owns in Moneta, he was almost sold out of soon-to-be banned SKS assault rifles. He is afraid to order more expensive guns from distributors because prices have risen so high, he said, that his customers soon may not be able to afford the weapons.

Birnbach said the assault-weapon ban will help his business because he deals in used guns, but, like many gun dealers, he is worried about the bill's effect on sales of new guns.

Birnbach pulled out a Colt handgun designed to hold a seven-shot clip. With a special cartridge, the gun can hold 11 bullets.

Will the gun be banned because cartridge manufacturers make a bigger magazine

for it than Colt designed for the gun? Gun dealers don't know.

Most dealers consider themselves woefully uninformed on what the bill will mean to them.

Jon Lester Preu, owner of Brown Bear's Den gun shop in Moneta, said he has received no notification from the federal government about what he needs to do to comply with the law. "We have no concept of what we're faced with," he said.

Birnbach said he couldn't wait for government notification. He paid the Library of Congress \$ 42 for a copy of the 1,000-page crime bill.

He thinks the gun ban is an abridgement of his Second Amendment rights. He plans to raise funds to fight it in the U.S. Supreme Court.

"The Second Amendment has been gutted. It no longer exists," he said.

Harkrader agreed. "When this is tested in court, it ain't going to hold up," he said. "The only thing Congress has the right to do is tax it."

Birnbach said he is also convinced the assault-weapon ban will help Oliver North's campaign for the Senate. "This will give a boost to anybody who stands by the Constitution," he said.

Richard G. Parise of Norfolk was the founding president of Virginians Against Handgun Violence. He now is a board member of Handgun Control Inc., a national gun-control group in Washington, D.C.

He said it's "preposterous" that anyone could think the assault-weapon ban is unconstitutional. "Why shouldn't we be able to regulate firearms? You can't have unfettered freedom of speech. You can't yell 'Fire!' in a crowded auditorium, or they'll lock you away.

"These are weapons of hostility, they're not defensive weapons. Certainly, state governments have the right to regulate these extremely dangerous weapons."

In California and Ohio, he noted, state courts have upheld state bans on assault weapons.

Some gun dealers even agree that the assault-weapon ban is necessary.

Joe Kirk, owner of Kirk's Gun Shop in Christiansburg, said he doesn't sell any of the weapons named in the crime bill, so his business won't be affected.

"I just don't care much for them," he said. "They're not as accurate. They just fire more shots. I can't see any sporting reason for them."

Glenn Nester, owner of G&G Guns in Christiansburg, said he didn't deal in assault weapons for similar reasons, but he added, "I'm going hungry because I don't cater to" semiautomatic-weapon buyers.

Susie Fetter, finance chair of Plowshare Peace Center in Roanoke, said that, although she is for gun control, she is skeptical that the weapon ban will reduce violent crime. "It seems to me that it's just a symbolic gesture. It's just a fraction of the weapons. The manufacturers can sell what they have in

stock, they just can't sell new weapons."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: KEITH GREENE/Staff. Don Harkrader, owner of Custom Gun Shop in Christiansburg, says eliminating parole is the answer, not controlling guns like the Colt AR-15 assault rifle sitting on the counter. color.

LOAD-DATE: September 7, 1994

4TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The New York Times

September 2, 1994, Friday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 2; Column 5; Metropolitan Desk

LENGTH: 469 words

HEADLINE: Crime Bill Bans the Clip Used in Rifle

BYLINE: By SHAWN G. KENNEDY

BODY:

The Chinese assault rifle the police said was used in the killing of a stagehand on Wednesday can no longer be imported into the United States, and its 30-round ammunition clip, which is still sold in this country, would be banned under the crime bill passed last month.

The police identified the weapon as a Chinese version of the AK-47 semiautomatic rifle.

The police seized the rifle while arresting William Emanuel Tager of Charlotte, N.C., for shooting to death a "Today" stagehand, Campbell Theron Montgomery, at Rockefeller Center.

Importation Illegal

While the weapon itself is not banned, importation of the semiautomatic rifle has been illegal since May, said John O'Brien, a spokesman for the New York office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The ban on importing assault weapons, Mr. O'Brien said, was a condition of the most-favored nation status the Clinton Administration granted China earlier this year.

