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# JET

## ARETHA FRANKLIN'S BACK-UP SINGERS GET BIG BREAK



ARETHA FRANKLIN &  
THE PRIMA DONNAS

multiply its effects in so many ways.”

Ethel Payne, chairperson of Concerned Women in War on Crime, and co-chairperson **Connie Seals** unequivocally called for the elimination of private ownership of handguns.

They said: “The Coalition of Concerned Women in the War on Crime calls for an all-out ban on the manufacture, sale, possession and distribution of handguns, handgun ammunition and component parts—throughout every spectrum of society—nationwide, excluding law enforcement officials.”

On the other side, Russ Meek, president of Search for Truth Inc., testified that “crime is a matter of intent, not weapons.”

Meek said that “those who live by breaking the law—I hope and assume that is who you are after—will not be deterred by the banning of bullets or the banning of

guns. . . . To diminish crime, you attack the social causes of crime and not the ownership of weapons, which are the last bastion of defense against crime, totalitarianism and foreign invasion that we have.”

Conyers said his subcommittee will digest the testimony offered during his hearings and later submit a gun control bill to the full judiciary subcommittee. He said he had no idea what sort of legislation in terms of specifics it will be, however.

“We have heard many opinions,” he said. “That was the purpose, and we know that there is considerable support for some sort of handgun legislation. But it will take some time to put together final legislation.”

The subcommittee plans to schedule more hearings in several other areas of the country and will announce the time and places later.

*Russ Meek (l) of Search For Truth testifies against handgun control and **Connie Seals** testifies in favor as James Russell (c) of the NAACP legal staff and James Compton, Chicago Urban League executive director, listen.*

