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3 102ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE

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6 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

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8
9 CHIEFS OF POLICE

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13 Miami Beach, Florida

14 Monday, October 16, 1995

15 10:45 A. M.
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18 THE HONORABLE JANET RENO
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1111 14th ST., N.W., 4th FLOOR / WASHINGTON, D.C., 20005

1 MS. RENO: Thank you so very much. It
2 is a real privilege to be with you today but it is
3 very special because so many of you have made me
4 feel welcome in your community. You've told me of
5 the special things about your community, its
6 history, its problems, its successes and it's
7 wonderful for me to say welcome to my community.

8 It's particularly wonderful when I see
9 all the chiefs that I've known, some I knew when
10 they were quite young and down the ranks and to
11 see people such as Bill Berger come into the ranks
12 of the IACP leadership, it's just very exciting
13 and makes me very proud of those for being over
14 there.

15 I first met with you in St. Louis, then
16 in Albuquerque, but in between those meetings and
17 between now and then, I've had the chance to work
18 with you, to work with Chief Whetzel, with Dan
19 Rosenblatt, on specific problems in Washington to
20 try to work with you in your communities to try to
21 address the critical problems that face this
22 nation and face law enforcement throughout this
23 nation.

24 This is such a wonderful organization
25 because you've approached these problems with, not

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1 complaints but what can we do to solve it, how can
2 we come to together, how can we use our ingenuity,
3 our sense of innovation to face these problems and
4 solve them. It has been my privilege to work with
5 you and I just want to tell you from the Federal
6 prospective thank you so very much, not just for
7 what you do in your community but what you do in
8 this nation to form a true partnership between
9 state, Federal and local law enforcement.

10 Chief Walthrup, I look forward to
11 working with you in this coming year to continuing
12 this partnership, to making sure that we implement
13 the Crime Act of 1994 in a way that has the most
14 positive impact possible for local law
15 enforcement, to continue our efforts which are so
16 far resulted in 25,000 community police officers
17 authorized for the streets of America,
18 distribution of a violence against women grant to
19 every state that will find its way, I hope, to
20 your departments through innovative efforts in
21 preventing domestic violence. One of the most
22 important things that we have been able to
23 undertake is to work with you and providing grants
24 to improve criminal histories which is a vital and
25 critical element in the development of effective

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1 law enforcement.

2 This coming year we look forward to the
3 implementation of the prison grants as the monies
4 for the Crime Act prison program come on board and
5 we want to make sure that these grants again get
6 to state and local communities where they can make
7 a difference, where we can insure that the
8 dangerous offenders are incarcerated for the
9 length of time the Judges are sentencing them.

10 It is has been gratifying for me to hear
11 from police chiefs around the country about the
12 success of the Metz Program or particular
13 initiatives on the part of the Federal agency to
14 see our anti-violence initiatives coming together
15 in effective crime solution within your community.

16 I have been so impressed with your study
17 and now your report on Murder in America. It's
18 not a hand wringing report. It's this is the
19 problem, what do we do to solve it and I think
20 it's one of the most effective documents that I've
21 seen in the two-and-a-half years that I've been in
22 Washington, so effective that we are trying to do
23 what we can to implement its suggestions and I'm
24 gratified that we've been able to fund two grants
25 to cities that have had high homicide rates, most

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1 solution rates, to see what we can do in those
2 cities to implement the program but more
3 importantly to evaluate how it's working and how
4 it can be translated to other communities in a
5 successful effort.

6 I hope you're not just saying things to
7 make me feel good but it is wonderful to come into
8 communities and have police chiefs tell me that
9 the Federal agencies are working together with
10 your local law enforcement better than ever before
11 and we want to renew our efforts to make sure that
12 that partnership continues for in deed you are on
13 the front line in the fight against crime and it
14 is our responsibility to make sure that there is a
15 two-way exchange of information, that we support
16 your efforts, that when it is better that a case
17 be prosecuted in state court, we do so ensuring
18 that we provide you the support that is needed to
19 do the job and in this coming year, Chief, I look
20 forward to working with you in developing an even
21 greater capacity to cooperate on a regional basis.

22 It is troubling to me to see crime
23 patterns develop across the region and too often
24 there will be two different agencies involved in
25 two different cities. If we work together in a

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1 regional effort, both with respect to violence and
2 with respect to drugs and drug trafficking, I
3 think we can make a significant difference.

