

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** Thomas, W. Dennis: Files  
**Folder Title:** Drug Initiative I (2)  
**Box:** 12

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov)

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

UNCLAS

CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE

SECURE FAX #

ADMIN FAX #

RECORD #

PAGES

DTG

RELEASER

16

021300Z

LB

FROM/LOCATION

1. ~~DEWID~~ CARLTON TURNER

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. DENNIS THOMAS / SANTA BARBARA

TOR

021321Z

INFORMATION ADDRESS/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

UNCLAS

CLASSIFICATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DENNIS THOMAS

FROM: CARLTON E. TURNER

SUBJECT: Possible Presidential Involvement in Drug-Related Activities

Attached are some proposals for Presidential involvement in drug-related activities for September and October. The list has been coordinated with the Press Office, Private Sector Initiatives, and the Office of Public Liaison.

Larry, Fred and Mari were out of town so they have not seen the attached which resulted from consultation with Rae Nelson of my staff and representatives from each of their offices as well as Tom Gibson's office.

Dennis, my out-of-town work, in September, includes visits to Alabama, New York, and Georgia; in October, Florida and Louisiana. Advice would be appreciated.





SUGGESTIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL INVOLVEMENT

IN

DRUG-RELATED ACTIVITIES

September 1986 - October 1986

POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL INVOLVEMENT  
IN DRUG-RELATED ACTIVITIES

September 1986

Focus on presentation of President's Six Goals with emphasis on Drug-Free Schools to take advantage of beginning of school year. Suggested additional focus on Treatment.

October 1986

Continued focus on President's Six Goals with emphasis on International Cooperation to take advantage of recalling of United States Ambassadors to major source and trafficking countries. Suggested additional emphasis on Drug-Free Workplace.

November 1986

Specifics not included. Suggested focus on Public Safety and Transportation to coincide with holiday season. Also suggested emphasis on Public Awareness and Prevention.

December 1986

Specifics not included. Suggested continuation of focus on public safety and highlighting of progress made in President's program.

January 1987 - June 1987

Suggested focus on preparing for internationalization of President's initiatives leading up to United Nations Drug Conference in June 1987.

As The President travels, every effort should be made to arrange drug-related activities. For example, visits to schools with successful no-drug policies.



SEPTEMBER 1986

Week I (September 7 - 13)

- 1) Private Sector Initiatives Board of Advisors Meeting. Scheduled for September 11. Opportunity to further involve private sector in six goals of drug initiative.
- 2) Elementary School Recognition Ceremony. Scheduled for September 12. Opportunity to address issue of drug-free schools.

*Find to coord. with Bill Bennett + Galtier so can join up with D.T.R.*

OPTION:

Presentation Ceremony for "Drug Abuse Certificates of Appreciation From the President." Scheduling proposal submitted by Drug Abuse Policy Office.

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

Meeting with Sports Commissioners scheduled for September 9.

"Just Say No" picnic scheduled for September 11 at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia.

Week II (September 14 - 20)

- 1) Drop-By Briefing for Presidents of Historically Black Colleges; scheduled for September 19; Meeting with Hispanic Leaders, also scheduled for September 19. Each provides opportunity for drug-related remarks.
- 2) Recommend Signing of Executive Orders Regarding Drug Abuse in the Federal Workplace.

OPTIONS:

Mrs. Reagan could invite The President to join her in visit to adolescent treatment center or a White House event involving the adolescent treatment community.

Saturday radio address could address specific goal involved in The President's program.

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

Visit to Phoenix House, treatment facility in New York City scheduled for September 16 or 17.

Interview with Andrea Mitchell of NBC News scheduled for September 18.



Week III (September 21 - 27)

- 1) White House Briefing for Interdenominational Religious Leaders. TIME REQUIRED: Would need two to three weeks to arrange from time decision is made.
- 2) Visit to School Which Has Successfully Implemented No-Drug Policy. Possible Sites: Anne Arundel County School District, Annapolis, Maryland; University of Maryland.

OPTIONS:

The United Nations General Assembly is opening on September 22. The President will be addressing the Assembly on this day in New York City, presenting an opportunity for President to call on the world community to follow his lead in combatting illegal drug use.

White House Briefing for Educational Community to include Principals, College/University Presidents, Administrators and others could be held.

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

"Chemical People II" taping at WQED-TV in Pittsburgh is scheduled for September 25. Will be aired at later date.

White House event to launch "What Works," Secretary Bennett's book regarding schools and no-drug policies is tentatively scheduled for September 25.

Additional Opportunities for Presidential Involvement in Drug-Related Activities During September:

American Security Council Women's Clubs. Washington, D.C.,  
September 16

Concerned Women for America Meeting. Washington, D.C.,  
September 18.

National Federation of GOP Women Meeting. Washington, D.C.,  
September 22.

October 1986

WEEK IV (September 28 - October 4)

- 1) Chamber of Commerce Address on Drugs in the Workplace. Proposal has been issued through Office of Public Liaison. A proposed date is October 1.
- 2) National Drug Awareness Week has been proposed for October 5 - 11, presenting opportunity for signing ceremony to highlight public awareness and prevention.

OPTIONS:

A Presidential Meeting with Black Leaders has been tentatively proposed for October 3 by the Office of Public Liaison. Possible opportunity for discussion of drug-related issues.

Opportunity for Op Ed in major publication regarding drugs in the workplace.

