thing. A lot of you have been out there like
the little Dutch boy with your thumb in the
dike against all these forces for years. A lot
of you have been doing these things. A lot of
you have run the day care centers and run the
recreation programs and run the prison min-
istries and counseled the young people. You
have done this. But America now knows that
we must all do this.

So I say, I honor you. I honor the members
of your church that get up and go to work
every day and follow the law and pay their taxes
and do their best to raise their kids. And let
us say for the record, since all America is watch-
ing this, most of the members of your church
do exactly that. They play by the rules, and
they work hard, and they do their best.

But let’s not kid each other, folks. I’m going
to go back to Washington. And I’ll keep trying
to create jobs. And we’ll do a good job of that.
And we’ll open America to the world. I’ll keep
working for peace and freedom around the
world. I’ll keep working for better education
and training opportunities. I’ll keep trying to
solve this terrible riddle of why we can’t get
jobs in the inner city and poor rural areas. And
we’ll try to find ways to do that. But in the
end, if we’re going to get the rhythm right,
if we’re going to enjoy the progress we’re mak-
ing, even in an imperfect world, we have to
get the bedrock right. We have to know that
the spirit that we believe in is rifling through
this country and is going to work.

You know, Paul, St. Paul, was not Timothy’s
father, but he was his spiritual father. And he
said, “When I call to remembrance the uns-
feigned faith that is in thee, I put thee in re-
membrance that thou stir up the gift of God
which is in thee.” I believe and you believe
that every child has a gift of God within them.
When the gift dies, it is our sin as well as
their and our loss as well as theirs.

So let us leave here resolved to stir up the
gift of God that is within us and do those things
that will enable us to go forward with joy and
confidence to make the future what it ought
to be.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:10 a.m. in the
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. In his re-
marks, he referred to National Baptist Conven-
tion, U.S.A., officers Rev. Theodore J. Jemison,
President, Rev. Henry J. Lyons, President-elect,
Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson, General secretary,
Rev. A. Lincoln James, Sunday School Congress
President, and Dr. Mary O. Ross, Women’s Aux-
iliary President; Mayor Marc H. Morial of New Or-
leans; and Rev. Jesse Jackson, District of Colum-
bia shadow U.S. Senator.

Statement on the Cuba-United States Agreement on Migration
September 9, 1994

This agreement, when carried out, will help
ensure that the massive flow of dangerous and
illegal migration will be replaced by a safer,
legal, and more orderly process.

NOTE: This statement was included in a statement
by the Press Secretary announcing the agreement
reached in the New York migration talks.

Memorandum on the 1994 Combined Federal Campaign
September 9, 1994

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive
Departments and Agencies

I am delighted that Secretary of Energy Hazel
R. O’Leary has agreed to serve as the chair
of the 1994 Combined Federal Campaign of
the National Capital Area. I ask you to support
the campaign by personally chairing the cam-
paign in your Agency and appointing a top official
as your vice chair.
The Combined Federal Campaign is an important way for Federal employees to support thousands of worthy charities. This year our goal is to raise more than $38 million. Public servants not only contribute to the campaign but assume leadership roles to ensure its success.

Your personal support and enthusiasm will help guarantee another successful campaign this year.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The President’s Radio Address
September 10, 1994

Good morning. Let me begin by saying that Hillary and I send our deepest sympathies and our prayers to the friends and loved ones of the 132 people killed in the air crash near Pittsburgh on Thursday. I know all Americans will send their thoughts and prayers to the grieving this weekend. Meanwhile, we’re working to get to the bottom of what happened in the crash, and we’re working to continue to assure the safety of American passengers.

All across our country this week, Americans came back from vacation. Our children are back in school, and for many families this is what they regard as the real new year. As we get back to the business of our lives, it’s a good time to stop and think about the work we have ahead of us as a nation.

Unfortunately, that work includes a stark fact about our children. Too many of them are growing up in fear. All too many are growing up without the values of mainstream society, without knowing the difference between what’s right and wrong, and without believing that it makes a difference whether they do right or wrong.

By now, nearly all of us know the story of Robert Sandifer, known as Yummy to his friends. He was first arrested when he was 8 years old. A couple of weeks ago, when he was only 11, he became a suspect in the gang shooting of an innocent girl named Shavon Dean. Several days later, that boy died himself in what Chicago police say was yet another gang-related killing.

The number of gang homicides has nearly tripled since 1980 in Robert and Shavon’s hometown. And all across America, too many decent people have felt the anguish of losing a child to the meaness of the streets. At younger and younger ages, boys and girls are turning to gangs and to guns.

For a child without an involved family, a gang offers a feeling of belonging. For a young person without options for tomorrow, a gang offers a sense of purpose. For anyone born in a home barred and chained off from danger, life on the streets seems like a taste of freedom they’ve never known.

But America knows how to use its freedom better than that. We see it every day in big cities and small towns as Americans do come together to take up their responsibilities and to put the spirit of community to work. And I believe we have many opportunities right now to do just that and to turn around the scourge of violence in the lives of our children.

Much of that work begins with what each of us can do as caring Americans. Today I’ll sign a proclamation designating next week as National Gang Violence Prevention Week. I’m asking Americans to address this profound problem, each of them in their hometowns, to save a generation of our children. Every parent, every teacher, every person who has the chance to influence children must force a change in the lives of our kids. We have to show them we love them, and we have to teach them discipline and responsibility. Robert Sandifer’s grandmother despaired at his funeral because, she said, “I couldn’t reach you.” We must keep doing everything we can to reach those children. And we must help them respect the law and keep them safe.

Next week I’ll sign into law the historic crime bill that will be a tough but smart tool in every community’s fight for our children’s safety. It’ll punish hardened young criminals with stronger penalties, and it will expand boot camps, drug courts, and other sanctions to stop first-time offenders from beginning lives of crime. It bans 19 assault weapons and goes a long way toward...