4 And you have made a difference. When I
5 look at cities across this country and see the
6 rate of violence going down, I say it is a tribute
7 to you and to your officers who've been willing to
8 fight against the problem of violence in this
9 country day after day and never give up.

10 But there are two forms of violence that
11 have emerged in this past year as clear indicators
12 of things to come unless we continue to renew our
13 efforts to join together and focus to prevent this
14 type of violence; one is terrorism, the second is
15 youth violence.

16 With respect to terrorism, we have seen
17 it clearly in the World Trade Center, in the
18 Murrah Building in Oklahoma City. We have also
19 seen something very special, though. We have seen
20 state and local agencies join with Federal
21 agencies in solving these crimes and in focusing
22 on what could be done to immediately put into
23 effect an investigative capacity that could make a
24 difference.

25 Then police commissioner Ray Kelley told

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1 me that it was because there was a plan in effect,
2 a plan that involved both the state and Federal as
3 well as local law enforcement in violence
4 prevention in response to violence that enabled
5 the World Trade Center case to proceed so
6 successfully.

7 To go to Oklahoma City, to meet with the
8 state trooper responsible for apprehending one of
9 the subjects, to meet state and local police
10 agencies' representatives who were there on the
11 scene working together with the Federal agencies
12 was so gratifying. To know that it was a local
13 police officer who recognized that rear axle that
14 produced the number that provided the
15 identification of the Ryder truck, it is an
16 example that problems such as terrorism are not
17 going to be involved just by Federal agencies and
18 Federal law enforcement, it's going -- the
19 problems of terrorism can hopefully be prevented,
20 but where they occur they are going to be solved
21 because state and local law enforcement is in a
22 partnership with Federal law enforcement every
23 step of the way.

24 There are different forms of terrorism.
25 Sometimes it's a bomb, other times it may be

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1 sabotage of a city's system, but I would like to
2 work with the IACP in this coming year to work
3 with the Justice Department agencies, to work with
4 the ATF to see what we can do to ensure closer
5 coordination on the issue of terrorism.

6 Maureen Hannagan wrote to me shortly
7 after Oklahoma City saying we have got to do more
8 in terms of the ensuring communication and
9 ensuring an exchange of information and I agree.

10 Director Free, the Justice Department
11 agencies are going to be working with all
12 concerned to ensure close and clear communication,
13 to ensure a sharing of information, a sharing of
14 information that can lead to solutions, can
15 identify threats and can provide leads that will
16 enable us to solve the problem before it starts.
17 It will require that we plan together.

18 There are now in place, I'm told, in 12
19 cities in this country joint terrorism task
20 forces. We need to examine those task forces, how
21 they're working and do whatever is right to
22 reenforce them and to expand them across this
23 country so that we work together, Federal, state
24 and local law enforcement, hand in hand to address
25 this problem.

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1 We need to be able to assess a threat
2 and communicate. Right now both the CIA and the
3 FBI have Counter Terrorism Centers. The director
4 of the CIA, John Deutsch and I, along with
5 Director Free have seen and will continue to see
6 that the two agencies work together to share
7 information but we will be working with other
8 Federal agencies, with ATF and with state and
9 local agencies to develop the same source of
10 capabilities to feed information into a common
11 system where within obvious limits it can be
12 shared by all who need to know.

13 We also need to communicate threats in a
14 proper fashion. First, we need to be able to
15 identify the reliability of the threat; second, we
16 need to identify the specificity of the threat;
17 and third, we need to be able to determine who
18 needs to be notified and how.

19 I don't want those determinations made
20 just in an ex-parte fashion. We want to work with
21 state and local law enforcement in fashioning a
22 system that can work for all. As to each concern,
23 state and local law enforcement plays a role
24 wholly equal to Federal law enforcement. It is
25 your community, it is your people and we want to

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1 make sure that your voice is heard.

2 Very often it is the smallest bit of
3 information which allows us to properly assess a
4 threat to determine whether it is reliable. Good
5 police officers exist at every step of the way who
6 may understand how critical a piece of seemingly
7 irrelevant information can be. We can't pass up
8 the experience that is represented in your
9 departments across this land as we develop an
10 ability in this nation to respond.