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

Kansas City School visit scheduled for October 2.

United Negro College Fund dinner scheduled for October 2.

WEEK V (October 5 - 11)

- 1) Recall of Ambassadors of Primary Trafficking and Source Countries. Scheduled for October 6 and 7.
- 2) Possibility of White House Briefing for Chief Executive Officers of major corporations. TIME REQUIRED: Two to three weeks from day of decision through Office of Public Liaison.

OPTIONS:

National Drug Abuse Education Day is scheduled for October 6, presenting opportunity for The President and Mrs. Reagan to participate in drug-related event.

Conservative College Journalists meeting has been proposed for October 10 by Private Sector Initiatives. Possible opportunity to discuss drug-related issues.

An event with Vocational Educational Children has been proposed by the Office of Public Liaison. Opportunity for comments regarding drug-free schools and/or drug-free workplace.



WEEK V (Con't.)

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

National Federation of Parents for Drug-Free Youth luncheon scheduled for October 9.

Meeting with Ambassadors scheduled for October 7.

WEEK VI (October 12 - 18)

- 1) Possibility of White House Briefing for State Legislatures. Issue a challenge to improve laws in drug-related areas.  
TIME REQUIRED: Two to three weeks date of decision through Private Sector Initiatives.
- 2) National School Safety Week is scheduled for October 19 - 25. Opportunity for signing ceremony which includes mention of drug-free schools.

OPTION:

Bi-Partisan Congressional Leadership meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 14. Could present an opportunity to mention progress in President's Drug Initiatives and highlight success stories.

WEEK VII (October 19 - 25)

- 1) Republican Congressional Leadership Meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 21. Possible opportunity to mention progress made and highlight success stories since introduction of The President's Drug Initiatives.
- 2) Possible Meeting with Cross-section of Editorial Writers.

OPTION:

United Nations Day is October 24. Possible Op Ed or magazine interview highlighting progress in area of International Cooperation.

Media involvement could include a White House Briefing for Media Industry, including publishers, broadcast executives, producers, advertising community, and others.



WEEK VIII (October 26 - 31)

- 1) Possible visit to College or University to highlight progress made since initiating no-drug policy. One opportunity may be to visit/re-visit the University of Maryland.
- 2) The Conference Board, a gathering of major industry executives, will be held in Florida on October 30 and 31. This may be an opportunity to address drug-free workplace initiative.

OPTION:

Taping of Public Service Announcements by The President and Mrs. Reagan. Timing would coincide with advance of holiday season and airing of major sporting events.

MRS. REAGAN'S DRUG AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

"Pros for Kids" dinner scheduled for October 29 in San Francisco.

Screen Writers' Guild luncheon scheduled for October 31 in Los Angeles.

Additional Opportunities for Presidential Involvement in Drug-Related Activities During October:

American Association of University Women, Washington, D.C.  
October 9-12, 16-21.

"People Who Help People" photo opportunity is scheduled for October 16 through the Office of Public Liaison.

CHRONOLOGY  
OF EVENTS

CHRONOLOGY OF SELECTED EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES RELATED  
TO DRUG INITIATIVE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 1986

|                   |                                                                                                |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 2       | CBS-TV Special, "48 Hours on Crack Street"                                                     |
| September 5       | NBC-TV Special, "Cocaine Country"<br>ABC-TV Special, "Crack: Fight Back!"                      |
| September 9       | First North American Conference on Drugs<br>and Alcohol/Boston, MA                             |
| September 9       | Mrs. Reagan Meets With Sports Commissioners                                                    |
| September 10      | Congress Presents Omnibus Bill                                                                 |
| September 11      | Mrs. Reagan Attends "Just Say No"<br>Picnic/Harper's Ferry, W.VA.                              |
| September 11 - 13 | Radio-Television News Directors<br>Association/Texas                                           |
| September 12      | LECC: Alabama Statewide Meeting -<br>"Drug Abuse Prevention"                                   |
| September 14 - 20 | Boston Herald Drug Awareness Week                                                              |
| September 14 - 20 | National Hispanic Week                                                                         |
| September 14 - 17 | LECC: Southeastern Conference on<br>Alcohol/Drug Abuse and Criminal Justice/<br>Charleston, SC |
| September 15      | The Vice President addresses National Law<br>Enforcement Council                               |
| September 15 - 18 | American College of Emergency Physicians/<br>Atlanta, GA                                       |
| September 15 - 19 | United Nations Non-Government Organizations<br>Meeting/Stockholm                               |
| September 16      | American Security Council Women's Clubs/<br>Washington, D.C.                                   |

