

LEVEL 4 - 10 OF 37 STORIES

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August 9, 1998

SECTION: News; Pg. A17

LENGTH: 897 words

HEADLINE: **Tracing guns:** a jobhalf-done?; Program finds numerous suspects, but

BYLINE: William Kleinknecht

BODY:

The ambitious campaign launched two years ago by **President Clinton** to track illegal handguns has succeeded in identifying probable **gun** traffickers -- but few have gone to jail as a result.

A review of federal firearms data shows that **gun traces** generated a computer database with the names of hundreds of suspects, yet the number prosecuted has continued to decline sharply.

Between 1992 and 1996, the firearms-trafficking cases that the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms referred for federal prosecution dropped to 3,643 from 7,458. That number kept falling after **Clinton** launched the tracing initiative, to 3,134 last year.

And yet the number of **guns** traced by ATF agents has increased substantially, rising from 51,210 in 1992 to 116,349 in 1996. During that same period, the number of ATF field agents dropped more than 10 percent.

The ATF's inability to build more firearms cases has been a disappointment to supporters of **gun tracing**, who blame federal lawmakers for refusing to give the ATF enough agents to go after traffickers.

"I think it's a scandal," said David Kennedy, a professor at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, who helped design **Clinton's** initiative. "There are all these pieces of gold scattered on the ground waiting to be picked up. But there aren't enough people to do the picking."

Officials at the ATF, the lead agency in **Clinton's** handgun initiative, declined requests to be interviewed about the program.

Beth Weaver, a spokeswoman for the Treasury Department, which oversees the ATF, acknowledged that the agency's firearms enforcement efforts have been hampered by a lack of money.

Weaver said the president's program was given only \$1 million for its first year of operation, in fiscal 1997. But she said the wealth of data and suspects



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Austin American-Statesman, August 9, 1998

produced by the program has persuaded lawmakers to earmark \$28 million for it for fiscal 1999, which begins Oct. 1. That is enough to add 162 agents and intensify prosecution efforts, she said, but would still leave the ATF with fewer agents than in 1994, when staffing began to drop.

The federal **gun-tracing** program was launched by Clinton during his re-election campaign in July 1996. Known formally as the **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative**, it started in 17 cities and was expanded to 27 cities last year. Houston is the only Texas city involved in the initiative.

In announcing the program, Clinton said he envisioned **gun tracing** as the centerpiece of "a national campaign to cut off the flow of **guns** to teens who commit crimes." But the reality has been far different.

A senior Treasury Department official who asked not to be identified said factors other than manpower may have played a role in the declining number of firearms cases. The official said the ATF has increasingly emphasized the longer, more complex trafficking investigations. There are fewer of them, but they involve larger numbers of firearms.

The ATF is the only law enforcement agency with the ability to trace the origins of a firearm. Federal law requires **gun** dealers to record the name and address of anyone who purchases a firearm. If given the serial number of a weapon from a local police agency, ATF agents can enter it into a national computer database and learn within seconds where the **gun** was first sold and to whom.

If the traces show an instance of large numbers of weapons being bought by one person, it is considered a good indication that the purchaser is involved in **gun** trafficking, ATF officials say.

Only in recent years has ATF begun working with state and local police departments to trace weapons seized in street crimes. Firearms that traditionally would be stored away in police evidence rooms have become the theoretical starting points for federal **gun**-trafficking investigations.

Supporters of the ATF have long complained that the agency is denied sufficient funding for firearms enforcement because of pressure from opponents of **gun** control. After ATF agents bungled the 1993 raid on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, the National Rifle Association sent out a fund-raising letter calling ATF agents "jack-booted thugs" wearing "Nazi helmets."

Amid the controversy over the ATF's performance at Waco, the agency's \$366.4 million budget for 1994 was given no increase and the number of agents dropped from 1,939 to 1,884, according to ATF figures. That number was down to 1,664 by 1996, although it rose last year to 1,770.

"The ATF has been doing some very innovative things with **gun tracing**, but they are kept on a very short leash for funding," said Tom Diaz, a senior analyst with the Violence Policy Center, a Washington **gun** control organization. "And that, quite frankly, is the effect of the **gun** lobby."

Paul Blackman, a research coordinator with the NRA, said his organization supports strong action against **gun** traffickers and has never stood in the way of funding for enforcement.



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The NRA supports **gun tracing** as a tool for identifying traffickers, Blackman said, but thinks it is useless for the gathering of statistics on trafficking because a small percentage of illegal weapons are successfully traced. "We aren't keeping any money away from the ATF," he said. "The NRA has been complaining longer than the Violence Policy Center about the government's failure to crack down on **gun-wielding** criminals."

LOAD-DATE: August 10, 1998



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USA TODAY

July 9, 1998, Thursday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 4A

LENGTH: 521 words

HEADLINE: Md., U.S. officials join up on **gun**-crime measures

BYLINE: Richard Willing; Susan Page

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- The White House and the Maryland state government launched a double-barreled assault on **gun** violence Wednesday, with measures aimed at **tracing guns** used in crimes and punishing adult **gun** owners whose weapons are used by children.

By order of Gov. Parris Glendening, a Democrat, Maryland became the first state to require serial number tracing and ballistics tests on all **guns** seized by law enforcement officers. The plan is designed to cut down on **gun** violence by identifying purchasers of **guns** used in crimes and shutting down **gun** traffickers.

"Fewer children will lose their parents and fewer parents will lose their children to **gun** violence," said Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, the force behind the Maryland plan. Her father, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was killed by an assassin's bullet in 1968.

At the White House, **President Clinton** endorsed the Maryland initiative and a bill sponsored by two senators, one Democrat and one Republican, that would impose criminal penalties on **gun** owners whose weapons are left unsecured and then used by children to commit crimes.

"It is still too easy for deadly weapons to wind up in the hands of children -- by intent or accident -- and then to lead to tragedy," said the president, as Townsend and the bill's sponsors, Sens. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and John Chafee, R-R.I., looked on.

"We can't shrug our shoulders and say, 'Well, accidents will happen,' or 'Some kids are just beyond hope,' " **Clinton** said. "That is a cop-out."

An opponent of the initiatives, National Rifle Association Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre, said his group favors "parental responsibility" but opposes a "one-size-fits-all federal mandate" like the Durbin-Chafee bill.



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USA TODAY, July 9, 1998

The Maryland plan will use the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to match weapons recovered at crime scenes with their manufacturers and purchasers. Such matching has helped identify illegal **gun** traffickers in several states, ATF spokesman Jeffrey Roehm said.

Last year, ATF traced about 193,000 weapons, many of which were seized by city police departments that are part of a pilot federal program on which the Maryland plan is based.

The Maryland plan will add about 7,000 traces to the ATF workload next year.

At the White House, Suzann Wilson, the mother of Britthney Varner, 11, one of four children killed in the Jonesboro, Ark., school shooting in March, said her child might have been saved had the bill punishing **gun** owners been in force.

White House officials later acknowledged, however, that the federal legislation Clinton endorsed would not have been come into play in the Jonesboro case. The legislation would hold adults responsible only if they showed reckless disregard in storing their **guns**. The two boys accused in the Jonesboro shooting broke into a locked container to steal rifles and ammunition.

The Durbin-Chafee bill would provide a maximum \$ 10,000 fine and one-year jail sentence for adults who leave their weapons unsecured. It is currently before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, b/w, Luke Frazza, AFP

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 09, 1998



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Copyright 1998 San Antonio Express-News
San Antonio Express-News

April 8, 1998, Wednesday , METRO

SECTION: METRO; Pg. 1, Part B

LENGTH: 589 words

HEADLINE: **Tracing guns** helps track crooks However, S.A. officer says Texas laws make it easier for criminals to buy, sell

BYLINE: Bill Hendricks; Express-News Staff Writer

BODY:

Loose controls on **gun** sales in Texas make it easier for criminals to buy and sell **guns** here than in many other states, a San Antonio police lieutenant who supervises weapons investigations said Tuesday.

"What we see is that most of the **guns** we seize originated locally," said Lt. Mike Akeroyd, who heads the police unit that **traces guns** taken from crime suspects.

On Monday, **President Clinton** announced a plan to permanently ban the import of 58 types of military-style assault weapons. One of the weapons on **Clinton's** list was a Chinese-made assault rifle that was the most popular crime **gun** in San Antonio, according to an analysis by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

The ban was denounced as "an abuse of presidential authority" by the Firearms Importers Roundtable Trade Group.

The National Rifle Association also said it was not happy with **Clinton's** ban.

Akeroyd said **tracing guns** gives police a tool than can help them track a crime **gun** to the criminals who might have used it.

"Tracing is limited, but it gives us a place to start," he said.

It's been only in about the last six months, he said, that San Antonio police have been able to attempt tracing every **gun** its officers seize.

Police now are able to feed information directly to ATF computers, he said.

The computer program has enabled police to get a better understanding of where crime **guns** come from and how they are used.

