

TRANSNATIONAL CRIME CONFERENCE
REMARKS OF AMBASSADOR MONDALE
JUNE 27, 1995

I AM HONORED TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO BE WITH YOU TODAY. I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO SEE MR. KUNIMATSU WITH US THIS MORNING. I KNOW THAT EVERYONE HERE THIS MORNING SHARES MY ADMIRATION FOR MR. KUNIMATSU'S BRAVERY AND DEDICATED PURSUIT OF JUSTICE. MR. KUNIMATSU, WE ARE ALL DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE BACK ON YOUR FEET AND THAT YOU COULD BE HERE AT THE OPENING OF THIS CONFERENCE ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME.

I ALSO WANT TO WELCOME MS. JAN BLANTON OF THE U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND I WANT TO INTRODUCE JOHN MARKEY, THE U.S. CUSTOMS ATTACH HERE IN TOKYO. MR. MARKEY WILL BE SPEAKING LATER THIS MORNING AND I KNOW THAT YOU WILL BENEFIT BY WORKING CLOSELY WITH HIM BOTH IN THE COURSE OF THIS CONFERENCE AND AFTER.

TERRORISM IS THE SINGLE MOST FRIGHTENING AND SERIOUS THREAT FACING THE CITIZENS OF OUR TWO NATIONS TODAY. SIMPLE ACTIVITIES WE ONCE TOOK FOR GRANTED -- FLYING ON AN AIRPLANE, TAKING THE SUBWAY TO WORK, WALKING INTO A GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING TO TRANSACT ORDINARY BUSINESS -- HAVE NOW BECOME DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES FOR OUR CITIZENS. IN JAPAN, THE CRIMES THAT MEMBERS OF THE AUM CULT HAVE CONFESSED TO -- FROM THE GASSING OF INNOCENT PEOPLE ON THE SUBWAY TO THE KIDNAPPING AND MURDER OF LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS -- ARE DEEPLY DISTURBING TO US ALL. IN MY COUNTRY, THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND THE RECENT BOMBING OF A U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING IN OKLAHOMA CITY ARE SHOCKING. I OFTEN THINK OF THE MOTHERS AND FATHERS OF SOME OF THOSE CHILDREN WHO DIED IN THE DAY CARE CENTER IN THAT BUILDING IN OKLAHOMA CITY. WHAT ARE WE TO MAKE OF THESE TIMES WHEN WE SEEM UNABLE TO PREVENT SUCH VIOLENCE?

I BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. WE CAN DEFEND OUR CITIZENS FROM LAWLESSNESS IN OUR SOCIETY. WE CAN MAKE THE WORLD A SAFER PLACE FOR OUR GRANDCHILDREN.

TO DO SO, WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST CRIME -- WHETHER IT INVOLVES TERRORISM, NARCOTICS, MONEY LAUNDERING, OR ARMS TRAFFICKING. THE

GLOBALIZATION OF CRIME DEMANDS THAT WE GLOBALIZE OUR RESPONSE. TERRORISM IS NO LONGER SOMETHING THAT THREATENS OTHER PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. WHEN TERROR STRIKES, WHETHER IN JAPAN, AMERICA, OR ELSEWHERE, IT AFFECTS US ALL. IF SARIN IS A TERRORIST WEAPON IN JAPAN, THEN IT CAN BE USED AS A WEAPON ANYWHERE. IF COLOMBIAN DRUG LORDS CARRY OUT ASSASSINATIONS IN COLOMBIA AND IN THE U.S., THEN THEY ARE CAPABLE OF MURDER AND SUBVERTING THE RULE OF LAW ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. MODERN DAY CRIMINALS HAVE EXPANDED THEIR GLOBAL REACH AND TODAY ALL NATIONS ARE VULNERABLE.

