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# Crime - Technology

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|---|---|---|---|
| 001. memo | Phone No. (Partial) (1 page) | 01/24/1998 | P6/b(6) |

**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Elena Kagan
OA/Box Number: 14358

**FOLDER TITLE:**
Crime - Technology

2009-1006-F
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**RESTRICTION CODES**

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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Crime - technology

# THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION: BUILDING A SAFER AMERICA

May 19, 1998

*"If we are going to fight the criminals of the future, we need to develop the crime fighting tools of the future. We must put the best possible tools in the hands of our law enforcement community so they can quickly and effectively identify, apprehend, and prosecute criminals."*

Vice President Al Gore
May 19, 1998

Today, Vice President Al Gore joins Attorney General Janet Reno, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Energy Secretary Federico Peña in announcing the "Partnership for a Safer America", a cooperative effort amongst the Departments of Justice, Treasury, and Energy to share cutting-edge law enforcement technologies.

**WORKING TOWARD A SAFER AMERICA.** Ensuring that all Americans are safe in their homes and communities requires constant innovation from law enforcement. While the crime rate in America has dropped consistently for six years, the Administration continues to develop ways to give law enforcement officials the tools they need to keep our streets safe. The Partnership for a Safer America will give federal, state, and local law enforcement officials the opportunity to access cutting edge technology being developed by the Department of Energy.

**CRIME FIGHTING TECHNOLOGY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.** Today's announcement will provide police officers with new techniques to fight crime, including:

- Team Leader: Multimedia Data Collection and Communication System: This device gives officers enormous flexibility when investigating crime scenes. The Team Leader gives officers the ability to communicate, transmit, and receive evidence from other investigators, make voice and digital video recordings, scan evidence through a digital barcoding system which can be accessed by other Team Leader members, and forward all of this information to remote locations or site locations where other aspects of the investigation are ongoing.

- Computer Forensics Technology: The Department of Energy's national laboratory offers assistance to law enforcement officials who investigate computer-related crimes. With the laboratory's assistance, law enforcement officials have investigated and prosecuted criminals engaged in cellular phone fraud, Internet pedophilia, and the theft of trade secrets from NASA.

- Radiation Detection Devices: The Department of Energy has already begun a collaborative effort to assist the Customs Agency in the detection and prevention of radioactive material which might be transported across our borders, or through our airports and seaports. This partnership also encompasses private sector firms who are working with the Energy Department to develop pager-size radiation detectors and a radiation alarm which can be attached to luggage scanners at airports.

**BUILDING ON A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.** The Administration has made crime fighting a top priority. Since the passage of the President's Crime Bill in 1994, funding for 73,000 new police officers has been approved; an estimated 300,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers have been denied guns under the Brady Bill; and the importation and manufacture of 19 different assault weapons has been banned. With today's announcement, the Administration continues its commitment to a safer America.

Crime - technology



cc: EK
Jose
Tom
+ return

**The Secretary of Energy**
Washington, DC 20585
January 22, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR BRUCE REED
MICHAEL WALDMAN
RAHM EMANUEL

FROM: FEDERICO PEÑA

SUBJECT: STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS:
SCIENCE FOR A SAFE AMERICA

I previously shared with Bruce a memo on crime and drug interdiction technology that has been developed by the U.S. Department of Energy. In that memo, which is attached, I suggested that the Department's technological innovations and long history of supporting U.S. crime-fighting agencies could form the basis for a new crime initiative by the Administration.

I would like to recommend that President Clinton include such an initiative, called "Science for a Safe America," as part of his 1998 State of the Union address. It would have two components, both of which build on the technological capabilities found in our National Laboratories. The first focuses on Federal crime-fighting efforts, is *ready to go*, and can serve as a framework for additional efforts. The second component addresses local crime-fighting needs and is already running, albeit on a very small pilot-scale, through our Laboratories. A new investment of Federal funding will be required to expand this second component into a coordinated initiative to address local crime-fighting efforts throughout the country.

1. Federal Law Enforcement: *DOE/FBI Memorandum of Understanding*. The Department of Energy and the FBI have negotiated an MOU that establishes an innovative partnership to bring the best in science and technology to the fight against crime, particularly terrorism and cyber attacks. Through the MOU, we would provide leading-edge technologies, developed for our own internal needs, to the FBI for use in analysis of crime scenes and evaluation of evidence. Some examples include:

   * "Chemistry lab-in-a-box," which was developed out of our Human Genome and Advanced Technologies efforts and would immediately bring technical analysis tools currently found in large laboratories directly to the crime scene. Having this analytical capability will permit the FBI to acquire evidence for an arrest or search warrant in a more timely manner. It will also support tactical operations associated with environmental crimes and drug activities.

