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SCHUMER STUDY REVEALS FIRST EVER EVIDENCE OF MASSIVE GUN TRAFFICKING; NEARLY ALL CRIME GUNS SOLD BY HIGH CRIME RETAIL DEALERS ARE QUICKLY RE-SOLD BEFORE USE IN CRIME

140 High Crime Retail Dealers Are Source of 1,421 Homicide Case Guns Over Past 3 Years

Schumer Study Adds Impetus to Lawsuits that Contend Manufacturers Do Little to Prevent the Secondary Sale of Guns to Criminals

Guns bought from high crime gun stores are quickly being resold to criminals and are turning up in thousands of violent crimes including more than 1,400 homicide cases, according to a new report released today by Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY). Schumer's report, a follow-up to a study he released in June which identified a small number of gun dealers as the source of thousands of crime guns, showed that of the nearly 35,000 guns traced back to 140 high crime gun dealers over the past three years, only 13% of the time was the perpetrator of the crime the same person as the purchaser of the gun. These 140 high crime gun stores, retail dealers which were the source of at least 50 guns traced to crimes committed in 1998, represent roughly *one-tenth of one percent of all federally licensed gun dealers* and account for nearly 20% of all ATF crime traces.

"Seven of eight crime guns bought from this tiny slice of gun dealers changed hands before they were used in a crime. This proves that criminals get their guns almost exclusively through the unregulated secondary market where guns bought by someone with a clean record are quickly trafficked to criminals who cannot pass a Brady background check," said Schumer.

Schumer's study also showed that one in three guns traced back to these same high crime gun dealers were recovered in a crime within one year of the gun being sold and half were traced to crimes within two years of the original sale -- strong evidence that many of the guns that end up in the hands of criminals are trafficked, in the view of federal law enforcement.

"Experienced trafficking investigators have found that recovery of crime guns within three years is a significant trafficking indicator," according to a February, 1999 report on gun traces by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Typically, the time from when a gun is first sold to when it is recovered in a crime averages between three and five years.

- more -

① ~~Plan~~ Talking points -

②

2 parts of the budget - Budget in brief / more detailed
- Where are we on the \$25 million?

Key Man At 1/12/99. Angela Wilton
Jack Calhoun, CEO + Pres (h/t) Natl Crime Research Council
466-6272 ext 118
783-7949 ext 3101
Joel
6-6494

Miriam Pollin

Bruce - Dealer

Sen - out of town

Jerry Weeks - P-5-6292
F-5-6299

- Jan Charles, BIS
- how many gun crimes
per year,
- so some analysis
why etc.

→ 412,000
"Where do the (412,000) individuals who fail the Brady check get their guns? While some are undoubtedly deterred, others get their guns from traffickers who feast on stores that either don't know or don't care that the person buying the guns is not going to keep them," said Schumer. "The result is a flourishing underground market in guns that find their way into the hands of criminals."

The latest Schumer study should have an impact on the pending lawsuits against gun manufacturers as it reveals that a tiny slice of gun dealers account for an enormous number of crime guns and that little industry effort is made to stem the secondary market for guns used in crime. For each gun trace, federal law enforcement initially contacts gun manufacturers with the serial number and model of the gun. Manufacturers then inform law enforcement which licensed dealer, often a gun wholesaler or distributor, they sold the weapon to.

"Most of the time, manufacturers know when one of their guns is used in a crime, but they have not taken the extra step to find out from which gun store it was sold," said Schumer. "This seems like the obvious question to ask for someone in the gun business. But it's don't ask, don't tell because they don't want to know."

Schumer analyzed raw data obtained via request from ATF which focused on the 140 federally licensed retail gun stores which Schumer identified in an earlier report as the source of at least 50 guns traced to crimes committed in 1998. The data encompasses 34,867 guns traced back to these stores for crimes committed between 1996 and 1998. These 140 gun stores, representing 0.13% of all federally licensed retail dealers, are the source of 19.3% of the (180,791) guns which ATF traced to a retail dealer between 1996 and 1998.

Schumer found that of the 34,867 guns traced back to these gun stores, in only 4,409 cases, or 12.6% of the time, was the possessor of the crime gun the same person as the original purchaser. The remaining 30,458 guns were used in a crime by someone other than the original purchaser of the gun, the first ever evidence of a massive secondary market for crime guns.

"We have seen evidence of gun trafficking in individual cases, but the extent of trafficking has always been a mystery," said Schumer.

Schumer noted that not every gun that is sold in the unregulated secondary market is a prelude to a crime. Collectors routinely buy and sell guns to each other without the use of background checks. And Schumer cautioned that not every one of these crime guns necessarily went through a secondary market. In some cases, it is possible that a family member used the gun in a crime or that the gun was resold through another licensed firearms dealer like a pawnshop. However, it is unlikely that guns recovered in crime within two years of first being bought were resold through a pawnbroker or any licensed firearms dealer.

One of the key enablers of the secondary market in guns is the loophole that allows any person to sell their own firearm to another individual without conducting a background check or submitting any paperwork so long as the seller does not have reason to believe that the buyer is prohibited by law from owning a gun. It is also illegal to sell guns without a federal dealers' license if the seller is deemed to be conducting a business rather than simply making a private

sale. These two legal standards make it exceptionally difficult to prosecute straw buyers and traffickers of guns.

"The secondary market is to crime guns what the Cayman Islands is to money. It launders the gun so that when it turns up in a crime the trace leads law enforcement to a dead end," said Schumer.

Schumer announced that when the Senate reconvenes in January he will introduce legislation requiring:

• a background check for every secondary sale of handguns and semiautomatic assault weapon sales;

• *or just handgun + assault rifle?* all secondary sales be conducted through a licensed firearms dealer who completes the background check; *No background check.*

• a change in the Brady Law to prohibit any person from buying a handgun if he/she has sold at least two guns that were used in crime by a subsequent buyer; *What about background check?*

• notification to National Tracing Center of each such secondary sale so that should the gun turn up in a crime, a successful trace is possible (notification includes information about the firearm exchanged but not the names of the unlicensed seller or unlicensed buyer).

Schumer has already introduced the "Targeted Gun Dealer Enforcement Act of 1999" (S. 1306), which would crack down on certain gun dealers and traffickers responsible for funneling firearms into the hands of those who use guns in crime. The bill would, among other things, tighten reporting and other regulatory requirements for the few licensed firearms dealers responsible for 25 or more guns traced to crime in a given year, clearly outlaw and provide increased penalties for straw purchase schemes, give ATF authority to suspend and impose civil monetary penalties upon licensed firearms dealers who break the law, and permit the National Tracing Center to computerize all firearms sales records in its possession.

"These are very modest changes in the law that would have a chilling effect on the underground gun market," Schumer said.

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Crime Guns Sold By High Crime Gun Dealers Quickly Change Hands and are Rarely Used by Original Buyer of the Gun

Schumer analyzed data from 140 retail gun dealers which were the source of at least 50 guns traced to crimes committed in 1998. These 140 gun stores, slightly more than one-tenth of one percent of the nation's 104,000 gun stores, accounted for 14,097 ATF crime traces, or 18.6% of the 75,844 successful traces to retail stores. Between 1996 and 1998 these same stores accounted for 34,867 ATF crime traces, or 19.3% of the 180,791 successful traces to retail stores.