But handguns dominated the top 10 list compiled by ATF.

"The weapon of choice seems to be a semiautomatic handgun," Akeroyd said.



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Most **guns** that eventually turn up in the hands of criminals were first sold legally, he added.

While the Brady federal **gun** control law requires people to undergo a criminal background check before buying a handgun from a licensed dealer, there are few other restrictions in Texas, he said.

Anyone older than 21 who hasn't been convicted of a felony crime can legally buy a handgun in Texas, Akeroyd said.

And anyone older than 18 can legally buy a rifle.

The ATF analysis showed that more than 75 percent of **guns** seized by San Antonio police originated in Texas.

The real problem for police comes after the first sale, Akeroyd said.

An individual can legally sell a handgun to another individual without recording the transaction, he said.

Weapons that turn up in criminal investigations may have passed from owner to owner after the first, legal sale.

"It becomes like a black hole," Akeroyd said.

Texas' **gun** laws earned the state a barely passing mark when the nonprofit Center for Handgun Control in Washington graded the states on laws that protect children from **gun** violence.

When the report was released last September, Handgun Control chairwoman Sarah Brady declared: "It is simply too easy for our children to get their hands on loaded, unlocked handguns."

Her organization reported it graded Texas a "D" because "it allows the carrying of loaded, concealed weapons; it has no juvenile possession law and no local rights so cities and localities can pass tougher **gun** laws to protect their particular area."

ATF's analysis of **gun** confiscation reports between July 1, 1996, and April 30, 1997, showed that more than 44 percent of **guns** seized in San Antonio were taken in weapons offense investigations.

Another 16 percent were seized in drug raids, and slightly over 10 percent were connected to homicide investigations.

- The New York Times contributed to this report.

GRAPHIC: Express-News Graphic - **Gun** confiscation

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 1, 1998



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St. Louis Post-Dispatch

July 23, 1997, Wednesday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

SECTION: EDITORIAL, Pg. 06B

LENGTH: 393 words

HEADLINE: EXPAND THE LAW TO TRACE ILLEGAL GUNS

BODY:

With the start of the federal **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction** Initiative last year, police here and in 16 other cities began tracking the sources of weapons used in crimes committed by juveniles. So far they have traced 37,000 such weapons, double the number traced a year earlier. The success of this program holds out hope of cutting off the supply of illegal **guns** to teen-agers.

It's gratifying to hear that **President Bill Clinton** is now seeking to expand this program to 11 other cities, though he might have helped deal with Missouri's **gun** problem even more by adding Kansas City to the list. The worth of this program lies in Treasury Department statistics showing that four out of 10 **guns** recovered by police came from juveniles.

Though juvenile crime has dropped by nearly 3 percent since 1995, this good news is overshadowed by the fact that youngsters continue to kill one another and harm others at an alarming rate. Mr. **Clinton** says his **gun-tracing** program must be supplemented by ongoing background checks on those who buy weapons legally. Although the U.S. Supreme Court has struck down part of the Brady anti-handgun legislation, that doesn't mean law enforcement agencies should ease background checks on those seeking to buy such weapons.

Mr. **Clinton** also called attention to a second **gun** problem involving the young, that of teens and children accidentally killing one another after finding a **gun** in a home. At least twice in the past year, youngsters in the St. Louis area have killed or wounded others after playing with **guns** discovered either in their own home or in the home of teen acquaintances.

Mr. **Clinton** says one answer to this second teen-**gun** problem is a federal law requiring federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks. A Senate committee's recent rejection of a **gun** safety-lock proposal shows how reluctant Congress has been to take on this very sensitive issue. In the absence of such sensible federal legislation, states should feel an obligation to pass their own safety-lock **gun** law. Such protection would spare many children from accidental **gun** deaths.

In Missouri, the issue has been clouded by a debate over whether residents should be allowed to carry concealed weapons. More pressing is the issue of how best to keep **guns** already in the homes and on the streets out of the hands of children.

LANGUAGE: English



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July 20, 1997

SECTION: News; Pg. A5

LENGTH: 376 words

HEADLINE: Houston **gun** sales targeted

BYLINE: MARLENE CIMONS AND PATRICK J. MCDONNELL

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- **President Clinton** announced Saturday that Houston and nine other cities will be added to a computer system that helps authorities pursue illegal **gun** traffickers by **tracing guns** sold to juveniles.

Clinton said the program, which currently involves 17 cities, including San Antonio, has tracked 37,000 **guns** used in crimes, linking many of them to illegal **gun** traffickers.

Over the past decades, the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has skyrocketed by 300 percent, ' ' **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. This is simply unacceptable. We know we must break this deadly trend. ' '

The program Make no mistake -- **gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth, ' ' **Clinton** said.

Investigators found it mildly surprising ' ' that 55 percent of the **guns** in all of the cities were seized from adults 25 or older, said Raymond Kelly, undersecretary for enforcement for the Department of the Treasury, who supervised the effort. Investigators had assumed more young people would be involved with illegal **guns**.

Clinton also said he was disappointed that a Senate committee recently rejected his plan to require firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks and urged the full Senate to consider the idea.

He also called upon law enforcement agencies to continue conducting background checks on **gun** buyers, despite the Supreme Court's recent ruling that strikes down part of the Brady Act that mandates those checks.

Clinton said Attorney General Janet Reno and Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, after meeting with law enforcement officials from around the country, found that the overwhelming majority of police departments are continuing to do the responsible thing: to perform these background checks voluntarily because they work. ' '

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The tracing program was started in 17 cities: Atlanta; Baltimore; Birmingham, Ala.; Boston; Bridgeport, Conn.; Cleveland; Inglewood, Calif.; Jersey City, N.J.; Memphis, Tenn.; Milwaukee; New York; Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; Salinas, Calif.; San Antonio; Seattle; and Washington.

Besides Houston, the \$11 million expansion adds Los Angeles; Philadelphia; Chicago; Detroit; Miami; Tucson, Ariz.; Minneapolis; Cincinnati; and Gary, Ind.

GRAPHIC: Bill Clinton: Announces expansion of computer tracking of gun sales to juveniles.

LOAD-DATE: July 22, 1997



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July 20, 1997 Sunday ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 014

LENGTH: 458 words

HEADLINE: Hub's **gun-tracing** initiative earns presidential praise

BYLINE: By MARK MUELLER

BODY:

Praising Boston as a leader in the fight against illegal **guns**, **President Clinton** yesterday announced the expansion of a **gun-tracing** program that has helped stamp out Hub youth murders involving firearms.

Boston police Commissioner Paul Evans joined **Clinton** in Washington as the president announced the move in his weekly radio address.

"A year ago, I looked at Boston's approach and it was clear that **tracing guns** seized from young criminals was a key to the city's success," **Clinton** said, noting that no Boston youth under 17 has been killed with a **gun** since July 1995.

The tracing program, known as the **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative**, was modeled after a cooperative effort Boston established with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in 1991.

The program was created in 16 additional cities last year. **Clinton's** announcement yesterday indicated 10 more cities will now participate, supplying ATF agents with information about every illegal **gun** recovered from a crime scene.

By tracing large numbers of illegal **guns**, authorities spot patterns: where the **guns** originated and who's using them.

"It helps me immensely to see where my problems are and allocate my resources to those investigations," said Jeff Roehm, special agent in charge of the ATF's Boston-based New England bureau.

As an example, he cited one case in which agents traced numerous illegal **guns** to Mississippi about two years ago. The subsequent probe resulted in the arrest of a black market dealer who would pay others to buy **guns** for him in that state and bring them to Boston.

Had police tried to trace fewer of the **guns**, Roehm said, the pattern might never have emerged, the dealer would be free and more **guns** would be in the hands of young people, the largest at-risk group.

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Statistics released yesterday by the Treasury Department show that almost half of all **guns** used in crimes came from people under the age of 24.

"It boils down to this: If we can get the **guns** out of the hands of kids, fewer kids are going to get shot," Roehm said.

In his radio address, **Clinton** warned that in recent decades, **gun** murders by juveniles jumped 300 percent and, taken alone, tracing illegal weapons is not enough.

That view was shared by a Boston activist who has worked hand-in-hand with Evans. The police commissioner did not speak during the president's address and could not be reached for comment.

"You've got to attack the problem from a lot of different angles," said Harlan Jones, who, as executive director of Citizens for Safety, helped create a **gun** buyback program in the city.

"**Tracing guns** is great, but you've also got to work with the community and work with the kids," he said. "Clearly, Boston has taken the lead in that."

LOAD-DATE: July 20, 1997



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July 20, 1997, Sunday

SECTION: NEWS LOCAL & NATIONAL, Pg. 2C

LENGTH: 265 words

HEADLINE: PRESIDENT'S GUN-TRACING PROGRAM ADDS 10 CITIES

BYLINE: Associated Press

BODY:

Tracing a pistol's path from **gun** shop to crime scene is the first step to 'locking the back door' on illegal trafficking, **President Clinton** said yesterday as he expanded a firearms tracing program to 10 additional cities.