   * Advanced lasers and algorithms developed for defense needs capable of analyzing chemicals at a crime scene would enable the FBI to fingerprint an entire crime scene and retrieve more evidence than previously possible. Unlike current technology, this laser technique will work outside in broad daylight and is capable of scanning larger areas without contaminating the crime scene.

   This component would bring DOE technologies to Federal crime fighting efforts and could be expanded to other agencies in the future (Treasury and Justice, in particular).

The MOU is ready to be signed and could be done with the President or Vice President.

II. Local Law Enforcement: *Bringing High Technology to the Streets*. This would be a two-year pilot effort involving four of our National Laboratories (Oak Ridge in Tennessee, Los Alamos and Sandia in New Mexico, and Pacific Northwest in Washington State). The key to this effort is that it is already underway. Local law enforcement agencies across the country currently rely on our National Laboratories for assistance. We see an opportunity for the Administration to formalize these crime-fighting activities and build upon their considerable success. This component would utilize the unique resources of the Department of Energy's National Laboratories to:

* Develop crime-fighting technologies that are unavailable anywhere else in the world. This would include protections against cyber attacks, computational tools based on our supercomputers, and cutting edge technologies (lasers, foam weapons, etc.) that previously were only available to the U.S. defense community. The computational tools developed by our Laboratories can be used by local law enforcement agencies to review large quantities of historical data and records to locate hidden associations of facts. An example of this was the review of 250 FBI files associated with the UNABOMBER case.

* Solve crimes that no other Agency can handle. Recent examples include using our information technology expertise to track down sexual predators on the Internet and producing a clear copy of the 911 call made by Nicole Brown Simpson for the O.J. Simpson prosecution team.

* Train local law enforcement at our world-class facilities using 50 years of knowledge acquired while protecting the Nation's nuclear weapons arsenal and production complex.

As one example of how this effort would work, Oak Ridge's Center for Applied Science and Technology for Law Enforcement (CASTLE) was created in 1995 to provide Southeast U.S. law enforcement agencies with a quick response when they needed technological solutions. Since then, CASTLE has helped solve over 50 crimes, provided specialized equipment and technical support for police operations, fielded new technologies, and trained anti-terrorist squads.

Funding: An investment of $12 million in new Federal funding for each of two years would allow these four National Laboratories ($3 million per lab per year) to develop a program that would cover all 50 States. A more modest initial effort of $4 million per year would allow these Laboratories to reach out to approximately 20 States.

As a final note, our National Laboratories have been meeting regularly with representatives from private sector security firms. They support this concept because they believe the Department's National Laboratories could play a much stronger role in U.S. crime-fighting activities.

Please let me, or my Chief of Staff, Elgie Holstein, know if either or both parts of this proposal are potentially useful for the President's State of the Union address.

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Crime - technology

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Michael Waldman, Bruce Reed, *Rahm Emmanuel* & Paul Begala

**From:** Kent Markus [202/514-3008 (o); P6/(b)(6) (h)]

**Subject:** DOJ SOTU Thoughts (faxed -- 2pp. total)

**Date:** January 24, 1998

Hopefully, this falls in the category of better late than never; .views of various DOJ principals and components are below:

1) Our highest priority is that the speech NOT include any announcement about the management of southwest border issues that has not been specifically reviewed and approved by the Attorney General. If there is an intent to discuss this matter in the speech, we ask that you rely only on representations from someone at DOJ for the proposition that DOJ has signed off on any given proposal -- obviously, we've had difficulty in this area.

2) The Attorney General's fondest wish -- expressed to me on several occasions in the last week -- is that the speech include a reference to an initiative of hers (no credit to her needed) with which I believe only Bruce is familiar. For some time, the AG has been leading a multi-agency project (currently, 12 cabinet level agencies are involved) known as the Federal Support for Communities Initiative (FSCI). The thrust of this ReGo-esque initiative is to try to improve the way the federal government provides assistance (both financial and human resource) to communities. Currently, the federal government provides assistance that local communities can't find out about, can't get because of cumbersome/unnecessary regulations, can't access when they need it in their budget cycle, can't use for the purpose they need it although one would expect they could, etc.

The FSCI seeks to organize information about available federal assistance according to subject area rather than organizing information as we generally do now -- by administering agency. A community would then be able to find out about, for example, all job training programs whether administered by Labor, Education, HUD, Defense, Agriculture, Americorps, Commerce, Veterans' Affairs, or some other agency. But in addition to improving the information available to communities, the FSCI is also involved in seeking to assist communities gain access to federal resources in the manner most useful to them.