The standard ammunition clip that had been loaded into the gun is banned in the crime bill, which is awaiting the President's signature to become law. He is expected to sign the bill when Congress reconvenes on Sept. 12. The rifle's clip, known as a banana clip, held 30 rounds. The crime bill bans clips with more than 10 rounds.

When it was retrieved by the police, the rifle was fully loaded. The police said one bullet had been fired, one was in the chamber of the rifle and 28 rounds remained in the clip.

A bill of sale for the rifle from a North Carolina gun store was also found. But the police have refused to identify the gun store where they believe the suspect bought the gun. They would only say that the weapon was purchased within the last few weeks.

No Waiting Period

According to one gun dealer in Charlotte, in North Carolina there is no

The New York Times, September 2, 1994

waiting period on sale of rifles. "Rifles are hardly ever used in crimes because unlike handguns they are so hard to hide," said Larry Hyatt, manager of the Hyatt Gun Shop in Charlotte. "You can buy a rifle without waiting."

Mr. Hyatt, who said the weapon used in the shooting at Rockefeller Center on Wednesday was not bought at his shop, does carry the rifle. He said it had not been a big seller until the import ban.

"They were not that popular in the past," Mr. Hyatt said. "Most of the purchasers are collectors and ex-military people."

Charles E. Schumer, the Brooklyn Congressman who was a sponsor of the crime bill, said yesterday that the shooting illustrated the importance of a provision of the crime bill.

"This shooting tragically illustrates the importance of the assault weapon ban and the outlawing of clips holding more than 10 bullets," Mr. Schumer said in a statement. "If this gunman had choosen to, he could have shot 29 more people without pausing to reload."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 2, 1994

① Jan 17, 1989 Patrick Purdy killed 5 + wounded 29 others in Stockton, CA  
② using AK-47  
③ able to shoot 106 rounds in less than 2 minutes

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2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1989 The New York Times Company  
The New York Times

January 19, 1989, Thursday, Late City Final Edition

SECTION: Section B; Page 6, Column 4; National Desk

LENGTH: 1221 words

HEADLINE: After Shooting, Horror but Few Answers

BYLINE: By ROBERT REINHOLD, Special to the New York Times

DATELINE: STOCKTON, Calif., Jan. 18

BODY:

They fled the killing fields of Cambodia to bring up their children in the peaceful, fertile fields of the San Joaquin Valley of California. But today the thousands of Southeast Asian refugees who have settled here could only wonder in horror why a young American would walk into a schoolyard and open fire with an assault rifle.

There were few answers in the initial investigation of the shooting, which killed five children and wounded 29 others and a teacher Tuesday at recess at the Cleveland School. The killing ended when the gunman, Patrick Edward Purdy, shot himself in the head with a pistol.

The initial police accounts portrayed a deranged young man, once a pupil at the Cleveland School, who nursed an obsession with guns and the military.

'We May Never Know'

"Why he did this we may never know," said Capt. Dennis Perry of the Stockton Police Department, who is in charge of the investigation. "He obviously developed a military hangup."

When the police searched Mr. Purdy's latest residence, Room 104 of El Rancho Motel on the edge of Stockton, they found 100 or more small plastic toy figures of soldiers, tanks, jeeps and weapons. They were on the shelves, on the grates, even in the refrigerator. On the stock of his bayoneted rifle were carved the words "Freedom," "Victory" and "Hezbollah," the Shiite Moslem Party of God. On the camouflage shirt he wore over his flak jacket were other references to the Middle East, one of them misspelled: "P.L.O.," "Libya" and "Death to the Great Satan."

There was no evidence that Mr. Purdy had any special animosity toward Asians. The Cleveland School, in a neighborhood into which the refugees have trickled since 1980, is 68.6 percent Asian. The dead and wounded included children of Cambodian, Vietnamese, Chinese and Hispanic origin.

Age Is Uncertain

The New York Times, January 19, 1989

Mr. Purdy, a sometime welder, gave his age as 26 on his driver's license, but as 24 and 27 in other official records.