- Of the 34,867 guns traced by ATF back to the 140 high crime gun stores, only in 4,409 of the traces was the possessor of the crime gun the same as the purchaser (12.6%).
- In the remaining 30,458 crimes, the gun changed hands and the person who committed the crime was not the original purchaser of the gun (87.4%).
- In 1998, crime guns from these stores changed hands 85.9% of the time (12,109 out of 14,097 guns).
- In 1997, crime guns from these stores changed hands 88.2% of the time (10,936 out of 12,405 guns).
- In 1996, crime guns from these stores changed hands 88.5% of the time (7,343 out of 8,295 guns).

Guns from High Crime Stores Quickly Used in Crimes

Nearly half of the guns traced to crime from these 140 high crime stores were recovered within two years of the original sale from the store. Typically, the average crime gun is recovered within three to five years from its original sale. Since nearly all of these guns were used in crimes after changing hands, it means that guns bought from these stores were almost immediately resold to criminals.

- Between 1996 and 1998, of the 27,670 guns traced by ATF back to these 140 high crime guns stores and for which a date of the gun purchase was supplied to ATF, 13,431 guns were recovered within two years of first being sold (48.5%).
- 8,960 guns were recovered within one year of first being sold (32.4%).
- 3,588 were recovered within three months of first being sold (13.0%).

Guns from High Crime Stores Used in Violent Crimes

- Between 1996 and 1998, 1,421 homicide case guns were traced back to these 140 high crime gun dealers. That is 6.8% of the total homicide case handgun traces by ATF over this period.
- Each of the 140 high crime gun dealers had at least one homicide case gun trace over the past three years.
- Gun dealers from the following locations had at least 20 homicide case handguns traced back to their stores between 1996-1998: Riverdale, Illinois (43), West Milwaukee (40), Indianapolis (35), Richmond (34), Elmwood Park, Illinois (33), Spring, Texas (31), Forestville, Maryland (28), Jefferson, Louisiana (28), Chalmette, Louisiana (24), Lincolnwood, Illinois (23), Tucson (23), Indianapolis (21), Bedford Heights, Ohio (21), Philadelphia (20), San Leandro, CA (20), Fontana, CA (20), Tucson (20).

High Crime Gun Dealers by City and State
Straw Buyers, Time to Crime, Homicide Guns
1996 - 1998

Alabama (3 gun stores)

- Possessor of crime gun equaled purchaser of gun in 34 of the 874 traces (Huntsville - 21 of 463, Trafford - 2 of 193, Tarrant - 11 of 218).
- Of the 749 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 172 guns were recovered within one year and 291 within two years of the original purchase date (Huntsville - 132 within one year and 221 within two years out of 425 traces, Trafford - 0 within one year and 4 within two years out of 146 traces, Tarrant - 40 within one year and 66 within two years out of 178 traces).
- 26 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced to these stores (Huntsville - 17, Trafford - 3, Tarrant - 6).

Arizona (2 gun stores)

- Possessor of crime gun equaled purchaser of gun in 111 of 790 traces (Tucson I - 66 of 457, Tucson II - 45 of 333)
- Of the 578 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 190 guns were recovered within one year and 295 within two years (Tucson I - 87 within one year and 141 within two years out of 324 traces, Tucson II - 103 within one year and 154 within two years of 254 traces).
- 43 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced to these stores (Tucson I - 23, Tucson II - 20).

California (12 gun stores)

- Possessor of crime gun equaled purchaser of gun in 319 of 2,470 traces (National City - 23 of 178, Chino I - 29 of 242, Signal Hill - 6 of 92, Chino II - 37 of 230, Fontana - 43 of 344, San Leandro - 44 of 304, Northridge - 7 of 113, North Hollywood I - 41 of 292, North Hollywood II - 13 of 115, Compton - 21 of 270, Reseda - 13 of 82, Hawthorne - 42 of 208).
- Of the 1,900 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 298 guns were recovered within one year and 501 within two years (National City - 21 within one year and 32 within two years of 138 traces, Chino I - 33 within one year and 59 within two years of 187 traces, Signal Hill - 6 within one year and 7 within two years of 83 traces, Chino II - 29 within one year and 54 within two years of 181 traces, Fontana - 38 within one year and 68 within two years of 259 traces, San Leandro - 30 within one year and 51 within two years of 216 traces, Northridge - 0 within one year and 2 within two years of 91 traces, North Hollywood I - 31 within one year and 56 within two years of 238 traces, North Hollywood II - 9 within one year and 17 within two years of 28 traces, Compton - 42 within one year and 60 within two years of 218 traces, Reseda - 0 traces within one or two years of 70 traces, Hawthorne - 59 within one year and 95 within two years of 191 traces).
- 123 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced to these stores (National City - 14, Chino I - 11, Signal Hill - 2, Chino II - 6, Fontana - 20, San Leandro - 20, Northridge - 7, North Hollywood I - 14, North Hollywood II - 8, Compton - 12, Reseda - 2, Hawthorne - 7).
(The Northridge Store has been out of business since 1996.)

Connecticut (1 gun store)

- Possessor of the gun equaled purchaser of the gun in 11 of 134 traces at the lone high crime gun store in Connecticut (Hamden).
- Of the 111 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 9 were recovered within one year and 23 within two years of being bought.
- 3 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to the Hamden store.
(Note: The Hamden store has been out of business since 1995.)

Delaware (1 gun store)

- Possessor of the gun equaled purchaser of the gun in 33 of 165 traces at the lone high crime gun store in Delaware (New Castle).
- Of the 107 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 26 were recovered within one year and 43 within two years of being bought.
- 5 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to the New Castle store.

Florida (16 gun stores)

- Possessor of the gun equaled purchaser of the gun in 232 of 2,207 traces (Hialeah I - 16 of 258, Miami I through VIII - 110 of 1,070, Jacksonville I - 14 of 136, Jacksonville II - 4 of 97, Apopka - 11 of 164, Tallahassee - 20 of 89, Ft. Lauderdale - 14 of 107, Hialeah II - 31 of 191, Naranja - 12 of 95).
- Of the 1,450 traced guns for which the purchase date was known, 220 were recovered within one year and 360 within two years of being bought (Hialeah I - 38 within one year and 60 within two years of 151 traces, Miami I through VIII - 77 within one year and 131 within two years of 701 traces, Jacksonville I - 0 within one or two years of 93 traces, Jacksonville II - 10 within one year and 16 within two years of 74 traces, Apopka - 16 within one year and 30 within 2 years of 75 traces, Tallahassee - 24 within one year and 28 within two years of 52 traces, Ft. Lauderdale - 17 within one year and 33 within two years of 73 traces, Hialeah - 20 within one year and 35 within two years of 162 traces, Naranja - 18 within one year and 27 within two years of 69 traces).
- 158 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced to these stores (Hialeah I - 19, Miami I through VIII - 90, Jacksonville I - 5, Jacksonville II - 4, Apopka - 11, Tallahassee - 2, Ft. Lauderdale - 7, Hialeah II - 11, Naranja - 9).

(Note: 3 Miami stores have been out of business since 1993, 1994, and 1995; the Jacksonville I store has been out of business since 1997.)