In the after-school part of the child care package, the President already announced that FSCI (without using the name of the project) would be assisting communities trying to access and make the best use of the many different after school program federal funding streams. This is only the first of efforts in a number of different areas to work with communities in helping them get and use the assistance the federal government has for them. As noted above, the AG would sincerely appreciate any reference to this overall effort somewhere in the speech.

3) Crime. We assume that the standards items will receive mention: declining crime rates, 70,000 of the 100,000 cops funded, a push for the passage of juvenile justice/youth violence legislation and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act this session, and, of

course, Brady (more than 300,000 prohibited purchases blocked and the fact that since the Supreme Court said that state and local governments could volunteer to do Brady checks but couldn't be required to do so, law enforcement officials in every state, covering more than 99% of the population of the United States, have stepped up to voluntarily conduct Brady checks because law enforcement officials know that Brady checks prevent crime).

We'd like to encourage one crime "theme" which will serve us well all year if established in the SOTU: 21st century crime fighting will be about effective use of technology and information. There are several reasons we believe it would be good to set out "technology and information" as our next crime fighting emphasis.

First, from a policy standpoint, once we've deployed 100,000 new cops, we'll have met the major human resource need in crime fighting -- the challenge is already becoming the effective use of technology to maximize the value of that human resource commitment. Second, there are dozens of crime fighting technology and information initiatives contained in the President's budget and otherwise underway at DOJ and elsewhere. Establishing a technology and information crime fighting theme in the SOTU will give us a message hook we can use all year as we roll out initiative after initiative. Finally, law enforcement would love to hear the President emphasize the importance of technology and information in crime-fighting -- it's critical to them.

Examples of some of the technology and information efforts underway which may play out this year include:

- improved DNA labs
- the development of prototype "smart guns", "remote gun detectors", and "alert cars"
- the development of new x-ray technology for the detection of smuggling at borders
- new crime mapping and statistical software which permits strategic crime-fighting
- improved computer tracking of sex offenders, gun running, and gang activity
- the development of the national IAFIS (digitized fingerprints) system
- the implementation of the National Instant Check System for running Brady background checks (by law, November 1998)
- improved documentation authentication technology for catching illegal aliens
- improved criminal history records systems in the states -- used for charging decisions, sentencing decisions, officer safety determinations, and a range of other purposes
- the continued development of "less than lethal" weapons for use by law enforcement
- the opening of the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, SC in April at which federal and state prosecutors from across the country will be trained
- dozens of reports that invariably come out from our grant bureaus which can help emphasize the information part of a "technology and information" theme, showing that we're fighting crime smarter and smarter all the time.

Hope there's some stuff here that's useful to you! Call if I can provide needed detail.

■

Crime - technology

cc: Rahm
Jose
Leanne
Tom
EK

**The Secretary of Energy**
Washington, DC 20585

September 5, 1997

Good toys!
BR

MEMORANDUM FOR BRUCE REED
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR DOMESTIC POLICY

FROM: FEDERICO PEÑA

RE: **Crime and Drug Interdiction Technology**

As you may know, the Department of Energy's national laboratories are some of the nation's primary incubators of technology development and deployment. Some of this technology can be used to tackle crime and improve drug interdiction.

We believe many of these technologies could be the basis for a White House event featuring the President or Vice President. For example, the establishment of a pilot program to disseminate new technologies to regional law enforcement officials could provide a hook. In addition, we are entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to develop technologies (such as lasers and chemical analyzers) that will help law enforcement officials keep one step ahead of increasingly sophisticated criminals and terrorists. Under the Memorandum of Understanding, the FBI will identify areas requiring technical assistance and the Department of Energy will provide leading-edge technologies to address these concerns. This cooperative effort to increase law enforcement capabilities is consistent with the goals of the National Performance Review and also might be appropriate for a White House event.

The various items presented here could be combined in almost any manner to ensure that they form an effective public event. We would be happy to work with you in almost any manner to ensure that they form an effective public event, if you think it appropriate.

**Background:** As criminals get smarter and crimes get more complex -- particularly financial and drug-related crimes -- traditional law enforcement technologies are proving to be inadequate. New technologies are needed, and some of them are being developed in DOE's national laboratories. Many of these technologies initially were designed to secure DOE's nuclear weapons production facilities or were produced as special projects for other Federal agencies or private firms that wanted to make use of the vast technological capabilities of the laboratories. We are finding, however, that these technologies have wide applicability in fighting crime. Moreover, the positive responses we are receiving from law enforcement officials at all levels (State, local, and Federal) indicate to us that the DOE labs have created unique products that meet market needs.