The dead were identified as three Cambodian girls, Ram Chun, 8 years old, Sokhim An, 6, and Oeun Lim, 8; a Cambodian boy, Rathanan Or, 9, and a Vietnamese girl, Thuy Tran, 6.

Twenty-nine other children and a teacher, Janet Geng, 37, were taken to seven local hospitals. By this afternoon, nine children had been released; Miss Geng and the other 20 children were still in the hospital.

The Stockton Unified School District ordered all schools opened as usual today. Overnight, workmen patched the 60 or so bullet holes in the south wall of the brown stucco building and scrubbed out bloodstains. But only about a quarter of the 970 pupils showed up.

Those who did were greeted by psychologists and nurses trained in treating grief. Interpreters were brought in to help the children and parents who spoke little English. The children were urged to express their feelings and draw pictures of what they saw.

'The youngsters need to be in a place where they feel safe,' said the school superintendent, Mary Gonazales Mend. She called the incident 'everybody's worst nightmare.'

This afternoon the Cleveland School's principal, Pat Busher, went to an apartment complex where many Cambodians live to reassure parents that the school was safe. 'We need the children back,' she said.

'Nobody Knows Why'

But some experts doubted that the Asian community could quickly overcome the horror. The Cambodians, about 5,000 of whom have settled in this agricultural region, have had a particularly hard time adjusting to American life and learning English. Many work in menial jobs in fruit packing plants, cotton mills, gardens and restaurants, and many are on the welfare rolls.

At the Cambodian Community of Stockton, a social service agency about a mile from the school, a teacher, Elena Pehlke, was trying to calm fears.

'He was an alcoholic,' she told her class in measured English, 'a very unhappy person. Nobody knows why.' She then began a discussion of the gun control debate in response to a question about how a deranged man could easily buy a military weapon in America.

Grief in Another Town

Another community was also reeling as a result of the schoolyard rampage: Sandy, Ore., a logging and farming town of 4,000 people in the shadow of Mount Hood, not far from Portland. It was there, in a store called the Trading Post, that Mr. Purdy apparently bought the Chinese-made AK-47 assault rifle.

Local sportsmen gathered today to commiserate with Clair Cooper, the owner of the store, who signed the firearms transaction record last August and accepted \$349.95 from a customer he said he had never seen before.

The New York Times, January 19, 1989

Mr. Cooper, who took his phone off the hook and glowered at strangers in his store, said he rarely stocked the weapon and ordered one last summer only because a few customers had asked for it. In the future, he said, he would sell the gun only to customers who ordered it in advance.

#### Suspect's Arrest Record

In Stockton, the Police Department was trying to piece together the life and final days of the 150-pound, 5-foot 10-inch Mr. Purdy. He had a record of at least five arrests in California, dating to 1980.

He attended the Cleveland School from kindergarten to third grade. His parents later divorced. His father, Patrick Purdy, was struck and killed by a car about five years ago. His mother, now named Kathleen Toscano, has not been located.

He spent the first half of this year in his hometown of Stockton working at manufacturing jobs, then visited his aunt, Julie Michael, in Oregon.

Chief Fred Punzel of the Sandy Police Department said Mrs. Michael "just fell apart" when she heard the news about her late brother's son. According to local press accounts, she last heard from Mr. Purdy when he sent her a Christmas card with a Connecticut postmark.

Today the curtains were drawn at the Michael house and a note taped to the front door, written on an envelope in a shaky hand. The note, signed by Mr. Michael, begged that no one disturb his wife. "Pat Purdy did not live here," it said, "he only stayed with us for two weeks."

Mr. Purdy apparently returned to Stockton on Dec. 26 and took a room at El Rancho Motel.

#### ③ Two Minutes of Shooting

On Tuesday, just before noon, he arrived at the Cleveland School in his 1977 Chevrolet station wagon, burned the car with a Molotov cocktail in a Budweiser bottle and walked onto the crowded school grounds. There he opened fire.

③ He shot at least 106 rounds. "He was not aiming as much as spraying," said Captain Perry.