Georgia (15 stores)

- Possessor of the gun equaled purchaser of the gun in 458 of 3,475 traces (Bogart - 45 of 174, Atlanta I - 32 of 177, Jonesboro I - 17 of 163, Decatur I - 104 of 607, Atlanta II - 17 of 164, East Point - 64 of 566, Decatur II - 34 of 222, Jonesboro II - 46 of 418, Mableton - 15 of 155, Macon - 17 of 111, Hephzibah - 1 of 58, Doraville I - 21 of 132, Doraville II - 26 of 245, Marietta - 15 of 148, Chickamauga - 4 of 140).
- Of the 2,323 guns for which the purchase date was known, 960 were recovered within one year and 1,381 within two years of being bought (Bogart - 21 within one year and 32 within two years of 95 traces, Atlanta I - 72 within one year and 100 within two years of 111 traces, Jonesboro I - 28 within one year and 44 within two years of 113 traces, Decatur I - 153 within one year and 225 within two years of 404 traces, Atlanta II - 62 within one year and 89 within two years of 118 traces, East Point - 140 within one year and 207 within two years of 346 traces, Decatur II - 90 within one year and 125 within two years of 164 traces, Jonesboro II - 102 within one year and 143 within two years of 272 traces, Mableton - 41 within one year and 69 within two years of 103 traces, Chickamauga - 52 within one year and 77 within two years of 104 traces, Macon - 25 within one year and 39 within two years of 54 traces, Hephzibah - 49 within one year and 50 within two years of 54 traces, Doraville I - 85 within one year and 109 within two years of 115 traces, Doraville II - 11 within one year and 30 within two years of 170 traces, Marietta - 29 within one year and 42 within two years of 100 traces).
- 73 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (Bogart - 5, Atlanta I - 1, Jonesboro I - 3, Decatur I - 13, Atlanta II - 2, East Point - 7, Decatur II - 3, Jonesboro II - 6, Mableton - 1, Chickamauga - 6, Macon - 7, Hephzibah - 1, Doraville I - 4, Doraville II - 7, Marietta - 7).

(Note: Doraville II has been out of business since 1996.)

Illinois (10 gun stores)

- Possessor of crime gun equalled purchaser of gun in 119 of 4,297 traces (Elmwood Park - 2 of 788, Lincolnwood - 27 of 455, Lyons - 11 of 346, Riverdale - 16 of 1,176, Franklin Park - 11 of 356, Dundee - 16 of 187, Melrose Park - 4 of 399, Oak Lawn - 4 of 304, Collinsville - 14 of 114, Decatur - 14 of 172).
- Of the 3,859 traces for which the purchase date was known, 1,487 were recovered within one year and 2,196 within two years of being sold (Elmwood Park - 279 within one year and 428 within two years of 725 traces, Lincolnwood - 136 within one year and 208 within two years of 432 traces, Lyons - 103 within one year and 143 within two years of 305 traces, Riverdale - 455 within one year and 637 within two years of 1,094 traces, Franklin - 143 within one year and 213 within two years of 318 traces, Dundee - 50 within one year and 78 within two years of 149 traces, Melrose - 200 within one year and 271 within two years of 356 traces, Oak Lawn - 80 within one year and 145 within two years of 282 traces, Collinsville - 14 of one year and 28 within two years of 67 traces, Decatur - 27 within one year and 45 within two years of 131 traces).
- 183 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these dealers (Elmwood Park - 33, Lincolnwood - 23, Lyons - 10, Riverdale - 43, Franklin Park - 15, Dundee - 21, Melrose Park - 12, Oak Lawn - 12, Collinsville - 7, Decatur - 7).

Indiana (15 gun stores)

- Possessor of the crime gun was the purchaser of the gun in 119 of 4,297 traces (Gary I - 6 of 177, Valparaiso - 26 of 329, Indianapolis I - 70 of 436, Merrillville - 13 of 161, Indianapolis II - 57 of 390, Chesterton - 23 of 314, Indianapolis III - 137 of 911, Indianapolis IV - 52 of 295, Gary - 31 of 213, Indianapolis V - 41 of 218, Lake Station - 39 of 439, Indianapolis VI - 41 of 197, Griffith - 35 of 239, Camby - 75 of 481, Gary II - 38 of 327).
 - Of the 4,696 traces for which the purchase date was known, 2,018 were recovered within one year and 2,875 within two years of being sold (Gary I - 0 within one year and 1 within two years of 152 traces, Valparaiso - 103 within one year and 150 within two years of 293 traces, Indianapolis I - 192 within one year and 270 within two years of 414 traces, Merrillville - 50 within one year and 80 within two years of 136 traces, Indianapolis II - 142 within one year and 203 within two years of 356 traces, Chesterton - 66 within one year and 129 within two years of 271 traces, Indianapolis III - 414 within one year and 560 within two years of 863 traces, Indianapolis IV - 146 within one year and 187 within two years of 270 traces, Gary II - 72 within one year and 116 within two years of 189 traces, Indianapolis V - 94 within one year and 138 within two years of 206 traces, Lake Station - 253 within one year and 361 within two years of 407 traces, Indianapolis VI - 105 within one year and 137 within two years of 190 traces, Griffith - 78 within one year and 115 within two years of 208 traces, Camby - 156 within one year and 232 within two years of 456 traces, Gary III - 147 within one year and 196 within two years of 285 traces).
 - 172 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these dealers (Gary I - 3, Valparaiso - 14, Indianapolis I - 9, Merrillville - 6, Indianapolis II - 14, Chesterton - 6, Indianapolis III - 35, Indianapolis IV - 7, Gary II - 3, Indianapolis V - 21, Lake Station - 12, Indianapolis VI - 10, Griffith - 6, Camby - 17, Gary III - 9).
- (Note: Gary I has been out of business since 1993.)*

Kansas (1 gun store)

- The possessor of the crime gun was the same as the purchaser of the gun in 18 of 232 traces at the lone Kansas retail dealer in Overland Park.
- Of the 199 traces for which the purchase date was known at the Overland Park store, 56 were recovered within one year and 74 within two years of being sold.

- 15 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to the Overland Park store.

Louisiana (3 gun stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser of the gun in 112 of the 863 traces (Chalmette - 21 of 214, Jefferson - 84 of 547, Baton Rouge - 7 of 102).
- Of the 742 traces for which the purchase date is known, 224 were recovered within one year and 372 within two years of being sold (Chalmette - 14 within one year and 24 within two years of 164 traces, Jefferson - 200 within one year and 328 within two years of 495 traces, Baton Rouge - 10 within one year and 20 within two years of 83 traces).
- 58 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Chalmette - 24, Jefferson - 28, Baton Rouge - 6).
(Note: the Chalmette store has been out of business since 1998.)

Maryland (6 gun stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 265 of 1,679 traces (Silver Spring - 28 of 121, Forestville - 115 of 493, Baltimore I - 38 of 288, Baltimore II - 13 of 158, Baltimore III - 43 of 394, Baltimore IV - 2 of 225).
- Of the 1,387 traces for which the purchase date is known, 396 were recovered within one year and 634 within two years of being sold (Silver Spring - 17 within one year and 29 within two years of 89 traces, Forestville - 105 within one year and 167 within two years of 304 traces, Baltimore I - 79 within one year and 118 within two years of 270 traces, Baltimore II - 38 within one year and 61 within two years of 143 traces, Baltimore III - 93 within one year and 157 within two years of 371 traces, Baltimore IV - 64 within one year and 102 within two years of 210 traces).
- 64 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Silver Spring - 5, Forestville - 28, Baltimore I - 7, Baltimore II - 10, Baltimore III - 7, Baltimore IV - 7).

