

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 2000

Came

GUN BUYBACK EVENT

DATE: April 28, 2000
LOCATION: Maurice T. Turner, Jr. Institute of Police Science
Washington, D.C.
BRIEFING TIME: 2:40pm – 2:50pm
EVENT TIME: 3:15pm – 4:00pm
FROM: Bruce Reed
Eric Liu

I. PURPOSE

To announce a new gun buyback partnership between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Washington, D.C. to fund the largest ever gun buyback in the city, and to keep the pressure on Congress to enact common sense gun legislation.

II. BACKGROUND

Today you will be joined by Secretary Andrew Cuomo, Mayor Anthony Williams, and Police Chief Charles Ramsey at the Maurice T. Turner Jr. Institute of Police Science, the MPD police academy. The audience will include Metropolitan Police Department recruit class, MPD command staff and officers, Washington, D.C. community members, and gun control advocates. You will announce a new gun buyback partnership between Washington, D.C. and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Under the initiative – the largest ever in D.C. and one of the largest ever in the country – a total of \$350,000 will be made available to purchase an estimated 7,000 guns through a local gun buyback program jointly administered by the Washington public housing authority and the Metropolitan Police Department. In addition, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms will trace all guns recovered in the buyback.

Taking Thousands of Guns Out of Circulation in Washington. Under today's partnership, HUD's BuyBack America program will provide \$100,000 and the Metropolitan Police Department will provide \$250,000 to fund the buyback. The District of Columbia public housing authority will partner with the Metropolitan Police Department to conduct the buyback, which will fund the purchase of an estimated 7,000 guns and take them off the street and out of circulation permanently. Last August, the Metropolitan Police Department conducted two successful buybacks. The first, funded in part by HUD, yielded 600 guns; the second, 2,300 guns. According to an ATF report on the buybacks, the vast majority of firearms recovered (2,200) were handguns, and far

exceeded the District's average annual recovery rate of 2,105 crime guns. Among the firearms frequently recovered were guns used and recovered in crimes and illegally trafficked by unlicensed dealers.

Providing Resources to Fund Buybacks Across the Country. A recent study released by HUD shows that people living in public housing are more than twice as likely to suffer from gun-related victimization as the general population. And while gun crime is down by 35 percent since 1992, nearly 12 children are still killed every day by gunfire. Last September you unveiled a \$15 million HUD gun buyback initiative – the largest gun buyback program in history. Under the first round of the BuyBack America Initiative, HUD is providing funding to a total of 85 communities to enable public housing authorities (PHAs) to partner with local law enforcement agencies to conduct local gun buyback programs. By reducing the number of firearms in circulation, buyback programs can help prevent accidental shootings, gun suicides, and unauthorized gun use. The HUD buyback program encourages a cap of \$50 for each working gun, and encourages PHAs to provide the awards in the form of gift certificates for goods or services rather than cash. Every HUD-sponsored buyback must be run by a local police department – with no amnesty given for any crimes committed with returned firearms. And to ensure permanent removal from circulation, all guns are destroyed unless there is an ongoing law enforcement investigation.

Working with D.C. Law Enforcement to Combat Gun Crime. Today's initiative is another example of efforts by the federal government and the District of Columbia to work together to combat gun crime. Under innovative programs such as Operation Ceasefire, which has received nearly \$1 million in federal funding since 1995, local police are partnering with the U.S. Attorney and the ATF to increase gun enforcement and gun crime prevention programs. Also, through the Administration's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, local police are working with the ATF to trace all crime guns recovered in the District to crack down on illegal gun traffickers that supply guns to juveniles and criminals.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Briefing Participants:

Karen Tramontano

Eric Liu

Loretta Ucelli

Mickey Ibarra

Leanne Shimabukuro

Paul Glastris

Stage Participants:

YOU

Secretary Andrew Cuomo

Mayor Anthony Williams

Police Chief Charles Ramsey

20 Metropolitan Police Department officers and new recruits

Program Participants:

YOU

Mayor Anthony Williams

Police Chief Charles Ramsey, Metropolitan Police Department

IV. PRESS PLAN

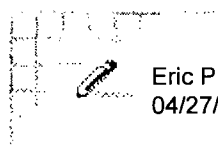
Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- **YOU** will be announced onto the stage, accompanied by Mayor Anthony Williams and Police Chief Charles Ramsey.
- Mayor Anthony Williams will make remarks and introduce Police Chief Charles Ramsey.
- Police Chief Charles Ramsey will make remarks and introduce **YOU**.
- **YOU** will make remarks, work a ropeline, and depart.

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speechwriting.

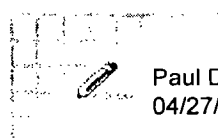


Eric P. Liu
04/27/2000 08:51:22 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul D. Glastris/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc: Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP@EOP, Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP, Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
bcc: Records Management@EOP
Subject: Re: latest guns 

looks real good Paul -- a couple of bolded changes below.
Paul D. Glastris



Paul D. Glastris
04/27/2000 08:32:22 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP, Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: latest guns

4/27/2000 8:30 p.m.
Glastris

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON GUN BUY-BACKS
MAURICE T. TURNER JR. INSTITUTE OF POLICE SCIENCE
WASHINGTON, DC
April 28, 2000**

Acknowledgments: Mayor Anthony Williams; Chief Charles Ramsey;

First, I want to congratulate this class of fine police recruits. I want all of you to know that **when you're walking the beat** on the streets of Washington, DC, **you will have a partner in the federal government.**

For the past seven years, we have worked hard to back you up with the tools and support you need. In 1993, we passed the Brady law, which has kept half-a-million felons, fugitives and domestic abusers from buying firearms. In 1994, we passed an historic crime bill, which has funded over 100,000 additional community police officers around the

country—including tk right here in Washington DC. We banned assault weapons; cracked down on illegal gun dealing to young people; and increased federal prosecutions of gun crimes. We invested in afterschool and summer school programs, to keep children off the street and out of trouble—including thousands of students here in DC. But the most important tool in your crime fighting bag is community involvement. Chief Ramsey has been at the forefront of making community policing work, first in Chicago, and now in DC, and I thank him for that.

Community policing and citizen involvement have been key to our efforts to roll back roll back crime more dramatically than almost anyone thought possible seven years ago. Nationwide, we've cut the rate of gun crime by 35 percent since 1993. Homicide is at its lowest rate in over 30 years. And here in Washington, crime is at its lowest level since the early 1970's and gun crime has been cut in half since 1995.

Yet for all of our progress, nobody believes America is safe enough. The tragic shootings we have seen, from Columbine **a year ago** to the terrible events this week at the National Zoo, remind us of what can happen when guns fall into the wrong hands. Every day in this country, 12 young people die from gun violence. Nearly 40 percent of these deaths are from gun accidents and suicides. As a nation, we simply must do more to get guns out of places where young people might have access to them.

One way to do that is with the kind of gun buy-backs pioneered **here** in the District. Citizens voluntarily turn in guns to the police [cutinto] in exchange for **a set amount of** cash or [cutgift] certificates, and **then** the guns are destroyed. I believe the federal government ought to invest in these promising programs. That's why last year, I unveiled an unprecedented \$15 million gun buyback initiative at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. **With the leadership of Secretary Cuomo**, this initiative is helping cities across America launch gun buy-back efforts. Last year, the federal government **helped fund DC's first [Leanne?]** gun buy-back--which, as you've heard, took in nearly 3000 guns. Today, I am happy to announce that the Department of Housing and Urban Development will contribute over \$100,000 to this year's buy back, so that the **District's public housing authority and the Metropolitan Police** can collect over 7000 guns, more than double the number from last year. **By adding our resources to those committed by the District, we can leverage powerful results.** Every one of these guns taken out of circulation could mean one less crime, one less tragedy, one more child's life saved.

I'm also pleased to announce that the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms will trace every gun turned in during this buy back to see if it has been stolen or used in a crime. This is part of a larger partnership between ATF and the DC Police Department to trace the source of every gun used in a crime in this city. So far, this successful partnership has proven extremely effective in shutting down flows of illegal guns coming into DC. In one case, officials traced nearly 100 guns used by gang members and other criminals to commit murder and other crimes here in the District to an illegal gun trafficker, who originally bought the guns at gun shows in the Midwest. That trafficker is now in jail.

My budget would expand this model effort to communities across the nation, so that law enforcement will be able trace every gun and every bullet used in every gun crime in the United States. **It would fund more local anti-crime efforts like Operation Ceasefire here in DC.** My budget also calls for hiring more ATF agents and inspectors to crack down on illegal gun traffickers and bad-apple dealers, and more federal, state and local prosecutors to help put violent gun criminals where they belong: behind bars. Congress should pass it.

Congress should also pass common-sense gun legislation to close the gun-show loophole, require safety locks with all new handguns, and ban the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips. There is broad bipartisan support for this in Congress and across the country. It's time for Republican leadership, to stop **bowing** to the gun lobby, stop playing procedural games **and allow an honest debate on this bill.** Send it to my desk and I will pass it.

Will we stop every gun crime by closing the gun show loophole, or requiring child safety locks, or investing in gun buy backs? Of course we won't. But that's no excuse for not pursuing these efforts, because they will help. **Every effort we make to keep guns away from children and criminals** will save lives, just as surely as the Brady Law and community policing have. We have a long way to go, but if we keep moving, step by step, we can make America what it ought to be: the safest big nation in the world.

In 1968, in his last campaign, Robert Kennedy said the fight against crime "is a fight to preserve that quality of community which is at the root of our greatness." Today, here in the Nation's Capitol, and across America, we are winning that fight. If, in this new century, we keep fighting to preserve that quality of community Robert Kennedy talked about, I have no doubt that America's greatest days are yet to come.

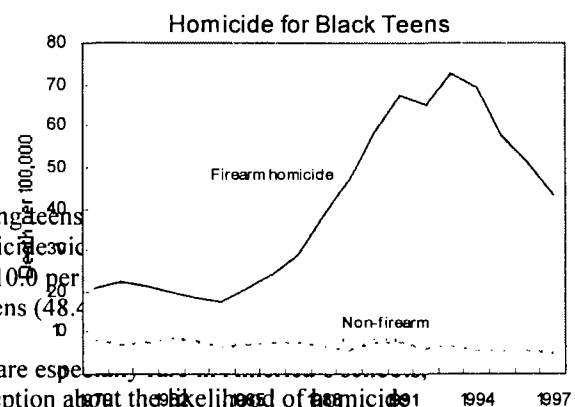
Thank you.

3.6. Suicide, Accidental Deaths, and Homicide: The Role of Guns

Harm to teens often stems from their own behavior and the behavior of those around them. The most visible and distressing example concerns suicide and homicide. In 1997, suicide and homicide were the second and third leading causes of death among teens after accidents (check).¹ Although both suicide and homicide are fairly rare events for teens (around 1 per 10,000 teens per year),² many of these deaths may be preventable. It is thus vitally important to look at recent trends in teen violence and their proximate causes, and to search for strategies that will reduce the number of such tragedies.

As with many of the issues we discuss in this report, there are numerous facets to this issue that cannot be treated in a page or two. Here we focus on one extremely important, policy-relevant factor—the role of guns. Guns are far and away the most common means of fatal teen violence, used in 85% of teen homicides and 63% of teen suicides. Moreover, changes in gun availability and gun possession are closely tied to recent teen homicide and suicide trends, in particular the sharp rise gun-related deaths among teens that began in the mid-1980s. Although the patterns presented below apply to the teen population at large, the following discussion of mortality trends focuses primarily on black teens because this group has been most affected by the increase in gun-related deaths.

Blumstein and Cork (1996) link the dissemination of guns into the hands of American teenagers and young adults in the late 1980s with the advent and growth of the crack trade.³ Crack cocaine first arrived in large cities like Miami, Los Angeles, and New York in about 1983. After remaining fairly constant from 1975 through 1984, drug arrest rates among non-white juveniles more than doubled from 1985 to 1989. Guns were carried by teens directly involved in drug markets, but possession became far broader as other teens acquired a gun in reaction to this trend—for perceived self-protection or as a status symbol.⁴ This period saw a dramatic proliferation of guns: domestic production of pistols, the type of gun most commonly traced to teens by law enforcement,⁵ more than tripled to 2.3 million units in 1993. Consistent with this presumed increase in teen gun possession in the late 1980s, juvenile arrest rates for weapons law violations



¹ In 1997, there were 2,601 homicides and 1,802 suicides among teens. Homicides composed 85 percent of homicide victims and 83 percent of suicide victims. Black teens are 10.9 per 100,000 more likely to commit suicide than white teens (7.1 per 100,000 vs. 10.9 per 100,000) and 48.4 percent more likely to be homicide victims than white teens (48.4 per 100,000 vs. 32.6 per 100,000). Source: Center for Disease Control.

