

who call for continuing the American journey of progress and renewal. If you raise your voice, the forces of change will prevail.

With your help, I'll keep speaking out for reforming health care, fighting crime, ending welfare as we know it, and improving our skills, our schools, and our future. And I'll try not to shout myself hoarse tomorrow on Super Bowl Sunday.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

### **Letter Accepting the Resignation of Philip B. Heymann as Deputy Attorney General**

*January 29, 1994*

*Dear Phil:*

It is with deep regret that I accept your resignation as Deputy Attorney General, effective upon the availability of a successor.

You brought a most impressive history of service to the Department of Justice and distinguished yourself at every turn. During your time as Deputy Attorney General, you consistently demonstrated intelligence, integrity, sound judgment, and an unyielding commitment to the cause of justice.

I am very grateful for all of your many contributions to my Administration and our nation. I wish you the very best as you return to your academic career at Harvard Law School.

Sincerely,

**Bill Clinton**

NOTE: This letter was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release.

### **Remarks to the National Governors' Association**

*January 31, 1994*

I want to thank you all again for coming. Since we're running a bit late, I want to be brief and get on to hearing from Governor Campbell and Governor Dean. The primary thing that I was hoping we could talk about in this morning's session is the crime bill.

I wanted to emphasize that I am very aware that this is an issue that historically

has been dealt with primarily at the local and State level, one that I spent an enormous amount of time on as a Governor and as attorney general.

There are things that I think should be and indeed almost have to be done at the national level. We passed the Brady bill at the end of the last session of Congress, which I think was a very important thing. And many of you were helpful in that regard, and I appreciate that. We have a number of grants to cities and communities to help with law enforcement, and we had enormous application, actually a terrific surplus of applications for the Attorney General's discretionary funds on community policing. This summer—Eli Segal is here—our summer of service program, as part of the national service this summer, will be called the summer of safety. And we hope thousands of our young people will be out there working with law enforcement people all across the country.

I really appreciate a lot of the things that all of you have done in this regard. Let me just say that the crime bill itself has a number of provisions that I think are quite important and some with which you may or may not agree. Two things that I feel very strongly about are the community policing provisions and the "three strikes and you're out" provision. I'd like to say something about each of them.

One, we know that there's been a dramatic reversal in the ratio of police officers to crime in the last 35 years. Thirty-five years ago, there were three police officers for every serious crime reported. Today, there are three crimes for every police officer, particularly in the high crime areas of the country. We have ample evidence that community policing actually works to reduce crime by having people on the block who are well-trained and know the people who live there. Dr. Lee Brown, our Director of Drug Policy, instituted community policing programs in major cities all across this country and can speak to that. The mayors were here last week. They were exceedingly enthusiastic about that provision, and we're looking forward to working with them and with you about it.

The second thing I'd like to say about stiffening the penalties is I know many of you have included versions of the "three strikes