"I thought it was firecrackers," said Ms. Geng, the teacher who was wounded, in a bedside interview at St. Joseph's Medical Center as she was about to enter surgery for a shattered femur. "I did not see his face - just a gun going off in front of me."

③ Children began to crumple. The shooting lasted about two minutes. Then Mr. Purdy put the pistol to his right temple and fell dead against a school wall.

In the chill of the morning after, a few parents brought their youngsters to school, among them Manuel Garcia, an electronics technician. "She did not want to come to school," he said of his daughter, Denise, a kindergartner. "My wife almost talked me out of it, but the more I thought about it, it was probably a



The New York Times, January 19, 1989

good idea to bring her in to cope with it all. I wasn't even there, and I'm scared.''

GRAPHIC: photos of Patrick Purdy (AP); Oeun Lim; Rathanan Or; Thuy Tran; Sokhim An; Ram Chum

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1989 Chicago Tribune Company  
Chicago Tribune

January 20, 1989, Friday, NORTH SPORTS FINAL

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 4; C

LENGTH: 613 words

HEADLINE: Killer had 'hate for everybody'  
But motive in schoolyard massacre still eludes police

BYLINE: By Bruce Buursma, Chicago Tribune

DATELINE: STOCKTON, Calif.

BODY:

Details began to emerge Thursday about the nomadic and broken past of a drifter who staged a deadly commando spree on a schoolyard in Stockton, but authorities remained mystified over what motivated him to slay five Southeast Asian children.

Patrick Edward Purdy, who killed himself after firing at least 106 rounds from a Chinese-made AK-47 assault rifle on the playground of Cleveland Elementary School on Tuesday, was described by police as an "antisocial loner" who nurtured "a distinct dislike for everybody - not any particular race - everybody."

Leaders of Stockton's sizable Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee community have voiced fears that Purdy's attack at a school he once attended may have been racially motivated. Almost 70 percent of the school's 980 pupils are of Asian heritage.

But Thursday, Stockton Police Capt. Dennis Perry, who is leading the investigation, sought to quell those concerns.

"Through his lifetime, he developed a hate for everybody," Perry said. "We're getting a kind of a picture of him now, but we'll never have a complete picture, because he didn't leave a note. So we'll never know exactly why he did what he did."

An autopsy offered no clues, although results of a toxicological examination are not expected until next week. The coroner found no evidence of intravenous drug use by Purdy or of brain tumors, police said.

Purdy, who was dressed in a flak jacket and military-style camouflage shirt when he began his attack, also was discovered to have a small metal band around the fourth toe of his right foot, but authorities declined to speculate about what, if any, significance that might have.

The autopsy further confirmed that Purdy died of a single self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

The suicide, after he fatally shot five pupils and wounded 29 other people, capped two minutes of terror at the school that Purdy attended from kindergarten through 3d grade.

Hospital officials said a 6-year-old boy wounded in the groin was upgraded from serious to stable condition Thursday; seven pupils were in stable condition, and six others, including a teacher, were listed in fair condition. Four more people were discharged from hospitals Thursday, officials said.

The massacre also brought a sudden end to a vagabond existence for the 24-year-old gunman, who held a series of odd jobs in California, Florida, Oregon, Tennessee and Connecticut over the last five years.

Based on interviews with relatives and former associates, police now know that Purdy had "problems with alcohol and marijuana" and exhibited a growing hostility toward authority figures, a trait that made it difficult for him to hold a job for long.

He is known to have been fired as a security guard for a firm in Glendale, Calif., in 1985, and last year quit a grinder's job in Stockton only days before his employer was planning to dismiss him for a defiant and surly attitude.

Police also disclosed Thursday that Purdy had attempted suicide in 1987 in California's Eldorado County Jail after his arrest for illegally discharging a weapon in the Tahoe Basin and for resisting arrest. In a mental health report prepared at the time, Purdy was described as a danger to himself and others and suffering from "mild mental retardation."

"He was obviously antisocial," Perry said. "People he worked with put him as extremely unfriendly."

But for all of Purdy's hostile behavior, police contended there were no hints that he would commit such a horrifying act.