² Recent reports have shown that although such fatal tragedies are especially rare, recent highly visible tragedies have created a false public perception about the likelihood of homicide occurring in schools. See, "School House Hype: Two Years Later", Justice Policy Institute/Children's Law Center, April, 2000.

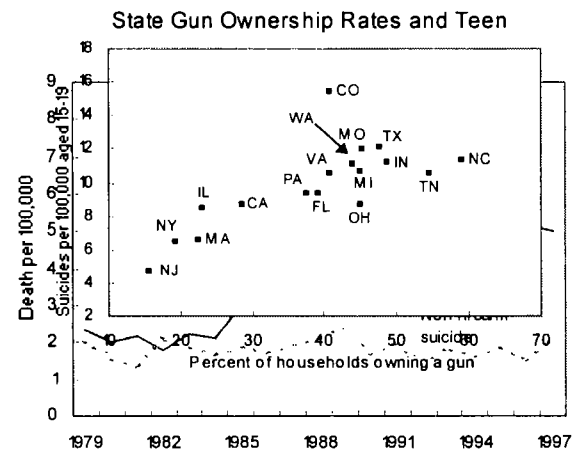
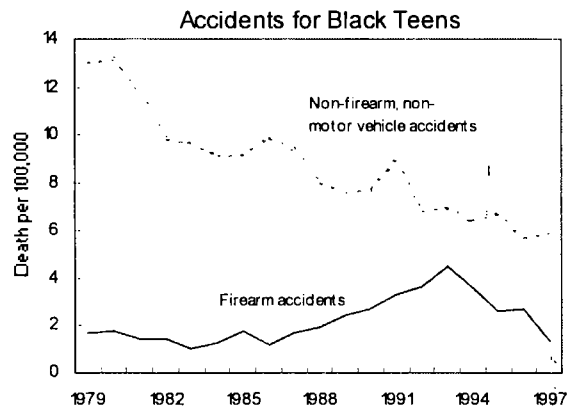
³ Blumstein, A. and Cork, D., "Linking Gun Availability to Youth Gun Violence", *Law and Contemporary Problems*, Winter 1996.

⁴ Blumstein and Cork cite a 1993 study by [getting cite from OEOB library] conducted in center-city schools in which 22 percent of students possessed guns, with 68 percent citing protection as the main reason.

⁵ "Kids and Guns", U.S. Department of Justice, March 2000.

more than doubled from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s.

Blumstein and Cork point to a mid-1980s increase in teenage gun possession as a factor in several trends, the most disturbing of which is the rapid rise in deaths among black teens due to gun homicide (see chart xx). There are two competing explanations for the sharp rise in homicides. First, the rise in gun possession may have directly increased the lethality of confrontations among teens. Second, there may have simply been an increase in teens' inclination toward violence. If the latter explanation were the predominant influence we might expect to observe an increase in both gun and non-gun homicide. In fact, non-gun homicide victimization



among black teens remained roughly constant through the 1980s. Trends in black teen suicide and black teen accidental death show a similar pattern: increased gun fatalities in the early 1990s with no contemporaneous corresponding increase in non-firearm mortality rates. The rate of fatal gun accidents was more than four times as high in 1993 as in 1983 (see chart xx) and the rate of teen gun suicides increased rapidly in the mid-1980s. Non-gun suicide rate and accidental deaths so no such upward trend. Again, evidence is consistent with a causal effect of gun possession on mortality.

A cross-state comparison of gun suicide and gun accident rates among all teens provides additional support to the idea that gun access increases suicides. Because guns are an especially lethal means of suicide, suicide attempts (which are often impulsive) are more likely to be successful when guns are present. In states where more households have guns, teen suicide rates are much higher (see chart xx, which presents statistics for the 17 large states for which there are ownership data).⁶ Importantly, this relationship holds because gun-related teenage suicide is higher in states with high gun ownership; non-gun teen suicides are unaffected by gun ownership. As an alternative approach, we can also make a comparison using an index of gun availability developed by Philip Cook.⁷ In the four states with the highest levels of gun availability, the teen suicide rate

⁶ This analysis was prepared using: Smith, T. and Martos, L., "Attitudes Towards and Experiences With Guns: A State-level Perspective," National Opinion Research Center, December.

⁷ Gun availability in each state is estimated at the average of the percentage of homicides and suicides that are firearm related. This index, created by Philip Cook, is used to designate states with the highest average gun levels (Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Kentucky) and lowest average gun levels (Hawaii, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Jersey) for 1988-1997. Analysis using this index follows Miller, M., Azrael, D., and Hemenway, D. "Firearm Availability and Unintentional Firearm Deaths, Suicide, and Homicide Among 5-14 Year-Olds" (forthcoming).

is twice the rate in the four states with the lowest gun availability. Fatal gun accidents occurred more than *ten times* as often among teens in the top four gun index states.

By the mid-1990s gun-related death rates were declining from historic peaks for both black teens and teens generally. It is important to understand why. One explanation consistent with the analysis we have presented here is that gun possession in more recent cohorts of teenagers is lower than in their immediate predecessors. Policies that are effective in reducing the gun access and gun possession by teens should reinforce the recent downward trend in teen mortality.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES GUN BUYBACK PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

April 28, 2000

Today, President Clinton, joined by District of Columbia Mayor Williams, Metropolitan Police Chief Ramsey, and Housing Secretary Cuomo, will announce a new gun buyback partnership between the District of Columbia and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Under the initiative – the largest ever in D.C. and one of the largest ever in the country – a total of \$350,000 will be made available to purchase an estimated 7,000 guns through a local gun buyback program jointly administered by the Washington Public Housing Authority and the Metropolitan Police Department. In addition, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms will trace all guns recovered in the buyback. A total of 85 communities across the country are now participating in the first round of HUD's BuyBack America program to launch similar local gun buyback programs and to take tens of thousands of unwanted guns out of circulation. Today's initiative is part of a comprehensive effort by the Clinton Administration to provide more tools for communities to reduce gun violence, and to advance common sense gun safety legislation to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

TAKING THOUSANDS OF GUNS OUT OF CIRCULATION IN WASHINGTON. In the wake of the recent shooting at the National Zoo, President Clinton today will announce a major partnership between the federal government and the District of Columbia to fund the largest gun buyback in the city's history. Under today's partnership, HUD's BuyBack America program will provide \$100,000 and the Metropolitan Police Department will provide \$250,000 to fund the buyback. The District of Columbia Public Housing Authority will partner with the Metropolitan Police Department to conduct the buyback, which will fund the purchase of an estimated 7,000 guns and take them off the street and out of circulation permanently. Last August, the Metropolitan Police Department conducted two successful buybacks. The first, funded in part by HUD, yielded 600 guns; the second, 2,300 guns. According to an ATF report on the buybacks, the vast majority of firearms recovered (2,200) were handguns, and far exceeded the District's average annual recovery rate of 2,105 crime guns. Among the firearms frequently recovered were types often used and recovered in crimes and illegally trafficked by unlicensed dealers.

PROVIDING RESOURCES TO FUND BUYBACKS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. A recent study released by HUD shows that people living in public housing are more than twice as likely to suffer from gun-related victimization as the general population. And while gun crime is down by 35 percent since 1992, nearly 12 children are still killed every day by gunfire. To help reduce the toll of gun violence, President Clinton last September unveiled a \$15 million HUD gun buyback initiative – the largest gun buyback program in history. Under the first round of the BuyBack America Initiative, HUD is providing funding to a total of 85 communities to enable Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to partner with local law enforcement agencies to conduct local gun buyback programs. By reducing the number of firearms in circulation, buyback programs can help prevent accidental shootings, gun suicides, gun crime and unauthorized gun use. The HUD buyback program encourages a cap of \$50 for each working gun, and encourages PHAs to provide the awards in the form of gift certificates for goods or services rather than cash. Every HUD-sponsored buyback must be run by a local police department – with no amnesty given for any crimes committed with returned firearms. And to ensure permanent removal from

circulation, all guns are destroyed unless they are relevant to an ongoing law enforcement investigation, or they have been stolen from their lawful owner.

WORKING WITH D.C. LAW ENFORCEMENT TO COMBAT GUN CRIME. Today's initiative is another example of efforts by the federal government and the District of Columbia to work together to combat gun crime. Under innovative programs such as Operation Ceasefire, which has received nearly \$1 million in federal funding since 1995, local police are partnering with the U.S. Attorney and the ATF to increase gun enforcement and gun crime prevention programs. Also, through the Administration's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, local police are working with the ATF to trace all crime guns recovered in the District to crack down on illegal gun traffickers that supply guns to juveniles and criminals.

KEEPING UP PRESSURE TO ENACT COMMON SENSE GUN LEGISLATION. In addition to announcing these new tools to combat gun violence, the President will again emphasize the importance of common sense gun measures that can reduce gun violence by keeping guns out of the wrong hands. Noting that the Congress missed an opportunity to pass gun safety legislation by the April 20th anniversary of the Columbine shootings, the President will urge Congress to complete work on juvenile crime legislation and pass a final bill that closes the gun show loophole, requires child safety locks for handguns, bars the importation of large capacity ammunition clips, and bans violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

H U D

*CRIME -
HUD BUYBACKS*

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Bruce Reed	Jacquie Lawing and Lisa MacSpadden
COMPANY:	DATE:
HUD	April 18, 2000
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
456-6515	4
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:
Buy Back America	

☒ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Please note that this release also includes FY 2000 funding, that, two months ago, was made available for application in our Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). These funds have not yet been publicly announced outside of the NOFA.

[CLICK HERE AND TYPE RETURN ADDRESS]

HUD NEWS

DRAFT

Department of Housing and Urban Development – Andrew Cuomo, Secretary
Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410

HUD No. 00-80

(202) 708-0685

List of grants on <http://www.hud.gov/news.html>

FOR RELEASE

2:30 p.m. Tuesday

April 18, 2000

BUYBACK AMERICA CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN 84 COMMUNITIES

WASHINGTON – Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo, on behalf of the Clinton Administration today launched BuyBack America – an unprecedented national campaign to buyback unwanted guns and raise awareness about gun safety. More than 80 communities have pledged to utilize HUD funds to purchase tens of thousands of unwanted firearms, reducing deaths and injuries caused by gun crimes, accidents and suicides. Cuomo also announced the availability of additional funds to enable gun buybacks to occur in hundreds of more communities in the coming year.

Tom Mauser – the father of slain Columbine student Daniel Mauser – joined Cuomo in today's announcement. Mauser, who has taken a leave of absence from his job and is working full-time to reduce gun violence with the group SAFE Colorado (Sane Alternatives to the Firearms Epidemic), said: "I welcome this buyback program because it is an effective way of eliminating guns from our streets. All of our institutions and leaders must do their part to help us reduce the terrible problem of gun violence in our country."

The Secretary was also joined by Annapolis, MD, Mayor Dean Johnson, whose city conducted their first-ever HUD-funded gun buyback last weekend, and the following Mayors whose cities will conduct their first HUD-funded buybacks as part of BuyBack America in the coming months: Sharpe James of Newark, NJ; Al Jurczynski of Schenectady, NY; Carol Marinovich of Kansas City, KS; Ruben Smith of Las Cruces, NM; and Bobby Peters of Columbus, OH.

handwritten: 44? 50?
Cuomo also announced a second round of buybacks that will enable even more local communities to buyback guns and get them off the streets. Housing Authorities will now be able to use their fiscal year 2000 – in addition to their 1999 funds -- for this second round of buybacks. The buybacks are designed to reduce the toll of gun violence that claims an estimated 30,000 lives and wounds another 100,000 people each year in the United States.

Cuomo encouraged communities across the country that have not yet applied to take advantage of HUD funding, to join the nationwide BuyBack America campaign.