'Make no mistake: **Gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth,' **Clinton** said in his radio address. 'We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down.'

Since the president's **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction** Initiative started in 17 cities last year, law enforcement agencies have tracked 37,000 crime **guns** to their sources - almost twice as many as the year before, Treasury Department statistics show.

'We have started to crack the code of the black market in illegal weapons,' **Clinton** said. But the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has quadrupled since the mid-1980s and **Clinton** said it would take an expanded **gun-tracing** program, the continuation of background checks on **gun** buyers and the cooperation of Congress to stem that.

Clinton said he was 'disappointed' that a Senate committee recently rejected his proposal to require federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks.

The president also urged law enforcement agencies to continue doing background checks on prospective **gun** buyers, despite the Supreme Court's decision last month to strike down the part of the Brady law that mandates such checks.

A Treasury analysis of the program found that four out of 10 crime **guns** recovered by police came from juveniles and that the most commonly used weapon for people under age 24 was a semiautomatic pistol.

LOAD-DATE: July 21, 1997



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The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN)

July 20, 1997, SUNDAY, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: METRO, Pg. B1

LENGTH: 814 words

HEADLINE: YOUNG CRIMINALS PREFER SEMIAUTOMATICS;
MEMPHIS STATISTIC LEADS THE NATION

BYLINE: Kevin Robbins and John Semien The Commercial Appeal

BODY:

The semiautomatic handgun is the weapon of choice among young Memphis criminals, a federal study has found.

Memphis led 16 other cities in the proportion of crimes committed by youths armed with semiautomatic pistols, according to early results of the **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction** Initiative. The study tracked **guns** involved in crimes for nine months beginning in April of last year.

It found that seven of 10 **guns** recovered from Memphis criminals 18 to 24 years old were semiautomatic handguns. That statistic led the nation. The most common handguns traced in Memphis in the study's youth category were the Lorcin .380 and the Bryco 9mm.

The U.S. Department of Treasury released those and other detailed results Saturday after tracking **guns** used in crimes in Memphis and cities such as Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, New York, St. Louis and Washington. Memphis also led the study in the percentage of handguns used in crimes committed by young people.

President Clinton cited the study Saturday as he announced an expansion of the **gun-tracing** program to 10 other cities. Tracking **guns from the gun dealer** to the crime scene is the first step to 'locking the back door' on illegal trafficking, he said in his weekly radio address.

Nine of 10 **guns** used by youths committing crimes in Memphis were pistols in the period between July 1, 1996, and April 30, 1997, the interdiction study showed.

The same handgun percentage was true of young criminals in Washington and New York City.

But that distinction should be interpreted with caution.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents analyzed more weapons obtained from youths and juveniles than those confiscated from adults, said Michael Durham, an ATF special agent in Nashville. That's because the ATF placed higher priority on **tracing guns** taken from younger criminals, Durham said.



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The ATF is now **tracing guns** recovered from criminals of all ages. Still, Durham noted that handguns are more appealing to criminals - especially younger ones - because they are easier to get and easier to conceal.

'There are children that take **guns** from their parents,' he said.

Eight of 10 **guns** used in crimes were pistols, according to the study, which examined **guns** used by criminals of all ages. The study also found that a 'disproportionate' number of **guns** used by youths and juveniles (17 years old and younger) were semiautomatic handguns.

That's the category in which Memphis, Washington and New York City led the 17 cities.

Conducted by the ATF, the study tracked **guns** used in crimes reported during the nine-month period. All **guns** to which the study refers were used in crimes.

The ATF traced almost 800 **guns** in Memphis. Forty percent were traced to juveniles 17 and younger.

'We are arresting more juveniles who are involved with violent crimes than in the past, and more of these juveniles have handguns,' said Memphis police lieutenant Richard True.

The chief probation officer in Memphis and Shelby County said 631 pistols were taken from juveniles in 1996.

'Apparently there are a lot of juveniles being arrested here with handguns on them,' said Charles Gray of the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County. 'We have potentially a lot of violence on the part of juveniles out here in our community.'

About 45 handguns a month have been taken from juveniles brought to court this year. That's down from more than 50 a month last year.

Gray said he doesn't know yet why that is. 'It's too early to tell,' he said. 'But I'm grateful for the drop.'

Since the initiative began a year ago in Memphis and the 16 other cities, more than 37,000 **guns** have been tracked to their sources - almost twice as many as the year before, according to the Treasury Department.

'We have started to crack the code of the black market in illegal weapons,' Clinton said.

But the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has quadrupled since the mid-'80s. Clinton said it would take an expanded **gun-tracing** program, continuation of background checks on **gun** buyers and cooperation of Congress to stem that.

'Make no mistake: **Gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth. We know now how they operate, and we intend to shut them down,' he said.

In addition to Memphis, Washington and New York, the first cities included in



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the study are: Atlanta; Baltimore; Birmingham; Boston; Bridgeport, Conn.; Cleveland; Inglewood, Calif.; Jersey City, N.J.; Milwaukee; Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; Salinas, Calif.; San Antonio; and Seattle.

With \$ 11 million in new funding, the program will expand to include Los Angeles; Philadelphia; Chicago; Detroit; Houston; Miami; Tucson; Minneapolis; Gary, Ind.; and Cincinnati.

To reach reporter Kevin Robbins, call 529-2388 or E-mail robbinsfgomemphis.com

To reach reporter John Semien, call 529-6461 or E-mail semienfgomemphis.com

GRAPHIC: photo ;

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms supplied this picture of the fastest 'time-to-crime' guns among criminals 17 and younger. A short time-to-crime factor means the firearm is easier to trace, and when several traces involve the same person, illegal trafficking activity is suspected.

LOAD-DATE: July 23, 1997



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Daily News (New York)

July 20, 1997, Sunday

SECTION: News; Pg. 10

LENGTH: 324 words

HEADLINE: PREZ EXPANDS GUN-TRACKING EFFORT

BYLINE: By DON SINGLETON

BODY:

A year-old program that has tracked the sale of 37,000 crime guns to juveniles in 17 cities has been so successful that it is being expanded to 10 more cities, President Clinton announced yesterday.

Clinton said the results from the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative showed that many of the weapons used in crimes committed by juveniles had been purchased from networks of gun traffickers and corrupt gun dealers.

"Make no mistake gun traffickers are funneling guns to lawless youth," the President said in his weekly radio address. "We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down."

Under the \$ 2 million-a-year program announced during last year's election campaign, police chiefs and prosecutors from the 17 cities pledged to provide information on every gun they seized from juveniles during crimes.

The data was fed into a computer system run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms with the objective of tracing each gun back to its seller, and prosecuting those who sell guns to juveniles.

The report said New York City requested traces of 8,884 guns used in crimes, and nearly half 4,026 had been in possession of suspects under the age of 24.

The study of all 17 cities found that eight of every 10 guns recovered by police were taken from persons under the age of 24, and 60% of those guns were semi-automatic pistols. Most were traced to "retail sources within the state."

In New York City, the study showed, 13.25% of guns used in crimes and traced to their original sellers were initially purchased in the city itself. The second-place source was Virginia, with 12.53%, followed by Florida, with 12.23%, and North Carolina, with 9.08%, the report said.

"New York City is one of just four of the cities studied where more guns are coming in from outside than are bought therein," said U.S. Treasury Undersecretary Raymond Kelly, a former New York City Police Commissioner.

LOAD-DATE: July 22, 1997

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LEVEL 4 - 19 OF 37 STORIES

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Los Angeles Times

July 20, 1997, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 1; National Desk

LENGTH: 1187 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON SAYS L.A. JOINING PROGRAM TO **TRACE GUNS**

BYLINE: MARLENE CIMONS and PATRICK J. McDONNELL, TIMES STAFF WRITERS

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton announced Saturday that 10 cities, including Los Angeles, will be added to a computer system that helps authorities pursue illegal **gun** traffickers by **tracing guns** sold to juveniles.

Clinton said the program, which currently involves 17 cities, including Salinas and Inglewood, has tracked 37,000 **guns** used in crimes and that many of them were linked to **gun-selling** rings and dishonest **gun** dealers.

"Too many of our young people are drawn to **guns** and violence as a way of life," **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. "Over the past decades, the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has skyrocketed by 300%. This is simply unacceptable. We know we must break this deadly trend."

The program, which **Clinton** proposed during his 1996 reelection campaign, takes information provided by local law enforcement officials on **guns** they have seized and feeds it into a computer system run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The information is then matched against other databases in an attempt to trace **guns** back to their sources.

The need is acute in Los Angeles, which is one of the nation's leading centers of **gun** crimes. Each year, according to ATF estimates, about 30,000 **guns** are recovered in Los Angeles County, overwhelming the ability of authorities to trace the weapons' origins by using the traditional channels of fax or telephone.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block and interim city Police Chief Bayan Lewis embraced the idea when contacted about the program last week, said Jim Adamcik, an assistant chief of the ATF office in Los Angeles. The ATF plans to begin training personnel from both departments soon.