11 As I indicated, we also need to
12 determine the specificity of the threat. By way
13 of example, there may be a threat regarding a
14 specific aircraft on a specific date. We can
15 react well to that; however, more morphous threats
16 are harder to deal. What if we over react, will
17 the public comes to view us as the boy who cried
18 wolf?

19 Once again we need the experience of
20 state and local officers in dealing with this
21 problem. Every day you are called upon to assess
22 other sorts of threats and to react appropriately
23 with your community's safety at stake. We want to
24 involve you in the process.

25 Finally we need to notify the proper

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1 people. That's the reasons I have asked the FBI
2 to devise a system which would permit the
3 nationwide transmission of an emergency message.
4 Now we will use the National Law Enforcement
5 Telecommunications System Inlets which has the
6 capability of sending a message which can readily
7 reach every law enforcement agency in the country.
8 We may also need to notify private businesses,
9 specific sorts of individuals or people and
10 businesses in specific areas. We are working on
11 systems which will meet this need. But we will
12 rely on all of law enforcement to assist in the
13 development and the implementation of the process.

14 Finally, we need to have a capacity to
15 investigate threats, to investigate leads that can
16 lead us to criminal activity with the hope, the
17 earnest hope, of preventing it before it occurs,
18 but whether we are able to or not, to arrest,
19 prosecute and incarcerate those who would harm
20 those who we are sworn to protect. The task
21 forces are one approach and we must evaluate how
22 we can set up structures that will immediately
23 permit us to respond together in an effective law
24 enforcement effort that can identify those
25 responsible for threats or for actual terrorism

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1 and ensure that they are brought to justice.

2 We are going to appreciate the IACP's
3 comments and suggestions as we work through these
4 processes. You have been there at meeting after
5 meeting in Washington where I've had to address
6 some of the critical problems of this nation and
7 we want to make sure that you are with us every
8 step of this process.

9 Because communications will be a key to
10 the proper sharing of information, that means
11 space on the radio spectrum. Many of you have
12 expressed concerns, concerns that I share, that
13 space on the spectrum be maintained for law
14 enforcement use. Without it we simply won't be
15 able to handle the volume. I am so pleased that
16 the FCC and the National Telecommunications and
17 Information Administration have formed the Public
18 Safety Wireless Advisory Committee to advise them
19 in determining the needs of law enforcement and
20 public safety agencies through the year 2010.

21 You may be assured that I will work to
22 protect the interest of law enforcement in this
23 regard and it is important that we continue to
24 work together to identify high tech crime but more
25 importantly, to identify high tech tools that will

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1 enable us to solve crime in this country.

2 When I look at automation today compared
3 to the automation that took place when I first
4 went to work for the Dade County Sheriff's Office
5 in the summer of 1956, it's as different as night
6 and day but the technological difference between
7 now and the year 2010 will probably be even
8 greater.

9 We need to work together to find out
10 what works, what doesn't work, what's best, what's
11 a little less best and make sure that we develop
12 the most cost effective means together of making
13 these technologies available throughout America,
14 but none of this is worth doing if we can't assure
15 that there's a future to save.

16 Simply put, our future is our children.
17 Nothing more, nothing less. Every lost child is a
18 nail in a collective coffin and it's a failure on
19 our part. It's something which we can't and must
20 never accept and yet, since 1985, we have seen a
21 dramatic increase in youth violence in this nation
22 and tragically with it a tragic increase in youth
23 victimization. Young people killing young people,
24 young people killing our future.

25 As we saw this dramatic increase

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1 beginning in 1985, we began to see a slight
2 reduction in the number of young people ages 14 to
3 17, but since a year ago we are seeing something
4 new. The largest growth sector in our population
5 is the segment of the population which accounts
6 for the most serious juvenile crime.

7 In 1990 there were 10 million juveniles
8 aged 15 to 17. That number will grow to 13.1
9 million by the year 2010. That's a 31 percent
10 increase.

11 Even if crime rates by population remain
12 the same, there will be one-third more people in
13 this group and the actual number of crimes the
14 group commits will grow by one-third unless we do
15 something about it now.

16 We don't need to look far to see that a
17 very small portion of the juvenile offenders are
18 committing a significant portion of the crimes.
19 In your report on the murder summit, you focused
20 on this issue but I look forward to working with
21 you in this coming year to renew our collective
22 effort against youth violence, to find out what
23 works and what doesn't work. Your communities are
24 the laboratory. Local law enforcement, local
25 prosecutors are on the front line. They are best

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1 able to handle the problems of juvenile justice
2 but we want to be a partner with you and support
3 you in every way that we can.