For example, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory has formed an alliance (the Center for Applied Science and Technology for Law Enforcement, or CASTLE) in the Southeast that involves the lab, local and Federal law enforcement agencies, and private companies to meet the technology needs of law enforcement, corporate security, and public safety. This alliance has been effective in developing technologies and training programs that have led to the arrests of criminals and greatly expanded law enforcement capabilities. Some success stories include the first long-term detection of fingerprints left by children (previously, the fingerprints were too faint to detect after 24 hours), and the use of high-powered supercomputers to greatly enhance the depiction of a person's face based on skeletal remains.

**New Technologies Available for Law Enforcement:** The following is a sampling of DOE-sponsored technologies that may have useful applications in law enforcement. Some of these technologies are already in use, some are being tested, and some are still on the laboratory workbench. However, all the ones listed are advanced enough to provide demonstrations of their capabilities.

*Crime Control*

- DOE provides numerous training and other support programs for law enforcement officers, including weapons systems analysis, weapons training, and site security analysis. Weapons training facilities operated by DOE in Albuquerque and Oak Ridge have been made available to Federal, State and local law enforcement officials in the Southwest and Southeast U.S. A new firing range and "shoot house" that will be opened soon in Colorado will also be made available to nearby law enforcement officials.

- DOE has developed new methods of detecting weapons that enable police to determine the size, location, and number of weapons being carried by an individual in a non-invasive manner. These methods are a vast improvement over traditional metal detectors in terms of capability and accuracy.

- A DOE laboratory has developed ways to detect and identify fingerprints long after traditional methods have failed. This technology helped solve a multiple murder case.

- DOE has developed methods to prevent and withstand attacks on computer systems (cyber-attacks) that have applications in both the public and private sector.

- DOE has developed a heartbeat detection system that can be used to locate people hidden in vehicles or containers. This technology has already been installed in

several prisons to prevent escapes and has been selected for a 1997 R&D 100 award.

- DOE has developed a new type of frangible non-lead ammunition that avoids the environmental problems associated with lead ammunition. Because the ammunition is "frangible" (breaks apart when it strikes a hard surface), there is a significantly reduced potential for collateral damage. This ammunition is an improvement over existing types of ammunition.

- DOE has developed a high-energy compact cartridge, where the projectile is a slug of water that can be fired at various velocities, selected by the person shooting the cartridge. This provides the shooter with the choice of selecting lethal or non-lethal speeds, depending on the situation encountered.

- DOE has developed a cooled bullet-proof vest, which should reduce the discomfort associated with wearing a bullet-proof vest in hot and humid conditions.

*Drug Interdiction*

- DOE technology has been used to detect and sample chemicals used to produce illegal drugs (sol gel technology) and to detect traces of illegal drugs on surfaces and in body fluids (ion trap mass spectrometry).

- DOE has developed gravitational gradient detection methods that can be used to discover tunnels, such as the one North Korea constructed to South Korea and tunnels used by drug runners on the Mexican border.

- Doe has developed electric line noise analysis techniques that can be used to find devices used in the drug trade, such as money counters and grow lights.

- DOE has worked with the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Customs Service to develop prototype airfield monitor and defense radar systems that can more readily detect aircraft illegally entering the U.S.

- DOE is working on developing analytical devices that can duplicate (and perhaps exceed) the capabilities of drug-sniffing dogs.

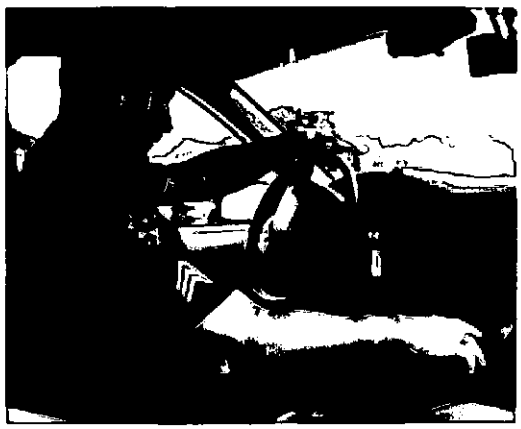
Please let me know if you think that some of these technologies and/or the Memorandum of Understanding with the FBI could be molded into an appropriate White House event. If you wish to discuss these ideas further, please call me or Elgie Holstein, my Chief of Staff, at 586-6210.

crime-technology

Tom –
This was paired out at last week's crime meeting. How are we doing on the law enforcement / technology conference? Elena

# ALERT™

*Advanced Law Enforcement & Response Technology*



*A single touch screen computer controls all of a vehicle's emergency response functions, including lights and sirens, video cameras, GPS, radio and radar.*

*The ALERT ™ handheld computer enables officers to enter data electronically at the scene. All necessary citation and accident forms are stored electronically within the handheld unit.*


*For more information about this project, please contact:*

**Joan Taige or Jenny Beasley**
Texas Transportation Institute
**phone: (409) 845-3635**
*or see our Web site at:*
**http://alert.tamu.edu**


Safety, data acquisition, and incident management are among the top concerns of law enforcement and other first responders. But current systems fail to effectively meet these needs. Paperwork consumes an inordinate amount of an officer's time. The drawn-out process of reporting, filing and organizing criminal and traffic records often results in unreliable, outdated information. And no single system simplifies coordination and information sharing among EMS, fire and police at the scene of major incidents.

