

Crime Unit Urges Ban On Pistols

8/1/73
By William Claiborne
Washington Post Staff Writer

A national crime commission yesterday recommended a drastic overhaul of America's criminal justice system that would eliminate grand juries, set a maximum 5-year prison sentence for most offenders, and limit the possession of handguns to police and military personnel.

Some of the commission's recommendations were so potentially controversial that the Justice Department, which financed the study and unveiled the findings, issued a disclaimer of responsibility or endorsement.

Nevertheless, Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson said the 293-page document may be "the most important report on crime control ever compiled in this country."

Billed as a "national strategy to reduce crime," the recommendations were made by the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals after a two-year study costing \$1.7 million and involving hundreds of state and local law enforcement officials.

The report is supposed to represent a consensus of criminal justice philosophy at the grassroots level, while serving as a blueprint for future reform in court procedures, corrections, police activities and

See JUSTICE, A10, Col. 1