DRAFT

"BuyBack America isn't just about buying back guns – it's about buying back lives that would otherwise be lost to senseless gun violence," Cuomo said. "Tragically, gun violence today is a plague that is killing our fathers and mothers, our sisters and brothers, our wives and husbands, and even our children. Every gun we take off the street in a buyback is one less gun that can fall into the wrong hands and kill or wound an innocent victim. I encourage more communities to join us."

In September, President Clinton announced HUD's BuyBack initiative. Today's event illustrates the positive response to the President's call for action. The President is expected to have more to say about BuyBack America in the coming days.

Cuomo said people in communities participating in BuyBack America can get more information on local activities on a new section of HUD's website at www.HUD.gov/BuyBackAmerica

Police departments and public housing authorities participating in BuyBack America will use funds from HUD's crime-fighting Drug Elimination Grant Program to buy back guns. HUD suggests a buyback price of \$50 for each gun. In addition, businesses are encouraged to donate gift certificates for food, toys, and other goods to individuals turning in guns. HUD is providing 43 cents in matching funds for every \$1 dollar in HUD Drug Elimination Grant funds which housing authorities sets aside for a gun buyback.

The basic premise of the gun buybacks is to give people the opportunity, for a limited period of time, to exchange their guns for something of value with no questions asked. To reduce the availability of guns, all guns purchased with HUD funds will be destroyed, unless it is determined that a gun was stolen or is needed for an ongoing law enforcement investigation. Stolen weapons will be returned to their lawful owners.

get later (A recent study from RAND and the University of California-Los Angeles showed that more than 22 million children live in homes with firearms and in 43 percent of those homes, the guns are not locked up or fitted with trigger locks.

In addition to removing guns from the community, the buyback initiative is designed to foster cooperation between local communities and law enforcement agencies, as well as to educate people regarding gun safety and responsible gun ownership.

Other parts of the Clinton Administration's gun safety agenda include:

- HUD and the Department of the Treasury last month signed a historic agreement with Smith & Wesson to implement a "code of conduct" that will increase gun safety and improve retail distribution to keep guns out of the hands of children and criminals.
- A \$30 million Community Gun Safety and Violence Reduction Initiative that President Clinton proposed in his Fiscal Year 2001 Budget. The initiative, which would be administered by HUD, would fund computerized mapping of gun violence to help law enforcement agencies better protect the public, education and outreach programs to promote responsible safety measures by gun owners, and innovative community activities to reduce both gun crimes and accidents. If Congress approves funding for the initiative, local governments, law enforcement agencies, public housing authorities, community organizations, and other groups would be eligible to

DRAFT

compete for HUD grants to support gun violence reduction activities in the communities the Department serves.

- A \$280 million national firearms enforcement initiative that is also part of the President's proposed budget. The initiative would hire 500 new ATF agents and inspectors to target gun criminals, hire more than 1,000 prosecutors at all levels of government, fund new gun tracing and ballistics testing systems to catch more gun criminals, fund local media campaigns to

The following individuals and organizations have expressed support for the BuyBack America initiative: Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, Ranking Member of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee; Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, Ranking Member of the Senate Budget Committee and a Member of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee; Senator Barbara Boxer of California, Member of the Budget Committee; Congressman Patrick Kennedy of Rhode Island; Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy of New York, whose husband was murdered and whose son was badly wounded in a shooting on the Long Island Rail Road; Handgun Control, Inc.; the National Education Association; Physicians for Social Responsibility; the American Public Health Association; the Educational Fund to End Handgun Violence; the National Association of African Americans in Housing; and officials from the Housing Authority of Baltimore City and the Housing Authority of New Orleans.

##



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

March 9, 2000

CAME-

HWD GW BUREAUS

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Administration's views on the FY 2000 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill. The Administration is pleased that the Committee has acted expeditiously on the President's supplemental requests to keep the peace and build stability in Kosovo, to support the Colombian government's fight against drug traffickers, to provide needed heating assistance for families that have been badly affected by increased oil prices, and to provide further assistance to the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

The Administration does, however, have a number of concerns with the current version of the bill. As the House Appropriations Committee develops its version of the bill, we ask that you consider the Administration's views.

Plan Colombia

The Administration appreciates the House Appropriations Committee's support for U.S. assistance to Plan Colombia. Colombia is the source of more than 90 percent of the cocaine and 65 percent of the heroin seized in the United States. Cutting off the drug supply at its source is an important component of America's overall counter-drug strategy, and Plan Colombia, President Pastrana's strategy to address Colombia's national security, socioeconomic, and drug-related problems, presents the United States with a window of opportunity to further the United States' interests and increase stability in South America. The Administration also appreciates the Committee's support for the important human rights, alternative development, and governmental reform initiatives in Colombia. Congress' timely support of this initiative will help to stem the flow of drugs into the United States and will further benefit the United States by bringing greater peace and prosperity to an important American ally.

Support for Eastern European Democracies

The Administration appreciates the Committee's support for programs designed to foster democracy in Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia. Similarly, the Administration appreciates the Committee's support for funding our share of the costs of the international civilian police force for Kosovo. This force is critical to ensuring the safety of all citizens of Kosovo and equally important as the key to relieving our armed forces from the burden of police work.

The Administration acknowledges the Committee's concerns about equitable sharing among our international allies of the burden in Kosovo. We are working diligently to make sure that all of our partners meet their commitments. However, we believe those commitments will be met and, therefore, we strongly oppose the elimination of funding for critical programs to revitalize Kosovo's economy and civil society. Moreover, short-changing these programs would undoubtedly prolong the region's dependence on foreign aid and prolong the requirement for military force, including U.S. forces, to ensure the peace. Hand in hand with these programs is the requirement for adequate staff and facilities to safeguard these programs from misuse of funds and ensure they are run effectively. Therefore, the Administration requests that the Congress reconsider the reduction to administrative funds as well.

Contributions to International Peacekeeping

The Administration is particularly concerned about the lack of funding for expected assessments to support critical United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations in Kosovo and East Timor. These payments are critical if we are to help restore peace to these troubled areas. These are bills we must pay. We have requested \$91 million for the UN mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), which is performing an extraordinarily difficult but essential task of overseeing civilian administration until the people of Kosovo are able to assume that responsibility themselves. Our \$16 million request for the UN mission in East Timor (UNTAET) would help the UN perform a similar mission to facilitate the transition of East Timor to full independence. The absence of full and timely U.S. payment of our assessments would severely impede the success of these missions. Having won important progress for democracy and stability in both of these areas, we should invest in their stability by paying our share of the cost.

Security and Maintenance of U.S. Missions

The Administration appreciates the resources provided to ensure the safety of Americans serving in Sarajevo by providing funding to construct a new, secure facility. However, the Administration is disappointed that no funding has been provided for other requested security and operational needs in Kosovo and the region, including exchanges that broaden the understanding of democratic political and economic institutions and cultures. The Administration urges the Congress to provide additional funds to ensure the security of our employees serving U.S. interests in Kosovo and to ensure the success of U.S. efforts to achieve lasting peace in the region.

Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund

The Administration is concerned that the draft Committee bill includes none of the \$210 million requested for a contribution to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Trust Fund to support the participation of regional development banks and other international financial institutions in the enhanced HIPC initiative. This initiative was a key outcome of the Cologne

G-8 Summit and has broad international support as well as bipartisan support in the Congress, and is designed to ease the debt burden of strong economic reformers such as Mozambique, Uganda, and Bolivia. The failure of the United States to provide any funding for the HIPC Trust Fund would significantly restrict the ability of some of the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) to participate fully in this important initiative. This would delay the objectives of easing the debt burden and providing an incentive for the poorest countries to implement the macroeconomic and structural reforms necessary to improve their economic performance and increase their ability to address, with their own resources, critical social issues such as education and health. In particular, failure to provide these funds would jeopardize multilateral debt reduction for eligible Latin American countries, such as Bolivia.

Agricultural Assistance for Areas Affected by Natural Disasters

The Administration commends the Committee for including requested funds needed to address farmers' and rural residents' efforts to recover from Hurricanes Dennis, Floyd, and Irene. These provisions will allow funds to be used to replace damaged farm structures and equipment that are essential for producers to continue their operations in the coming year, and they will help producer-owned marketing associations recover from severe losses sustained in last years' hurricanes. In addition, the rural housing assistance in the bill will ensure that low-income rural residents who were displaced by the hurricanes have safe, decent, and affordable housing long after the temporary FEMA housing assistance expires.

Princeville, North Carolina

The Administration strongly urges the Committee to provide the \$1.5 million requested for the Corps of Engineers to study the feasibility of providing additional flood protection for the city of Princeville, North Carolina and supports the amendment expected to be offered to provide such funding. Given the recent devastation this community has experienced, as well as its unique place in American history as the first city in the United States founded by ex-slaves, we need to move quickly to evaluate flood protection measures needed to protect this community adequately.

Economic Development Administration/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Administration appreciates the funding provided by the Committee in response to the recent hurricane-related fisheries disasters and the Long Island Sound lobster fishery disaster. We urge that funding likewise be provided to address the West Coast groundfish disaster, as well as contingency funding for other disasters that may be declared.

Assistance to Vieques, Puerto Rico

We commend the Committee for providing the requested funding to implement the President's directives on Vieques. The training facility at Vieques is important to sustaining the readiness of our Naval forces, yet we cannot ignore the concerns of the inhabitants of Vieques. The Administration's plan will help balance national security with the legitimate health, safety, and environmental concerns of Vieques's residents. We look forward to working with the Committee to ensure that the funding is spent effectively and efficiently in support of these goals.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

The Administration commends the Committee for funding the President's request for \$600 million in contingent emergency funds under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

The Administration has requested authority to reallocate \$39 million within FAA for FAA Operations, as well as language authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to transfer funds to Operations from other Transportation accounts. The requests are necessary to allow FAA to meet better the operational requirements of the air traffic control system, including addressing increased delays and maintaining safety and security. While it is possible that up to \$26 million will be provided through the pending FAA authorization bill, we are disappointed that the House Appropriations Committee has not approved this high-priority supplemental requirement.

HUD Gun Buyback

The Administration strongly opposes the Committee's elimination of funds for the Gun Buyback Violence Reduction Initiative in HUD's Drug Elimination Grant program. The Gun Buyback initiative is designed to reduce gun violence and protect families from senseless gun tragedies. Particularly given the string of recent shootings, we need to give communities more tools, not less, to help reduce the terrible toll of gun violence in the United States. Getting unwanted guns out of homes and off streets could prevent the next murder, suicide, accidental shooting, or tragic incident of domestic violence. We strongly urge striking this rider and restoring this spending authority.

Rescission of Mandatory Research and Rural Development Funds

The Administration strongly opposes provisions that would block further spending from the mandatory Fund for Rural America and agricultural research grants authorized by the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems. These provisions would deny vitally needed

funding to support economic development in rural areas, such as water and waste disposal grants and loans, farm labor housing, and outreach to socially-disadvantaged farmers. In addition, the bill would cut research on human nutrition, methods to improve farm efficiency and profitability, and food safety. These programs serve ends that are supported by the vast majority of both urban and rural Americans, and we urge the Committee to strike these provisions.

Department of Energy

The Administration urges the Committee to provide the \$19 million requested for low-income home weatherization in the energy conservation account in FY 2000, as opposed to providing the funds in FY 2001 as specified in the draft bill. These funds are needed for building rehabilitation -- work that is best done before the heating season. In order to be helpful next winter, the funds would need to be disbursed to States this summer. If the funds are not available until October, there is little chance that they will make it to local service agencies and into weatherization improvements for the next heating season.

The Administration appreciates the Committee's provision of funds for: (1) environment, health, and safety activities at the gaseous diffusion plants in Portsmouth, OH, and Paducah, KY; (2) physical and cyber-security activities across the Department of Energy complex; and, (3) personnel and other funding at the Department's weapons production plants.

Restoring Budgetary Conventions

The Administration commends the Committee for approving the President's proposal to restore budgetary conventions by repealing the pay date delay, the Department of Defense prompt payment delay, and the Department of Health and Human Services obligation delays.

The Administration also proposes to replace FY 2001 advance appropriations, where such appropriations departed from budgetary conventions, with full, up-front funding in FY 2000. The Administration looks forward to working with Congress to shift those advance appropriation that are not required for programmatic reasons.