"For the first time, we know where the juveniles are getting these **guns**, how



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Los Angeles Times July 20, 1997, Sunday,

they are getting them and what kinds of **guns** they are using," Clinton said. "**Guns** are finding their way quickly from legitimate retail stores to black markets through a network of **gun** traffickers and corrupt **gun** dealers.

*

"Make no mistake--**gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth," Clinton added. "We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down."

An ATF analysis released Saturday said 4 in 10 **guns** used in crimes and recovered by police were in the possession of juveniles and that the most commonly used **gun** for individuals younger than 24 was a semiautomatic pistol.

Law enforcement authorities say that finding the initial point of sale of a **gun** is essential to reducing illicit weapon sales. "The first step to stop firearms trafficking is to see where the sources are," said John Torres, another assistant chief of the ATF office in Los Angeles.

The computer program aids investigators by providing information about the patterns of illegal **gun** movements to juveniles.

For example, the program "could link a crime **gun** that enforcement officials in Inglewood . . . submit for tracing with a crime **gun** that officials in Jersey City, N.J., submit for tracing by showing that both were sold by the same federal firearms licensee or purchased by the same individual," the ATF report said.

*

In one case, authorities tracing the source of a number of weapons recovered in unrelated crimes were able to identify a Tennessee **gun** seller who bought weapons from **gun** shows in Kentucky and sold them illegally in Washington. D.C., an ATF official said.

Last year, the ATF's National Tracing Center in West Virginia tracked the history of about 100,000 **guns** nationwide, Adamcik said. Eighty-six criminal investigations are underway in the 17 cities in the program, an ATF official said Saturday.

In Inglewood, investigators were able to trace 65% of 126 firearms seized during a nine-month study, officials said. **Guns** found in Inglewood typically originated from retail sales within the state. Those findings tend to contradict the widespread belief that most **guns** used in crimes are stolen or purchased out of the state. The most popular handgun in Inglewood was the Smith & Wesson revolver.

In other crime-related matters, Clinton said he was disappointed that a Senate committee recently rejected his proposal to require federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks and urged the full Senate to consider the idea.



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Los Angeles Times July 20, 1997, Sunday,

"The juvenile crime bill must be comprehensive. Of course it must get tough on violent juvenile offenders, but it also must cut off their access to **guns**," he said.

The president also called upon law enforcement agencies to continue conducting background checks on prospective adult **gun** buyers, despite the Supreme Court's recent ruling that strikes down part of the Brady Act that mandates those checks.

The law has already stopped more than 150,000 "fugitives, felons and stalkers" from buying handguns, he said.

Clinton said Atty. Gen. Janet Reno and Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin, after meeting with law enforcement authorities from around the country, have confirmed that "the overwhelming majority of police departments are continuing to do the responsible thing: to perform these background checks voluntarily because they work."

In addition to Los Angeles, the \$ 11-million expansion of the **gun**-tracking program adds Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Tucson, Minneapolis, Cincinnati and Gary, Ind.

In addition to Salinas and Inglewood, the original cities are Atlanta; Baltimore; Birmingham, Ala.; Boston; Bridgeport, Conn.; Cleveland; Jersey City, N.J.; Memphis, Tenn.; Milwaukee; New York; Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; San Antonio; Seattle and Washington.

Cimons reported from Washington and McDonnell from Los Angeles.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: December 21, 1998



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News & Record (Greensboro, NC)

July 20, 1997, Sunday, ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: GENERAL NEWS, Pg. A4

LENGTH: 152 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON EXPANDS PROGRAM TO TRACE GUNS TO SOURCE

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Tracing a pistol's path from **gun** shop to crime scene is the first step to 'locking the back door' on illegal trafficking, **President Clinton** said Saturday as he expanded a firearms tracing program to 10 additional cities.

'Make no mistake: **Gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth,' **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. 'We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down.'

Since the president's **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction** Initiative started in 17 cities last year, law enforcement agencies have tracked 37,000 crime **guns** to their sources - almost twice as many as the year before, according to Treasury Department statistics.

But the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has quadrupled since the mid-1980s, and **Clinton** said it would take an expanded **gun-tracing** program, the continuation of background checks on **gun** buyers and the cooperation of Congress to stem that.

LOAD-DATE: July 22, 1997



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LEVEL 4 - 21 OF 37 STORIES

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The Plain Dealer

July 20, 1997 Sunday, FINAL / ALL

SECTION: NORTHEAST OHIO; Pg. 1B

LENGTH: 738 words

HEADLINE: 'LAWLESS YOUTH' BUYING FIREARMS;
CLINTON DISCUSSES GUN TRACING REPORT

BYLINE: By CHRISTOPHER QUINN; PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

BODY:

In Cleveland and cities across the nation, **gun** traffickers are selling firearms to children who use them to commit crimes, **President Clinton** and U.S. Treasury officials announced yesterday.

"Make no mistake: **gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth. We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down," **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address.

The finding comes from a program **Clinton** created last year to trace every **gun** seized from criminals in 17 U.S. cities, including Cleveland. Through the program, investigators are learning for the first time how criminals get their **guns**.

Cleveland had the lowest rate of **gun**-toting youth criminals in the program. Only six percent of the **guns** seized by Cleveland police came from juveniles.

Police Chief Rocco Pollutro said the city's day and night curfews and its increased patrol presence in neighborhoods could be persuading teenagers to leave **guns** home.

"If you know we've doubled the number of traffic stops, you're not going to be running around with a **gun** in your pocket," he said.

Patrick Berarducci, spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Cleveland, said, "I think you have a police department that's working hard to be proactive."

Yesterday, **Clinton** announced expansion of the program to 10 more cities, including Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Cincinnati.

Clinton's original goal for the program, called the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, was to identify the supply route of **guns** to juveniles, whose rate of violence has soared since the mid-1980s.



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Of **guns** seized from criminals in the 17 cities, 10 percent overall were in the hands of children 17 and under. About 45 percent of the firearms were seized from people ages 24 and under, who favored semiautomatic pistols.

Each city participating in the program had to promise to submit details on all seized **guns** to the ATF for tracing.

Using the serial number on a firearm, workers at the ATF **gun tracing** center in West Virginia start their job by contacting manufacturers. Gunmakers are required to keep records of all sales to **gun** dealers. ATF next calls the dealer to find out who bought the **gun**.

ATF then contacts the buyer, and, because **guns** often are sold repeatedly, tracks down successive owners.

'What it takes here is just a lot of old-fashioned shoe leather,' said Raymond W. Kelly, the Treasury's under secretary of enforcement.

Berarducci said some **gun** owners did not keep records when they sold their **guns**, making some **guns** impossible to trace.

Of 37,000 **guns** seized in the 17 cities, the ATF was able to trace ownership paths for just 37 percent. In Cleveland, the success rate was higher - 49 percent.

Through the **gun tracings**, ATF learned that the source of **guns** used in crimes usually was inside the state where the crime occurred. In Cleveland, 70 percent of the **guns** seized from criminals were originally sold by Ohio **gun** dealers.

ATF officials were surprised at how fast some **guns** went from a **gun** shop to the hands of a criminal. In Cleveland, one of the most common **guns** seized by police was a .380-caliber semiautomatic pistol made by Lorcin.

Of 32 Lorcins the ATF could trace, 23 - 71.88 percent - were used in crimes less than three years after they were legally sold. One was used in a crime 20 days after leaving the **gun** shop.

"A short time-to-crime rate can be an indicator of illegal trafficking," a report on the tracing program says.

In another case, a .38-caliber revolver was used in a crime by a Cleveland juvenile 18 days after it was sold by a licensed dealer.

"We are at the beginning of having a clear picture of how the illegal **gun** market works," Kelly said. "We in law enforcement spend more time chasing stolen cars than illegal **gun** traffickers. That has to change."

The tracing program has led to 80 investigations into illegal **gun** trafficking, including probes in Cleveland.

In Milwaukee the program identified a security guard who was selling **guns** out of his car trunk on the street. The **guns** were used in several robberies and drive-by shootings. The guard has pleaded guilty to **gun** trafficking.

The success rate of the program should improve over the next year, Kelly



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The Plain Dealer, July 20, 1997

said. The first year of the program cost less than \$2 million, but the Treasury Department is spending \$11 million this year. ATF will install computers in each city, putting them on-line with the **gun tracing** center.

GRAPHIC: BOX: COMMON GUNS FOR CRIMINALS (Page 3B); Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 21, 1997



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LEVEL 4 - 22 OF 37 STORIES

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July 20, 1997; SUNDAY; ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A03

LENGTH: 593 words

HEADLINE: **CLINTON WIDENS GUN TRACING PROGRAM TO 10 CITIES**
IN N.J., 319 GUNS TIED TO JUVENILES ARE FOUND

SOURCE: Wire services

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ, The Associated Press

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Tracing a pistol's path from **gun** shop to crime scene is the first step to "locking the back door" on illegal trafficking, **President Clinton** said Saturday as he expanded a firearms tracing program to 10 additional cities.