|                   |                                                                                             |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 17      | Mrs. Reagan visits Phoenix House/NYC                                                        |
| September 17      | LECC: "Narcotics from an Enforcement Perspective"/Newark, NJ                                |
| September 18      | ABC Drug Seminar for News Executives/Carlton Turner/Carlton Turner                          |
| September 18      | Mrs. Reagan Interview with Andrea Mitchell, NBC News                                        |
| September 18 - 21 | Concerned Women for America/Washington, DC                                                  |
| September 19      | Mrs. Reagan Interview with ABC Radio                                                        |
| September 21 - 24 | National Public Employer Labor Relations Association: Northeastern Regional/Sebasto, ME     |
| September 23      | Introduction of "What Works"/Sec. Bennett                                                   |
| September 23 - 26 | National Public Employer Labor Relations Association: Rocky Mountain Regional/Snow Mass, CO |
| September 24      | 3rd Annual Conference on Prescription Drug Abuse/Carlton Turner/Nashville, TN               |
| September 25      | Mrs. Reagan Taping for "Chemical People II"/Pittsburgh, PA                                  |
| September 25 - 28 | National Fraternal Congress/Washington, D.C.                                                |
| September 26      | 4th Annual Illinois Drug Education Alliance Conference/Carlton Turner/Oakbrook, IL          |
| September 23 - 26 | National Conference of Editorial Writers/South Carolina                                     |
| September 25 - 27 | Children of Alcoholics Conference/Chatanooga, TN                                            |
| Sept 28 - Oct 2   | International Health Society/Las Vegas, NV                                                  |
| September 29      | Conservative Caucus Briefing/Washington, D.C.                                               |
| Sept 29 - Oct 1   | American Public Health Association/Las Vegas, NV                                            |



|                            |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sept 29 - Oct 2            | American Academy of Family Physicians/<br>Washington, D.C.                                                                                                                |
| October 2                  | Mrs. Reagan Visits Kansas City School                                                                                                                                     |
| October 6                  | International Association of Chiefs of<br>Police. Sec. Bennett/Attorney General<br>Meese/Judge Webster (Article to coincide<br>in Oct. issue of "Police Chief" magazine.) |
| October 6 - 7              | Re-call of Ambassadors to Drug Producing<br>and Drug Trafficking Countries                                                                                                |
| October 5 - 13             | National Drug Awareness Week                                                                                                                                              |
| October 6                  | National Drug Abuse Education Day                                                                                                                                         |
| October 8 - 10             | Latin American Justice Ministers/Mexico                                                                                                                                   |
| October 8 - 11             | American School Health Association/Denver,<br>CO                                                                                                                          |
| October 9 - 12/<br>16 - 21 | American Association of University Women/<br>Washington, DC                                                                                                               |
| October 9                  | National Federation of Parents for<br>Drug-Free Youth: Mrs. Reagan/Sec. Bennett/<br>Carlton Turner; Washington, D.C.                                                      |
| October 12 - 16            | Association of Official Analytical<br>Chemists/Washington, DC                                                                                                             |
| October 16                 | "People Who Help People" photo op                                                                                                                                         |
| October 16                 | American Academy of Child Psychiatry/<br>Los Angeles, CA                                                                                                                  |
| October 16 - 17            | National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse/<br>Washington, DC                                                                                                                |
| October 19 - 25            | National School Safety Week                                                                                                                                               |
| October 20                 | "Substance Awareness Week" sponsored by<br>Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services<br>Board                                                                               |
| October 22 - 26            | American Business Women's Association/<br>KS                                                                                                                              |
| October 26 - 29            | National Public Employer Labor Relations:<br>Northwestern Regional Conference/<br>Portland, OR                                                                            |

|                  |                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 27 - 28  | LECC: "Drug Prevention, Law Enforcement Stress, and Drug Testing: A Seminar for Iowa Police Chiefs and County Sheriffs"/ Des Moines, IA |
| October 29       | "Pros for Kids" Dinner; Mrs. Reagan/San Francisco, CA                                                                                   |
| October 30 - 31  | The Conference Board: "Drug Trafficking and Abuse: The Risk to Business"; Carlton Turner; FL                                            |
| October 31       | Screen Writers' Guild Luncheon; Mrs. Reagan/CA                                                                                          |
| Oct 31 - Nov 7   | Western Occupational Medical Association/ San Francisco, CA                                                                             |
| November 1 - 6   | American Academy of Pediatrics Convention/ Washington, D.C.                                                                             |
| November 2 - 6   | First Annual Meeting of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists/ Washington, DC                                           |
| November 2 - 6   | American Pharmaceutical Association/LA                                                                                                  |
| November 2 - 6   | National Association of Convenience Stores/ LA                                                                                          |
| November 5       | Council of the Great City Schools Annual Convention/NYC                                                                                 |
| November 5 - 7   | National Public Employer Labor Relations Board: South Central Regional/Tulsa, OK                                                        |
| November 5 - 8   | National Conference on Health Care for Detained Juveniles/San Francisco, CA                                                             |
| November 6 - 11  | National Association of Realtors/NYC                                                                                                    |
| November 6 - 7   | LECC: "Drug Abuse Prevention, Education, and Awareness"/Carlton Turner/Nashville, TN                                                    |
| November 10      | Conference of Catholic Bishops/Washington, D.C.                                                                                         |
| November 12 - 15 | Society of Professional Journalists (Sigma Delta Chi)/GA                                                                                |

|                      |                                                                                             |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 16 - 19     | American Heart Association/CA                                                               |
| November 16 - 19     | Southern Newspaper Publishers Association/<br>FL                                            |
| November 18          | Ethics and Public Policy Center<br>Meeting/Washington, D.C.                                 |
| November 18          | CBN TV Special on "Crack/Cocaine"                                                           |
| November 17 - 19     | TV Bureau of Advertising/CA                                                                 |
| November 19 - 23     | National Association of School Educators/<br>Washington, D.C.                               |
| November 23          | National Family Week/National Adoption<br>Week                                              |
| Thanksgiving Weekend | National League of Cities/San Antonio, TX                                                   |
| Late November        | National Council of Urban Education<br>Association (NEA)<br>Annual Convention/Las Vegas, NV |
| December 11          | Association of Medical Education and<br>Research in Substance Abuse/Washington, DC          |
| December 13          | Tribune Broadcasting TV Special                                                             |
| January 1987         | U.S. Conference of Mayor                                                                    |

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 20, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DENNIS THOMAS

FROM:

  
CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT:

Drug Abuse Meeting Between Mrs. Reagan And Mrs.  
Gorbachev

The meeting proposed is a good idea.