Other Funding Issues

- Critical Infrastructure. In the FY 2001 Budget, the President has requested an FY 2000 supplemental of \$9 million to "jump start" some of his highest priority cyber-terrorism programs. This funding will be used to design and develop the programs in FY 2000 so that in FY 2001 they will be ready for full implementation. The Committee's elimination of the funding would delay these components of the Government-wide effort to protect the Nation's critical infrastructure.

- Internal Revenue Service. We strongly recommend that Congress fund the \$40 million supplemental for the IRS staffing requested in the President's budget. The IRS has recently faced increased workload with reduced staffing, resulting in falling audit rates (threatening the level and fairness of tax compliance) and difficulty in meeting customer service standards. The President's budget addresses this issue by proposing nearly 3,000 new FTE in FY 2001 to stabilize IRS staffing as its modernization effort is implemented. The FY 2000 supplemental is necessary to begin hiring and training these personnel immediately so they can begin to deliver performance improvements as soon as possible.
- Small Business Administration General Loans. The Administration is disappointed that the bill fails to provide \$5.1 million to address increased demand for 7(a) loans, including increased demand by businesses that have been particularly affected by rising oil prices, \$1.0 million for the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs Act of 1999 (PRIME), and \$0.5 million to help implement the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999.
- Devils Lake. The Administration strongly urges the Committee to provide the \$6.6 million requested to address emergency flood conditions confronting communities surrounding Devils Lake, North Dakota and supports the amendment expected to be offered to provide such funding. Extraordinary flood conditions persist in this area despite extensive Federal and State efforts to date, including over \$300 million of Federal spending for flood response actions. These supplemental funds are critically needed for planning and design of an emergency outlet as well as to meet fully the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental laws and of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, which must be completed before construction of an outlet may begin.
- Commission on Civil Rights. The bill does not provide the additional \$800,000 requested for the Commission on Civil Rights, which would fund completion in FY 2000 of a number of research projects currently underway at the Commission, including reports on racial tensions Nationwide, Federal enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the crisis of African-American men in inner cities, and Federal enforcement of fair employment law.
- Committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled. The draft bill fails to fund the President's request of \$687,000 for the Committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled, which administers the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program. JWOD uses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to provide employment and training opportunities to

approximately 34,000 people who are blind or have other severe disabilities. These funds would substantially expand marketing of JWOD products to Federal employees as a response to fundamental shifts in Federal acquisition of commercial-type products.

- National Technical Information Service. The Administration notes that the draft bill does not provide closure costs for the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). If actions are not taken in FY 2000, the strategy for handling NTIS's mission will need to be addressed in the context of legislation for FY 2001.

Language Issues

- Department of Education's Transfer Authority. The Administration objects to the draft bill's repeal of the Department of Education's authority in section 304 of the FY 2000 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Act to transfer between appropriations up to one percent of discretionary funds appropriated to the Department. Congress has routinely provided this flexibility so that the Secretary can respond to unanticipated events, and the Secretary has always promptly notified and consulted with the Congress before using this authority. The Administration strongly urges that this authority be retained.
- Plant Pest and Disease Assistance. The Administration opposes House report language that would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to submit simultaneously to the Congress and OMB copies of apportionment requests for funding to implement certain emergency declarations. The consideration of these apportionment requests solely within the Executive Branch is necessary for effective exchange of information and views, to the same extent and for the same reasons that apply to the intra-Administration development of the annual President's budget.

The bill also provides \$40 million to compensate lost profits of growers affected by citrus canker in Florida. The Administration is concerned that the language appears to override the usual provisions guiding farm assistance, granting broad assistance to these producers. For example, unlike income assistance the Congress has provided in the last two years for other farmers, there would be no gross revenue eligibility determination or limitation on the size of payments. This could create disparate treatment for farmers and ranchers.

There are a number of unrequested funding items in the draft bill that the Administration does not feel are necessary. We would like to work with the Committee as the bill moves forward to address such items. In addition, we request that the Committee not add extraneous authorizations to the bill – particularly narrow, objectionable riders that would adversely affect the environment or serve only to generate controversy, unnecessarily delaying the urgently needed emergency assistance contained in this bill.

We look forward to working with the Committee to address our mutual concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacob J. Lew', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jacob J. Lew
Director

Identical Letter Sent to The Honorable David R. Obey

[\[Click here and type address\]](#)

Chris - ~~HEAD~~ GUN BUSINESS [\[Click here to view\]](#)

facsimile transmittal

To: Eric Liu

Fax: 202.456.2878

From: Doug Kantor

Date: January 5, 2000

Re: HUD's Gun Buyback Initiative

Pages: 4

☐ Urgent

For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply

☐ Please Recycle

Notes:

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: ANDREW CUOMO, SECRETARY, S
FROM: CHRISTINE PELOSI, SPECIAL COUNSEL *Christine*
ALEXANDRA STANTON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, C
SUBJECT: HUD'S GUN BUYBACK INITIATIVE
DATE: DECEMBER 21, 1999

HUD'S GUN BUYBACK INITIATIVE

Background. As you know, the Department recently established a gun buyback initiative whereby public housing authorities (PHAs) may apply to re-program a portion of their FY 1999 Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) funds for use in gun buyback activities. The buybacks are designed to reduce the toll of gun violence, which each week claims an average of 600 lives and injures another 1,800 people in crimes, accidents and suicides around the United States. Each PHA may direct up to \$500,000.00 of its FY 1999 PHDEP funds for gun buybacks. In addition, HUD has pledged up to 43 cents on the dollar in matching funds to augment the PHDEP funds committed by the PHA.

The Department offered up to \$10.5 million in PHDEP funds for gun buybacks with \$4.5 million in technical assistance matching funds. To date, HUD has received applications from 76 PHAs nationwide, with requests ranging from \$800.00 to \$500,000.00, for a total of \$1,712,195.00 in PHDEP funds and \$2,448,439.00 overall [including the matching funds]. At \$50.00 per gun, this represents hundreds of thousands of unwanted guns removed from our public housing communities.

A cautionary note: last week, Knight Ridder News Service reported that PHAs have been slow to apply because the gun buyback program requires them to put their own FY 1999 PHDEP money up front before receiving the HUD matching funds and because the PHAs have other anti-drug priorities that take precedence over buying back guns. (See attached "Clinton Gun Buyback Money Goes Begging") Our response has been to place the program in context: (1) It has been only 6 weeks since HUD announced that starting December 3, 1999 the PHAs could use FY 1999 PHDEP funds for buybacks; (2) we are in the early stage of an unprecedented year-long pilot program with the first wave of buybacks scheduled to begin in January 2000 (3) we have received more applications -- over 75 -- than anticipated thus far (4) from urban and suburban PHAs from all areas of the country and (5) we anticipate the number of applicants will increase, and that PHAs may decide to use additional PHDEP funds for this program after the initial buybacks are conducted.

Logistics. Each of the PHAs -- in partnership with local law enforcement -- was invited to apply for the grants, which will be used to buy back guns for a recommended price of \$50.00 each. Local officials will decide whether to distribute the buyback fee in

cash, in the form of gift certificates for food, toys and other goods, or in a combination of cash and certificates. In addition, local merchants have been encouraged to support the buyback program by donating additional items to individuals turning in firearms.

All firearms purchased with HUD funds will be destroyed, unless it is determined that a gun was stolen or is needed for an ongoing law enforcement investigation. At the discretion of local law enforcement officials, stolen weapons will be returned to their lawful owners. Local law enforcement agencies will be required to follow specific recovery, tracing and destruction procedures in dealing with firearms purchased under the buyback initiative. This includes tracing of guns through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the National Crime Information Center, as well as ballistics testing.

Announcements. Multiple urban and suburban locations present opportunities for a public presentation of gun buyback funding. The White House has indicated the possibility of Presidential involvement in such an announcement. Below are some key PHAs listed by state. It is important to note that the listed amounts constitute PHDEP funds already appropriated to the PHA by formula, and directed to the gun buyback by the PHA. Each PHA is entitled to receive up to 43 cents on the dollar in matching technical assistance funds from HUD. For example, Baltimore City has requested \$200,000.00. This means its PHA board has voted to re-program \$200,000.00 in FY 1999 PHDEP funds, and that Baltimore is eligible for up to an additional \$86,000.00 in matching funds from HUD, thereby bringing the total potential allocation to \$286,000.00.

ARKANSAS. The Housing Authority of the City of Camden has requested \$21,000.00 out of a total FY 1999 PHDEP budget of \$117,448.00.

CALIFORNIA. The San Francisco Housing Authority requested \$50,000.00 for its gun buyback program. San Francisco has filed suit against the gun industry and City Attorney Louise Renne participated in HUD's 12.14.99 gun industry reform meeting. The survivors of the 101 California Street shooting massacre recently attained a State Appeals Court victory when the appellate panel voted to reinstate their lawsuit against Navegar, Inc., maker of the DC-TEC 9 semi-automatic marketed as "resistant to fingerprints."

GEORGIA. Six PHAs in Georgia requested gun buyback funds - Atlanta (\$5,000.00), Augusta (\$10,000.00), Columbus (\$17,500.00), Cordele (\$6,500.00), Rome (\$2,500.00) and Savannah (\$5,000.00). In addition, Atlanta has filed a lawsuit against the gun industry.

KENTUCKY. Four Kentucky PHAs have requested gun buyback funds - Columbia (\$800.00), Lexington (\$50,000.00), Louisville (\$20,000.00), and Princeton (\$2,000.00).

MARYLAND. Baltimore City Police recently reported that there were 2,343 incidents of gun-related violence in or around public housing units between 1996 and 1998. In response to this crisis, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City has requested \$200,000.00 in PHDEP funds for gun buybacks. In addition, PHA officials have recently

announced their decision to join the contemplated suit against the gun industry. Former U.S. Representative Kweisi Mfume represented Baltimore in the U.S. Congress and now heads the NAACP, which has also filed suit against the gun industry. NAACP General Counsel Dennis Hayes attended HUD's 12.14.99 gun industry reform meeting. U.S. Senators Paul Sarbanes and Barbara Mikulski are HUD's ranking democratic Congressional authorizer and appropriator, respectively. Governor Parris Glendening and Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend have supported a series of gun control measures in the state legislature.

NEW JERSEY. The Newark Housing Authority has requested \$500,000.00 for gun buybacks – the maximum possible under this pilot program. The buyback is slated for the week of January 15, 2000. Additionally, the City of Newark has filed suit against the gun industry.

NEW YORK. Six Empire State PHAs have applied for gun buyback funds -- Albany (\$5,000.00), Amsterdam (\$1,000.00), Plattsburgh (\$5,000.00), Schenectady (\$800.00), Watervliet (\$3,000.00), and Yonkers (\$10,000.00). Moreover, New York state officials have contemplated gun industry litigation.

SOUTH CAROLINA. The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Mill has voted to re-program \$5,070.00 of its \$31,232.00 in PHDEP funds for gun buybacks. South Carolina is one of a handful of states in the nation with a "one gun per month" purchasing law on the books. A representative from the Housing Authority of Buford, South Carolina has recently telephoned HUD to indicate an upcoming application for buyback funds.

TENNESSEE. Two Tennessee PHAs have requested gun buyback funds – the Knoxville Community Development Corporation (\$12,238.00) and the Memphis Housing Authority (\$50,000.00).

TEXAS. Six PHAs have requested PHDEP funds for gun buybacks -- Corpus Christi (\$25,000.00), El Paso (\$9,440.00), Houston (\$25,000.00), Laredo (\$5,000.00), Monahans (\$5,000.00), and San Antonio (\$25,416.00). Vidor, Texas – which has not yet applied for gun buyback funding -- is one of 6 PHAs that HUD has placed in receivership.

UTAH. Provo, Utah has requested gun buyback funds of \$30,148.00 out of a PHDEP budget totaling \$54,985.00. The Provo PHA has scheduled its gun buyback program for January 2000.