**ALERT** ™ is changing all that. With support from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Institute of Justice and the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Texas Transportation Institute is developing the Advanced Law Enforcement & Response Technology (**ALERT** ™). The system enhances officer safety and efficiency, streamlines data collection and sharing, and improves communication between law enforcement and the entire first response community.

## Public Safety Technology for the 21st Century

**ALERT** ™ is an integrated system designed to enhance officer safety and streamline data management by simplifying data collection, vehicle control and communications.

## Enhancing Officer Safety

A single touch screen interface is designed to provide constant one-touch access to vital vehicle controls. With the touch of a button, **ALERT** ™ enables the officer to initiate the vehicle's pursuit mode, setting into motion a preprogrammed sequence of events. Lights, siren and video camera turn on, the VCR starts recording and the Global Positioning System (GPS) begins recording vehicle coordinates. The officer is instantly free to focus on the task at hand.

Lights and sirens, video cameras, GPS, radio and radar are among the many emergency systems that can be controlled by the touch screen. The result is a clean cockpit free of the numerous control devices that become hazardous in the event vehicle air bags deploy.

## Streamlining Data Collection and Sharing

A pen-based, handheld computer allows officers to enter data electronically at the scene. All necessary citation and accident forms are stored electronically within the handheld unit. So rather than using a series of paper forms, the officer enters information directly into the computer, reducing the number of errors resulting from illegible handwriting and repetitious data entry. In addition, a software-editing feature helps pinpoint errors as data is entered. Depending on the complexity of the incident, officers can expect to cut their data collection time by 20 to 50 percent. Meanwhile, data delivered to state and local databases and judges is more readable and accurate.

The **ALERT** ™ system currently uses CDPD or data-over-radio digital communications and wireless LAN to share information, including digitized images. Data can be transmitted between the handheld unit and the vehicle, the vehicle and other **ALERT** ™ vehicles in the field, and between the vehicle and dispatch. Ultimately, the **ALERT** ™ system could be installed in all types of first response vehicles, enabling all first responders to share information among vehicles and data collection devices.

Finally, a tool to streamline data collection and provide first responders with a safer, more productive work environment. **ALERT** ™: the essential tool for the public safety community.

ALERT™: PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
IMPROVING DATA VALUE • ENHANCING OFFICER SAFETY
STRENGTHENING INCIDENT MANAGEMENT


*The **ALERT** ™ project is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, and supported by the National Institute of Justice and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.*

TTI/ITEC.7-97.3M

# ADVANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TECHNOLOGY (ALERT)

The Advanced law Enforcement Response Technology (ALERT) program, is developing a computer-based system for controlling the vehicle functions, communications, and digital information management for numerous public safety vehicle operations.

The ALERT system features a compact computer with a touch screen control that eliminates numerous controls, switches, and other hardware from the cockpit of a public safety and public services vehicle. As an example, ALERT, installed in a police car application will control the vehicle light, siren, radar, and radio while signaling vehicle position and providing a means to receive fingerprint identification information and mug shots over a radio frequency link. The ALERT system is being designed to be transferrable among vehicles and have a standard interface. This will make it easily compatible with a host of peripheral systems, including radios; radar; GPS and GIS displays; bar code, mag stripe and fingerprint scanners; digital cameras; infra-red systems and numerous other digital devices. ALERT in an incident management role, will permit cross-jurisdictional command, control and communications among fire, rescue, hazmat, police and other public safety and public service functions.

The ALERT vehicle initial phase is complete and the system is being tested and evaluated. The two prototype police vehicles are currently being displayed and demonstrated throughout the United States at public safety conferences and seminars. A strategic plan is being developed to implement test beds where five ALERT vehicles will be placed in specific geographical locations for further testing and evaluation with system development continuing during the test bed stage. A commercialization plan is being developed to assist in getting the system into the marketplace.

## The role of NIJ and ALERT

The mission of the National Institute of Justices' Office of Science and Technology, is to provide state and local law enforcement and corrections agencies access to the best technologies available to help them develop capabilities essential to the improvement of efficiency and effectiveness in every aspect of the criminal justice system. In carrying out its mission, NIJ has partnered with the Department of Transportation to provide funding, technical assistance and commercialization support for the implementation of the ALERT program.