"Make no mistake: **Gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth," **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. "We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down."

Since the president's **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative** started in 17 cities, including Jersey City last year, law enforcement agencies have tracked 37,000 crime **guns** to their sources, almost twice as many as the year before, according to Treasury Department statistics.

In Jersey City, the program traced 319 of 343 crime **guns** linked to juveniles, said ATF Special Agent Dominick Polifrone.

"We found that 96 percent of the crime **guns** came from outside of New Jersey," said Polifrone, resident agent in charge of ATF's Fairfield post.

"Years ago you made an arrest, grabbed the **gun**, and put it in a safe," he said. "Now we can trace that **gun** and identify the traffickers."

The president agreed, but said the program has a long way to go.

"We have started to crack the code of the black market in illegal weapons," **Clinton** said. But the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has quadrupled since the mid-1980s, and **Clinton** said it would take an



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expanded **gun-tracing** program, the continuation of background checks on **gun** buyers, and the cooperation of Congress to stem that.

In Jersey City's program, 343 crime **guns** were traced back to their sources between July 1, 1996, and April 30, said Dominick Polifrone, the ATF's special agent in charge of the Fairfield office. Of the 343 **guns**, 243 were taken from juveniles, he said.

Polifrone said the **guns** coming into New Jersey were usually shipped from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

Guns from these states and other places are distributed from Newark to other areas of the state and New York City, he said.

"Newark seems to be the hub for New Jersey," Polifrone said.

Clinton said he was "disappointed" that a Senate committee recently rejected his proposal to require federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks.

The president also urged law enforcement agencies to continue doing background checks on prospective **gun** buyers, despite the Supreme Court's decision last month to strike down the part of the Brady law that mandates such checks.

"To keep **guns** away from crime-committing youth, we must also continue to perform background checks on **gun**-buying adults," Clinton said.

Background checks "keep criminals from getting **guns** through the front door of a **gun** shop," Clinton said. And with the expanded tracing program, "we're turning our attention to locking the back door, too."

A Treasury analysis of the program found that four out of 10 crime **guns** recovered by police came from juveniles and that the most commonly used weapon for people under 24 was a semiautomatic pistol.

The other cities in the program are: Atlanta; Baltimore; Birmingham, Ala.; Boston; Bridgeport, Conn.; Cleveland; Inglewood, Calif.; Memphis, Tenn.; Milwaukee; New York; Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; Salinas, Calif.; San Antonio, Texas; Seattle, and Washington.

With \$ 11 million in new funding, the program will be expanded to 10 more cities: Chicago; Cincinnati; Detroit; Gary, Ind.; Houston; Los Angeles; Miami; Minneapolis; Philadelphia, and Tucson, Ariz.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: July 21, 1997



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Sacramento Bee

July 20, 1997, METRO FINAL

SECTION: MAIN NEWS; Pg. A5

LENGTH: 880 words

HEADLINE: GUN-TRACKING NETWORK TO ADD 10 CITIES, CLINTON SAYS

BYLINE: Marlene Cimon and Patrick J. McDonnell, Los Angeles Times

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton announced Saturday that 10 cities will be added to a computer system that helps authorities pursue illegal **gun** traffickers by tracing **guns** sold to juveniles.

Clinton said the program, which now involves 17 cities, has tracked 37,000 **guns** used in crimes and that many of them were linked to **gun**-selling rings and dishonest **gun** dealers.

"Too many of our young people are drawn to **guns** and violence as a way of life," **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. "Over the past decades, the number of **gun** murders by juveniles has skyrocketed by 300 percent. This is simply unacceptable. We know we must break this deadly trend."

The program, which **Clinton** proposed during his 1996 re-election campaign, takes information provided by local law enforcement officials on **guns** they have seized, and feeds it into a computer system run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The information is then matched with data from other databases in an attempt to trace **guns** back to their sources.

"For the first time we know where the juveniles are getting these **guns**, how they are getting them, and what kinds of **guns** they are using," **Clinton** said.

An ATF analysis released Saturday said four out of 10 **guns** used in crimes and recovered by police were in the possession of juveniles, and that the most commonly used **gun** for individuals younger than 24 was a semiautomatic pistol.

Law enforcement authorities say that finding the initial point of sale of a **gun** is essential to reducing illicit sales of weapons. "The first step to stop firearms trafficking is to see where the sources are," said John Torres, another assistant chief of the ATF office in Los Angeles.

The computer program aids investigators by providing information about the patterns of illegal **gun** movements to juveniles.



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Sacramento Bee, July 20, 1997

For example, the program "could link a crime **gun** that enforcement Zofficials in Inglewood (Calif.) . . . submit for tracing with a crime **gun** that officials in Jersey City, N.J., submit for tracing by showing that both were sold by the same federal firearms licensee, or purchased by the same individual," the ATF report said.

Last year, the ATF's National Tracing Center in West Virginia tracked the history of about 100,000 **guns** nationwide, said Jim Adamcik, an assistant chief of the ATF office in Los Angeles.

In other matters, Clinton said he was disappointed that a Senate committee recently rejected his proposal to require federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks, and urged the full Senate to consider the idea.

The president also called upon law enforcement agencies to continue conducting background checks on prospective adult **gun** buyers, despite the Supreme Court's recent ruling that strikes down part of the Brady Act that mandates those checks.

The \$ 11 million expansion of the **gun**-tracking program will include Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Tucson, Ariz., Minneapolis, Cincinnati and Gary, Ind.

The original cities were: Salinas and Inglewood, Calif.; Atlanta; Baltimore; Birmingham, Ala.; Boston; Bridgeport, Conn.; Cleveland; Jersey City, N.J.; Memphis, Tenn.; Milwaukee; New York; Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; San Antonio, Texas; Seattle and Washington.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 21, 1997



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St. Louis Post-Dispatch

July 20, 1997, Sunday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 1A

LENGTH: 485 words

HEADLINE: **GUN TRACING** PROGRAM HAS SOME 'GLITCHES';
CLINTON PRAISES PILOT EFFORT WHILE LOCAL STUDY WORKS OUT PROBLEMS

BYLINE: Tim Poor; Post-Dispatch Washington Bureau

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

In his weekly radio address Saturday, **President Bill Clinton** touted a pilot federal program in St. Louis and 16 other cities for tracing the ownership of crime-connected **guns** seized from youths.

"For the first time we know where the juveniles are getting these **guns**, how they are getting them and what kinds of **guns** they are using," **Clinton** said.

But not in St. Louis, where the study of **gun**-toting youths appeared to be a bust.

The age of people associated with all but 27 of the 1,900 **guns** the St. Louis Police Department submitted to be traced couldn't be determined, according to the study. Of those 27, just one came from someone who agents could say was 17 or under.

The numbers in St. Louis and three other cities - Atlanta, Inglewood, Calif., and Jersey City, N.J., were so low or incomplete that they weren't included in the overall statistics.

"There's definitely some glitches here," said Larry Scott, a spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms in Kansas City, the regional headquarters that includes St. Louis. "We've got to get this straightened out . . . We're in the process of correcting it."

Scott didn't know what the problem was, but a bureau official in Washington said information on the age of people from whom the **guns** were seized never made it from St. Louis or the other cities to the federal **gun**-tracing center in West Virginia. In some cases, he said it could be because the **guns** were found on the street and not connected to any arrest. But mostly the lack of information was because police and other law enforcement officers were not accustomed to submitting the information on suspects with trace requests, he said.f

One example of the usefulness of the traces in the program was in Washington, where police noticed a large number of crime-related weapons that originally were sold by a licensed firearms dealer in Cape Girardeau, Mo. That information



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St. Louis Post-Dispatch, July 20, 1997

enabled authorities to find the middleman that was selling **guns** illegally to youths in the Washington area.

The St. Louis study did pinpoint that most of the **guns** used in crimes there were originally sold in Missouri.

In his radio address Saturday, **Clinton** announced that the pilot program - the **Youth Crime Gun Interdiction** Initiative - was so successful it would be expanded to 10 more cities, including Chicago, Los Angeles and Philadelphia.

"One crucial fact is now clear, that **guns** are finding their way quickly from legitimate retail stores to black markets through a network of **gun** traffickers and corrupt **gun** dealers," said **Clinton**. He said the study showed almost half of all **guns** used in crimes came from those under 25. Nationwide, 37 percent of the **guns** submitted were successfully traced to their original seller. Raymond Kelly, the Treasury Department's undersecretary for enforcement, said they were confident that those **guns** were a representative sample.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: July 20, 1997



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July 20, 1997 Sunday, CHICAGOLAND FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 13; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 75 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON ADDS CHICAGO TO GUN TRACING PLAN

BYLINE: Associated Press.

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton on Saturday announced an \$11 million expansion of a 17-city firearms tracing program to 10 additional cities including Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis, and Gary.