THIS IS WHY THIS CONFERENCE ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME IS SO IMPORTANT. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, HIGH LEVEL EXPERTS FROM BOTH THE U.S. AND JAPAN ARE GETTING TOGETHER TO JOINTLY ADDRESS TRANSNATIONAL CRIME. YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO SHARE IDEAS AND INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES, AND TO PLAN FOR GREATER COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE. WHAT YOU ACCOMPLISH IN THIS CONFERENCE OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS IS CRITICAL TO OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO THE GLOBALIZATION OF CRIME.

IN ONE SENSE, DEMOCRACIES ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO TRANSNATIONAL CRIME. THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL ABUSES OUR RESPECT FOR LIBERTY, FOR INDIVIDUAL PRIVACY, AND FOR FREEDOM FROM EXCESSIVE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION. THE ANSWER IS NOT THAT WE MUST CURTAIL THESE RIGHTS, BUT RATHER THAT WE MUST WORK HARD TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS AND AT THE SAME TIME RELENTLESSLY PURSUE THE CRIMINAL ELEMENTS IN OUR SOCIETY.

ALONG WITH THE GLOBALIZATION OF CRIME, WE ARE ALSO WITNESSING GREATER SOPHISTICATION IN CRIMINAL METHODS. NOWADAYS, INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS ARE AS LIKELY TO STRIKE AT OUR ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS AND INDUSTRIES AS THEY ARE TO ATTACK INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS ARE ORGANIZED TO PROTECT THEIR ILLICIT MARKETS FROM THE POINT OF MANUFACTURE TO THE POINTS OF DISTRIBUTION. MONEY LAUNDERING IS GETTING HARDER TO TRACE. EACH YEAR, SOME \$850 BILLION DOLLARS IN ILLICIT PROFIT IS THOUGHT TO MOVE ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS.

THERE IS NO SATISFACTORY WAY TO MEASURE THE COST TO OUR SOCIETIES OF THE CRIMES THAT YOU WILL BE ADDRESSING AT THIS CONFERENCE. NO DOLLAR VALUE CAN BE ASSIGNED TO TRUST, TO INTEGRITY, TO HONEST GOVERNMENT, TO FAITH IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO MEASURE THE PAIN AND DEGRADATION THAT CRIME AND ADDICTION CAN LEAVE IN THEIR WAKE.

I APPLAUD THE EFFORTS THAT YOU ARE MAKING, THROUGH THIS CONFERENCE, TO REACH ACROSS THE PACIFIC AND TO BATTLE TRANSNATIONAL CRIME TOGETHER. WHILE OUR SOCIETIES AND OUR LAWS MAY DIFFER, OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES MUST OVERCOME THESE DIFFERENCES AND COORDINATE CLOSELY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME. WE NEED TO COOPERATE. WE NEED TO SHARE INTELLIGENCE. WE NEED TO HARMONIZE OUR LEGISLATION TO MAKE US EACH MORE EFFECTIVE.

THIS CONFERENCE GIVES ME GREAT HOPE. I UNDERSTAND THAT OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS YOU WILL DRAFT A COMMON ISSUES PAPER AND SET UP A JOINT TRANSNATIONAL CRIME-FIGHTING TASK FORCE. I HOPE THAT THIS CAN BE MADE A PERMANENT TASK FORCE. THIS FALL, THE PROCESS THAT YOU WILL HAVE STARTED HERE WILL GET ANOTHER BOOST FROM A FOLLOW-ON MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. I WISH YOU THE GREATEST SUCCESS IN ALL OF THESE ENDEAVORS.

AMERICA AND JAPAN SHARE A VISION FOR THE FUTURE. WE WANT OUR CITIZENS TO LIVE IN A SAFE WORLD. WE WANT A SECURE AND STABLE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT. WE WANT PROSPERITY FOR THIS GENERATION AND THE NEXT. JUST AS WE MUST WORK TOGETHER IN EVERY OTHER ASPECT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, I KNOW THAT IF WE WORK TOGETHER TO FIGHT TRANSNATIONAL CRIME, THEN SURELY OUR SHARED VISION WILL COME TRUE.

THANK YOU.



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