4 Let's look at it. Each one of you have
5 seen a hardened 16- or 17-year old who has
6 committed such a series of crimes that they
7 shouldn't come out of jail for a very, very long
8 time. We've got to make sure through the
9 application of the prison money in the Crime Act
10 that that money gets to state and local facilities
11 that will ensure the incarceration of those people
12 for the length of time the Judges are sentencing
13 them.

14 Then you and the people in your
15 department have seen the offender who may be the
16 first time offender but an offender 15 years old
17 who has committed a robbery. That offender must
18 understand that there is going to be a firm, fair
19 consequence for their act and all of us must speak
20 out collectively to ensure that there are adequate
21 serious offender programs that will include a
22 sanction that means what it says for this type of
23 offender, but at the same time you and I both know
24 that those offenders and that medium category are
25 coming out of prison or coming out of a serious

1 youthful offender program at some point and it
2 doesn't make sense to send them back out to the
3 community without job training and placement,
4 without education, without the capacity and the
5 support to deal with the problems in the community
6 that sent them to the facility in the first place.

7 I think we can join forces, probation
8 officers and community police officers in helping
9 to develop links that will assist in keeping these
10 offenders out of trouble.

11 We want to work with you in trying to
12 support your innovative and creative efforts. The
13 COPS program has authorized grants to 10
14 communities for community policing initiatives to
15 focus on youth violence and then to find out
16 quickly what works and working with you and
17 working with others translate that success to
18 other communities so that they can adapt to their
19 community what's working in other communities.

20 We want to ensure that we provide a
21 proper exchange of information with respect to
22 gangs. I'll be frank. I still come to a
23 community and DEA has a Red Rum Task Force and the
24 FBI has a Safe Streets Task Force and the Marshall
25 Service is looking for some fugitives, and they

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1 may not be cooperating as much as they should be.
2 We want to make sure that we get you the
3 information that can count and that can make a
4 difference.

5 We will be willing to prosecute but not
6 for the credit, not for the turf grabbing but
7 because it's in the best interest of the case and
8 you and this local prosecutor want us to prosecute
9 and it's consistent with the principles of
10 Federalism. We will work with you as we have in
11 grants for programs designed to get guns out of
12 the hands of kids. Again, because of your
13 leadership across the country a number of police
14 agencies are looking at what works and doesn't
15 work in programs such as this.

16 But all of us know that so much of this
17 can be prevented if the community as a whole comes
18 together. This Association itself has said
19 strategies to reduce violence and homicide must be
20 community-wide, involving law enforcement,
21 educators, community residents, health
22 professionals, the business community and others
23 in a coordinated effort. Lesser or stop gap
24 efforts will not effectively address the root
25 causes of such violence.

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1 The time has come for us to share the
2 information your community is working on with
3 others so that this nation comes together to
4 address the problem of our future, to make sure
5 that our children are held accountable for their
6 wrong, but that they are given a strong, safe,
7 constructive way to grow.

8 Because of the energy in this room,
9 because of the innovation in this room, because of
10 what you do day in and day out in your department
11 to ensure fair, honest, vigorous and creative law
12 enforcement, I think in this next year we can do
13 so much at the twin problems, to address the twin
14 problems of violence, both in the form of
15 terrorism and amongst our youth.

16 Thank you for your leadership and for
17 all that you do.

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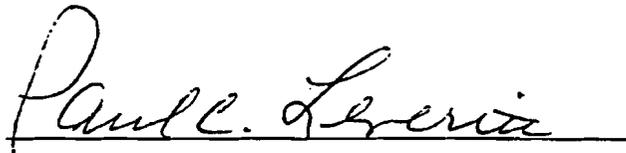
1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF FLORIDA)

3 COUNTY OF DADE)

4 I, PAUL C. LEVERITT, Shorthand Reporter
5 and Notary Public in and for the State of Florida
6 at Large, hereby certify that I was authorized to
7 and did stenographically report the
8 above-referenced address; and that the transcript
9 is a true and complete record of my stenographic
10 notes.

11 Dated at Miami, Dade County, Florida,
12 this 17 day of October 1995.

13
14
15 
16

17 PAUL C. LEVERITT

18 Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public