"Make no mistake, **gun** traffickers are funneling **guns** to lawless youth," **Clinton** said in his weekly radio address. "We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down."

Law enforcement agencies last year tracked 37,000 crime **guns** to their sources.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 20, 1997



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July 19, 1997, Saturday

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 511 words

HEADLINE: Clinton Pushes Gun Tracing To Stem Juvenile Crime

BYLINE: By JENNIFER ROTHACKER, Associated Press Writer

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- In an effort to stem juvenile violence, President Clinton said today he wants to focus on "locking the back door" on illegal gun sales by expanding a program that traces firearms used in crime scenes to 10 more cities.

"Make no mistake: Gun traffickers are funneling guns to lawless youth," Clinton said in his weekly radio address. "We know how they operate, and we intend to shut them down."

Since the president's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative started in 17 cities last year, law enforcement agencies have tracked 37,000 crime guns to their sources -- almost twice as many than the year before, according to Treasury Department statistics.

Also, for the first time in seven years, the rate of juvenile crime actually dropped -- by 2.9 percent in 1995, administration figures showed.

But "children are still killing children," Clinton said. He said it will take an expanded gun-tracing program, the continuation of background checks on gun buyers and the cooperation of Congress to stem that.

Clinton said he was dismayed that the Senate has not passed a law requiring federal firearms dealers to provide child-safety locks, saying a "juvenile crime bill must be comprehensive."

The president also urged law enforcement agencies to continue doing background checks on prospective gun buyers, despite the Supreme Court's decision last month to strike down the part of the Brady Law that mandates such checks.

"To keep guns away from crime-committing youth, we must also continue to perform background checks on gun-buying adults," Clinton said.

Background checks protect the "front door of a gun shop," but it is the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative that will watch over the "back door," he said.

A Treasury analysis of the interdiction program found that four out of 10 crime guns recovered by police were from juveniles and that the most commonly



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used weapon for people under 24 was a semiautomatic pistol.

The program was started in 17 cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Ala., Boston, Bridgeport, Conn., Cleveland, Inglewood, Calif., Jersey City, N.J., Memphis, Tenn., Milwaukee, New York, Richmond, Va., St. Louis, Salinas, Calif., San Antonio, Seattle and Washington, D.C.

With \$11 million in new funding, the program will be expanded to 10 more cities: Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Tucson, Ariz., Minneapolis, Gary, Ind., and Cincinnati.

In the Republicans' radio address today, Rep. Jennifer Dunn, R-Wash., focused on how the GOP's tax bill "helps women throughout their lives both at home and in the job market."

"The only people who think this tax relief bill is not good for women are those who don't believe we women can manage our own money," she said. "And that thinking is certainly passe."

Dunn, who was elected vice chairwoman of the House Republican Conference on Wednesday, said the proposed \$500-per-child tax credit could help mothers "pay for school clothes, or groceries, or the often unexpected expenses that come with raising children."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 22, 1997



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The Fresno Bee

July 12, 1996 Friday, HOME EDITION

SECTION: METRO, Pg. B6, EDITORIALS

LENGTH: 315 words

HEADLINE: Tracking **gun** traffickers;However political it may seem, **President Clinton's** new effort to **trace guns** that fall into the hands of juveniles is a good one.

BODY:

It would be impossible for any presidential candidate these days to say anything about crime without having it cast into a political context.

The most recent example came with **President Clinton's** announcement of the implementation of a program to **trace guns** seized from juveniles back to the sellers of those **guns**. The pilot program, in which 17 cities will participate, will focus on a computer database containing federal records, including serial numbers, of **gun** sales in an effort to find and prosecute those who illegally sold the **guns** to the juveniles.

Republicans called **Clinton's** announcement a political ploy made to trump a proposal, announced by candidate Bob Dole just days earlier, that more juvenile criminals should be charged as adults and that records of juvenile crime, now generally sealed, should remain available to schools, courts and employers even after those juveniles become adults. The **Clinton** administration, GOP leaders said, had proposed its **gun-tracing** idea back in 1993.

All perhaps true. But however political the timing, it doesn't make **Clinton's** proposal any less worthwhile. Because of the way **guns** get into the hands of juveniles, and because of youths' own preference for "new in the box" weapons -- something akin to a taste for designer shoes -- law enforcement experts believe that many of those weapons will be fairly easy to trace.

Analyses by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms indicate that less than 1 percent of the nation's 160,000 federally licensed dealers are the source of more than half of the weapons used in crimes, either through dummy purchasers or directly.

That makes pursuit of those dealers a promising approach in the effort to curb the escalating curve of **gun** homicides by juveniles. A trial program in Boston has further confirmed these findings. The president's program deserves support.

LOAD-DATE: July 13, 1996



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THE FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

July 9, 1996, Tuesday FINAL AM EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 5

LENGTH: 440 words

HEADLINE: **Clinton** declares war on gunrunners;
President orders pilot program to **trace guns** used by juveniles

BYLINE: Hearst Newspapers

BODY:

WASHINGTON - **President Clinton** launched a federal campaign yesterday to combat **gun** dealers who he said "channel an arsenal of weapons" to U.S. youth, contributing to the deaths of 15 young people every day.

The president ordered the Justice Department and the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to implement a pilot program in 17 cities, including San Antonio, to trace the origin of every pistol, assault weapon or shotgun used by a juvenile in a violent crime.

Many of the cities are in battleground states such as California, New York, Texas, Ohio and New Jersey that could help **Clinton** win the fall election.

He said his initiative will encourage "police on the beat, prosecutors in the courtroom and federal investigators" to "all work together in a genuine national team to take on the gunrunners. "

Clinton cited statistics showing a threefold increase in homicides committed by juveniles since 1980.

"Those who illegally peddle **guns** to our children will get a simple message," he declared during a White House ceremony. "We will find you, we will prosecute you and we will punish you. "

Under the program, police and prosecutors in the 17 cities will enter information into a nationwide computerized network run by the ATF on every handgun, automatic weapon or shotgun used by a juvenile in a violent crime. The bureau will then try to trace the weapon to the original **gun** dealer who sold the weapon.

Clinton said law enforcement agencies "know that gangs often buy in bulk from a single shadowy supplier through criminals who channel an arsenal of weapons to young criminals. "

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin predicted that the **gun-tracing** effort will help "interrupt the flow of **guns** before they reach young



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hands and eradicate young lives. "

The president's announcement came after a radio address Saturday by GOP rival Bob Dole urging a crackdown on juvenile crime.

In his talk, Dole warned of a "juvenile crime wave" and cited statistics showing that 35 percent of violent crimes are committed by offenders younger than 20.

Administration officials portrayed the latest anti-crime initiative as part of a broad campaign to combat youth violence.

Vice President Al Gore cited Clinton actions, including federal funding for 100,000 additional police officers; signing a law banning 19 types of combat-style assault weapons; signing a law requiring a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases; backing life imprisonment for chronic felons; and signing a measure requiring the notification of communities about the release of sex offenders.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 11, 1997



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THE HARTFORD COURANT

July 9, 1996 Tuesday, STATEWIDE

SECTION: MAIN; Pg. A8

LENGTH: 971 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON ANNOUNCES PLAN TO TRACK GUNS

BYLINE: DAVID LIGHTMAN; Washington Bureau Chief

DATELINE: WASHINGTON --

BODY:

President Clinton Monday announced a new federal computer program designed to make it easier to **trace guns** used by juveniles who commit crimes in Bridgeport and 16 other cities across the country.

"Those who illegally peddle **guns** to our children will get a simple message," **Clinton** told an East Room audience of law enforcement officials, including some from Connecticut. "We will find you, we will prosecute you, and we will punish you."

State and federal officials will cooperate in the program, which will be based on the use of computers to investigate the origins of **guns** and the paths they take to the streets.

The program, designed to help police and prosecutors pursue people who traffic in **guns** to juveniles, was announced partly as a serious effort to curb crime and partly as an election-year reminder that **Clinton** is tough on crime.

Clinton was introduced by Vice President Al Gore, who told the audience, "This initiative is yet another component of a larger and extremely effective strategy to fight crime in our nation."

After the hourlong ceremony, municipal officials were herded onto the White House's North Lawn, where phones were set up on tables. There, White House staff directed the officials, including Bridgeport Police Chief Thomas J. Sweeney, to phones where staff members had placed calls to their local radio stations.

Beyond the White House gates, some questioned **Clinton's** motives. Two days ago, Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole proposed charging minors as adults for major crimes.

Mike McCurry, a White House spokesman, denied any link between the two events. "Whatever Mr. Dole said had nothing to do with the pilot project that the president announced today," he said.

The Republican congressman for Bridgeport, Rep. Christopher Shays of the 4th District, was not told of the initiative before it was announced. Shays, who



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later said, "I like the plan and I'm happy that it doesn't cost that much," would not speculate on why he was not informed.

Administration critics, though, viewed the Clinton announcement with skepticism.

