

**The original documents are located in Box 6, folder “Crime” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Ron Nessen donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Q. Will the Administration spell out in more specific detail its gun control program?

A. It is clear that there are at least two legislative packages that will be sent to Congress -- one to extend the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration and the other to improve the language and enforcement of the Federal Firearms Act. I would look for more specific language regarding the so-called Saturday night specials. In addition, we have the option of whether to send up proposed legislation on the mandatory minimum sentencing and victim compensation, or suggesting amendments to S-1, which is the recodification, reform and revision of the criminal code. Either way, I would look for more specific recommendations from the Administration regarding victim compensation.

Q. Don't you think the setting of mandatory minimum sentences will encourage plea bargaining, which everybody agrees tends to undermine the judicial system?

A. It will be Justice Department policy not to permit plea bargaining in those particular crimes for which mandatory sentences have been set.

(FYI: It may be helpful for you to know that Senator Hruska, an ardent foe of gun control legislation, described the President's program regarding firearms as "right on the mark".)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM JIM REICHLEY  
SUBJECT WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Mondale charged today that in the area of white-collar crime, "the Justice Department isn't moving at all."

Actually, the Criminal Division of the Justice Department during the past year devoted more resources to white-collar crime than ever before. This year a new Public Integrity Section was created within the Criminal Division to concentrate efforts against official corruption. A special task force is now examining the mass of evidence developed in disclosures of so-called "irregular overseas payments" to determine if federal criminal prosecutions are called for.

The Justice Department's prosecution of white-collar crime would be severely hampered, according to the Criminal Division, by a bill passed by Congress and now on its way to the President, which would greatly reduce the availability of income tax returns to grand juries investigating the use of "laundered funds" in white-collar crimes. (Mondale was absent on the day the bill passed the Senate.)

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TO: JIM CAVANAUGH

September 28, 1976

FROM: JIM REICHELY

RE: DEBATE FOLLOWUP

It has been pointed out to me that in the debate Carter, as an example of the need for program and agency consolidation, made the point we now have "Medicaid through one agency, Medicare is in a different one..." This clearly implies that he would bring Medicaid and Medicare under a single administration-- a move which would be very unpopular with many recipients of Medicare.

~~XX~~

~~XX~~

Medicaid requires verification of need. Medicare benefits, in contrast, are paid out as a form of health insurance. The two programs, therefore, require different kinds of administration, and they should be separately administered. We should have some high visibility spokesman make this point.

CRIME PRESS PLAN

September 27

1. Presidential Speech to Police Chiefs
2. Barody mailing to Police Chiefs and police organizations
3. PFC distribute "Talking Paper" to Cabinet and Advocates

September 28

1. Morning Shows

Richardson  
Ruckelshaus  
Kelly

Benziger  
Assorted Police Chiefs  
Jim Thompson

2. Barody briefing for police-oriented newspapers and magazines

*Call Platterton*