"He gave no indication in any conversation with any family members that he intended to do something like this," Perry said.

"In a way, he beat us. He didn't tell us why."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Massacre victim Oeum Lim is mourned Thursday by her sister Chea Lim (left) and cousin Sokhoeum Khim in the family's home. Cambodian neighbors and Buddhist monks share the grief. AP Laserphoto.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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April 5, 1995, Wednesday

SECTION: CAPITOL HILL HEARING TESTIMONY

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POLICE DEPARTMENT HOUSE JUDICIARY CRIME REVIEW OF GUN LAWS

BODY:

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

Lieutenant Dennis Tueller, Salt Lake City Police Department

Good morning members of the committee and thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Dennis Tueller and I'm a Lieutenant from the Salt Lake City, Utah, Police Department, and I have over twenty years of law enforcement experience. I am also a firearms instructor and have trained police officers, security agents, SWAT teams, firearms instructors, and responsible civilians from throughout the free world.

I like guns and I enjoy shooting. In my travels throughout the United States, I have met thousands of good people who feel the same. And I know that there are tens of millions of other Americans who share the same sentiments and interests.

Today you are hearing testimony that dispels the myth that law enforcement is strongly in support of gun control as a method of controlling crime. This committee, and the public are learning the truth from a representative sampling of officers from across America. These law enforcement professionals assembled before you today run the entire gamut from the officer on the street, to the detective that investigates the homicide, to the front line supervisors all the way up to the Chief of a department. The one common theme known to all these officers is that guns are not the problem when it comes to America's run away crime epidemic. We have never seen a gun commit a crime.

We know... I know... that gun ownership by honest citizens is totally unrelated to the violent crime problem we are experiencing.

Street officers and crime victims across the country share the belief that the number one way to reduce crime in our nation is to punish criminal behavior. Make criminals serve the time to which they are sentenced. The clock needs to be turned back to the days when prison was a deterrent to crime -- when prisoners served real time for their crimes, not just short vacations away from the street.

This is the type of real crime control that cops and the public want to see at the

FDCH Congressional Testimony, April 5, 1995

national level. So far the President, in conjunction with some members of Congress, has continued to grandstand and what the people get are rhetoric and gimmicks - not justice. The recently passed so-called "crime bill", which outlaws certain types of guns and an entire class of magazines - magazines used in millions of firearms across the country for protection and sport - is just the most recent and egregious example of this mixed up idea.

Anti-gun strategists learned an important lesson along time ago. That lesson was that Law Enforcement, if properly handled, is a potent legislative ally. Those who hate the idea of citizens having the freedom to choose to own a gun have worked diligently to create and encourage the fraud that cops agree with the agenda to strip away the Second Amendment.

They began to infiltrate traditional law enforcement groups. These groups recruited high profile, publicity seeking police officials in high profile, politically anti-gun areas. Ultimately these anti-gun police administrators went on to create a number of national police groups with a distinct anti-Second Amendment stance.

Gun hating groups and politicians, like HCI and President Clinton, used police based groups like the National Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the National Sheriffs Association (NSA), and the Police Foundation in their push for the Brady Act. Then they used these same groups to support President Clinton's Crime Bill.

Contrary to what was portrayed in the national media, working Law Enforcement did not support the Crime Bill and especially did not support its gun ban.

Anti-gun law enforcement is not driven by ideology or the belief that more gun control will make this country safer. Rather, it's driven by money and politics.

The Clinton/Reno Justice Department bought and paid for its law enforcement allies with perfectly legitimate federal money. They dipped deep into the federal pork barrel - and used OUR tax dollars.

According to the June 1, 1994, edition of the Criminal Justice Newsletter, \$4.4 million dollars was given to these same anti-gun police organizations. The taxpayer dollars came to these groups through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and went to the Police Executive Research Forum, IACP, National Sheriff's Association, and the Police Foundation. The money was ostensibly to provide community policing training and technical assistance.

This type of taxpayer funding of police groups that profess their unwavering support of more gun-control has been ongoing for years. Investor's Business Daily and Law and Order magazine both claim that IACP received almost 650,000 dollars in 1993.