"We certainly support initiatives aimed at getting weapons out of the hands of juveniles," said Chip Walker, National Rifle Association spokesman. "But we have some questions -- such as why has it taken the Clinton administration this long to target **gun** traffickers?"

James Fotis, executive director of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America, a Falls Church, Va.-based group of law enforcement professionals, said, "It's already a crime for juveniles to have **guns**. Why don't we prosecute them?"

Clinton backers, though, brushed aside such talk.

"The idea of cooperative law enforcement is not new," said U.S. Attorney Christopher E. Droney of Connecticut.

"We need this more-elaborate tracking system," said Sweeney.

As described by Droney and Raymond W. Kelly, Treasury undersecretary for enforcement, the new program will create a national network to **trace guns** used in crimes in Bridgeport and the 16 other cities.

There is already a similar federal program in place, but it is largely voluntary. Kelly called the effort "spotty," saying that many local agencies believed "not much could be done as far as tracing a **gun**."

The new system is modeled after one developed in Boston. Information about weapons seized by police will be entered into a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms computer system, which will attempt to **trace the gun** back to the original sellers. A bureau agent would review the Connecticut data, and every 30 days the federal government will produce a computer disc with the latest **gun-tracing** information.

For Droney, the effort expands a similar program under way in Connecticut. For the past year or so, federal officials have reviewed police reports in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport to see what **guns** were used. They look for potential weapons-related crimes as well as any patterns in **gun** sales.

With the new system, they will be able to more easily **trace guns** bought and sold out of state, and perhaps move to cut off suppliers outside of Connecticut who are selling **guns** on the state's streets.

"Today, if a gang member is caught committing a crime with a smoking **gun** in his hand, often as not the **gun** is simply put in the police locker with little further investigation," Clinton said.

The announcement was another in what has become a string of crime-related White House events. In recent months, Clinton has touted his program to put more police on the streets, his anti-drug strategy and his anti-gang initiatives in elaborate ceremonies designed to call attention to the efforts.



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White House strategists believe that it is important for Clinton to keep pushing the crime issue. From about 1968 to 1988, Republicans had success portraying themselves as the party of law and order.

Clinton helped reverse that perception four years ago, and Monday there was little Dole's aides could do other than to insist the gun effort was a rehash of previous initiatives.

Bridgeport was chosen to participate because it has a history of state, federal and local officials working together on criminal matters. Federal officials cited a willingness to participate, as well as a desire for regional balance and a mix of large and smaller cities, as criteria in choosing the program's sites.

Other cities involved in the program are Atlanta; Baltimore; Boston; Birmingham, Ala.; Cleveland; Inglewood, Calif.; Jersey City, N.J.; Memphis, Tenn.; Milwaukee; New York; Richmond, Va.; Salinas, Calif.; St. Louis; San Antonio; Seattle; and Washington.

The \$2 million initiative can be implemented without legislation because federal and most state laws make it illegal to sell guns to minors. Tracing can usually be done by serial numbers or documents showing where the gun was sold.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 9, 1996



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THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

July 9, 1996 Tuesday MORNING EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A18

LENGTH: 479 words

HEADLINE: Clinton presents juvenile gun-tracing program;
SOCIAL ISSUES: Dole dismisses the announcement as a campaign ploy.

BYLINE: LORI MONTGOMERY, Knight-Ridder Newspapers

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, DC

BODY:

Responding to a surge of slayings by youngsters armed with guns, President Clinton on Monday unveiled a federal campaign to identify and arrest the "shadowy supplier" who illegally puts the weapons in young hands.

Under the program, federal firearms officials will trace every gun used in crimes in 17 cities, focusing special attention on guns seized from juveniles. Among the cities will be Inglewood.

By tracing each weapon to its original seller, officials hope to better understand the black market that supplies guns to children, and to disrupt that market by prosecuting gun traffickers.

"We know (youth) gangs often buy in bulk from a single shadowy supplier. We need a national campaign to cut off the flow," Clinton said.

The announcement marked the fifth time in recent days that Clinton has offered a new plan to crack down on crime, an issue voters have traditionally associated with the Republican Party.

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole quickly dismissed Monday's announcement as a campaign ploy, accusing Clinton of resurrecting a 1993 initiative by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in order to generate fresh images of himself as a crime-fighter.

"This program was first announced by the ATF way back on Nov. 5, 1993," said Dole spokesman Nelson Warfield. "Leave it to Bill Clinton to wait until four months before the election to embrace the idea. "



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Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., who is sponsoring juvenile-crime legislation, also criticized Clinton for focusing on gun traffickers while his administration is ignoring teens who possess guns _ a federal crime under the 1994 crime bill.

Many crime experts, however, have been calling on federal officials to do more to target the sale of guns to juveniles, which is illegal under federal law and in virtually every state.

Noting that the number of gun homicides by juveniles has tripled since 1980 while the number of teen slayings by all other means has stayed about the same, these experts say targeting gun sales may be an effective way to staunch the problem.

Meanwhile, a federal appeals court in San Francisco upheld the federal ban on handgun possession by juveniles. The law, part of the 1994 crime bill, prohibits juveniles from knowingly possessing handguns or handgun ammunition, and also bans the sale or transfer of handgun ammunition to juveniles. It exempts hunting, target practice, use in farm employment and self-defense against intruders.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

10

LOAD-DATE: March 07, 1997



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The Record

July 9, 1996; TUESDAY; ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A03

LENGTH: 843 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON TARGETS WEAPONS TRAFFICKERS ;
CUTTING OFF GUN SUPPLY TO JUVENILES
PROGRAM AIMS TO TRACK THE SHADOWY SUPPLIER

BYLINE: JERRY DeMARCO, Staff Writer

BODY:

Dominick Polifrone suppressed a smile at the White House on Monday as he watched **President Clinton** announce a federal program to track down those selling **guns** to young people.

Using Jersey City as one of its 17 pilot sites, the program unveiled by **Clinton** mirrors the statewide **gun-tracing** effort established by the New Jersey office of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, directed by Polifrone.

"We're in a good position to implement this," Polifrone said by telephone following **Clinton's** announcement. "We're already light years ahead. Now we can do with juveniles what we do with adults, find out where these **guns** are coming from and how they're getting into people's hands. Then we can prosecute the traffickers."

The campaign intends to identify and arrest what **Clinton** called the "shadowy supplier" who puts the weapons in young hands. The sale of **guns** to juveniles is illegal under federal law and in virtually every state, but there has been a recent increase in the number of murders by kids armed with **guns**.

By tracing each weapon to its original seller, officials hope to better understand the black market that supplies **guns** to children and to disrupt that market by prosecuting **gun** traffickers.

"We know youth gangs often buy in bulk from a single shadowy supplier. We need a national campaign to cut off the flow," **Clinton** said during a noon ceremony in the East Room of the White House.

Also attending Monday's ceremony were U.S. Attorney Faith S. Hochberg of New Jersey and Hudson County Prosecutor Carmen Messano, along with dozens of other law enforcement officials from throughout the country. All pledged to provide information on every **gun** seized from a

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juvenile during a crime.

The information, culled from the serial number stamped on the weapons, will go into a federal computer system operated by the agency, with the purpose of tracing each **gun** to its last legal point of sale.

The information will be studied by researchers funded by the National Institute of Justice, which is hoping to paint the first detailed pictures of black-market **gun** sales in America. The goal is to have all cities participate, creating a massive network.

The agency in New Jersey already has a leg up. It has built its own gunrunning cases, and is investigating several other patterns of weapons sales since it began tracing illegally handled firearms in North Jersey more than three years ago. Last year, an agreement was reached under which all law enforcement officers throughout the state must submit every **gun** seized in connection with a crime to the ATF for tracing.

The agency's Fairfield office has since smashed a few smuggling rings and closed a Virginia **gun** shop identified as a major supplier.

Several other cases are pending, including one stemming from the 1994 shooting death of a 28-year-old Paterson man in the hallway of a city housing project. Investigators say the murder weapon was bought at a Georgia **gun** shop.

In Boston, a pilot version of the juvenile program and increased police efforts against firearms have been so successful that no youngsters have been killed by **guns** this year, officials said.

Federal law already prohibits the sale of handguns to juveniles, a factor that makes the president's program easier to implement because it does not require the passage of new legislation that could ignite a protracted **gun**-control debate.

Statistics show most **guns** used in crimes in New Jersey are smuggled in from out of state, primarily from the South. The weapons, most of which are bought legitimately, make their way north in car trunks or other containers and are exchanged for drugs or later sold on the street for two to three times the purchase price.

In Paterson, for instance, recent data show nearly 250 **guns** seized in connection with murders, rapes, robberies, and other crimes since September 1992. Of those, 40 turned up in separate incidents in the same neighborhood, including four on one block. The majority originated out of state, according to the ATF tracing program in New Jersey, which is known as Project LISA, an acronym for its four goals: "locate" the firearms, "identify" the traffickers, "seize" the contraband, and "apprehend" the sellers.