Russia is now talking about and admitting to having a drug abuse problem. Alcoholism has been and continues to be a problem.

Mrs. Reagan could take Mrs. Gorbachev to visit a center for drug abuse similar to her trip with Princess Diane.

I support the concept and preliminary groundwork was begun a couple of weeks ago.



GUILFORD GLAZER  
1901 AVENUE OF THE STARS • CENTURY CITY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90067  
(213) 277-3511

July 18, 1986

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Dear Dennis,

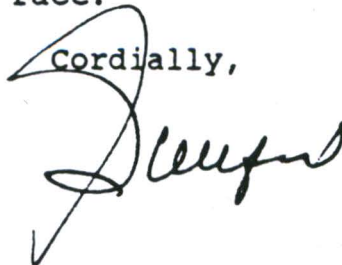
It was good to hear from you.

An idea entered my head when I read the enclosed article. On June 24th Nancy Reagan spoke at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council on drugs. Her speech was outstanding. She was terrific on her feet in the question period. She obviously is very well-informed on the subject. The audience was most responsive. One questioner asked if Nancy had discussed this with Raisa Gorbachev. Nancy replied that she had done so.

Now (see attached article) the Russians have the drug problem also. Would it not constitute a wonderful diplomatic and friendly gesture, if Nancy Reagan spoke in the USSR on this common problem? Or, maybe Raisa Gorbachev would invite Nancy and maybe the two ladies could tour (as a pair) in both the USSR and the U.S.? Is it possible that the President's wife might by her charm, sincerity, and good will crack the sound barrier of suspicion and fear of us that seems to permeate the Soviet society? Nancy would also speak of our desire to have peace and the need for American and Russian children never to be drawn into a war. The often-expressed dream might be realized that maybe the women can help move us toward peace and understanding.

This is just a thought which may have no merit. However, I felt the idea might be worthy of your consideration. I do not see how it could hurt, and if the wives become friends and establish trust in dealing with a common problem, maybe the husbands might find it easier to do the same with lowering the arms race.

Cordially,



The Honorable Dennis Thomas  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*See my post*

P.S.

Diane, my son Emerson, and I plan to be in Moscow as tourists from approximately August 1 through August 5. I will probably see Dobrynin, unless he is on holiday. Do you or Jack have any thoughts for that meeting? Would the White House in confidence want me to suggest to Dobrynin that the Soviet Union invite Nancy? The main questions here, of course, are (a) would our government want Nancy to go, and (b) would she want to go. My feeling is that the Soviet Union would be most happy to have her come. I do not see how the Russians could use such a visit (and I realize the probability of this all happening is quite remote) for propaganda that would hurt us. Of course, this is a matter for our experts to consider.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

7/28/86

TO: JACK MATLOCK  
FROM: DENNIS THOMAS

Dennis - For your reaction and comment.

1. The Soviets have only begun to acknowledge that they have a drug problem. I don't think we should suggest that the First Lady make a speech on the topic there. The Soviets would not apply it to their own situation, but would try to use it to "prove" how bad things are in the U.S.
2. As far as Glazer suggesting that the Soviets invite her, I don't think we should encourage it. (Would she really want to make a trip there alone?)

Jack

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

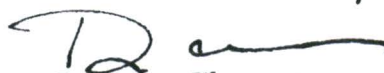
July 28, 1986

Dear Mr. Glazer:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding having the First Lady and Raisa Gorbachev discuss the drug issue.

I have asked the proper folks here to review this possibility. We probably will not have anything substantive for you prior to your trip to the Soviet Union, but I did want you to know I was following up on the idea.

Sincerely,



W. Dennis Thomas  
Assistant to the President

Mr. Guilford Glazer  
1901 Avenue of the States  
Century City  
Los Angeles, California 90067



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

7/28/86

TO: CARLTON TURNER  
FROM: DENNIS THOMAS

For your reaction and comment.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

7/28/86

TO: JACK MATLOCK  
FROM: DENNIS THOMAS

For your reaction and comment.



ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

Consider talking to  
Carlton Turner - may be  
its something the two  
first ladies could discuss  
during the summit.  
But, I'd bet the Soviets  
are touchy on this, and  
won't want to make a  
big thing of it - except to  
point out how they could  
help us correct our prob-  
lem just as they've done.

I'd thank him - but  
let it rest there until  
Summit plans are known

GUILFORD GLAZER  
1901 AVENUE OF THE STARS • CENTURY CITY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90067  
(213) 277-3511

July 18, 1986

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Dear Dennis,

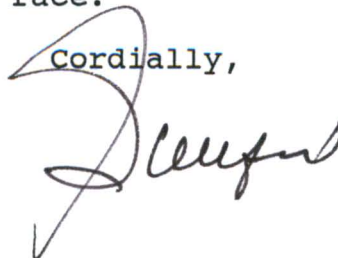
It was good to hear from you.