Minnesota (2 gun stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 52 of 382 traces (Minneapolis - 12 of 144, Robbinsdale - 40 of 238).
- Of the 328 traces for which the purchase date is known, 118 were recovered within one year and 154 within two years of being sold (Minneapolis - 4 within one year and 9 within two years of 126, Robbinsdale - 114 within one year and 145 within two years of 202).
- 13 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Minneapolis - 4, Robbinsdale - 9).

Missouri (2 gun stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 85 of 526 traces (Dellwood - 42 of 329, St. Louis - 43 of 197).
- Of the 223 traces for which the purchase date is known, 51 were recovered within one year and 97 within two years of being sold (Dellwood - 29 within one year and 62 within two years of 139 traces, St. Louis - 22 within one year and 35 within two years of 84 traces).
- 7 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Dellwood - 3, St. Louis - 4).

New Jersey (1 store)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 53 of 158 traces at the lone New Jersey high crime gun store in North Plainfield.
- Of the 124 traces in which the purchase date is known, 10 were recovered within one year and 27 within two years of being sold.
- 10 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to this store.

New York (2 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 55 of 386 traces (Farmingdale - 26 of 211, Buffalo - 29 of 178).
- Of the 296 traces in which the purchase date is known, 29 were recovered within one year and 50 within two years of being sold (Farmingdale - 13 within one year and 26 within two years of 181, Buffalo - 16 within one year and 24 within two years of 115).
- 13 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Farmingdale - 11, Buffalo - 2).

(Note: the Farmingdale store has been out of business since 1997.)

North Carolina (4 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 93 of 905 traces (Fayetteville - 13 of 151, Charlotte I - 13 of 119, Charlotte II - 11 of 78, Charlotte III - 56 of 557).
- Of the 606 traces in which the purchase date is known, 195 were recovered within one year and 308 within two years of being sold (Fayetteville - 18 within one year and 30 within two years of 111, Charlotte I - 52 within one year and 70 within two years of 107, Charlotte II - 22 within one year and 37 within two years of 66, Charlotte III - 121 within one year and 201 within two years of 433).
- 35 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Fayetteville - 9, Charlotte I - 5, Charlotte II - 3, Charlotte III - 18).

Ohio (7 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 451 of 1,806 traces (Gallipolis - 80 of 158, Columbus - 14 of 265, Washington Court House - 30 of 141, North College Hill - 238 of 369, Bedford Heights - 104 of 547, Akron - 22 of 154, Cleveland - 35 of 172).
- Of the 1,552 traces in which the purchase date is known, 390 were recovered within one year and 650 within two years of being sold (Gallipolis - 4 within one year and 6 within two years of 112, Columbus - 35 within one year and 56 within two years of 174, Washington Court House - 6 within one year and 17 within two years of 111, North College Hill - 117 within one year and 211 within two years of 368, Bedford Heights - 119 within one year and 190 within two years of 485, Akron - 45 within one year and 62 within two years of 141, Cleveland - 64 within one year and 108 within two years of 161).
- 61 guns recovered in homicide investigations were traced back to these stores (Gallipolis - 7, Columbus - 17, Washington Court House - 5, North College Hill - 1, Bedford Heights - 21, Akron - 6, Cleveland - 4).

(Note: the Gallipolis store has been out of business since 1997.)

Pennsylvania (6 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 177 of 1,046 traces (Philadelphia I - 50 of 308, Montgomeryville - 21 of 192, Philadelphia II - 10 of 97, Philadelphia III - 13 of 82, Upper Darby - 46 of 196, Wilksburg - 37 of 171).
- Of the 851 traces in which the purchase date is known, 302 were recovered within one year and 413 within two years of being sold (Philadelphia I - 64 within one year and 91

within two years of 254, Montgomeryville - 24 within one year and 48 within two years of 156, Philadelphia II - 35 within one year and 45 within two years of 78, Philadelphia III - 36 within one year and 42 within two years of 66, Upper Darby - 89 within one year and 114 within two years of 163, Wilkinsburg - 54 within one year and 73 within two years of 134).

- 56 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (Philadelphia I - 20, Montgomeryville - 10, Philadelphia II - 3, Philadelphia III - 5, Upper Darby - 16, Wilkinsburg - 2).

(Note: the Montgomeryville store has been out of business since 1997.)

Tennessee (9 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 235 of 1,510 traces (Memphis I - 63 of 337, Memphis II - 48 of 304, Laverne - 13 of 151, Nashville I - 41 of 246, Nashville II - 5 of 57, Nashville III - 11 of 85, Memphis III - 22 of 128, Smyrna - 7 of 93, Memphis IV - 25 of 109).
- Of the 1,407 traces in which the purchase date is known, 452 were recovered within one year and 734 within two years of being sold (Memphis I - 101 within one year and 162 within two years of 323, Memphis II - 76 within one year and 140 within two years of 293, Laverne - 21 within one year and 42 within two years of 127, Nashville I - 86 within one year and 130 within two years of 225, Nashville II - 16 within one year and 26 within two years of 48, Nashville III - 28 within one year and 47 within two years of 79, Memphis III - 55 within one year and 78 within two years of 125, Smyrna - 21 within one year and 38 within two years of 84, Memphis IV - 48 within one year and 71 within two years of 103).
- 65 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (Memphis I - 15, Memphis II - 6, Laverne - 11, Nashville I - 13, Nashville II - 2, Nashville III - 4, Memphis III - 5, Smyrna - 7, Memphis IV - 2).

Texas (10 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 99 of 1,446 traces (McKinney - 11 of 157, Dallas I - 6 of 111, Dallas II - 11 of 138, Mesquite - 6 of 86, Irving - 7 of 89, Grand Prairie - 11 of 154, Garland - 20 of 78, Dallas III - 14 of 225, Spring - 27 of 308, Kemp - 0 of 100).
- Of the 1,001 traces in which the purchase date is known, 189 were recovered within one year and 328 within two years (McKinney - 12 within one year and 25 within two years of 99, Dallas I - 15 within one year and 25 within two years of 97, Dallas II - 10 within one year and 30 within two years of 127, Mesquite - 17 within one year and 27 within two years of 75, Irving - 12 within one year and 20 within two years of 67, Grand Prairie - 49 within one year and 68 within two years of 136, Garland - 23 within one year and 44 within two years of 67, Kemp - 3 within one year and 3 within two years of 3, Dallas III - 31 within one year and 53 within two years of 169, Spring - 17 within one year and 33 within two years of 161).
- 68 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (McKinney - 8, Dallas I - 4, Dallas II - 2, Mesquite - 5, Irving - 4, Grand Prairie - 2, Garland - 2, Kemp - 3, Dallas III - 7, Spring - 31).

(Note: the Kemp store has been out of business since 1998, Dallas III since 1996.)

