

MR. BUCHEN. I am sure the historians will protest, but I think historians cannot complain if evidence for history is not perpetuated which shouldn't have been created in the first place.

Q. Is there anything he can keep, or intends to keep?

MR. BUCHEN. I am sure there are items in the documents that he would intend to keep. Of course, it would involve family letters, things of a highly personal nature.

Q. Mr. Buchen, if it is Mr. Nixon's desire to destroy the tapes after 10 years, would it not be logical to assume he will destroy them after 5 years?

MR. BUCHEN. That is his option, order them destroyed.

Q. What about the gift option, the tax deduction option?

MR. BUCHEN. I am not his tax lawyer and it seems to me if you give a gift with instructions that the items have to be destroyed, that the gift immediately loses its value, so I would think it would be very questionable.

Q. What about the President, though? Could he—

MR. BUCHEN. They will not be perpetuated beyond the limited use.

Q. Does the word "copies" include written transcripts as well as the originals?

MR. BUCHEN. Yes.

Q. As a practical matter, at the end of 5 years, then all the tapes will be destroyed except those under subpoena?

MR. BUCHEN. No, because he reserves the right to keep the window open for himself for another 5 years.

Q. Just the President, no public?

MR. BUCHEN. That is right.

Q. Is it a question they can be destroyed in 5 years, but must be destroyed in 10 years?

MR. BUCHEN. They can't be destroyed short of 5 years.

Q. Mr. Buchen, Prosecutor Jaworski gave no indication that he objected to the pardon. Is it your impression that he sort of feels relieved?

MR. BUCHEN. Wouldn't you if you were in his place?

REPORTER. Thank you.

NOTE: Press Secretary J. F. terHorst introduced Mr. Buchen at 12:12 p.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House.

For a further news conference by Mr. Buchen, see page 1123 of this issue.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974

Statement by the President Following Signing the Bill Into Law, While Expressing Reservations About Certain of Its Provisions. September 8, 1974

Late Saturday, I signed into law S. 821, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

This is the first piece of legislation to reach my desk for action in the field of prevention and reduction of crime among our youth. Its passage by very strong majorities in both bodies of the Congress represents a continuation of our national commitment to reduce juvenile delinquency in the United States, to keep juveniles from entering the treadmill of the criminal process, and to guarantee procedural and Constitutional protection to juveniles under Federal jurisdiction.

This national commitment is one of partnership with State and local governments through which, together, we spend over \$10 billion per year for criminal justice programs.

During the course of this bill's passage through the Congress, the executive branch voiced serious reservations with regard to several of its provisions for organizational change and fund authorizations. I continue to be concerned about these provisions—especially the threat they carry with regard to increased Federal spending at a time when the economic situation demands across-the-board restraint, especially in the Federal budget.

Therefore, I do not intend to seek appropriations for the new programs authorized in the bill in excess of amounts included in the 1975 budget until the general need for restricting Federal spending has abated. In the interim, the estimated \$155 million in spending already provided under current programs will provide a continuation of strong Federal support.

This bill represents a constructive effort to consolidate policy direction and coordination of all Federal programs to assist States and localities in dealing with the problems of juvenile delinquency. The direction of our Federal programs has been fragmented for too long. This restructuring of present operation and authority will better assist State and local governments to carry out the responsibilities in this field, which should remain with them. Hopefully, the result will be greater security for all citizens and more purpose, sense, and happiness in the lives of young Americans.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 821) is Public Law 93-415, approved September 7, 1974.

Federal Employees Compensation Benefits

Statement by the President Following Signing of Bill Providing Increased Benefits for Employees and Their Survivors. September 8, 1974

On Saturday, I signed into law H.R. 13871, the 1974 amendments to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. This act provides workers' compensation benefits for Federal employees injured or killed in the performance