**FUNDING:**

There are currently two ALERT prototype platforms in existence which are used primarily for proof of concept and showcasing. On the horizon is a series of five test beds with ALERT technology, to undergo real time functional testing in a variety of scenarios dealing with; technical support, normal component maintenance, user acceptance, various configuration testing, training,

infrastructure support and cost effectiveness. NIJ through an Interagency Agreement between NIJ and the Department of Transportation (DOT), will be funding $250,000 in FY 97. These funds will provide for the contribution of five prototype police vehicles equipped with ALERT technology to support one of the five test beds.

**SHOWCASING:**

Project ALERT has gained a great deal of exposure from various demonstrations at both conferences and briefings. NIJ has coordinated a number of showcasing opportunities. To date, NIJ has funded one ALERT prototype demonstration at its National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Conference in Orlando, Florida in April, 1997. Additionally, NIJ has briefed its Executive Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Advisory Council (chaired by Colonel Carl Baker), and provided demonstrations to the Baltimore Police Department. This week, Jeremy Travis, Director of the National Institute of Justice, and David Boyd, Director of NIJ's Office of Science and Technology participated in a briefing on the project for the Secretary of Transportation.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:**

The ALERT Technical Working Group, an integral part of the ALERT program, is comprised of several technical experts from the field. The NIJ's National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center, Rocky Mountain Region (NLECTC) is a member of the ALERT Technical Working Group and provides technical support in the area of Communications Interoperability.

**STANDARDS:**

NIJ through its Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES) which is a sub component of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is working to ensure the compatibility of components with commercially available systems.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING:**

The ALERT Steering Committee primarily focuses on the strategic planning for ALERT. David Boyd, Director, Office of Science and Technology and the NIJ Program Manager are active members of this Committee. In addition, NIJ's Office of Law Enforcement Technology Commercialization (OLETC), has played a key role in the ALERT Steering Committee, which currently involves thirty five or more separate private enterprises (including Motorola, Kodak, and others), all interested in developing ALERT compatible technologies.

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 1997 5:59 pm
From: SMO02(KRAMER)
Subject: ALERT CAR

Hi guys,
Here's the one pager on the ALERT car that I've been promising. NIJ is doing this w/ DoTransportation. Their Secretary and others were briefed yesterday.

The prototype is in Alexandria and could make for great visuals, TV, etc. Great for boring August to show how parts of the Administration cooperate, do cool stuff, etc. NIJ could rev this up any ol' time the WH guys are interested. Jeremy was suggesting to me the VP might be interested as a "reinvention," cooperation/synergy type thing.

I'm off tomorrow. I'm sure I can count on you to pitch this tomorrow at your WH meeting and report positive stuff back to me on Thursday.

Thanks, Harri j.

**ALERT CAR**

Advanced Law Enforcement Response Technology

NIJ is working with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to help fund, test, evaluate and commercialize the ALERT system. FHWA will be briefing the Secretary of Transportation on August 4, and we understand there have been expressions of interest from very high levels in the Administration.

ALERT is an outgrowth of the Intelligent Transportation system and seeks to create a standard, open architecture technology that will greatly increase the law enforcement officer's ability to manage his car and to receive and transmit accurate criminal justice and traffic safety information while in the field. The system replaces all the current control systems in the car (e.g., lights, cameras, radar; radio, siren, etc.), with a touch screen system so that the officer is able to control everything with the touch of a finger. It incorporates and provides an architecture which will allow the incorporation of other useful technologies, such as Global Positioning Systems (GPS) for navigation and automatic location reporting, and Graphic Information Systems (GIS) to allow data maps to be displayed in various ways for the officer. It allows the direct electronic preparation and transmission to headquarters of arrest, investigation, and administrative reports and permits photographs from a crime scene or of a lost child to be transmitted instantly to every officer in an ALERT car. Most importantly, it allows industry to quickly develop and integrate new solutions in the car, thus enhancing competition and potentially releasing law enforcement agencies from dependence on a single manufacturer.

ALERT was originally developed with traffic safety applications in mine, but the technology is applicable to other areas of law enforcement, including criminal investigations, community safety, and investigations into abducted children. The same technology can be readily employed by fire departments, rescue, medical and ambulance services, and even public utility services at
every level of government.

FHWA originally began developing the ALERT system in cooperation with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Texas Department of Transportation and the Texas Transportation Institute. Several major technology firms are providing expertise and equipment, and officers from the College Station, Texas, Police Department and the Texas Department of
Public Safety are currently testing and showcasing two ALERT-equipped vehicles.