Virginia (9 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 382 of 2,730 traces (Hampton I - 13 of 135, Mechanicsville - 45 of 314, Richmond I - 112 of 711, Richmond II - 13 of 249, Hampton II - 74 of 575, Virginia Beach - 37 of 133, Glen Allen - 39 of 307, Richmond III - 33 of 176, Carrollton - 16 of 130).
- Of the 1,473 traces in which the purchase date is known, 397 were recovered within one year and 623 within two years of being sold (Hampton I - 1 within one year and 6 within two years of 72, Mechanicsville - 25 within one year and 52 within two years of 144, Richmond I - 82 within one year and 133 within two years of 366, Richmond II - 2 within one year and 3 within two years of 159, Hampton II - 155 within one year and 244 within two years of 316, Virginia Beach - 54 within one year and 72 within two years of 81, Glen Allen - 21 within one year and 40 within two years of 165, Richmond III - 45 within one year and 54 within two years of 101, Carrollton - 12 within one year and 19 within two years of 69).
- 109 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (Hampton - 7, Mechanicsville - 17, Richmond I - 34, Richmond II - 11, Hampton - 13, Virginia Beach - 4, Glen Allen - 10, Richmond III - 8, Carrollton - 5).

(Note: the Richmond II store has been out of business since 1994, Hampton I since 1996.)

Wisconsin (3 stores)

- The possessor of the crime gun equaled the purchaser in 302 of 1,626 traces (Milwaukee - 31 of 264, West Allis - 33 of 247, West Milwaukee - 238 of 1,115).
- Of the 1,589 traces in which the purchase date is known, 753 were recovered within one year and 994 within two years of being sold (Milwaukee - 0 within one year and 4 within two years of 254, West Allis - 78 within one year and 131 within two years of 241, West Milwaukee - 675 within one year and 859 within two years of 1,094).
- 59 guns recovered in homicide cases were traced back to these stores (Milwaukee - 12, West Allis - 7, West Milwaukee - 40).

(Note: The Milwaukee store has been out of business since 1996.)

Top of page:

Col 1: Foreign news feature moving at a later date with art.

Col 2: Branding the government's century-long mismanagement of Indian trust fund money "inexcusable," a federal judge pledges to oversee reform of a program that will pay thousands of American Indians as much as \$2.5 billion in royalties that are due them. (INDIAN-TIMES, moved.)

Cols 3-6: Fearful of potential terrorist attacks, the Federal Aviation Administration orders sharply increased security measures at U.S. airports as a direct result of the arrest in Washington state last week of an Algerian man driving a car containing ingredients for four crude bombs. (with art) (TERROR-TIMES, moved.)

Above the fold:

Col 3: Across the country, states that ordinarily restrict fireworks sales to the period around July 4 have given in to industry pressure to allow millennium sales. (FIREWORKS, moved.)

Cols 4-5: Local story.

Below the fold:

Cols 4-5: In a case seen as a social milestone for male-dominated Japan, the governor of Osaka resigns and is simultaneously indicted on sexual assault charges for allegedly groping a 21-year-old female campaign worker. (JAPAN, moved.)

Bottom of the page:

Cols 1-3: Hundreds of projects are lurching toward completion in Rome's biggest make-over since the Fascist era, and as basilicas, fountains and statues emerge from restoration, many Romans say they have never seen their city so dazzling, or so tied up in knots. (with art) (JUBILEE, moving Wednesday.)

Cols 5-6: If there's one thing parliamentary elections proved, it's that there is a place for everyone in Russia's democracy; the Duma's recently elected deputies represent virtually every strain of ideology and political malady to visit the country in recent times. (RUSSIA-ASSESS, moved.)

LEAHNE/DEANNE (copy both sides) -
Can we do something
on this?
BR

Clinton Administration Blocks Loan Guarantees for Russia
By Jonathan Peterson
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON The Clinton administration blocked \$498 million in loan guarantees to Russia on Tuesday in a striking signal of displeasure with Russia's economic corruption and an indirect protest of its military campaign in Chechnya.

The action was announced late in the day by the State Department and the Export-Import Bank, an independent agency that had been intent on approving the aid for energy projects in Siberia and Moscow until White House officials expressed their concerns.

Citing a rarely used legal provision, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright declared that it was in America's "national interest" to block the aid, which would have gone to a firm that is accused of corrupt tactics in taking over a coveted Siberian oil field.

"The reason for the delay is that there are a number of reports and allegations" about the business practices of the borrower, Tyumen Oil Co., explained Al Larson, undersecretary of state for economic, business and agricultural affairs. Larson added that the ban may be temporary.

The Export-Import Bank had planned on Tuesday to approve a \$295-million loan guarantee to help Tyumen modernize an oil field in western Siberia, and another loan guarantee of \$203 million for the firm to upgrade its oil refinery near Moscow. The deal would have represented the largest infusion of U.S. aid to Russia since the ruble crash of 1998, and it threatened a storm of protest.

What ultimately sank the proposal were allegations that the Russian borrower had gained a coveted oil field in Siberia by illegally controlling a bankruptcy proceeding that enabled it to take over a firm with rights on that field.

In the process, BP Amoco and other Western investors in Sidanco, the firm that was taken over, have claimed unfair losses.

"Approval of the loan guarantees in light of corruption of Russia's bankruptcy process would likely have serious, negative ramifications for U.S. investors, since American private investors have invested substantial millions of dollars" in the firm that Tyumen took over, wrote Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, D-N.Y., and 13 other members of Congress in a letter last month to James Harmon, chairman of the Export-Import Bank.

Administration officials were further concerned about which individuals stood to benefit if Tyumen received the credit. Since the collapse of the old Soviet system, criminals including former officials who exploited their position as insiders have gained vast influence over Russia's economy and its wealth in natural resources. Tyumen is 49.8 percent owned by the Russian government and is undergoing a shift into private hands, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

"There are some questions that are quite relevant about who is the partner on the other side of this transaction in Russia," a senior administration official observed.

Administration officials insisted Tuesday that the decision on the loan guarantees was not related to the war in Chechnya, although Russia's military campaign has become tangled up in U.S. presidential politics and is being cited by critics, including Democratic presidential candidate Bill Bradley, as reason to withhold all foreign aid from Moscow.

Internally, the White House agonized over the loan decision, with some officials arguing that rejecting it could antagonize the Russian regime and impede acutely needed economic development.

Opponents argued that such assistance was not appropriate at a time of pervasive corruption in Russia, including the highly publicized Western investigations into overseas money-laundering, and that the loans would inevitably be interpreted as a sign of U.S. apathy toward the war in Chechnya.

Gore Calls for New Penalties for Renegade Gun Dealers
By Edwin Chen and Rich Simon
Los Angeles Times

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday that new penalties may be needed against the small percentage of renegade gun dealers who are the source of the overwhelming majority of guns used in violent crimes.

Gore issued his warning during and after a two-hour

meeting on school safety with students from three high schools here.

The vice president cited a study released Monday by Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., asserting that thousands of guns purchased from dealers have been resold mostly by straw buyers and used in crimes. This shows, the New York Democrat contended, that criminals are getting guns "from traffickers who feast on stores that either don't know or don't care that the person buying the guns is not going to keep them."

National Rifle Association spokesman Jim Manown responded, "The senator should begin his effort by calling on the Clinton, er, Clinton-Gore administration to start enforcing the laws we have on the books."