An idea entered my head when I read the enclosed article. On June 24th Nancy Reagan spoke at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council on drugs. Her speech was outstanding. She was terrific on her feet in the question period. She obviously is very well-informed on the subject. The audience was most responsive. One questioner asked if Nancy had discussed this with Raisa Gorbachev. Nancy replied that she had done so.

Now (see attached article) the Russians have the drug problem also. Would it not constitute a wonderful diplomatic and friendly gesture, if Nancy Reagan spoke in the USSR on this common problem? Or, maybe Raisa Gorbachev would invite Nancy and maybe the two ladies could tour (as a pair) in both the USSR and the U.S.? Is it possible that the President's wife might by her charm, sincerity, and good will crack the sound barrier of suspicion and fear of us that seems to permeate the Soviet society? Nancy would also speak of our desire to have peace and the need for American and Russian children never to be drawn into a war. The often-expressed dream might be realized that maybe the women can help move us toward peace and understanding.

This is just a thought which may have no merit. However, I felt the idea might be worthy of your consideration. I do not see how it could hurt, and if the wives become friends and establish trust in dealing with a common problem, maybe the husbands might find it easier to do the same with lowering the arms race.

Cordially,



The Honorable Dennis Thomas  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*See next page*



P.S.

Diane, my son Emerson, and I plan to be in Moscow as tourists from approximately August 1 through August 5. I will probably see Dobrynin, unless he is on holiday. Do you or Jack have any thoughts for that meeting? Would the White House in confidence want me to suggest to Dobrynin that the Soviet Union invite Nancy? The main questions here, of course, are (a) would our government want Nancy to go, and (b) would she want to go. My feeling is that the Soviet Union would be most happy to have her come. I do not see how the Russians could use such a visit (and I realize the probability of this all happening is quite remote) for propaganda that would hurt us. Of course, this is a matter for our experts to consider.



## Rising Use Admitted

# Drug Abuse Is Bitter Pill for Soviets

By ROBERT GILLETTE,  
Times Staff Writer

MOSCOW—When a young official from Soviet Central Asia recently checked into the huge Rossiya Hotel, a minute's walk from the Kremlin, a drowsy desk clerk examined his internal passport and quickly snapped to attention.

It was not a sense of duty that aroused the clerk. The official's documents showed that he came from the city of Samarkand. Leaning closer, the clerk inquired discreetly whether he had brought any *plan*—Russian slang for marijuana—to sell.

No, the official replied, he had not. But the question was no surprise. Samarkand in the last few years has become known not only as a center of marijuana cultivation but also as a source of opium-based drugs from illicit poppy fields hidden in the foothills of the nearby Alay mountains.

## Home-Grown Problem

Contrary to assertions by Radio Moscow, and indeed for many years by virtually the whole of Soviet officialdom, the Soviet Union does have a drug problem. It is almost entirely a home-grown problem—drug smuggling by soldiers returning from Afghanistan appears to be the main exception—and the scale of habitual use is still much smaller than in the United States and some other Western countries.

Moreover, there is little evidence to suggest that cocaine—a tropical drug—or drugs that require significant chemical processing, such as heroin or LSD, have appeared on the scene. A militarized border and a web of state controls over laboratory equipment and industrial chemicals give the Soviet Union an advantage over Western nations in this respect.

## Spreading to Cities

Yet the problem does exist. What is more, all indications suggest that it is spreading at an alarming rate beyond the traditional areas of drug use in the southern tier of republics, consisting of Central Asia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia, and into the major cities of the Russian heartland—Moscow among them—as well as westward into the Ukraine and north to the Baltic region.

As a blunt yet poignant letter published last month in the local Moscow newspaper *Moskovskaya Pravda* put it, "We smoke dope."

Written by a vocational school student who identified herself only as Sveta M., the letter told of a friend—"a regular junkie"—who stole drugs from his psychiatrist-uncle and another who nearly died from a drug-induced allergy as her terrified companions stood by, afraid to summon an ambulance and the inevitable police.

"Parents, it seems, notice nothing," Sveta wrote. "They are outraged when people on television talk about drug addicts in the West, and they don't suspect that their own son or daughter has been playing with these dangerous 'toys.'"

Only a few years ago, drug use in Moscow appeared to be confined mainly to hospital, veterinary and ambulance workers and their friends, who made off with ampules of liquid barbiturates and other painkillers for their own use.

In the army, a draftee's choice of intoxicant still followed ethnic lines: Russians drank vodka they smuggled into the barracks, while Georgians and other southerners, shunned and disparaged by the Russians, preferred the *anasha*—hashish—that friends and relatives hid in packages of food and clothing from home.

Now, however, Russian teen-agers in Moscow are talking casually about puffing *plan* and *anasha*, popping tranquilizers, sniffing chemical fumes and drinking a toxic, mind-numbing concoction known as "BF," or "Boris Fyodorovich," made from butylphenol glue.

A seventh-grade teacher's intro-

duction to toxic-substance abuse came in school one day recently after workmen had varnished some classroom floors. Puzzled by the glassy eyes and wobbly gait that some of her students displayed, the teacher crouched down in one of the freshly varnished rooms, inhaled the fumes and promptly discovered what the Russians are now calling "toxicomania."

Even if they haven't yet experienced a drug-induced *kaif*, Russian slang for "high," growing numbers of teen-agers and even preteens seem familiar with the jargon and the chemistry.