NEWS CLIPS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
San Antonio Office, Southwest Region
Washington Square
800 Dolores
San Antonio, Texas 78207-4563
(<http://www.hud.gov/local/sao/sanhome.html>)

DATE: 12-14-99 PAGE 1 OF 1 PUBLICATION/CITY: San Antonio Express News
APPEARANCE PAGE: 20A DATE OF PUBLICATION: 12-11-99

Clinton's gun buyback money going begging

By David Hess

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's much-ballyhooed program to encourage communities to buy guns from the public has stumbled because it requires that local housing authorities put up the bulk of the money.

Early in September, surrounded by several big-city mayors at the White House, the president offered \$15 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help pay for the buybacks.

In fact, when HUD solicited applications from local housing authorities — through which the buyback money would be funneled to local police — only a few dozen of the 3,200 housing agencies around the country sought the money.

HUD spokesman David Egner Tuesday acknowledged the buyback plan is "a one-time, pilot program" that some communities may be reluctant to join because of other commitments. "There has never been a buyback on this scale," he said.

Despite the spread the modest amount of money over as many communities as possible, HUD insisted the local agencies siphon dollars from their federally funded Public Housing Drug Elimination Programs to help finance the buyback effort.

The local housing agencies are expected to put up roughly \$800 from their anti-drug grants for every \$10 they get from HUD.

The formula was designed to keep just a handful of cities from applying for the lion's share of the \$15 million offered by Clinton. Instead, it has prompted most housing agencies to stay away.

A number of housing agencies said their reluctance to apply for the money is mostly a matter of priorities.

Philadelphia, whose mayor Ed Rendell stood with Clinton during the buyback announcement, will not participate. City housing authority officials said their existing drug elimination program cannot afford the hit.

"The priority of funding for our current programs," said Robin Leary, a Philadelphia Housing Authority spokeswoman, "is such that we can't divert away the necessary drug elimination dollars to make us eligible for this new gun buyback program." The authority got almost \$45 million for its anti-drug programs.

In Kansas City, Mo., Dallas Parks, director of the local housing authority, said his agency got only \$21,000 as its anti-drug grant, "so it would be very difficult for us to take part in the buyback."

In a survey last week of local agencies, Roy Meyers of www.veter.com, an Internet news service, found similar views even among more richly endowed public housing authorities.

New York City, Meyers reported, which received \$15 million in drug elimination funds, has chosen not to

apply for buyback money.

The housing authority that serves Cleveland, with nearly \$25 million in anti-drug money, also has opted out.

And the Denver Housing Authority — in a city whose mayor, Wellington Webb, is a staunch advocate of Clinton's buyback program — told www.veter.com it could not afford to use its anti-drug money to pay for retrieving guns. The Denver authority got \$300,000 for its drug elimination program.

A police-sponsored buyback program in the District of Columbia recently netted some 1,900 guns.

Canis
Ow business

+ return
Leanne/Deanne/Er-
Is this what
you're proposing?
Sands good.
BR

Bill to Ban Police From Gun Trade-Ins For Discounts Is Introduced in Congress

By VANESSA O'CONNELL
And PAUL M. BARRETT

Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
Federal legislation has been introduced to ban police departments from the practice of trading officers' old guns for discounts on new ones.

The bill, introduced Monday by Rep. Rod Blagojevich (D., Ill.), would outlaw the recycling into the commercial marketplace of police weapons and confiscated

les, seeking to force that city and several others in southern California that jointly have sued the industry to turn over all internal records concerning the sale, transfer or disposal of police firearms, as well as seized weapons.

The issue is complicated, however. Some gun companies, including Smith & Wesson, a unit of Britain's Tomkins PLC, and the U.S. unit of Austria's Glock GmbH, have encouraged cities to

can probably resell on the commercial market.

In a separate development, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported new evidence of the striking decline in gun injuries and deaths in recent years. The center yesterday released a report showing that U.S. firearm deaths dropped 21.1%, to 32,436, from 1993 to 1997. Non-fatal gun injuries fell 40.8% over the same period.

The drop in firearm injuries and deaths "is consistent with a 21% decrease in violent crime during the same time," the center noted.

The formula was designed to

apply for buyback money

would provide at least \$10 million in funds to help police and law enforcement agencies nationwide purchase new rather than trading in the old ones counts.

Rep. Blagojevich said in a statement that the common police practice of to save money by selling or swapping police guns and guns confiscated in has the unintended consequence of additional firearms "on the market they can be purchased by any criminal can find the loopholes in our gun laws."

The issue has received considerable attention since August, when the n Buford Furrow used a former police murder a postal worker during a rampage in Los Angeles.

Although there isn't a complete the old police guns used in crime, one article in The Wall Street Journal August revealed that thousands of lice guns are linked to crimes each Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms data show that at least 1,100 former guns were among the 193,203 crime traced in 1998, and because of inaccuracies in compiling the gun-trace data 1998 count probably represents a small fraction of the total number year.

The attempt in Congress to enact nationwide ban of the two-decade-old practice of trading-in ex-police guns follows recent moves by a number of states and to halt the practice. For example, Mayor Wellington Webb, who also as president of the U.S. Conference of mayors, recently called for city agencies to police gun trade-ins.

Among the cities that have acted far are New Orleans, Miami, St. Louis, Bridgeport, Conn. They are four of municipalities that have sued the industry for allegedly flooding the with handguns, many of which are crime. Those cities came under even intense pressure to change their because the gun industry is likely to in court that the municipalities themselves are, in effect, gun suppliers—and accused of a degree of carelessness as they unload used police weapons and confiscated firearms.

The municipal lawsuits are still in a preliminary stage, but the gun industry already has formally begun to use them to defend itself. For example, big handgun concern Smith & Wesson Corp. has legal documents in state court in Louisiana.

Guns and public housing

If you live in public housing, your life just got a little worse. Bill Clinton, it seems, wants to make your environment more friendly to thugs who like to terrorize the poorest neighborhoods in the cities. But don't worry; his new \$15 million federal gun buy-back program is all in the name of reducing crime.

In the neighborhoods where security systems are few and far between, drugs are rampant and the police respond slowly if at all, the president has decided it's time to give up on private home defense. It's time to hand over your guns.

For this he wants to pay you \$50 for each gun you can beg, borrow or brow-beat out of the neighborhood. Under the new program the feds will hand out grants to local governments, which will then administer the program in public housing projects around the country. Jurisdictions are eligible for \$500,000, which is nearly twice what the District recently spent on buying back about 3,000 guns.

Public housing residents, who aren't exactly known to support the National Rifle Association, won't find a friend in the NRA to defeat the first federal gun buy-back program. As president, Bill Clinton doesn't need congressional approval to spend money on this program — so the gun lobby doesn't have any grounds on which to fight. Indeed the NRA has thrown up its hands and taken the stance that the program is a waste of money because criminals won't turn in their guns for a little more than the price of an oil change. Otherwise, the NRA considers it fairly benign.

Nor will public housing residents find their local mayors willing to resist the program to disarm them. Mr. Clinton unveiled the program the day he met with the U.S. Conference of Mayors, who were convening in Washington to urge lawmakers to toughen gun-control laws.

Sadly many public housing residents will gladly hand over their guns thinking they are making their neighborhoods safer. But such a view forgets that it is criminals who kill people, not law-abiding citizens, and it ignores that gun accidents are preventable with education. It also forgets that criminals are keenly aware of well-armed citizens and tend to avoid breaking into homes of known gun owners — particularly when the person is home — the risks are simply too high. Likewise when public housing neighborhoods are known to be gun-free zones, such as is the misguided hope of the president's new program, criminals will be given a free hand to terrorize the already downtrodden.

Did the president consider why law-abiding public housing residents have guns in the first place? Or why those gun owners hadn't gone down to the local gun store to sell their pieces — which would likely fetch them more than \$50 each? Protected as they are by hoards of secret service officers, the first family is not likely ever to have to worry about defending their home. That may account for, but not excuse, the president's lack of consideration for others who lead far more dangerous lives in the inner city.

Crime -
Gun
BUYBACKS

Game-day gridlock

They came from as far south as Richmond and as far north as Baltimore to see the Washington Redskins season opener against "America's team," the Dallas Cowboys. A true rivalry by any definition, the Redskins and the Cowboys drew a record 79,237 fans to Redskins Stadium in Landover, Md. Thousands arrived four hours before kickoff, and thousands of others left before game's end, forsaking the overtime play on the gridiron in hopes of avoiding the gridlock on the roadways. If only everybody had been so lucky.

Traffic tie-ups on the inner and outer loops of the Beltway, backups on the roads leading to the stadium and poor planning left thousands of fans idling for hours in stadium parking lots. With literally nowhere to turn, they listened to their car radios and portable televisions as they missed the kickoff, then the first quarter and finally the entire game (which ran into overtime) because parking attendants and police officers failed to redirect motorists to overflow lots at the nearby USAir Arena. Even mass transit fell short of expectations. Prepared to accommodate 8,000 fans, Metro transported about 5,500 riders on its stadium shuttles. Handicapped patrons fared no better, as they had to trek up to nearly a mile to the stadium. Who would have thought?

Stadium and police authorities have been down these same roads before. Similar traffic and parking snarls first hit two years ago, when the then-new 80,116-seat stadium opened. The problem then and now is too few parking spaces (21,000). Some frustrated fans, desperate to root on the Redskins-Cowboy rivalry even though they had already paid to park on a stadium lot, parked anywhere they could, including in mall lots and along the roadside. Tempers, as you might imagine, flared — with one cop getting so angry at a father he snatched the man's game tickets (leaving the

man's two young sons in tears).

This is no way to treat Maryland taxpayers who coughed up \$70 million to build roads and pay for infrastructure for the privately owned football stadium. And it is certainly no way to treat fans who spend a couple hundred million in tickets and parking to attend their beloved Redskins games.

Redskins officials and Maryland state and county law-enforcement knew better. They knew season openers draw huge crowds in general, and they knew the season opener against Dallas would draw record attendance in particular. Moreover, they knew the hype surrounding both those scenarios would create precisely what occurred on Sunday — a six-hour traffic jam. The lots and roadways were packed coming and going as more than 30,000 motorists battled for 21,000 parking spaces.

Since the game, officials with the Redskins, law-enforcement and planners have been revising parking and traffic plans — just as they did two years ago and last year. They are again encouraging more fans to use Metro's free parking and \$2 round-trip shuttle services, and there are other proposals on the table as well. But the bottom line is the bottom line: Redskins diehards, like daily commuters, prefer to drive themselves and they are more than willing to pay for that convenience.

That is a fact of life all stakeholders must bear in mind as they revisit the dire traffic and parking problems. Eight thousand to 10,000 additional parking spaces would go a long way toward appeasing 80,000 faithful Redskins fans who, for the past few seasons, have hung in there while their team sunk into the bowels of the NFL standing. More parking spaces would go a long way also toward lessening the blow of such defeats as the Redskins' 41-35 opening loss to the Cowboys. Indeed for fans and players alike, this looks to be a challenging season.

The Washington Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

LAWRENCE KUDLOW

Trading up to growth

Let's take a walk around the world. Here's what you see: Gold prices are falling and stock prices are rising. Sure, there are a few exceptions to this. But weak gold and rising shares are the global themes. Just about everywhere.

To me, these market developments are forecasting more inflation-free economic growth around the world. I call it a worldwide growth trade. Some countries are growing faster, some slower. But growth is the theme. As for inflation, there is none.

Market prices are better forecasters than econometric models. Modelers keep worrying about Phillips Curves, output gaps, NAIRUs, asset bubbles, oil shocks, money supplies, wage rates, productivity trends and various other issues that I'm sure all have some significance somewhere. But the market message is more important: rising shares and falling gold signal inflation-less prosperity for the future.

Let's look at some numbers, first on stock markets. Year-to-date, the U.S. Dow is up 20 percent and the Nasdaq is up 32 percent. The DJ ~~Stoxx~~ Index in Europe is up about 14 percent, with France up 20 percent, Germany 9 percent, Netherlands up 10 percent, Sweden up 21 percent.

So far this year Japan has increased about 28 percent, with Hong Kong up 38 percent, Singapore up 53 percent, South Korea up 71 percent, Taiwan up 27 percent, New Zealand and Australia are both up roughly 6 percent. All these quotes are in local currency terms.

Coupled with these stock market rallies, gold keeps losing ground. U.S. dollar gold has lost 12 percent this year, while Euro gold has dropped 21 percent and yen gold 22 percent. Arguably, monetary policies in Japan and Europe are too tight; more high-powered liquidity should be injected into both zones.