During a townhall-style discussion with the students, Gore referred to the findings and said: "It's time to focus on irresponsible gun dealers who are ... responsible for spreading a lot of these guns around in ways that get them into the wrong hands."

Asked after the event to elaborate, Gore said that it "makes sense" to focus on the estimated 1 percent of all gun dealers who fall into this category, as identified by Schumer's study "because they can't be exercising due diligence and be responsible for all that criminal behavior or be participating in the sale of weapons that are used in all that criminal behavior."

Gore said what he has in mind are "maybe some new penalties, maybe some new standards for them to follow to make sure that they are exercising due diligence in background checks and the other safeguards that they are supposed to be following."

On gun-control issues, the vice president has previously called for mandatory photo-licensing for all handgun purchases, a ban on "junk" guns, toughening criminal penalties for adults who sell guns to minors, mandatory child-safety trigger locks and raising the minimum age for handgun possession from 18 to 21.

Schumer's study followed an earlier analysis by his office contending that 140 gun stores "one tenth of 1 percent of all federally licensed gun dealers" sold guns used in about 20 percent of crimes, including 1,400 homicides, between 1996 and 1998.

Of nearly 35,000 guns sold by these 140 dealers and later used in crimes, only 13 percent were still in the hands of the original buyers after three years, according to the new study.

Schumer said the study provides evidence that criminals obtain guns through an "unregulated secondary market where guns bought by someone with a clean record are quickly trafficked to criminals who cannot pass a Brady background check."

But the NRA's Manown said, "The senator only now seems to be discovering that criminals don't buy their guns in gun stores."

Schumer said the study should bolster the lawsuits brought against the gun industry by 29 cities and counties nationwide.

When the Senate reconvenes in January, Schumer plans to introduce legislation requiring secondary sales to be conducted through a licensed firearms dealers who conduct background checks.

Judge Demands Immediate Cleanup of Indian Trust Fund Mess **By Robert L. Jackson** **Los Angeles Times**

WASHINGTON Branding the government's century-long mismanagement of Indian trust fund money "inexcusable," a federal judge pledged Tuesday to oversee reform of a program that will pay thousands of American Indians as much as \$2.5 billion in royalties that are due them.

In a final ruling in the long-running case, U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth reiterated his condemnation of Interior and Treasury Department officials for what he called decades of mishandling the trust accounts. But the judge expressed frustration that reconciling the system for as many as 500,000 claimants defies easy solution.

Capping the largest class-action lawsuit in history to be filed against the federal government, Lamberth rejected the pleas of American Indian plaintiffs for a court-appointed "special master" to supervise changes in the antiquated trust system. Instead, he said, he would credit the sworn promises of Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt to begin a step-by-step cleanup. But the judge will require quarterly progress reports from Interior and from the Bureau of

Indian Affairs, one of its divisions, for as long as five years.

The trust fund records are in such disarray that, many American Indians have been receiving payments, Lamberth said, "it is entirely possible that tens of thousands of trust beneficiaries should be receiving different amounts of money their own money than they do today."

"But no one can say, which is the crux of the problem," the judge added.

The Interior Department responded in a joint statement with Treasury that Lamberth's decision would allow the government "an opportunity to move forward" and implement a plan to reform trust fund management.

"We are determined to meet the challenges and overcome obstacles that lie ahead and we welcome the continued oversight from the court," the statement from Babbitt's office read.

To settle questions about compensation for past government mismanagement, Lamberth said he would preside at a second trial, perhaps starting next fall, at which attorneys for American Indian plaintiffs will present conclusions of an outside accounting firm on the identities of 300,000 to 500,000 American Indians who should have received some payments or additional sums.

Unless Interior officials can rebut the claims of Price Waterhouse accountants, who began investigating the system more than three years ago, Lamberth is expected to order back-payments for these plaintiffs. The judge has estimated that as much as \$2.5 billion has been mismanaged.

"We will be in the catbird seat," said Elliott H. Levitas, a leading plaintiff lawyer and former congressman. "The problem for the government (in rebutting such claims) is they don't have the records."

Eloise Cobell, lead plaintiff in the three-year-old lawsuit, said she is delighted with Lamberth's ruling. Cobell said many officials fail to understand that some impoverished residents of the Blackfeet Indian reservation in Montana where she lives are heavily dependent on U.S. payments for support of their families.

The trust funds, which affect American Indians in every state west of the Mississippi River, were established in the 1830s during the administration of President Andrew Jackson. They were part of a government effort to compensate individuals for use of their land while weakening tribal control of valuable assets.

Federal officials are supposed to manage the accounts and pass along royalties from the sale of petroleum, timber and other natural resources. The government says that it has deposited between \$350 million and \$500 million a year for decades into the accounts. But months of testimony in Lamberth's courtroom showed that officials have been unable to give an accounting of where all the money has gone, citing damage to old documents and an outmoded records system.

"Generations of trust beneficiaries have been born and raised with the assurance that their trustee, the United States, was acting properly with their money," the judge said in his opinion Tuesday. "Just as many generations have been denied any such proof, however."

The bulk of the records in dispute have been in the possession of the Interior Department, with Treasury acting as banker.

Lamberth earlier this year held Babbitt and Robert E. Rubin, then Treasury secretary, in contempt of court, saying they showed "flagrant disregard" for his orders to furnish key records to the plaintiffs.

Earlier this month, Lamberth disclosed that government clerks destroyed 162 boxes of records a year ago but Treasury Department lawyers concealed it from the court for three months, even after halting the routine shredding of old files.

The judge said Tuesday that such evidence is "cumulative" in reflecting federal mishandling of American Indian files and that he would impose no additional sanctions.

Fed, Citing Millennial Rollover, Leaves Rates Unchanged **By Mary Williams Walsh** **Los Angeles Times**

WASHINGTON The Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged Tuesday, explaining that while it harbors concerns about inflation, its top worry for the short term is getting through the millennial rollover without any economic shocks.

Most Guns in Crimes Pass Through a Middleman, Study Finds

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP) — Nearly 9 in 10 guns bought from high-volume dealers and later used in crimes were sold to middlemen who turned around and resold them, according to a report released today.

The report, by the office of Senator Charles E. Schumer, Democrat of New York, followed 34,867 weapons that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms had traced to 140 gun stores throughout the nation that have been found to supply the weapons used in about 20 percent of all crimes.

In only 13 percent of the crimes, or 4,409, was the original buyer of the gun the person using it to commit a crime. In 87 percent of the crimes, or 30,458, the gun had changed hands, the report found.

"This proves that criminals get their guns almost exclusively through the unregulated secondary market where guns bought by someone with a clean record are quickly trafficked to criminals who cannot pass a Brady background check," Mr. Schumer said.

The report used data from the

firearms bureau for 1996 to 1998 that was then analyzed by Mr. Schumer's office. A bureau spokesman, John D'Angelo, said that Mr. Schumer had been provided with the data that he asked for but that the bureau had not been involved in its analysis.

Mr. Schumer's study also found that 1 in 3 guns sold from the high-volume dealers was recovered in a crime within a year of being sold. Half were traced to crimes within two years of the original sale.

A February 1999 report by the firearms bureau surmised that "re-

covery of crime guns within three years is a significant trafficking indicator."

