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Central Files

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: Don Rumsfeld

FROM: Robert A. Goldwin

Bob

COMMENTS: This is the chapter out
of Jim Wilson's new book, Thinking
About Crime, on the subject of
what happens to criminals after arrest.

Two copies are attached in case you
want to pass one on.

4/15/75

Handwritten initials or mark in the top right corner.

Chapter 8

Courts and Corrections

Handwritten signature or initials.

MOST of the persons arrested for a serious crime have been arrested before. Indeed, one recent study estimates that over 87 per cent of those arrested will have been previously arrested—or, put a bit differently, the probability of being rearrested is 0.87 chances in one, or close to a certainty.¹ The research by Marvin Wolfgang and his colleagues on ten thousand Philadelphia boys born in 1945 who lived in that city until they were at least eighteen years of age showed that, once a juvenile had been arrested three times, the chances of his being rearrested were over 70 per cent.² In their inquiry into New York City subway crimes, Jan M. Chaiken and his group at the Rand Institute conclude that, though there are hundreds of robberies on the subways each year, there could not be in the entire city of eight million more than *ten* persons who commit such robberies regularly and who have not been arrested at least once.³

Courts and Correct

No doubt for so us—the shame and are a powerful det others the mere fa persons, who may crimes, the police arrestees once aga bail, arraignment. to put it, “We op

As crime beca more attention v of the criminal i trators of predat alerted us to the provement, they greater importan arrested and that conditions they they came. The rectional institu

In theory, th or innocence o with persons w ciary is organ function is its system, the ru for testimony. relatively few it, and in a courts will a for most of i sion concern Manhattan. indicted bet trial; almost sized, nonn