But the non-inflation trends are unmistakable. Over the past 12 months the consumer price index in Japan has dropped one-tenth of 1 percent, while the European CPI is up only 1.1 percent. Wholesale prices in Europe are flat over the past year.

In the United States, meanwhile, the core producer price index has eased from 3.5 percent last January to zero currently, measured as a six-month growth rate. The core CPI has slipped down from 3 percent in May 1998 to zero currently.

Conventional economists love to hate gold. They blame central bank gold sales for the drop in the precious metal's price, or they argue that gold is irrelevant because no one wants to invest in it. Well, gold remains an accurate indicator of monetary value. In recent years it has also held its usefulness as a leading indicator of no inflation.

The real message here is that leading central banks around the world have restored the purchasing power of money. The 1970s are over. Totally over. Not only have G-7 and other government banks kept money relatively scarce, the Internet economy and new technology investment are exerting downward price pres-

ures everywhere. Think of it as less money chasing more goods. That's why gold is a poor investment. There's no inflation to hedge against.

Sandwiched in between the global rise in stock prices and the worldwide weakness in gold is a surprising increase in long term bond rates. In the United States, 10-year Treasuries have moved up from 4.5 percent a year ago to nearly 6 percent currently. In Germany, 10-year bonds have shifted from 3.5 percent to nearly 5 percent. For Japan, JGBs have moved from less than 1 percent to about 2 percent.

A lot of observers have looked at the increase in bond yields and concluded that inflation is just around the corner. Instead, I believe the rise in bond rates merely reflects a return to economic normalcy.

That is, a year ago many expected global recession in response to the financial crises in Asia, Russia, Long-Term Capital and Brazil. So real economic growth expectations collapsed, pulling down real interest rates. Investors bought bonds and sold stocks. It was a deflation trade.

But things turned out a lot better.

The Fed pumped in liquidity and the world survived.

Growth is still too slow in Europe and Japan, where yearly gross domestic product is rising only slightly more than 1 percent. But stock markets there are predicting faster growth in the future. And while a huge overhang of excess capacity remains in Asia, at least growth rates are picking up. Their stock market predicts more of same.

The United States never really stopped growing at all. Actually, temporary deflation improved consumer buying power, while the technology revolution continued to spur investment. Once again the bears were proven wrong.

But the key point in all of this is that this year's global interest rate rise reflects an increase in real bond yields, not a raise in future inflation expectations. In other words, global expectations of deflation and recession have given way to a new outlook of inflation-less growth. The deflation trade has been replaced by the growth trade.

So real interest rates, which dropped a year ago in expectation of collapsing real economic and investment returns, have recovered this year in response to more optimistic economic growth expectations. That is all that has happened. A return to normal.

It is possible that Fed snugging actions are responsible for higher long rates in the United States. Certainly I have disagreed with the Fed attack on economic growth and stock market increases. The Phillips Curve relapse is unnecessary. A Fed-free bond market would probably put Treasury yields closer to 5 percent than 6 percent.

But it is interesting to note that long-term rates in Europe and Japan also rose about the same as in the United States, about a percentage point or so, without central bank credit-tightening actions. So something is going on besides U.S. Fed policy. I think it has to do with the growth message of rising real interest rates.

It's a global phenomenon, and a healthy one at that. We are in one of those periods where higher real interest rates coincide with higher stock prices. It proves a theoretical point. Namely, higher real returns on investment and economic growth are bullish for stocks, even while bond prices fall a bit. It's a growth trade.

Over the long run, Wharton professor Jeremy Siegel has taught us that stocks always outperform bonds. This is the ultimate growth trade history. The only time bonds do better is during periods of continuous deflation. Fortunately, these deflationary periods are extremely rare. One reared its head a year ago, but it didn't last long.

The moral of this story is that the world looks pretty good. Not perfect, but still pretty good. There's always stuff to complain about. High tax policies in Germany have (fortunately) spurred an election tax revolt. Japan needs more marginal tax-rate reduction and less monetary deflation.

The U.S. should send its budget surplus back to the taxpayers who earned it in the first place. Latin America should be completely dollarized. Britain should negotiate a free-trade agreement with the U.S. and back away from the overly taxed and regulated Euro.

China should lower its trade barriers and make peace with Taiwan. Russia should junk all its policies, and its leaders, and start all over again. The Middle East should turn its swords into plowshares with a regional free-trade pact. East Timor should be liberated from Indonesia. The New York Yankees should bolster their pitching staff.

But with it all, financial markets are sending a powerful message: rising stocks and falling gold. Inflation-less growth. The Internet economy gone global. Free market policies are winning. John Maynard Keynes and Karl Marx are dead.

There's a worldwide growth trade going on. Hold that thought. It's going to last quite some time.

Lawrence Kudlow is chief economist of CNBC.com and Schroder & Co. Inc.

The Washington Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

Crime
Gun Buybacks

PRESIDENT UNVEILS FEDERAL PROGRAM TO BUY BACK GUNS

A MOVE TO CURB VIOLENCE

Police Departments to Receive \$15 Million — Focus Is on Public Housing Projects

By ERIC SCHMITT

A1

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — Stepping up the Federal Government's fight against gun violence, President Clinton today announced a \$15 million program to buy back firearms from private owners.

Under the first Federal effort of its kind, the Department of Housing and Urban Development would provide grants of up to \$500,000 to police departments around the country to buy back and destroy as many as 300,000 weapons, mainly in and around public housing projects. The housing department is suggesting that the authorities offer \$50 a gun, either in cash, food, gift certificates, toys or tickets to sporting events.

Mr. Clinton's announcement capped a daylong rally and lobbying push here by scores of mayors, police chiefs, religious leaders and other local officials who favor tighter gun controls.

"Every gun turned in through a buyback program means potentially one less tragedy," Mr. Clinton said at a White House ceremony, where he was flanked by mayors and uniformed police chiefs.

Housing Secretary Andrew M. Cuomo said in a telephone interview that the program would reach at least 30 sites nationwide, including New York, beginning in late November. "If there's a gun around the house that's accessible, that's not being used by a sportsman or a hunter, and you need a small amount of money," Mr. Cuomo said, "bring it in and we'll buy it."

The money for the Federal program back will come from existing department grants and does not require Congressional approval.

Along with spending on the program, though, the department will also spend \$1 million to study how well such plans work, since there is

Continued From Page A1

no definitive analysis that shows that buying back firearms reduces gun violence or crime.

Federal money has been used before by local communities for their own programs to acquire guns, but this is the first Federal program dedicated to acquiring firearms. Unlike other buybacks, the Federal program will focus on weapons in and around public housing projects.

The nation's 3,400 public housing authorities will be eligible to join with local police departments in partnerships to buy back and destroy the firearms. The grants to police departments will be awarded first come, first served.

The authorities will accept any working gun, with no questions asked, said David Egner, a HUD spokesman. Guns found to be stolen will be returned to their owners.

At a rally later today on the steps of the Capitol, civic leaders and law-enforcement officers praised the President's plan, and called on House and Senate negotiators to break their impasse and work out new gun restrictions, including requirements for child-safety locks on all guns and mandatory background checks on all people who buy firearms at gun shows.

"We want gun safety because we want our cities to be safe and our schools to be safe," said Mayor Paul Helmke of Fort Wayne, Ind., who is a Republican.

Police Chief Hector Torres of Bridgeport, Conn., said in an interview, "We've had buybacks in the past, and they're a useful tool to remove weapons from the community."

Lawmakers and police officers who oppose stricter gun controls held their own news conference at the Capitol, criticizing Mr. Clinton for offering clemency to 16 Puerto Rican militants at the same time he is seeking tougher gun restrictions. They also criticized the visiting police chiefs for what they described as slacking off for politics instead of tending to law enforcement.

Standing next to cardboard cutout figures of uniformed police officers, signifying stand-ins for officers fighting street crimes, Representative Bob Barr, a Georgia Republican on

the House Judiciary Committee, accused the visiting police chiefs of "engaging in useless, phony, photo ops with the President."

The intensifying debate over gun control comes at time when violent crime is actually on the wane nationwide. But a series of shootings, including the massacre on April 20 at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., has provided new momentum for advocates of tighter gun laws.

Over the past several years, cities and local communities have conducted gun buybacks with varying degrees of success. In the past year alone, officials in Los Angeles, Washington, Atlanta and New York have started buybacks.

Steven Fishner, the criminal justice coordinator for Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani of New York, said the most recent buyback program operated by the New York City Police Department netted 1,800 firearms

from July 15 to Aug. 15, and that one operated by the Brooklyn District Attorney's office netted 659 weapons. The city, which has been financing gun buyback programs off and on since 1992, spent nearly \$245,000 on the two most recent ones.

New York City has not decided whether it will apply for Federal money, Mr. Fishner said, but he added that "having money in the future would be of great assistance."

Last month in Washington, the police bought back 1,164 guns in a single day. Residents received \$100 in cash for each weapon, the money having been confiscated during anti-narcotics operations.

And a program in Lexington, Ky., last October offered \$100 in McDonald's food gift certificates for any working handgun, pistol, rifle or shotgun. Some 331 firearms were turned in, including old military rifles, seven assault rifles and one gun

that was stolen from a police officer's home.

Advocates said the initiatives removed thousands of guns from private homes, if not necessarily from the hands of criminals. Seizing on this potential benefit, President Clinton twice cited a sobering statistic: The rate of accidental shooting deaths for children under 15 in the United States is nine times as high as the rate of the other 25 industrialized nations combined.

Opponents argue that gun buybacks are largely a cosmetic effort in a nation awash with more than 200 million firearms.

"People have a right to do what they want with their own personal property," said Wayne LaPierre, executive vice president of the National Rifle Association. "But this is nothing more than a public relations gesture that means nothing to drug dealers killing people."

The New York Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1999

Continued on Page A18

Selling Books and Stumping, McCain Defines His Message

A1

By ALISON MITCHELL

It was a good 48 hours for John McCain, the author, and a priceless 48 hours for John McCain, the Presidential candidate.

Beginning a two-week national book tour for "Faith of My Fathers," a memoir of his own life and the lives of his father and grandfather, both Navy admirals, Mr. McCain, a Republican senator from Arizona, was getting as much attention, at least for the moment, as his party's presumptive Presidential front-runner, Gov. George W. Bush of Texas.

Don Imus, the iconoclastic radio personality, skated close to giving Mr. McCain an endorsement in a sometimes playful interview on Wednesday, admitting that he liked both Senator McCain and a Democrat, former Senator Bill Bradley.

The ABC news program "20/20" ran a harrowing portrait of Mr. McCain's five and a half years as a prisoner of war in Hanoi.

The Senator taped appearances with Brian Williams of MSNBC and Geraldo Rivera of CNBC, and he appeared on NBC's "Today" show.

And for 90 minutes yesterday he was the center of attention at the Barnes & Noble store in Rockefeller Center, signing books for a long line of customers. One, 65-year-old Hal Keith of Long Island, not only bought six books, he also gave Mr. McCain a baseball to sign.

The whirlwind two days in New York City showed just why a book and a book tour have become staples of Presidential politics, with several of the current crop of contenders vying for attention. It is a collaboration among talk shows looking for a steady stream of personalities, candidates seeking a platform to catapult them into the spotlight and publishers promoting book sales.

None of the candidates this year have ignited the kind of orchestrated media furor that Gen. Colin L. Powell did four years ago when he left it ambiguous whether he was selling his memoir, "My American Jour-

Continued From Page A1

ney," or beginning a Presidential campaign.

"That was the literary equivalent of Garbo speaks," said Jonathan Karp, Mr. McCain's editor at Random House, which also published General Powell, who chose not to run. "Colin Powell was the ultimate seduction."

But a number of contenders are taking advantage of the extra platform provided by a book and often a book tour, with at least some of the expenses likely to be picked up by the publishers.

The Federal Election Commission has no formal rulings about who pays for a book tour by a Presidential candidate, said Ian Stirton, a spokesman, noting that an advisory opinion states that publishing events cannot be combined with campaign events like fund-raisers.

Aides to all of the Presidential candidates conducting book tours said that their campaigns were paying for travel in cases where book signings were being sandwiched between political events. Book events would not have to be reported as campaign expenses, making it difficult to determine how much the publishers were paying for travel.