But officials at the National Rifle Association said the bureau's tracking data were unreliable.

"I think the senator should begin his effort by calling on the Clinton administration to start enforcing the laws on the books," an association spokesman, Jim Manown, said.

But Nancy Hwa, a spokeswoman for Handgun Control, said the report "illustrates where the black market comes from."

NY Times
12/21/99

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Wednesday, December 22, 1999 |  [Print this story](#)

Gore Urges More Heat on Some Gun Deals

Firearms: Vice president cites study linking most weapons used in violent crimes to a small number of merchants who sell to arms traffickers.

By EDWIN CHEN, RICH SIMON, Times Staff Writers

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa--Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday that new penalties may be needed against the small percentage of renegade gun dealers who are the source of the overwhelming majority of guns used in violent crimes.

Gore issued his warning during and after a two-hour meeting on school safety with students from three high schools here.

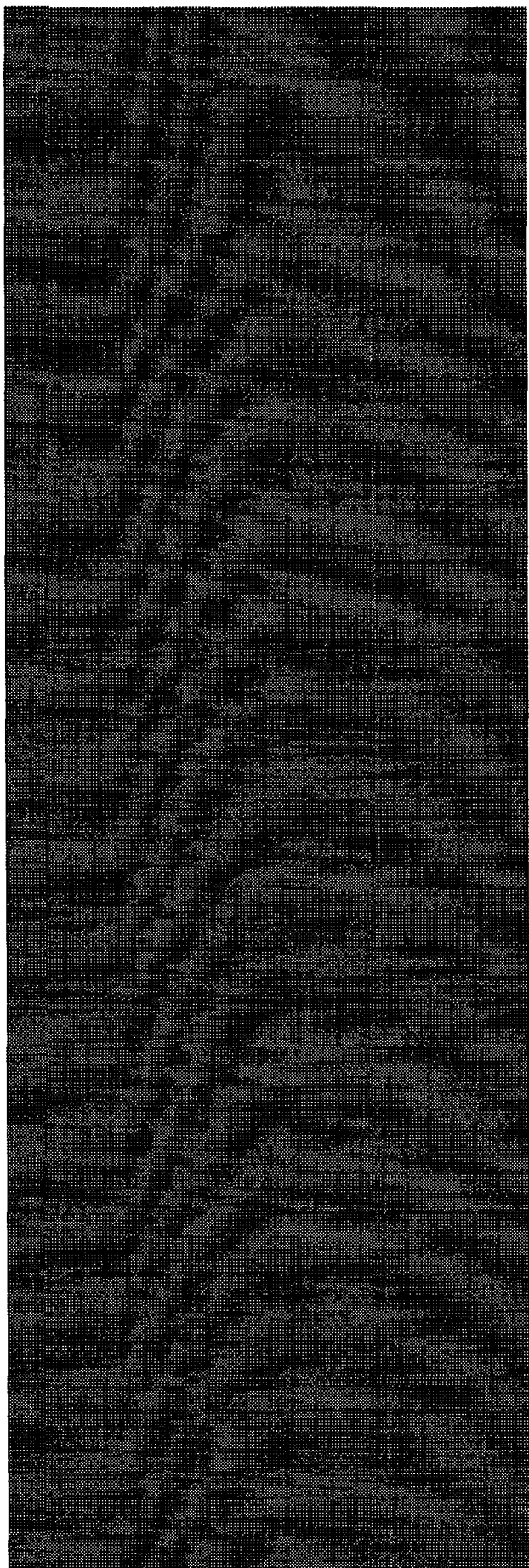
The vice president cited a study released Monday by Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) asserting that thousands of guns purchased from dealers have been resold--mostly by straw buyers--and used in crimes. This shows, the New York Democrat contended, that criminals are getting guns "from traffickers who feast on stores that either don't know or don't care that the person buying the guns is not going to keep them."

National Rifle Assn. spokesman Jim Manown responded: "The senator should begin his effort by calling on the Clinton, er, Clinton-Gore administration to start enforcing the laws we have on the books."

During a town hall-style discussion with the students, Gore referred to the findings and said: "It's time to focus on irresponsible gun dealers who ... are responsible for spreading a lot of these guns around in ways that get them into the wrong hands."

Asked after the event to elaborate, Gore said that it "makes sense" to focus on the estimated 1% of all gun dealers who fall into this category, as identified by Schumer's study, "because they can't be exercising due diligence and be responsible for all that criminal behavior or be participating in the sale of weapons that are used in all that criminal behavior."

Gore said what he has in mind are "maybe some new penalties, maybe some new standards for them to follow--to make sure that they are exercising due



diligence in background checks and the other safeguards that they are supposed to be following."

On gun control issues, the vice president has previously called for mandatory photo-licensing for all handgun purchases, a ban on "junk" guns, toughening criminal penalties for adults who sell guns to minors, mandatory child-safety trigger locks and raising the minimum age for handgun possession from 18 to 21.

Schumer's study followed an earlier analysis by his office contending that 140 gun stores--"1/10th of 1% of all federally licensed gun dealers"--sold guns used in about 20% of crimes, including 1,400 homicides, from 1996 to 1998.

Of nearly 35,000 guns sold by these 140 dealers and later used in crimes, only 13% were still in the hands of the original buyers after three years, according to the new study.

In California, guns used in at least 50 crimes were traced to 12 stores, according to the study, which did not identify the dealers.

Schumer said the study provides evidence that criminals obtain guns through an "unregulated secondary market, where guns bought by someone with a clean record are quickly trafficked to criminals who cannot pass a Brady background check."

But the NRA's Manown said, "The senator only now seems to be discovering that criminals don't buy their guns in gun stores."

Schumer said the study should bolster the lawsuits brought against the gun industry by 29 cities and counties, including the city and county of Los Angeles.

When the Senate reconvenes in January, Schumer plans to introduce legislation requiring secondary sales to be conducted through licensed firearms dealers who conduct background checks--as is required in California by state law.

A gun control measure that would require background checks at gun shows, however, has been stalled in Congress.

Tuesday night, Gore made a dramatic appeal for tolerance of gays and lesbians during a private meeting in Des Moines with many gay activists.

At the request of local gay and lesbian leaders, reporters were barred from the session because many of the 250 participants feared retribution from employers if their sexual orientation became known.

As a concession to the press corps, however, Gore's remarks were piped into another room in the same hotel where the journalists were gathered.

During his talk, Gore vowed as president to combat bigotry toward gays and lesbians, and repeated his recent pledge to allow homosexuals to serve in the military without special conditions.



"Now is the time to appeal to the political conscience of America--to say that this change is in the American tradition," Gore said.

He predicted that historians will find it "nearly incomprehensible" that in this day and age so many gay and lesbian Iowans cannot be "completely free to be who they are without fear of discrimination."

The vice president closed by asking the crowd for its support and described the election of 2000 as "a watershed election in which true change will take place."

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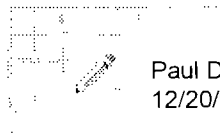
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Today's Question:



Which of these futuristic films takes place closest to the year 2000?

Answer Here →



Paul D. Glastris
12/20/99 09:07:30 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: draft of guns topper to tomorrow's clean air remarks

Draft 12/20/99 9:00 p.m.