Along with the spreading use of drugs, a new vocabulary has suffused the language. Young Russians talk knowingly about "shooting up" (*kolotsya*—literally, pricking oneself), getting high (*kazfovat*), getting off the needle, and withdrawal (*lomka*, the Russian word for "breaking.")

Most troubling of all, the technique of boiling down the stems and seed pods of ordinary poppies and injecting the resulting opiate infusion—a practice that has led to widespread addiction and needle-borne hepatitis in Poland and Hungary since the early 1970s—appears to be catching on among Soviet youth.

## Drug Abuse Is Written About

More remarkable than the mere existence of drug abuse in the Soviet Union is the fact that, for the first time, the state-controlled press is talking about it.

Since April, when local Moscow newspapers first broke a long-standing taboo on the subject, leading newspapers have published half a dozen articles that have included reports of drug arrests, interviews with addicts undergoing compulsory treatment, letters from concerned citizens and teen-age users, and an expose of large-scale thefts from fields of poppies grown by the state for seed and medicines.

A report in the June 26 issue of *Izvestia*, the main government newspaper, disclosed that authorities are using helicopters to pinpoint illicit poppy fields in Uzbekistan and other areas of Central Asia. It said that there have been instances of multiple deaths from "sniffing chemicals," a growing practice among preteen children.

Other reports have drawn a connection between drug use and crimes, from apartment burglaries to murder, and have hinted at the involvement of organized crime.

As elsewhere, there is money to be made here in drugs. According to unofficial sources, a kilogram (2.2 pounds) of morphine diverted



from state pharmaceutical supplies has a black market value of 200,000 rubles—\$280,000 at the official rate of exchange, or \$50,000 at the more relevant black market rate.

"The 'kings' of the criminal world are staking claim to the still immature psyches of teen-agers," the Moscow youth newspaper *Moskovsky Komsomolets* warned on April 18. "They play on curiosity, suggestibility, on the desire to imitate. It is no secret that they look for the 'little sons' of families for whom material values long ago pushed spiritual and moral order into the background."

In addition, local television in the Black Sea republic of Georgia, where the use of marijuana and drugs diverted from medical supplies has been a chronic problem, recently broadcast a documentary film on the perils of addiction.

All this marks a dramatic turnaround in the Soviet approach to drug abuse. Until this spring, senior officials simply dismissed it as a feature of Western moral decay that not only did not exist in the Soviet Union but could not.

Last year, for example, the government's dominant authority on drug abuse and its representative to the U.N. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Dr. Eduard A. Babayan, said that his country of 277 million people could count only 2,500 drug addicts, nearly all of whom were said to be disabled medical patients addicted to prescription painkillers. Babayan contrasted this with the half a million heroin addicts he said were running loose in the United States.

"Why, then, is the situation so different in the Soviet Union?" he said in an interview with Radio Moscow. "The most important thing in my view is that our society is free from the social and economic causes which drive people to the precipice of despair and force them to seek comfort in artificial stimulants."

He listed unemployment, discrimination, prostitution and vagrancy as leading causes of drug use in the West, all of which, he insisted, have been eliminated in the Soviet Union.

At the same time, censorship strictly limited discussion of drug abuse, except as it served to illustrate the West's asserted decadence and the contrasting moral strength of Soviet society.

"It is not accidental that very little is being written about drug addiction here," Babayan, until recently a senior official with the Ministry of Health, wrote in 1975, a year after the Soviet Union, with little fanfare, adopted tough new laws imposing prison sentences of up to 10 years for drug trafficking.

"No one can read detailed stories on this subject [in the Soviet press]," Babayan explained, "because this is the very kind of information about which one can say, 'The less said, the better.'"

Now the message is very different. With the state having tackled alcoholism with a drastic anti-drinking campaign a year ago, a leading psychiatrist wrote in May, "It has become obvious that it's also time to turn the attention of society to the fearful vice that is drug addiction."

In June, the youth newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* explained the sudden surge of discussion by saying that "it is necessary to have at least minimal information . . . to know what one is fighting."

This about-face appears to be one of the more vivid results of a campaign launched by Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev for *glasnost*, or openness, in the press. Even if the call for openness did not extend to national emergencies like the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, it does seem to apply to social issues like drugs.

Perhaps coincidentally, the *Izvestia* report last month named Gorbachev's home region of Stavropol as one of several afflicted with "much higher percentages of drug addicts" than other areas.

(The new policy also coincides with Babayan's quiet departure from the scene. A spokesman for the Ministry of Health said Babayan no longer works there but was unable to say when he left or where he had gone.)

Alarm at the geographic spread of drug abuse has also spurred a lifting of the veil. The topic was deemed important enough to raise at the 27th Communist Party Congress in February. In April, newspapers reported that Boris N. Yeltsin, the energetic new chief of the Moscow city party organization and a Gorbachev protege, had ordered police and health agencies in the capital to "drastically improve" anti-drug education programs and to "do away with the conditions that encourage this ugly phenomenon."

Marijuana and toxic-substance abuse are worrisome enough, but the focus of official concern appears to be the large-scale diversion of poppies from state-run farms scattered from the western Ukraine to the Volga uplands, a span of more than 1,000 miles.