Patrick J. Buchanan is set to begin a two-week tour this weekend to promote "A Republic, Not An Empire," his explanation of how he believes American foreign policy went badly astray. His publisher, Regnery Publishing, is using the speculation about a third-party bid by Mr. Buchanan to draw attention to the book.

"Why would Pat Buchanan break ranks with the Republican Party?" asks the press release accompanying the book. "If he does, the break point will almost surely be U.S. foreign policy."

Steve Forbes, in a Regnery book titled "A New Birth of Freedom," showcases a conservative agenda, including the flat tax and privately invested Social Security funds.

Dan Quayle's campaign book, "Worth Fighting For," was released earlier this summer by Word Pub-

lishing, a Christian publisher based in Nashville. It argues for a return to more traditional American values. In it, he made sure to feature, as an example of the cultural elite at work, the rejection note that Ann Godoff, the Random House president and editor in chief, sent to his agent, saying, "I just don't want to be a party to the promulgation of ideas I disagree with so profoundly." Mr. Quayle has just begun the second part of a book tour.

Both Alan Keyes and Governor Bush are preparing books. Mindy Tucker, a spokeswoman for Mr. Bush, said he had not made a final decision to go ahead with the book, although he has William Morrow lined up as the publisher.

Some candidates are already authors, including Elizabeth Dole, who wrote a joint autobiography with her husband, Bob Dole, in 1996, and Gary Bauer, as well as the Democratic candidates, Mr. Bradley and Vice President Al Gore. Mr. Bradley does not have another book in the works. Nor does Mrs. Dole. But Kiki Moore, a spokeswoman for Mr. Gore, said, "An author can never rule out an opportunity to do another one."

Political figures have long defined themselves through books, from John F. Kennedy with "Profiles in Courage," to Barry Goldwater with "Conscience of a Conservative." Those in the literary world and in politics say the current crop of books are driven in large part by the desire

of voters and candidates to escape the filter of reporters and pundits.

"In a climate where politically, people don't trust anybody, it makes people feel that they are getting as intimate a look at the politician as they possibly can, because it's the politician's own words," said Cathy Saypol, the president of CSPR, a public relations firm that specializes in promoting nonfiction books. In fact, not all candidates write the books themselves. Mr. McCain's co-author was Mark Salter, a longtime aide.

Initially, Mr. Bush had no intention of putting out an autobiography, said Ms. Tucker, his spokeswoman. But in the last year, she said, a number of Texas journalists made clear that they were working on biographies in

anticipation of his run, and the campaign knows of at least three such books in the works. Mr. Bush then began considering his own book, she said, thinking, "I want to have at least one that tells the story right."

Mr. McCain's book has attracted attention precisely because it is not a traditional campaign book. It sets out no political agenda but rather tells the story of the Senator, his father, the commander of American forces in the Pacific in the Vietnam War, and his grandfather, who commanded much of the United States Navy in the Pacific in World War II.

It tells of Mr. McCain's hell-raising days as a rebel who graduated fifth from last from the Naval Academy, but who went on to survive torture, isolation and torment as a prisoner of war. It ends before he ever begins a life in politics.

Mr. McCain says he began the book well before he decided to run for President. But his aides make clear that they think his wartime valor and personal story are central to his appeal. Because of the book, television and radio correspondents have been highlighting his story. On "20/20," Mr. McCain's 87-year-old mother appeared, saying roguishly that she is proud of her son "because he's such a scamp."

As of yesterday, said Mr. Karp, Mr. McCain's editor at Random House, "Faith of My Fathers" had become the No. 5 seller on Amazon.com, and Random House had done a second printing, bringing the total number of books to 159,488.

Soheil Nasser, a 20-year-old music student who waited for Mr. McCain's autograph and had already read his book, said he had become interested in politics because of Mr. McCain. "If you read this book, you'll see he's like no politician America has ever seen," Mr. Nasser said.

Liisa Lawrence of Connecticut picked up books for male relatives, including her husband, who she said was fascinated by military history. "My husband is a McCain fan," Ms. Lawrence said.

"However, he's voting for somebody else," she added, naming Bill Bradley.

The New York Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1999

HUD OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Eric Liu	Max Stier
COMPANY:	DATE:
	September 1, 1999
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
(202) 456-2878	
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:
Gun Buy Backs	

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Corine -
Gun Buybacks

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING

INITIALS: JAM DATE: 6/13/13
2013-0717-S

DRAFT/CONFIDENTIAL

HUD's Gun Buyback Violence Reduction Initiative

A Society Drowning In Guns.

With almost one gun for every man, woman and child, America is drowning today in a flood of guns. And we're paying a heavy price for this proliferation. In 1996, we lost more Americans to gunfire than we lost in the entire Korean War. Currently, over 600 people die in gun-related incidents in the U.S. each week, that's over 30,000 every year. This includes over 1,000 accidental deaths and over 18,000 suicides. Another 100,000 are injured annually in non-fatal shootings.

Our children pay the highest price. The rate of accidental shooting deaths for children under fifteen in the United States is nine times higher than the other 25 industrialized countries **combined**. And the great increase in suicides among teenagers and young adults in the past four decades has been mostly due to an increase in gun related suicides. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that within two years, firearms will surpass motor vehicles as the leading cause of product-related death in the United States.

Common sense tells us what the experts on gun violence have already concluded: **Easy access to weapons is the single most overwhelming factor contributing to the high rate of gun deaths and injuries in this country.** And it isn't just guns in the hands of criminals that kill. Guns kept in the home are 22 times more likely to kill a family member, a friend or acquaintance than to kill a stranger in self-defense. And one in 12 students report carrying a gun to school for fighting.

Stemming the Flood: Local Gun Buyback Programs.

Frustrated by the rising tide of guns, police departments, churches, non-profit organizations, and several cities throughout the country have begun fighting the deluge with an innovative program: gun buybacks. The basic premise of the gun buyback is to give people the opportunity, for a limited period of time, to exchange their guns for something of value with no questions asked. There are variations on the inducements offered, but the most successful programs offer money, some type of vouchers (for gifts, clothing, toys etc.) or tickets, or food coupons in exchange for weapons.

Gun buyback programs have had success throughout the country. St. Louis collected more than 8,000 guns in 1991, which were then melted down and converted into a statue of a nine-year old shooting victim. Baltimore collected 13,000 guns in three months and Washington, D.C. recently collected 2,800 guns after two days of buybacks. Buybacks have also worked in Norfolk, Virginia, Dayton, Ohio, San Francisco, California, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Atlanta, Georgia. And while there has been no

comprehensive accounting of the various local programs, some estimates are that buybacks have removed at least 25,000 guns from circulation to date.

Every gun turned in means one less potential tragedy - in the home or on the street. In addition, buyback programs bring a host of other benefits to the communities they operate in. People who participate, either by turning in guns or sponsoring buybacks, gain a sense of control over the direction of their own neighborhoods in the face of national horror stories. As columnist Ellen Goodman puts it:

Some people fight the feeling of helplessness by buying guns. Others fight it by buying them back. To buy back a gun is to place yourself squarely with those who see weapons as part of the problem not the solution. It's to choose sides with violence prevention.

Perhaps most importantly, the program strengthens community-police relations and awareness. Buyback programs can serve as the first step toward developing the collaborative process that the Police Commissioner of Boston says has been the key to the remarkable success they've had in curbing violence in Boston since 1995. When residents get involved and work with the police, when everyone gets focused on keeping kids alive, they keep kids alive. Buyback programs increase police presence, raise public consciousness about community safety, increase neighborhood involvement, increase the trust between police and the community and give the community an active role in the fight against the onslaught of guns.

HUD's Proposal.

To date, the Federal government has had no role in comprehensively supporting gun buyback programs and little work has been done in comparing the various local programs to identify national best practices. HUD's proposal will position the Clinton Administration as a strong proponent of locally-administered buybacks and begin the work of identifying best practices.

Under the Gun Buyback proposal, \$10 million of HUD's Drug Elimination Grant money will be dedicated for use by Public Housing Authorities to establish gun buyback programs through their local police departments. An additional \$4 million will be made available for technical assistance, so that the PHAs will receive \$4 in technical assistance for every \$10 of DEG funding authorized for the program.

HUD is targeting public housing because gun violence threatens some public housing units, but the tenants aren't necessarily the people with guns. Therefore, while the buyback program must be physically conducted in or near a Public Housing Authority, there are no limitations on who can bring guns in for exchange.

HUD's program will encourage local control and innovation but two recommendations will be made about the amount and type of grants. To discourage abuse of the program as

a pure profit-making opportunity, a maximum cap of \$50 for each working gun will be recommended. And HUD will encourage PHAs to award the \$50 in the form of a gift certificate for goods or services (groceries, toys, clothing, tickets) rather than cash.

If the PHAs follow the \$50 recommendation, HUD's program could remove as many as 200,000 guns from circulation in one year. HUD will also limit the amount available to each housing authority to \$500,000, so at least 20 communities will be able to participate in buybacks of up to 10,000 guns.

While many local communities have conducted buyback programs over the past decade, there is very little information available about the best ways to implement the programs. Accordingly, **HUD will also provide \$1 million in funding** to one or more national organizations with expertise on law enforcement issues to study the efficacy of the buyback efforts and to design better gun violence prevention programs.

There are three basic yet key components of HUD's program:

1. Security

Any program that deals with weapons must make security and crime prevention the first priority. Accordingly, every HUD-sponsored buyback program will be run by local police departments to ensure that guns are exchanged in the safest manner possible. The program also will make it clear, however, that the "no questions asked" exchange does not provide amnesty for any crimes committed.

2. Local Collaboration and Control

The most successful buyback programs have comprehensive support and involvement throughout the community - from the Mayor to the Police Chief, local business leaders, volunteer groups, schools, churches and synagogues. Local control means the program can be tailored to the actual interests in the community - so basketball tickets won't be offered where the football team is the only game in town.

To ensure basic local collaboration, the PHAs must first enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the local government or law enforcement agency to be authorized for the Buyback program. The MOU will clearly spell out the roles of all the contracting parties.

3. Permanent Removal from Circulation

The goal of the buyback program is to reduce the overall supply of guns in America. Therefore, all guns submitted through HUD buyback programs must be either destroyed or disabled unless they are identified as stolen or needed for an ongoing law enforcement investigation. Stolen weapons may be returned to their owners at the discretion of the

local law enforcement agency. Any weapons needed for an ongoing investigation will become the property of the law enforcement agency.

signature - used for speed in the

around as given

708-5169

9/8 Meyer/Blair could conference

RTS announce put Ben Rayback $\rightarrow$ \$10M for policy days

to get w/

$\rightarrow$ just did in DC

$\rightarrow$ \$25/gun $\rightarrow$ appt +100 $\rightarrow$ 20,000 10,000 guns @ \$10M

$\rightarrow$ HAW admittance

$\rightarrow$ only Blair Grant Rayback $\rightarrow$ 1 eligible use of that.

$\rightarrow$ DO) needs be improved

708 0636

Howard Blazer

708 0614 + 5008

~~ADS~~ projects $\rightarrow$ Early told

~~SAVA~~ $\rightarrow$ Memo BWS

Charles Wang

Also Brundage

$\rightarrow$

Near

Ben Castle - State?

$\rightarrow$ Steve Franklin

$\rightarrow$ who at hearing? part-conf. Jones

- Michael (Ferry)

- Morgan as private (to) why + its DO to

Change -
Gun Buybacks

The House vs. D.C. on Guns

SIX WEEKS before the District launched its guns-for-cash exchange program to get illegal weapons off the streets, the House voted during debate on proposed national gun-control legislation to allow D.C. residents to carry concealed weapons and to keep handguns in their homes.

The vote was another encroachment on the right of District residents to make their own decisions. The House went a giant step further, however, by interposing a shocking idea on a city sickened by gun violence. By 213 to 208, the House voted to override the District's 23-year-old gun ban and allow citizens to arm themselves in their homes as well as carry unloaded concealed guns through the streets.

The provision, sponsored by Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-Calif.), was the answer to a criminal's prayer. No more prowling the streets to find a gun to buy or steal. Under the Hunter amendment, a crook in want of a gun need look no further than the closest home. The measure was also a clear threat to any D.C. household with a troubled teen.