Glastris

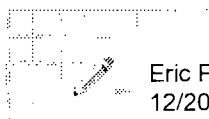
**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
TOPPER ON GUNS FOR
REMARKS ON CLEAN CARS AND CLEAN FUELS FOR THE 21st CENTURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 21, 1999**

Before I begin, I want to say a few words about an important new report that shows us how vital it is for us to change the way the gun industry does business. This report, which comes from Sen. Charles Schumer, unveils further evidence that a very small proportion of gun dealers is linked to a very high proportion of guns recovered in crimes. In particular, it shows that most of the guns bought from these irresponsible dealers that make into the hands of criminals first pass through the hands of someone else--a straw purchaser, perhaps, or an illegal gun trafficker. That is why I have been pushing Congress to enact common-sense gun measures that would help shut these traffickers down. And that is why my administration has begun to engage the gun industry on a range of steps the industry itself can take to help stem the flow of guns to criminals.

Thanks to the Brady law, our increased support for state and local law enforcement, and other steps we've taken, gun violence in America is down. But no one believes it is down far enough. The message of this report is simple: It's time for Congress and the gun industry to help clamp down on bad dealers and to reduce the flow of guns to criminals. It's time for them to help us make our country safer. I hope this report will push that cause forward.

Message Sent To: _____

Terry Edmonds/WHO/EOP@EOP
Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP
Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP
Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP
Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP@EOP
Loretta M. Ucelli/WHO/EOP@EOP
Lindsay R. Drewel/WHO/EOP@EOP
Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP@EOP
Michele Ballantyne/WHO/EOP@EOP
Joel Johnson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Scott Hynes/WHO/EOP@EOP
Douglas B. Sosnik/WHO/EOP@EOP
Emily Karcher/WHO/EOP@EOP
Joseph P. Lockhart/WHO/EOP@EOP
Michelle A. Enger/OMB/EOP@EOP



Eric P. Liu
12/20/99 06:06:49 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul D. Glastris/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP, Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP@EOP, deanne e. benos/opd/eop@eop, Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
bcc:
Subject: Re: proposed edits

Paul -- Thanks -- this revision is language Bruce and I worked up. It's shorter and more general, which should help everyone. (Leanne, any ATF sensitivities this new language raises?)

"Before I begin, I want to say a few words about an important new report that shows us how vital it is for us to change the way the gun industry does business. This report, which comes from Sen. Charles Schumer, unveils new evidence that a very small proportion of gun dealers is linked to a very high proportion of guns ~~used~~ in crimes. It also sheds light on the existence of an illegal firearms market that makes it far too easy for criminals to get guns. That is why I have been pushing Congress to enact common-sense gun measures that would help shut these traffickers down. And that is why my administration has begun to engage the gun industry on a range of steps the industry itself can take to stem the flow of guns to criminals.

Thanks to the Brady law, our increased support for state and local law enforcement, and other steps we've taken, gun violence in America is down. But no one believes it is down far enough. The message of this report is simple: It's time for Congress and the gun industry to help clamp down on bad dealers and to take crime guns out of circulation. It's time for them to help us make our country safer. I hope this report will push that cause forward."

Leanne A. Shimabukuro

the sales of guns to criminals
reduce the flow of guns to criminals.
reduce criminal easy access to guns.
Leanne A. Shimabukuro 12/20/99 05:02:21 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul D. Glastris/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP, Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: proposed edits

Paul -- ATF is extremely squeamish about citing any of the numbers in Schumer's report

Record Type: Record

To: Paul D. Glastris/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP, Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP

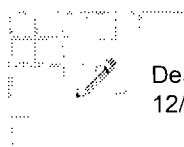
Subject: proposed edits

Paul -- ATF is extremely squeamish about citing any of the numbers in Schumer's report (including his June report stats). While no one will outright contradict his numbers tomorrow, Treasury plans to release a report in February which will have different stats on same points. The proposed edits try to fudge it a bit and generalize the points (although I know that makes it less appealing).

"Before I begin, I want to say a few words about an important new report that sheds additional light on how criminals get their hand on guns sold through licensed gun **dealers**. The report, by Sen. Charles Schumer, is a follow-up to his earlier report showing that **a small percentage of gun dealers are associated with a high volume of guns traced to crimes by law enforcement**. This new report shows that guns bought from **a small number of gun dealers** changed hands before they were used in a crime. In other words, they were bought by someone with a clean record and **were later transferred** to criminals who could not pass Brady background checks.

This confirms the existence of an illegal market at which firearms are all too readily available for criminals who want them. That is why I have been pushing Congress to pass a range of common-sense gun measures that would help shut these traffickers down—from closing the gun show loophole, to limiting the sale of **handguns** to one a month per buyer, **to increasing penalties on gun traffickers and corrupt gun dealers**. And that is why my administration has begun to engage with the gun industry, on a range of steps the industry itself can take to stem the flow of guns to criminals.

Thanks to the Brady law, **our increased support for state and local law enforcement**, and other steps we have taken, gun violence in America is down. But no one in America believes it is down far enough. If we want gun violence to fall further, we must work harder. I hope this report will inspire that effort.



Deanne E. Benos
12/20/99 03:48:30 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul D. Glastris/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: I hope this helps -- Schumer Report.

Paul --

I spoke with Eric Liu about suggested ways to handle message on the Schumer Gun Trafficking Report. In a fashion lacking even a fraction of your eloquence, I threw together the attached paragraphs. I hope they help. . . .

Deanne Benos
6-5568



Eric P. Liu
12/20/99 03:24:46 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: anna richter/opd/eop@eop
Subject: Re: I hope this helps -- Schumer Report.

great -- thanks. you should give this language to Glastris too, and tell him we'd talked about it

----- Forwarded by Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP on 12/20/99 03:46 PM -----



Deanne E. Benos
12/20/99 02:54:41 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: I hope this helps -- Schumer Report.

If you still need a short paragraph with basic message points on Schumer, this may help:

The study confirms that we must reform the way firearms are distributed in our nation. There is good news and bad news. The bad news is something that we have known for some time -- guns in our

nation are entirely too accessible to criminals. Illegal gun trafficking is a serious public safety problem that results in thousands of senseless deaths and injuries every year. The good news is that by providing police with the tools they need to identify these illegal traffickers, like gun tracing and tough laws like the Brady Act, we are learning that it **may** be only a small percentage of individuals that are doing a large percentage of the harm. We must redouble our efforts to shut down the illegal firearms market by expanding our gun tracing efforts and strengthening our nation's gun laws, but there is only so much we can do without the help of Congress and the gun industry.

If there is room to get into more detail on our legislative proposals, this could be added:

We need Congress to pass stronger gun laws to give law enforcement the tools they need to catch the "bad guys." I urge Congress to pass my common sense legislation to extend background checks and recordkeeping to gun shows so that criminals can no longer purchase guns with no questions asked; and my legislation to allow the ATF to inspect dealers more than once per year so that they can catch that one-tenth of one percent that the Schumer study indicates are giving guns to kids and criminals illegally. We must also work with the gun industry to change the way they do business so that it is more difficult than ever for criminals to acquire firearms. Together we can identify the leading contributors of gun crime and put them out of business permanently. I hope that we can work together to achieve a meaningful settlement in our negotiations with the gun industry to achieve these goals and save lives.