You may wonder, What does all this taxpayer money, going to these groups have to do with the fraud that cops support gun-control? Just this... After the initial Congressional rejection of the Gun and Magazine ban, the IACP put out a request to police commanders (and I quote) "to encourage as many off duty

members as possible to attend this assembly in uniform and also compel as many on duty uniformed members to attend... as manpower will allow". This "assembly" was in fact a photo opportunity for then Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, when he was on the hill in a desperate, last ditch effort help pass the so-called "Assault Weapons" ban. I wish to emphasize that I am here on my own time.

When President Clinton issued his call for assistance in passing his ridiculous, wasteful Crime Bill guess who he called on for help and guess who came to do his bidding? When he stood in front of those uniformed officers to show that law enforcement supported his bill it was a fraud. The fact is that in many cases rank-and-file cops were pulled off street duty, on the taxpayers nickel - and often against their will and under the threat of disciplinary action if they refused to participate - to support this legislation.

Then the leaders of these national police groups joined in supporting his efforts to pass these gun bans and they claimed to represent that law enforcement nationwide wanted and needed this gun and magazine ban. These groups misled Congress, the media, and the public into believing that law enforcement's 600,000 members backed the gun control measures. They never surveyed the cops they claimed to represent. Those who have surveyed our police have found that they do not support more gun control.

From the Police Marksman Association survey from September/October and November/December 1994, comes:

95% of officers do not like the ban on large capacity magazines

92% do not support the so-called "Assault Weapon" Ban

93% disagree with the "Brady Bill"

From the July/August 1991 edition of Law Enforcement Technology magazine after surveying its 25,000 subscribers determined that:

78.7% were against a ban on "Assault Weapons"

84.6% feel that gun control does not lessen crime

78.2% believe that criminals will always be able to obtain guns irrespective of gun control legislation

From the 1993 Southern States Police Benevolent Association survey of over 10,000 members comes:

96.4% support firearms ownership for self-protection

86.5% felt that waiting periods would only affect law-abiding citizens

1.1% choose guns as the most pressing cause of crime (given 20 choices)  
The April 1993, informal survey of a sampling of the readers of Police magazine showed:

85% did not support an "Assault Weapons" ban

90% feel gun ownership by civilians has not negatively affected their jobs

85% believe citizen's gun ownership increases public safety

77% did not support the "Brady Bill"

These surveys back up what I know from more than twenty years of police experience. Street cops overwhelmingly do NOT support gun control. We are not interested in more laws which criminals will flaunt and ignore.

This is why so many officers have now decided to join the Law Enforcement Alliance of America, whose mission is, in part, to dispel the myth that gun control is a viable answer to crime and to show that rank-and-file cops do not believe in gun-control.

LEAA organized a "National Law Enforcement Coalition" to oppose the Crime Bill. Nearly 100 law enforcement organizations representing a membership of more than 100,000 law enforcement professionals spoke out against the Crime Bill and its ban on semi-autos and large capacity magazines.

LEAA's coalition included several state and local chapters of the FOP, the nations largest correctional officers association - the California Correctional and Peace Officer's Association (CCPOA) and several other state level organizations: to include the Massachusetts Police Union and Legislative League and the Oklahoma State Sheriff's Association just to name a few.

This anti-Crime Bill coalition was put together in the few weeks before the final vote.

Through this coalition, LEAA assembled and hand delivered a 34 page report detailing law enforcement's strong opposition of it to key members of the House of Representatives and all Senators.

Dozens of pro-Second Amendment officers, on their own time converged in Washington DC to meet Congress face-to-face and deliver our message of opposition to this "feel good", ineffective legislation.

We must learn, sooner or later, that Law Enforcement can be utilized as an extremely effective political force and that they can have a significant impact on both the public's and politician's view of an issue.

The political and dishonest "behind the scenes" actions of the anti-gun leaders of the national organizations that purport to speak America's law enforcement professionals must be exposed and stopped.

Remember our name ... The Law Enforcement Alliance of America. We are an alliance of over 40,000 police and citizens united in a firm commitment to put an end to the excuse-making, the criminal coddling, and the rampant disregard of basic civility, morality, and justice.