NIJ and FHWA are in the process of establishing a co-funded interagency agreement to further develop and field test the ALERT system, and to quickly establish a test bed. Additionally, NIJ's Office of Law Enforcement Technology Commercialization (OLETC) is providing assistance to FHWA in moving the ALERT concept into industry.

Technical Point of Contact within OJP/NIJ: David Boyd
OJP/OCPA POC: Harri Kramer/Chris Rizzuto/Jamie Phillips

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE CENTER

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**For immediate release:** **June 12, 1997**
**For more information:** **Bernie Fette, 845-2623 or Sandra Parsons, 845-7546**

**TTI research effort earns spot in Smithsonian**

A Texas Transportation Institute research effort has become part of the Smithsonian Institution's Permanent Research Collection of Information Technology.

ALERT — Advanced Law Enforcement and Response Technology — has been under development at TTI since 1995, and is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The project is aimed at integrating the various functions of a police car to improve the accuracy of traffic data, to clear accident scenes faster and to enhance officer safety. Two ALERT cars are being tested locally — one by the College Station Police Department and another by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

ALERT is one of 321 technology applications from 39 states and 21 countries that were added to the collection in the National Museum of American History. The additions are part of the Computerworld Smithsonian Awards Program, which was established in 1989. The program is designed to recognize individuals and organizations who have demonstrated vision and leadership to use information technology in innovative ways. TTI Director Herb Richardson accepted the Institute's award at a formal ceremony in Washington, D.C. on June 10.

"The Texas Transportation Institute and the U.S. Department of Transportation are using information technology to create strides toward remarkable social improvement," said David Allison, the chairman of the museum's division of information technology. "We are delighted to have this excellent example of how information technology is being used to improve our world included in the national collection."

ALERT operates on a computer located in the police car's trunk. The system allows the officer to access records and communicate with department dispatchers via a touch screen display or a wireless hand-held remote computer unit. Lights, siren, video camera and global positioning equipment are operated through the computer, which also stores accident and citation forms to allow electronic data entry and eliminate paper forms.

ALERT and the other additions to the collection can be found on the Internet (http://innovate.si.edu) or on ALERT's own web site (http://alert.tamu.edu).

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## ALERT PHOTO TRANSMISSION FEATURES

On June 4, 1997 digital images of children were sent from the ALERT vehicle located in Alexandria, VA to the following locations; Fort Lauderdale, FL, College Station, TX, an Alexandria Police Department cruiser on the street in Alexandria, VA and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). In the words of Mr. Ernie Allen, President of the Center For Missing and Exploited Children, "This was a ground breaking demonstration of the value of technology. Every minute saved in obtaining the photograph of a missing child at the Center moves us that much closer to the successful recovery of that child".

In order to accomplish the sending of the digital image the following had to be accomplished;

1. A digital camera was used to scan and convert the photograph of the child to digital form for transmission.
2. The digital image was transmitted from the digital camera to the ALERT vehicle where the image stored in the onboard computer..
3. The image was then transmitted from the ALERT vehicle to a nearby computer server where it was compressed for transmission over a Bell Atlantic NYNEX Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD) frequency and then passed to an AT&T CDPD frequency serving Fort Lauderdale, FL.
4. Upon arrival at Fort Lauderdale, FL the image was "de-compressed" and displayed on a monitor.
5. Almost simultaneously a compressed digital copy of the image was forwarded to the server at the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) in College Station, TX over AT&T CDPD and telephone landline.
6. Upon arrival at TTI the image was once again "de-compressed" and displayed on a monitor for viewing.
7. Once again almost simultaneously same image in compressed form was then sent via AT&T and Bell Atlantic NYNEX CDPD from TTI to the Alexandria, VA Police Department server.
8. Arriving at the server it was once again "de-compressed" and forward to a pen-based computer in the hands of an Alexandria Police Officer standing in a parking lot in downtown Alexandria.
9. Almost simultaneous to sending the image to the Alexandria Police Officer the compressed image was then forwarded from the Alexandria Police Department sever via Bell Atlantic NYNEX CDPD and landline telephone to the server at the NCMEC where it was then displayed on their monitor.
10. Upon receipt at the NCMEC they in turn scanned an actual missing flyer for a child, (reducing it to digital form) and forwarded it via the return routes outlined above to the Alexandria Police Officer and the ALERT vehicles in Alexandria, College Station, TX and Fort Lauderdale, FL.

The ability to perform these actions indicates the early value of the investment in (1) ALERT and the potential it holds for society and, (2) ALERT working closely with the Alexandria Police Department. Instead of children these images could have been missing adults, wanted criminals, or photos of lookouts for automobiles or objects.