The announcement marked the fifth time in recent days that Clinton has offered a new plan to crack down on crime, an issue voters have traditionally associated with the Republican Party.



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The Record, July 9, 1996

Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole quickly dismissed Monday's announcement as a campaign ploy, accusing Clinton of resurrecting a 1993 initiative by the agency in order to generate fresh images of himself as a crime-fighter.

"This program was first announced by the ATF way back on Nov. 5, 1993," said Dole spokesman Nelson Warfield. "Leave it to Bill Clinton to wait until four months before the election to embrace the idea."

This article contains material from news service reports.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO - ASSOCIATED PRESS - **President Clinton**, flanked by Treasury Undersecretary Ray Kelly and Attorney General Janet Reno, applauding Monday at the White House as they listen to Joseph Chery, not shown, talk about his son, who was killed by a stray bullet.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: July 9, 1996



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Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale)

July 9, 1996, Tuesday, Final EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL, Pg. 3A

LENGTH: 330 words

HEADLINE: **GUN-TRACING PROGRAM UNVEILED;**
WEAPONS SEIZED FROM YOUTHS WILL BE TRACKED TO THEIR ORIGINAL SOURCE

BYLINE: TIMOTHY J.; McNULTY and JEAN P. FISHER Washington Bureau

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

The federal government launched a new effort on Monday to crack down on juvenile crime by tracing the weapons used by youths to the original **gun** dealers.

The program aims to stem the number of homicides committed by teen-agers with **guns**, a figure that has nearly tripled in the last two decades.

"We know gangs often buy in bulk from a single shadowy supplier," **President Clinton** said. "We need a national campaign to cut off the flow."

Clinton said 17 communities will participate in the program. Under the plan, information from documents and serial numbers on confiscated weapons will be entered into the federal computer system run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

"We will, for the first time, see that every time a **gun** is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement it will be tracked through a national tracing system to find out where it came from," **Clinton** said.

Republican Bob Dole's campaign described the tracing effort as "a sound idea and a step in the right direction." But the Dole campaign also called **Clinton's** announcement "election-year acrobatics" for declaring a "new" program that first was proposed by AFT in November, 1993.

The crime issue is a ticklish one, with candidates facing anti-crime sentiment among voters but also the politically sensitive question of **gun** control and registration, both of which risks the wrath of the powerful National Rifle Association.

To avoid that, the president's staff noted that no new legislation is needed to implement the program because it is already illegal under federal law to sell handguns to juveniles.

Attorney General Janet Reno cited statistics showing that the crime rate in Boston dropped five consecutive years, including a 9 percent drop in 1995, and



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Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), July 9, 1996

attributed part of this decline to the city's crackdown on **gun** violence. One report showed that only 1 percent of the 160,000 federally licensed **gun** dealers can be traced to 51 percent of all **guns** used in crimes.

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Wisconsin State Journal

July 9, 1996, Tuesday, ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: Front, Pg. 4A

LENGTH: 392 words

HEADLINE: GUN-TRACING CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY; PLAN INCLUDES MILWAUKEE

BYLINE: Stewart M. Powell Hearst Newspapers

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton launched a federal campaign Monday to combat shadowy gun dealers who he said are funneling 'an arsenal of weapons' to America's youth, contributing to the death of 15 young people every day.

The president ordered the Justice Department and the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) to implement a pilot program in 17 cities, including Milwaukee, to trace the origin of every pistol, assault weapon or shotgun used by a juvenile in a violent crime.

Many of the cities are in battleground states such as California, New York, Texas, Ohio and New Jersey that Clinton will need to win this fall to win the election.

He said his initiative will encourage 'police on the beat, prosecutors in the courtroom and federal investigators' to 'all work together in a genuine national team to take on the gun runners.'

Clinton cited statistics showing a three-fold increase in homicides committed by juveniles since 1980.

'Those who illegally peddle guns to our children will get a simple message,' he declared during a White House ceremony. 'We will find you; we will prosecute you; and we will punish you.'

Under the program, police and prosecutors in the 17 cities will enter information into a nationwide computerized network run by the BATF on every weapon used by a juvenile in a violent crime. The information will help law enforcement authorities trace ownership of the weapon back to the original gun dealer. That person might be a seller to juveniles or might lead authorities to the seller.

Clinton said law enforcement agencies 'know that gangs often buy in bulk from a single shadowy supplier through criminals who channel an arsenal of weapons to young criminals.'

The cities taking part in the Clinton administration's pilot program are



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Atlanta; Baltimore; Boston; Cleveland; Milwaukee; New York; St. Louis; San Antonio; Seattle; Birmingham, Ala.; Inglewood and Salinas, Calif.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Jersey City, N.J.; Memphis, Tenn.; Richmond, Va., and Washington, D.C.

The president's announcement followed a radio address on Saturday by GOP rival Bob Dole urging a crackdown on juvenile crime.

In his talk, Dole warned of a ''juvenile crime wave'' and cited statistics showing that 35 percent of violent crimes are committed by offenders younger than age 20.

GRAPHIC: Associated Press

President Clinton, flanked by Attorney General Janet Reno, right, and Treasury Undersecretary Ray Kelly, applauds remarks by Joseph Cherry, whose son was killed by a stray bullet. **Clinton** signed an initiative tracking **guns** used in crimes.

LOAD-DATE: July 10, 1996

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February 2, 1994; WEDNESDAY; ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A03

LENGTH: 880 words

HEADLINE: WOMAN THROWN FROM JEEP ONTO ROUTE 80 'LUCKY TO BE ALIVE

BYLINE: RITA MALLEY, Staff Writer
The Record

BODY:

Gunrunners in New Jersey will face the combined efforts of law enforcement officers in more than a dozen states as well as the federal government, thanks to an agreement signed by Governor Whitman on Tuesday as she wrapped up her first official trip to Washington, D.C.

In four days here for the National Governors Association's winter conference, Whitman watched the Super Bowl at the White House, met with Cabinet members and congressional leaders, appeared on three national television programs, released a national health-care proposal, and sat through a lot of really long meetings. The agreement to coordinate information on illegal gun trafficking began in August when former Gov. Jim Florio forged a similar pact with the governors of Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. The new agreement pledges cooperation among those states, the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the District of Columbia, and 10 additional states, including New York and Florida. The bureau will serve as a central clearinghouse, tracing guns used in crimes to their sources and reporting its findings to the states. Local and federal law enforcement officers in northern New Jersey have praised the original agreement, saying it helps in spotting patterns in gun trafficking and identifying the sources of illegal weapons.

If each state just acts independently, if, say, New Jersey has very strict gun laws, all that does is make the criminals who want guns go elsewhere, Susan McCarron of the bureau said Tuesday. But if all the states join together in fighting this, the criminals will have nowhere to go, or at least it won't be as convenient as hopping over a state boundary.

Whitman said the governors conference was a rich source of new ideas.

" It's been a great way to share information, she said. I have a ream, a stack of notes to take back and try to prioritize and to get some of our folks to focus on some of these initiatives, she said.

In the area of welfare, for instance, Whitman said she liked what she heard about two-plus-two plans, in which welfare recipients who are expected to work after two years continue to receive some limited benefits during a two-year transitional period.

I tend to prefer the carrot rather than the stick, she said. " You have to have both, but sometimes we just look at it from the stick point of view. I objected

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to the proposal put out by Governor Florio during the campaign, which just said if didn't identify the father, you were out. You need to work with people. Whitman said she was impressed by the cooperative efforts made by **President Clinton** and pleasantly surprised at how well governors of both parties were able to work together.

Clearly, there's a relationship that can be developed between the governors and the president, she said. The alliance that seems to be developing is more the president and the governors versus the Congress in a lot of instances.

In addition to **Clinton**, Whitman made important contacts among Republican leaders in Congress such as Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas and among administration officials such as Attorney General Janet Reno, Budget Director Leon Panetta, and Donna Shalala, secretary of Health and Human Services.

Obviously I have had some, ahem, relationship with the attorney general, but I haven't met her before, and that was helpful, Whitman said. Whitman had complained during last year's campaign that an appearance by Reno with Florio should have been considered a political trip.

She also met Pennsylvania Gov. Robert Casey and Delaware Gov. Tom Carper, both Democrats, for the first time. So it's going to be easier now to reach out for future meetings with them, she said.

In a meeting Monday, **Clinton** asked the governors for their help in pushing a crime bill through Congress, but Whitman said a measure passed by the Senate contains provisions unpopular with the governors because they could be expensive for the states.

You hear people say, 'It sounds great, but don't give it to me, I don't want it, because we understand that there are going to be strings attached that are going to start to make themselves felt a few years down the road, she said. " It may sound wonderful, we may get something up front, the carrot is out there, but don't bite.

GRAPHIC: 1 ROBERT DUSO PHOTO - In an accident on Route 80 Tuesday, passenger Carol Cavalieri of Elmwood Park was thrown from her

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 25, 1994



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