Fortunately, the bill carrying the Hunter amendment was scuttled, thus leaving the

city's anti-gun law intact. Still, a House majority was recorded in favor of letting the District arm to the teeth.

That makes it all the more important for Operation Gun Tip, the gun buy-back program launched by the D.C. police yesterday, to succeed. The goal is to purchase 1,000 handguns, assault weapons or other illegal firearms turned in at the city's seven police district headquarters. A guns-for-cash exchange program run earlier this month in Northeast was considered by police to be an unqualified success. An ecstatic D.C. Police Chief Charles Ramsey said of the 6th District program, which netted about 600 weapons, "Any time you get guns off the street, several people's lives have been saved."

District police put their lives on the line daily chasing gun-toting criminals. They confiscated 2,000 guns last year. They also know what it means to reduce the availability of lethal weapons. Fewer guns mean fewer police shootings, gun accidents and gun violence. District authorities see the wisdom of not loading up the city with more firepower. Why can't the House?

Brimming Schools

AS SCHOOL DISTRICTS locally and nationally brace for the arrival of 53.2 million students this fall, official talk of this "echo baby boom" may obscure the degree to which the current boom already has surpassed the more familiar one that followed World War II. In fact, school enrollments since the 1996-97 school year have been higher than they ever reached at the peak of the earlier baby boom. The numbers have kept climbing, and the growth is expected to continue unabated until 2008. The effects on the schools are all too visible—in the proliferation of trailer-housed classrooms, in ever-larger classes and in a desperate search for teachers.

This region is far from the epicenter of this continuing population explosion—the South and the West are growing fastest, and New York City, with immigration adding to other patterns, led the list with 131,920 more students in 1997 than in 1987. But the Washington

suburbs have a hefty slice of the growth: Montgomery County over the same 10-year period gained 28,752 students, Prince George's County just under 24,000. And the pressures run directly counter to what most people think makes good schools: smaller class size, a highly qualified teacher corps and safe buildings.

In the medium to long term, these problems can be fixed. Good teachers can be trained and recruited, buildings built—the president recently added to his long-standing call for 100,000 new teachers a demand for federal money to help localities build and renovate the nation's sagging stock. But meanwhile districts are too often reduced to competing with their neighbors or frantically hiring whoever is available. In the current scramble, school authorities and local governments need to keep an eye too on the longer-term work of preparing for next year's boom and the year after, lest the scramble in future years become completely unmanageable.

The Washington Post

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1999

What's News—

Business and Finance

STOCKS SURGED on the eve of a meeting of Fed policy makers that is widely expected to produce an increase in short-term interest rates. The Dow Jones industrials jumped 199.15, or 1.8%, to 11299.76, a record. Higher short-term rates are often a cause for gloom, but investors seem willing to bet the move would restrain inflation without hampering growth.

(Article on Page C1)

IMF officials said the institution doesn't know if funds were improperly diverted by Russian banks because it doesn't monitor disbursement of its loans, leaving that to central banks.

Major European banks are under scrutiny by authorities for their role in the movement of billions of dollars from Russia and Eastern Europe through Bank of New York. U.S. officials are probing that bank's long relationship with Russia's Inkombank.

(Articles on Page A2)

Cyprus Amax is facing shareholder pressure to break ranks with Asarco on the companies' pending merger following bids by Phelps Dodge to buy Cyprus and Asarco for \$2.68 billion.

(Article on Page A3)

U.S. and German officials are expected to develop ground rules for defense-industry mergers and joint ventures, the latest sign the trans-Atlantic climate for such deals is improving.

(Article on Page A3)

Silicon Graphics said Richard Beluzzo resigned as chairman and CEO. He is expected to be tapped to run Microsoft's Internet operations.

(Article on Page A3)

Suez Lyonnaise moved to buy out its U.S. municipal-water affiliate, United Water, in a \$1 billion deal that strengthens the French company's position as the world's leading water-services provider and caps a three-month shopping spree for U.S. firms.

(Article on Page A13)

Sun Microsystems had a setback as a court ordered that an injunction to prevent Microsoft from shipping Java software products be reconsidered.

(Article on Page B8)

Carnival confirmed that it has had acquisition talks with Peninsular, an apparent attempt to put pressure on the British shipping giant. But Peninsular said the talks took place some time ago and didn't result in a bid.

(Article on Page A4)

The SEC adopted more stringent disclosure rules for mutual-fund managers who trade for their own accounts, but stopped short of banning them from trading for themselves in IPOs and private placements.

(Article on Page C25)

Filene's Basement filed for bankruptcy-court protection amid a shake-out among weaker off-price retailers.

(Article on Page B7)

SBC is expected to launch service "bundles" that include Internet, entertainment and local-telephone services in an effort to compete with similar packages planned by rival AT&T.

(Article on Page B8)

EBay reduced a new fee and suspended plans to change bidding policies, responding to users' protests.

(Article on Page B9)

Markets-

Stocks: Volume 673,762,220 shares. Dow Jones industrials 11299.76, up 199.15; transportation 3198.42, up 47.69; utilities 319.58, off 0.06.

Bonds: Lehman Brothers Treasury index 8093.84, up 5.49.

Commodities: Oil \$21.63 a barrel, off two cents. Dow Jones-AIG futures index 87.597, up 0.016; DJ spot index 113.60, off 0.42.

Dollar: 111.53 yen, up 0.17; 0.9530 euro, up 0.0161; 1.8640 marks, up 0.0314.

World-Wide

HOUSE REPUBLICANS PREPARED to unveil their managed-care reform bill.

Reviving the contentious issue during summer recess, the measure goes further than one passed by the Senate and is similar to, though milder than, a bipartisan bill that has won the AMA's endorsement. Like that bill, the GOP plan would give patients the right to sue health plans. But unlike the bipartisan bill, House leaders promise a vote on their plan. (Article on Page A20)

The right to sue continues to bedevil the debate. The White House continues to support the bipartisan plan and reiterated a veto threat against the Senate's.

Chechen rebels in Dagestan said they are withdrawing from villages they seized earlier this month, when they proclaimed an Islamic revolt against Moscow's rule. Russian officials said it was too early to proclaim victory, saying 100 rebels are still fighting, though surrounded, near Tando.

Rescue efforts in Turkey shifted to cleaning up debris from last week's quake, which killed at least 12,000. Foreign search teams were preparing to leave as the focus of concern shifted to preventing diseases such as cholera. A government minister harshly criticized Ankara's response to the quake.

Hurricane Bret was downgraded to a tropical storm as it moved toward Mexico without causing any deaths. Authorities warned of flooding as Texas was drenched with as much as 12 inches of rain. Casualties were minimized because Bret hit a thinly populated area just south of Corpus Christi.

A rise in military aid to Colombia is being weighed by the U.S. amid a sinking economy and a surge in guerrilla attacks, the State Department said. Bogota has requested \$500 million over two years. The U.S. drug czar began a tour of the region to explore strategies of choking off cocaine from Colombia.

Antismoking campaigns aren't getting the windfall backers had hoped from the \$206 billion settlement with tobacco firms, according to advocacy groups. Instead, states are spending settlement money on things ranging from college scholarships and research to tax cuts. (Article on Page A4)

Russian troops in Kosovo were barred from entering the southern town of Oraovac by ethnic Albanians who charge Moscow's peacekeeping contingent favors the Serbs. The Russians were to have taken over duties in the area from a Dutch force.

California's high court struck down a voter initiative to allow video gambling machines on Indian reservations. It passed last year despite heavy opposition from casino interests. The machines, which earn much cash for reservations, may now be seized.

Taiwan is weighing action against China Air if the carrier is found at fault in Sunday's MD-11 crash in Hong Kong that killed two and injured more than 200. A local news agency said it could be barred from new routes for a year. (Article on Page A14)

Some Holocaust survivors threatened to withdraw from the \$1.2 billion settlement with Swiss banks, saying too much of the money will go to lawyers in the case. They said withdrawal will preserve their claims and allow them to pursue separate suits.

Schering-Plough has come under fire for tactics in marketing its \$18,000-a-year hepatitis C treatment. Rebetrone consists of two older drugs available only in bundled form. Critics say that, sold separately, they would cost significantly less. (Article on Page B6)

Concern for gray-whale breeding has prompted a successful effort by environmentalists to modify plans for a salt plant in Baja California. The victory, a first for Mexico, is noteworthy because the plant's effects on whales aren't proven. (Article on Page B1)

The Suharto inquiry will wrap up in a week or so and a decision will be rendered on corruption allegations, Indonesia's official news agency said. The ex-ruler is accused of taking millions of dollars in public funds.

A special Congo court has ordered the executions of 200 people, according to a U.N. human-rights official. The tribunal, originally set up by Kabila to enforce military discipline, now deals in civilian matters.

Germany's chancellery moved to Berlin, marking the first time since World War II the nation has been ruled from that capital. For a year, Schroeder will stay in offices once used by former East Germany's ruler.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1999

Police eager to trade \$ for guns

However, studies have shown that few weapons turned in during expensive 'buy-back' programs are linked to crimes

By Kevin Johnson
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — More than a few heads turned Tuesday when a stocky man cradling a Mac 10 machine pistol climbed the steps to the 4th District Police Headquarters.

But the man and his weapon were just what the cops had been hoping for.

"It's useless to me," said the owner who identified himself only as "Larry" before surrendering the weapon to police in exchange for a crisp \$100 bill. "I would have turned it in for nothing."

It was an extraordinary moment in a dramatic campaign. Local police were offering \$100 for every weapon surrendered to them, regardless of its firepower. No questions asked.

So attractive have been the offers of money and amnesty that police extended the one-day program to a second day Tuesday and were in danger of running out of cash after distributing more than \$225,000.

The program has brought both young men with shotguns and at least one elderly woman. She turned in a holstered .22-caliber handgun wrapped in a kitchen towel.

"These guns had the potential to hurt people," says T.W. Gainer, the district's executive assistant chief. "That potential is no longer there."

Even so, Gainer grudgingly acknowledged Tuesday what critics of similar gun exchanges have been saying for months:

Few of the more than 2,000 weapons turned in over the past two days in Washington, and in several other cities over the years, were Mac 10s or other high-powered weapons so often used in violent crime.

Academics have questioned the cost of such campaigns, vs. funneling the same money to other social causes.

Studies of past "buy-back" campaigns suggest that few of those attracted to offers of money and amnesty in exchange for guns are likely to be criminals.

"Given the high cost and weak theoretical rationale," a Justice Department study found last year, "there seems little reason to invest in further testing of the idea."

The same study, conducted by the University of Maryland, suggested that the \$250,000 that St. Louis invested in its buy-back program in 1994 could have been better put to use to expose about 250 children to anti-drug programs.

So why do police continue to employ the strategy?

At a time when dramatic incidents of gun violence have shaken the country, analysts say buy-back programs are at least a step toward raising the public-safety quotient, if even in a very small way.

"Even if the people who participate in these programs are not at high risk of perpetuating violent crimes, it still gets

guns out of households," says Jon Vernick, associate director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, in Baltimore. "Homes with guns in them are more likely to experience homicide."

Among the people lined up outside the 4th District headquarters Tuesday to dump their weapons, several said they only wanted to purge their households of any potential danger.

"I don't need it. I don't use it. It was something I found a long time ago," says 43-year-old John Brown after surrendering his .22-caliber handgun.

A 67-year-old man who declined to be identified deposited his shotgun in a red milk crate and dusted his hands to signify the "dirty business" was done.

"The thing was lying around the house," he says. "It was time to get rid of it before it hurt somebody."

And Gainer was happy enough to pay all comers, even for weapons that were no longer functional or didn't exactly qualify as guns.

Monday, police were presented a live hand grenade, prompting a call to explosives experts to disarm it.

"If the hand grenade was the only thing we got," Gainer says, "then it was worth \$100,000. It's scary to see what people have had locked up in their houses."

Police said all of the guns would be examined to determine whether any were used in crimes. Analyses completed by late Tuesday had not produced any immediate connections.

"Each one of these guns has a history," Gainer says.

"But now we've altered the course of that history."

CRIME-

GUN BUYBACKS

(and copy OTHER SIDE SEPARATE)