ALERT™

Advanced Law Enforcement Response Technology

*Advanced Vehicle Initiative*

June 1997

From:

Texas Transportation Institute

Re: Information on ALERT

Enclosed is information on the ALERT Advanced Law Enforcement & Response Technology Project. If you need additional information please contact either of the people listed below:

**Tom Robey, IACP, 703/836-6767** **E-mail: RobeyTM.IACP@ksinet.com**

You will also find a list of upcoming showcasing events; an ALERT vehicle will be demonstrated at each of these conferences. References to "IACP" are for events sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

| | |
|---|---|
| June 1-4 | IACP Law Enforcement Information Management Conference, Alexandria, VA |
| June 2-4 | ITS America, Washington, DC |
| June 22-25 | National Sheriff's Association, Atlanta, GA |
| Aug. 3-5 | National Fraternal Order of Police, Orlando, FL |
| Aug. 3-6 | National Association of Fleet Administrators, New Orleans, LA |
| Aug. 10-14 | Association of Public-safety Communications Officers, Charlotte, NC |
| Sept. 2-5 | American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, Little Rock, AR |
| Sept. 13-17 | International Public Works Congress & Expo, Minneapolis, MN |
| Oct. 1-3 | National Institute of Justice Commercialization Conference, Wheeling, WV |
| Oct. 25-30 | IACP Annual International Conference, Orlando, FL |
| Jan. 11-15, 1998 | Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC |

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Crime - Technology

Los Angeles Times

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**Comment**
ON THE NATION

# Low-Tech Policing Aided Cunanan

*Maybe the cops' chagrin will convert opposition to simple computer technology.*

By Joseph D. McNamara

If the Miami Beach Police Department had computer technology as sophisticated as that used in one of the town's trendy restaurants, fashion designer Gianni Versace would probably still be alive.

Andrew Cunanan, believed to have killed Versace, should have been captured the week before when a pawnbroker routinely passed along information Cunanan gave—his name, hotel address and a fingerprint—to local police. Cunanan was on the FBI's most wanted list for four other murders.

After evading embarrassing media questions for a week, the Miami Beach police lamely explained that pawnbroker information forms required by law sit in a box until a police clerk enters them into the computer system.

In fairness to the Miami Beach cops, the same fatal lapse would have occurred in almost every police department in the country.

The FBI shares some of the blame. The bureau long ago should have helped local police to better automate systems designed to identify people on the wanted list. After all, it is the FBI's list, highly glamorized by J. Edgar Hoover and his successors as one of the bureau's crime-fighting hallmarks.

In an age when credit card purchases are checked in an instant by national computer systems and where waiters routinely transmit dinner orders by computer to the chef in the kitchen, law enforcement still lags in technology. There are several reasons for this. Computerization and technological advances came late to policing and are still primitive in comparison to private industries which recognize that failure to be as advanced as a competitor can put them out of business.

The absence of bottom-line pressures, civil service tenure and serving under elected officials who respond to political concerns, have impeded technological research by the police. Police leaders, like their elected superiors, almost always lack business experience. This, combined with widespread public fear of automation, the public's mistrust of authority and a general hesitation to allow law enforcement agencies to build "secret" data systems combine to chill technological advancement in law enforcement.

The police culture itself works to impede progress. The mystique of detectives solving cases by interviewing suspects and having brilliant flashes of intuition a la "NYPD Blue" makes police agencies slow to seek budget allotments for technology, preferring instead to seek money to add more officers. It is sexier for politicians to announce the hiring of additional cops than to champion police computerized information systems.

Police leaders are generally content to have 911 systems that allow for speedy dispatch of police vehicles. Yet it is relatively inexpensive to equip patrol officers, pawnbrokers and gun dealers with scanners that can check information against a database, similar to the technology used by supermarket cashiers. There is no reason to rely on written forms. The data should go online and instantly identify a wanted person just as easily as a merchant is informed of an overdrawn credit card.

Instead of insisting that American communication companies build in keys that would permit future eavesdropping (wire taps have tripled during the Clinton administration and 90% involve nonviolent crimes) the FBI should be suggesting data banks that would enable local cops to immediately identify the child molesters, rapists, armed robbers and killers who pose a real danger to the public. *

Sadly, the current political and law enforcement leadership is more driven by "get tough" rhetoric than it is by research and technology.

*Joseph D. McNamara, a retired police chief of San Jose, Calif., is a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. His latest book is "Code 211 Blue" (1997, Fawcett).*

DPC COLLEAGUES:

TIME FOR A STATE-LOCAL-FED. LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY.

Jon -

I think this is a great idea. We can do the meat-and-potatoes stuff & like this and some flashier stuff (e.g. smart guns). It would be both interesting and useful.

Elena

cc: Bruce