

criminals get out of jail free. If Thomas Farmer had been convicted in State court again, he might have been out on the street again in less than 3 years. But our “three strikes and you’re out” law slammed that revolving door shut. Thomas Farmer has made a life of violent crime; now he will pay for the rest of his life behind bars where he belongs.

Thomas Farmer was the very first career criminal we put away under the “three strikes and you’re out.” But he will not be the last. Federal prosecutors already have another 16 “three strikes” cases pending around the country, including three convictions that are awaiting sentencing now.

One year ago, we overcame deep partisan differences and bitter partisan opposition to make “three strikes and you’re out” the law of the land. Now it’s time for Members of Congress to do that again, to put aside demands for ideological purity and give the American people the reforms they want, the reforms they need, the reforms they need in welfare, the reforms they need in other areas of our Government. And these reforms clearly include the antiterrorism legislation I sent to Congress after the Oklahoma City bombing.

It’s hard to imagine what more must happen to convince Congress to pass that bill. Yet partisan politics has blocked it in the House of Representatives. I call on the House to pass that antiterrorism bill when they return so we can continue to make all Americans safer.

Because of the crime bill passed a year ago, the people of Iowa are safer today, and a career criminal who haunted them for decades is off the streets for good. I’ll keep doing everything in my power to ensure that those who commit crimes are caught, those who are caught are convicted, those who are convicted are punished, and those who have made a life of crime spend the rest of their lives behind bars.

The American people deserve a justice system that reflects our values and a Government that fulfills its first responsibility, to keep Americans safe.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:21 p.m. on August 18 at the Rockefeller residence in Jackson Hole, WY, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 19.

Remarks on the Death of the American Diplomats in Bosnia-Herzegovina and an Exchange With Reporters in Jackson Hole, Wyoming
August 19, 1995

The President. Good morning. As all of you know by now, we lost some fine Americans in Bosnia in a terrible accident a few hours ago, working for the cause of peace there. I have spoken with Dick Holbrooke and with General Clark in Sarajevo, and of course, with Secretary of State Christopher and Deputy Secretary Talbott. I have received a full account of what occurred. I am convinced that it was a tragic accident.

I am very grateful for the service that these fine men have rendered to their country and to the world. And I am encouraged by the determination of their colleagues to continue on. Within a matter of moments from now, Secretary Holbrooke and General Clark will continue with a scheduled meeting with President Izetbegovic to press for the cause of peace. I expect them then to come home with their comrades and, after a few days, to return to press the peace mission again vigorously.

This is a sad and tragic day for the families of the men who were killed, and Hillary and I, and I’m sure all Americans, send our prayers and our thoughts to them and our profound gratitude for their service. I think the American people would have been very proud of the response of their colleagues today in the wake of this incident. And I am very grateful for the continued determination of Secretary Holbrooke and General Clark to continue on the peace mission.

Q. Mr. President, as far as you’re concerned, there’s no need to stop the U.S. efforts to seek a diplomatic solution; this won’t in any way affect that?

The President. No, I hope it will intensify it. The men who gave their lives—these were immensely talented, patriotic Americans who were profoundly concerned with what the war in Bosnia has done to the people there

and what it means for the values of decency and freedom and peace. And I would think that the thing that they would want us most to do is to press ahead, and that is what we intend to do.

Q. You're convinced there was no foul play involved?

The President. Based on everything we know from the—I have now—I talked to Secretary Holbrooke and General Clark, who were virtual eye witnesses, and they say there's no evidence of that.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:10 a.m. at the Teton Pine Golf Club. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gen. Wesley K. Clark, USA, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff, and Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs.

Statement on the Death of the American Diplomats in Bosnia-Herzegovina

August 19, 1995

I am deeply saddened by the deaths today of three dedicated Americans serving the cause of peace, near Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. We have confirmed reports that Ambassador Robert Frasure, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs; Dr. Joseph J. Kruzel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for European and NATO Policy; and Air Force Colonel Samuel Nelson Drew, a member of the National Security Council staff, were killed this morning in a crash of their military vehicle on the way to Sarajevo. Two other members of the delegation were injured. These men were part of an American team searching for an end to the conflict there. That effort will continue.

In addition, one French soldier was killed and two were injured; the three were part of the team escorting the delegation.

I also want to thank the Government of France and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) for their extraordinary efforts to care for the casualties.

My heartfelt sympathy is extended to the Frasure, Kruzel, and Drew families. In honor of their sacrifice, I have directed that our

Nation's flags be lowered. Their loved ones were engaged in the greatest cause of all—the search for peace. As the Scripture tells us, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

Proclamation 6817—Death of Those in the U.S. Delegation in Bosnia-Herzegovina

August 19, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As a mark of respect for those who died as a result of the tragic accident near Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, which occurred August 19, 1995, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America by section 175 of title 36 of the United States Code, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset, Wednesday, August 23, 1995. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:48 a.m., August 21, 1995]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on August 22.