Real police... Real law enforcement... Real men and women sworn to uphold the law and the Constitution of the United States - whether you call them officer, trooper, deputy, or corrections officer - who are dedicated to preserving the peace of the community are in perfect sync with the public on the issue of crime and crime control.

We, like our neighbors living in our communities, know the viciousness and irresponsibility of criminals. We, like every hard working family in the nation regardless of their skin pigment or religious or ethnic affiliation, know that every man, woman, and child must be held accountable for his or her own actions. The good must be rewarded and the bad must be punished.

We also know that under the liberal agenda the exact opposite is true. The good are penalized and the bad reap the rewards and usually go unpunished.

The single biggest threat to the liberals and their "excuse- making" approach to crime is what we represent. The Law Enforcement Alliance of America is real cops, real citizens, real crime victims -- we will not be silenced.

We speak out against early release. We speak up against dumping the depraved and violent back out into society. We speak up against revolving door justice. We speak up for our right to protect our lives, our families, and our possessions against criminal violence with swift, tough, fair, and blind justice.

We speak up for freedom and the way of life that made this country great.

Gun control laws are historically abject failures... guns are banned, honest citizens' rights are destroyed and the criminals continue to avoid punishment.

Those who pushed the "Assault Weapon" and magazine ban have shown that they are against all guns. Senator Dianne Feinstein summed it up best with her remarks during her interview on CBS's 60 Minutes. She said she wanted to come into everyone's home and make them turn in all their guns. She wasn't talking about criminals. She was talking about you and me, and the only thing that stopped her was that she didn't have enough votes or enough "storm troopers" to do it.

The recent gun ban is aimed at honest, law-abiding citizens who want to own a firearm, firearms that happen to have a modern, military look. This isn't about criminals, it isn't even about cops. This is a blatant effort to take away citizens' rights to own a particular type of gun... and if the gun haters in Congress had their way they would like to outlaw all guns in private ownership in this nation. It's time to put the blame for crime where it belongs ... on the criminal.



Please repeal the gun and magazine ban from last year's Crime Bill: we don't need it or want it.

Thank you.

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CONTACT: 202/ 456-7150

BODY:

President Clinton Will Fight to Protect the Assault Weapons Ban

March 22, 1996

"It would be deeply wrong for Congress to repeal this assault weapons ban and take the side of the Washington gun lobby over the interests of the law-enforcement people of this country and the law-abiding citizens of this country." -- President Clinton, March 21, 1996

Choose kids and cops over the Washington gun lobby.

Too many police officers have lost their lives outgunned by violent criminals armed with assault weapons. Too many children have been killed by violent criminals spraying a rain of bullets from assault weapons.

The bottom line is simple: Will America stand with the police officers who risk their lives for us, or will we cave in to the pressure tactics of the Washington gun lobby?

The assault weapons ban is working.

The assault weapons ban is taking 19 deadly assault weapons and their copies off our streets. Before the ban, the number of assault weapons involved in crimes was rising steadily. But in just the first year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced to crimes has dropped eighteen percent.

Make no mistake about it: these are weapons of war.

Assault weapons are the weapons of choice for gang leaders and drug dealers. They are designed for one reason only: close-quarter, rapid-fire killing.

Protects the rights of hunters and sportsmen.

The assault weapons ban explicitly protects the rights of hunters and target shooters to enjoy their sport. For the first time ever, the ban specifically exempts over 650 hunting and recreational guns. No law-abiding hunter will have his gun taken away.

America's police officers asked for the assault weapons ban.

Every single major law enforcement organization in the country fought for the ban, including:

National Association of Police Organizations

Fraternal Order of Police

International Union of Police Associations

National Sheriffs Association

International Association of Chiefs of Police

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association

National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition

International Brotherhood of Police Officers

Major Cities Chiefs

Police Foundation

Police Executive Research Forum

As long as Bill Clinton is President, the assault weapons ban will be the law of the land. The President calls on the Republican Congressional leadership to reconsider their decision to vote on a repeal. The President has vowed to veto any bill that repeals the assault weapons ban.

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