The original documents are located in Box D25, folder “American Association of Industrial Management Breakfast, June 11, 1968” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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NOTES FOR AM. ASS'N OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT BREAKFAST, TUES., JUNE 11, 1968.

I. THERE WILL BE A CRACKDOWN ON CRIME IN AMERICA...AND A DETERMINED DRIVE ON THE PART OF BOTH THE AUTHORITIES AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO RESTORE LAW AND ORDER IN THIS COUNTRY.

A. THE COUNTRY WAS MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY...AND HIS DEATH GAVE THIS MOVEMENT A FORWARD THRUST.

B. THERE IS NOW APPARENT IN THE NATION A GENERAL REVULSION AGAINST VIOLENCE... AND THIS WAS REFLECTED IN HOUSE PASSAGE OF THE TOUGH SENATE ANTI-CRIME BILL.

II. THE ANTI-CRIME BILL IS A TOUGH BILL, REGARDLESS OF THE CRITICISM THAT THE GUN CONTROL PROVISION IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH AND THAT THE PROVISIONS MODIFYING CERTAIN SUPREME COURT RULINGS WILL NOT HOLD UP UNDER COURT TEST.

A. HAD THE SENATE BILL BEEN REJECTED BY HOUSE AND SENT TO A HOUSE-Senate CONFERENCE, IT PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN STUCK THERE INDEFINITELY...AND THE GUN CONTROL PROVISION MIGHT HAVE BEEN FURTHER WATERED-DOWN IN EXCHANGE FOR A COMPROMISE ACTION ON MODIFICATION OF THE SUPREME COURT RULINGS ON HANDLING OF CRIMINAL CASES.

III. THE NEW OMNIBUS ANTI-CRIME BILL SIGNALS THE MOBILIZATION OF THIS COUNTRY'S RESOURCES IN A DRIVE TO REDUCE CRIME AND HALT THE SPREAD OF VIOLENCE IN THIS COUNTRY. WHAT WILL IT DO?

A. IT AUTHORIZES HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF FEDERAL AID TO UPGRADE STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ON THE BASIS OF APPROVED STATE ANTI-CRIME PLANS... $100 MILLION THE FIRST YEAR AND $300 MILLION THE NEXT YEAR.

B. IT PROHIBITS THE MAIL-ORDER SALE OF HANDGUNS—PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS. IT ALSO BANS OVER-THE-COUNTER SALES OF SUCH WEAPONS TO MINORS OR TO PERSONS NOT RESIDENTS OF THE STATE. SALES OF RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS... THE WEAPONS USED BY GAME HUNTERS... WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

C. IT OUTLAW WIRETAPPING EXCEPT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS DEALING WITH ORGANIZED CRIME OR NATIONAL SECURITY, AND PERMITS IT THEN ONLY WHEN AUTHORIZED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE.

D. IT LEAVES THE ADMISSIBILITY OF CONFESSIONS TO THE TRIAL JUDGE. THUS THE CONGRESS IS LIMITING THE APPLICATION OF SOME OF THE MORE EXTREME SUPREME COURT DECISIONS, SUCH AS IN THE MALLORY AND MIRANDA CASES. (MALLORY'S RAPE CONFESSION WAS THROWN OUT BY THE SUPREME COURT BECAUSE OF 'UNNECESSARY DELAY' IN BRINGING HIM INTO COURT. HE WAS FREED AND STAYED FREE FOR 33 MONTHS... UNTIL HE COMMITTED RAPE AGAIN. MIRANDA'S CONFESSION WAS THROWN OUT BY A 5-4 SUPREME COURT DECISION ON THE GROUND HE HAD BEEN QUESTIONED WITHOUT COMPLETE WARNING OF HIS RIGHTS.) THE SENATE BILL... WISELY... DOES NOT PRECLUDE APPEALS.
IV. The Congress delayed far too long in enacting an omnibus anti-crime bill. The House passed its version of the omnibus anti-crime bill last August 8. We have waited far too long to complete action on this vital legislation, this landmark bill. I don't think the American people would have stood for further delay of the kind that probably would have resulted from the move by Judiciary Committee Chairman Emanuel Celler to reject the Senate bill and send the legislation to conference.

V. This legislation of and by itself will not halt the plague of crime and lawlessness afflicting this country but I believe it signals and will figure in an ultimate reversal of the sharp upturn in crime inflicted upon the American people in the last several years.

VI. This is landmark legislation because it will strengthen local police departments and state and federal law enforcement. Perhaps most important, it will help law enforcement officers gather the necessary evidence to build a case for determining guilt and then proving it in court.

VI. I think we now will see, too, a strong revulsion among the American people to violence in general. Widespread disapproval and a demand for counter-action against those groups who are seeking to impose their will on the majority through coercive methods. I think the people will demand that the law be enforced regardless of the motives of the law-breakers or who they may be. Social ills and political beliefs are no excuse for violence, and the American people will not put up with it.
VIII. Congress has dealt with the chief concern of the American people and soon will act on another crucial problem, the deterioration of the dollar.

A. The Senate's Bipartisan House Democratic Leadership has scheduled for June 19 a vote on the combination spending cut-tax increase package which is bitter anti-inflation medicine but a potion that the country will have to swallow to save the dollar.

B. There just have to be enough votes to put the save-the-dollar package across because the inflation we now are experiencing threatens a recession which will take jobs and wages away from Americans most in need of them.

C. We must act to fight inflation because only with a sound economy can we erase poverty, rebuild our cities and heal the sickness in our society.

D. We are in serious trouble because of inflation...and the chief cause of that trouble is government overspending. We must, therefore, at least slow down the upward spiral...clamp a lid on the spending of money we don't have.

IX. Congress must meet the dollar crisis and the challenge of inflation because both Americans and Europeans are losing confidence in the dollar.

A. This is the inevitable result of huge federal deficits and a constant rise in the cost of living.

B. Action is imperative because progress in America will be impossible until relative price stability is restored and the economy made sound again.
JUNE 11, 1968

TUESDAY

A.M.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT
BREAKFAST