

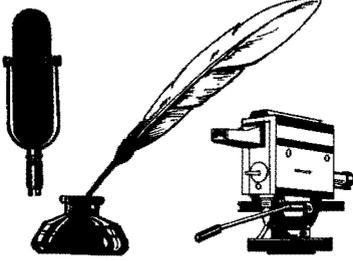
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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON WEDNESDAY--
October 28, 1970

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford before the South Kent Exchange Club

Legislation which puts together an organized assault against organized crime and bombings in this country has become Federal law.

This legislation, S. 30, is one of the greatest achievements of the 91st Congress and a major accomplishment of the Nixon Administration. There is credit enough for everybody, and credit is due. My only criticism is that the legislation should have been passed months earlier.

Apart from giving authorities new tools to fight organized crime, the new Organized Crime Control Act also zeroes in on bombings, arson and other criminal acts which threaten to turn our citadels of learning into citadels of violence.

I sponsored the anti-bombing provisions which were written into the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970, in addition to sponsoring other anti-crime measures which became part of the omnibus crime control bill. I am most pleased that my legislation has been enacted into law.

Let me impress upon you how critical the campus violence situation has become. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover has informed me that the Students for A Democratic Society, during the last academic year, alone was directly involved in 247 arson cases, 462 personal injury incidents and more than 300 other episodes of destruction.

Such acts--the most recent at the University of Wisconsin where a student died in a bomb blast--cannot be allowed to continue. Those responsible must be tracked down. And the law enforcement agency best suited to that job is the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I was therefore glad to give my support to the President's request for 1,000 more FBI agents to investigate campus bombings and arson as well as to help combat airplane hijackings.

As you know, the FBI now will investigate bombings and arson at all colleges receiving any form of Federal aid, and that includes virtually all of them.

Under the Organized Crime Control Act just enacted into law, Federal lawmen will be able to move swiftly and forcefully against terrorist bombers and other segments of the criminal world.

Not only does the anti-bombing provision cover government buildings and nearly all college campuses, it also applies to police stations where the City is receiving

(more)

funds under the Law Enforcement Assistance Act as is the case in Grand Rapids.

The new Organized Crime Control Act is of course primarily designed to combat organized crime.

Basically, it provides for new perjury and contempt procedures calculated to induce reluctant witnesses to testify and it provides stiffer jail terms for habitual criminals.

The first five titles of the Act are designed to accomplish one purpose: To get the facts needed to obtain indictments and convictions.

The new law establishes special grand juries which may exercise more independence in fulfilling their duties and may sit for up to 36 months. The grand jury may compel witnesses to talk by guaranteeing their testimony will not be used against them. If they refuse to talk, they may be held in contempt. If they talk but lie, they may be tried for perjury. And if the witness puts his life in jeopardy by talking the Government will protect him and even try to relocate him.

Titles VI and VII of the new law facilitate the actual trial of organized criminals.

Title VI allows the Government to take a deposition of a Government witness and use it at the trial if the witness for certain reasons will not be available to testify in person. This not only protects the Government's case but the witness as well.

Title VII rules out litigation involving claims of illegal electronic surveillance by the Government--surveillance which could not have possibly produced evidence for the prosecution.

Title VIII makes a Federal crime of large-scale gambling operations which are in violation of State law.

Title IX makes it unlawful to engage in a pattern of racketeering activity as a means of acquiring, maintaining or conducting a business.

Title X establishes a pre-sentencing procedure for determining whether a convicted defendant is an habitual, professional, or organized criminal--and provides an extended sentence for such an offender.

Title XI is the anti-bombing part of the new crime control law.

I do not claim that the new Organized Crime Control Act is a panacea for our criminal ills. I do not claim we will solve all of our crime problems simply by having enacted this legislation. But I do believe it will enable local, State and Federal law enforcement officials and our court system to deal more effectively with the problem of organized crime.

I have been most anxious to give law enforcement officials the tools to get the job done. This I believe the Congress has accomplished by enacting the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970.

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