

ORIGINAL

REMARKS OF HON. JANET RENO
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

Friday, October 13, 1995

9:30 a.m.

Graduation Ceremony
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
Memorial Auditorium
Glynco, Georgia

1 (STENOGRAPHER'S NOTE: The
2 Attorney General's plane being
3 unable to land due to inclement
4 weather, the following remarks
5 were transmitted to Mr.
6 Rinkevich, and delivered by him
7 to the assembled candidates for
8 graduation.)
9

10 (Speech beginning at 9:34 a.m.)

11 BY CHARLES F. RINKEVICH,
12 Director, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

13 At this point I would have had the pleasure and
14 honor of introducing Attorney General Reno, and in lieu
15 of that let me deliver her remarks. She asked that,
16 with her regrets at not being able to be with us, that
17 her words would be spoken to you so that you could at
18 least have benefit of her thoughts on this occasion.

19 "Good morning. It is an honor for me to be here
20 today to congratulate each and every one of you on your
21 successful completion of the programs here at the
22 Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. For many of
23 you, today represents the very beginning of your career
24 in law enforcement. For some, this was a continuing
25 enhancement of your skills as federal law enforcement

1 employees. Still for others, training at FLETC was the
2 last part of your transition from a distinguished career
3 in the military to that of a federal law enforcement
4 officer. Yet no matter your background all of you
5 should be extremely proud of your accomplishments here
6 and of your universal commitment to the upholding of our
7 laws and to the service of our country. Each of you
8 knows that the job you are about to undertake is not
9 easy. You will meet challenges that you could not have
10 dreamed of, you will face danger square on, you will be
11 asked to make split second decisions without benefit of
12 a law book or a lengthy period of analysis. But you
13 will be prepared, you will be prepared because of the
14 training you received here on these grounds.

15 To the forty-four graduates of Basic Deputy U.S.
16 Marshal Class Number 503, you now enter the proud
17 tradition of the United States Marshals Service. For
18 more than two hundred years the Marshals Service has
19 faithfully executed its duty to provide for the security
20 and to obey, execute and enforce all orders of the
21 Federal Courts. It will be your responsibility to
22 preserve and add to that tradition, and I know you will.

23 To the ninety-six men and women who have
24 successfully completed the Introduction to Correctional
25 Techniques, whether you are a correctional guard, an

1 inmate counselor, or other corrections worker, you will
2 be asked to ensure the fair and effective punishment of
3 those who disregard our laws, and you will work to bring
4 about a meaningful reduction in crime by the work you do
5 with federal offenders in our prisons and in our parole
6 and probation programs. You will have awesome
7 responsibilities, but I know you will meet those
8 responsibilities with distinction.

9 To the twenty-three graduates of the Internal
10 Revenue Service Special Agent Basic Training Program,
11 your mission is at the heart of our democracy, ensuring
12 that all citizens contribute their fair share to
13 maintain our freedom and security. Quite simply, I.R.S.
14 employees touch the lives of nearly every American. As
15 such, you have a special obligation to maintain the
16 public trust and to carry out your duties as federal law
17 enforcement officers with sound judgement and fairness,
18 and I know that you will.

19 I know that Secretary Rubin shares my faith in your
20 abilities, and on many occasions a graduating I.R.S.
21 criminal investigators class would receive words of
22 encouragement from the Secretary of the Treasury, but I
23 was very anxious to have the opportunity to be here
24 today to express my good wishes, because this graduation
25 is an example of what Secretary Rubin and I both strive

1 for; cooperation and teamwork among the federal law
2 enforcement agencies.

3 Take a good look at each other. I may have just
4 described the missions that are unique to each of your
5 agencies, but at the heart of all federal law
6 enforcement is the concept of teamwork, to strive for a
7 more just, a more fair, a safer America. Look at each
8 other and you will see that it does not matter what
9 badge you wear, it only matters that you are all in the
10 same job, to serve the American people to the best of
11 your abilities. Crime comes in many forms, and to
12 effectively combat it we know that it will take all
13 federal law enforcement agencies, sharing information
14 and intelligence, identifying particular areas of
15 concern, and coordinating resources to make a
16 difference.

17 Let me give you an example of the concept of
18 teamwork. Secretary Rubin and I have met on many
19 occasions to discuss shared law enforcement concerns.
20 One such concern is health care fraud. The General
21 Accounting Office has estimated that approximately ten
22 percent of the funds spent each year for health care are
23 lost to fraud. This amounts to ninety to one hundred
24 billion dollars per year. To make up the lost revenue
25 this fraud translates into higher premiums for you and

1 me. For an elderly person, for a vulnerable American,
2 this added burden can be as devastating as if they were
3 a victim of a robbery. Health Care fraud working groups
4 have been set up around the country to bring together
5 federal law enforcement agencies ranging from the F.B.I.
6 to the I.R.S. to the Office of the Postal Inspectors.

7 If we do not have investigators to seek out the
8 offenders and build evidence, if we do not have Marshals
9 to bring the offenders to justice, if we do not have
10 prosecutors to effectively prosecute, and if we do not
11 have corrections professionals to ensure that punishment
12 is meted out fairly, then we will have failed in our
13 obligation to the public. One cannot succeed without
14 the other. Throughout your career, you should and will
15 seek out the assistance and cooperation of the F.B.I.,
16 the D.E.A., the Treasury, the U.S. Attorneys' offices
17 across the country, to all of the federal law
18 enforcement officials. Many of your peers will have
19 passed through these very grounds to receive training.
20 The model of cooperation that exists here at the Federal
21 Law Enforcement Training Center should be the model for
22 your entire career. So let this graduation exercise be
23 only the beginning of a long and effective partnership.

24 I would also urge you to reach out to state and
25 local law enforcement officials. Often times they have

1 the leads, they know the crime patterns, they know their
2 communities. Many of them have also received training
3 from FLETC and from other federal law enforcement
4 agencies, and are attuned to working with federal
5 authorities. I will always remember that the first
6 arrest in the Oklahoma City bombing was made by an
7 Oklahoma Highway Patrol Officer. Even in the darkest
8 moments, it is the unity of purpose of all law
9 enforcement that will see that justice is served.

10 There are great challenges and great opportunities
11 that lie before you. You now have the benefit of the
12 finest training in the country to assist you in the
13 years to come, but always remember that it is your
14 family and your friends that will see you both --
15 through both adversity and triumph. They will comfort
16 you in times of loss and applaud your moments of
17 accomplishment, and they may even knock you down a size
18 or two if you get too big for your britches. That's
19 their job. In fact, being a relative of a federal law
20 enforcement official is a job, and you and I owe your
21 loved ones gathered here today a debt of gratitude.

22 So remember well the skills you have acquired here,
23 revel in the great traditions of the law enforcement
24 agencies you will serve, heed the offer of cooperation
25 from your colleagues, stay true to the affection of your

1 family and friends, and serve your country faithfully.

2 I know you will. Congratulations.

3 The Attorney General."
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