The dazzling red flowers are cultivated partly for the medical industry but mainly for seed. Poppy-seed cake is a traditional East European dessert, and the seed oil is an ingredient of paints. Soviet press reports are deliberately vague about methods of illicit processing, but young Russians, like Poles and Hungarians, seem to have learned the simple technique of cooking a crude opium extract from the poppy plant.

This appears to be the drug Russians call *koknar*, a term Soviet reports have used without explaining. Poles call it *kompot*, an ironic play on the name of a healthful drink made from stewed fruit.

Soviet officials have disclosed no estimates for the number of drug users, but the potential for abuse is clearly greater than in Poland, where officials count 35,000 opiate addicts and estimate 200,000 additional users in a population less than one-seventh the size of the Soviet Union's.

"The poppies are hardly in bloom before the 'tourists' appear in the villages, as the *kolkhozniks* [collective farmers] call drug users," the *Komsomolskaya Pravda* reported in June from the central Volga city of Kuibyshev. In keeping with a customary practice of the Soviet press, it focused on one illustrative region and only hinted at similar problems elsewhere in the Ukraine.

"They come in cars. In groups. On motorcycles. From Orenburg and Krasnodar. They even come from the Baltic region," 1,000 miles to the north, the newspaper said, not to admire the beauty of the crimson fields but to raid them.

It noted that farmers sometimes find syringes and scraps of gauze in the fields, indicating that some of the raiders cook up, filter and inject opiates on the spot before stealing away with bags of poppy seed pods.

Local officials were quoted as saying that raids on the fields constitute an entirely new law enforcement problem that calls for the "most urgent, the most effective steps" while it is still of manageable scale.



A police official in Kuibyshev compared the easy availability of the raw base for narcotics to turning on a water faucet and having moonshine flow out. The chairman of a collective farm, Nikolai V. Myaskin, remarked that "only the lazy don't collect these flower heads."

To local officials, guarding the fields is an obvious solution, but not to the man who had to implement it.

"Guard them? How?" Myaskin asked. "I don't have a helicopter. There's one guard for every 250 hectares [618 acres], and he doesn't patrol the fields in a car but on horseback."

Officials from the regional prosecutor's office, police and farm managers met in January to consider the problem and came up with the idea of building watchtowers in the fields. "But how many are needed?" the embattled chairman persisted. "How many people are needed to man them? Where do I find these guards?"

"These measures accomplish nothing," said Gen. G.A. Dankov, chief of the regional police. "You create an outward show of activity, so as to say steps have been taken, you can live in peace."

He said the Interior Ministry is organizing new anti-drug units, working on installing electric alarm systems in the poppy fields and studying the experience of the Kharkov district, in the distant Ukraine, which has reportedly consolidated widely separated poppy fields to make them easier to guard. Beyond this, the general said, public awareness is vital.

As a warning to others, the newspaper told the story of a

23-year-old truck driver recruited by drug dealers in the Kuibyshev area to pick half a dozen bags of poppy heads along his route, where unguarded fields of flowers stretched for miles. He reportedly had reaped 100 rubles a bag—two weeks' average wages in the Soviet Union—and six years in prison, one per bag, when the gang was caught.

Letters and comments in the Soviet press have pointed to several plausible reasons for the surge in drug abuse, none of them profound. The search for deeper explanations still seems hung up on the shoals of ideology, which insists that only the West can have systemic social defects of the kind that proliferate drug addiction.

Drugs are said to be fashionable. Young Soviets are as curious and as vulnerable to peer pressure as any, and they feel an added compulsion to be part of the world at large, to do what Western teen-agers do. In addition, the current anti-drinking campaign has made vodka and brandy more expensive and harder to find, prompting the search for substitutes.

Yet the official press still insists that the Soviet Union's drug problem cannot possibly have anything in common with the West's affliction.

"In the Soviet Union, there are none of the social causes that push young people into the narcotics whirlpool in the West," as Moskovsky Komsomolets assured its readers recently. "We have to look elsewhere for the roots of our misfortune, in defects in the upbringing of teen-agers in the family and the school."



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DONALD T. REGAN

FROM: CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: Status of Drug Abuse Policy Initiatives

The Domestic Policy Council Working Group on Drug Abuse Policy met on Tuesday, August 26, 1986. Legislative issues were made a priority. Updates of the task force reports are due today. The Working Group will meet again on Tuesday, September 2nd, to finalize a report for submission to the DPC on September 8th.

Drug-Free Public Housing: At the request of HUD, we set up a new task force on "drug-free public housing," chaired by HUD with participation by HHS and Justice. This task force's proposals will be included under Goal #6 - Expanded Awareness and Prevention.

Drug-Free Workplace: As of August 26, 1986, the task force responsible for developing national initiatives for a drug-free workplace continued to focus their attention on potential disagreements concerning drug testing in the Federal workplace. Labor is reluctant to proceed on national initiatives which address the larger issue until an Executive Order for the Federal workplace is signed. Therefore, we are working directly with OPM, Justice and HHS to ensure that we act upon items reflecting the President's views. A draft outline is attached (A).

Treatment: OPM has received an agreement from insurance carriers for increased coverage of alcohol and drug related medical programs for the Federal workforce.

Drug-Free Schools: Education's initiatives -- the Zero Tolerance Act and the booklet -- still look good. As a result of the task force, they have entered into an agreement with Defense concerning the DOD school system. Release of the booklet by Mrs. Reagan is tentatively scheduled for September 16th.

Private Sector Initiatives: The task force is refining the proposals in the draft report forwarded to you on August 22. A revised report, with funding information, is expected today.

Communications: A draft schedule of events from September through December 1986 is being submitted to Dennis Thomas.

Legislation: Justice is incorporating Administration proposals into a 6-title package which conforms to the President's six goals (see Attachment B). Justice is also preparing packages on proposals by Republican Members of Congress and the House Democrat Omnibus Drug proposal.

Some Interesting Proposals:

- 700
 • Presidential letters to all state governors and CEO's of Fortune 500 companies, outlining the President's national crusade against illegal drugs and asking them to follow his lead. At the same time, similar letters to be sent from the Vice President to all lieutenant governors, from the Attorney General to all state attorney generals, from the Secretary of Education to all heads of state boards of education, etc.
- Executive Order for drug-free public housing.
- 2
 • Establishment of coordination groups: Presidential Media Advisory Board, Interagency Prevention Task Force, and Presidential Private Sector Commission on Drug Abuse Prevention.

Related Issues:

- An update of Administration Accomplishments in health-related matters is scheduled for completion by COB September 3, 1986. Law enforcement will not provide input until later in the week.
- FAA is reportedly planning to announce a urinalysis testing program. We can expect criticism -- the testing will be conducted as part of the annual physical, thereby allowing temporary abstinence from drugs in order to pass the test.
- The National Defense Council is planning a press conference for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 2, 1986, to challenge each Member of Congress and their staff to follow the President's lead and take urine tests for drugs. There will be no cost -- Diagnostic Dimensions, Inc., a division of Hoffmann-LaRoche, will sponsor the testing. The National Defense Council will also make public their rating of each Member of Congress on drug-related abuse issues. They will propose legislation which reflects the President's philosophy and six goals.

Attachments

- A. Draft Outline of Proposed Federal Workplace Initiative
- B. Legislative Summary



OUTLINE OF PROPOSED INITIATIVES  
FOR A DRUG-FREE FEDERAL WORKPLACE

The following initiatives are currently being proposed as a comprehensive plan of action toward a drug-free federal workplace.

- Awareness and prevention, including:
  - Aggressive public relations campaign focusing on the incompatibility of illegal drug use and federal employment; and
  - Agency programs to increase employee awareness of the detrimental effects of illegal drug use and what can be done to stop it.
- Legislation changes to make current illegal drug use an absolute disqualifier for entry into federal employment and a basis for termination after the failure of certain procedures by the employee, regardless of a claimed "handicapping" condition or effect on job performance.
- Identification of drug users through:
  - Increased supervisory training to recognize and deal with illegal drug users;
  - Mandatory testing of employees in sensitive positions; and
  - ? - Voluntary or "for cause" testing for all employees.
- Effective management of drug-using employees which creates a balance, as appropriate, between concern for the workplace and concern for the employee by including:
  - A "grace period" between notification of testing and actual testing.
  - Counseling and rehabilitation services for those employees who have been identified for the first time as illegal drug users and who cannot refrain from using illegal drugs on their own initiative.
  - Upgraded or increased coverage for alcohol and drug related medical programs in the federal employees health benefits;



- Upgraded and re-emphasized availability of governmentwide Employee Assistance Programs;
- Disciplinary action or removal from employment of those illegal drug users who refuse to stop using illegal drugs; and
- The ability to remove illegal drug users from positions related to public safety or national security.
- Pre-employment screening of applicants for Federal positions, including:
  - Revision of application forms for all Federal employment to include illegal drug use questions;
  - Urine screening for applicants to sensitive positions; and
  - New regulations requiring referral of a drug or alcohol disqualified applicant for counseling and rehabilitation before reconsideration of the applicant;
- Agency discretion with centralized guidelines to ensure fairness and consistency, including:
  - Fully informed management, unions, and employees, regarding the established drug policies and the consequences of policy violations;
  - Awareness by employees that being drug-free is a condition of employment and, for sensitive positions, that drug testing is a part of their job requirements;
  - Advance notice of intent to test when initiating a new program;
  - Proper handling and rigorously accounted for samples and records;
  - Testing performed by properly certified laboratories;
  - Confirmation testing on positives before any negative action is taken;
  - Guidelines to ensure consistency and fairness in managing drug-using employees; and
  - Complete confidentiality for the results of individual tests.

8/29/86 DRAFT

IV LEGISLATIVE ACTION

DRAFTED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A. GOALS

On August 4, in response to the crisis in drug use, the President announced a major new strategy to escalate and win, the war on illegal drugs. To accomplish that end, he charged this group with developing a plan, including legislation, to accomplish six major goals:

1. To ensure drug-free workplace, with the federal government taking the lead, and with particular attention given to employees in sensitive positions.
2. To ensure Drug-free schools, from grade schools to universities.
3. Improved research into the dangers of drugs and the development of better treatment strategies and drug testing technology.
4. Better international cooperation to interdict foreign supplies and bring drug smugglers to justice.
5. Strengthened law enforcement here in the United States.

6. A private sector-public sector partnership to expand public awareness of the dangers of illegal drug, use leading to a new attitude that any use of illegal substances is simply unacceptable.

The key to the President's address was the recognition that we must move beyond a narrow focus on controlling the supply of drugs. While we have had successes in this area, we need to look to other avenues, including better education and treatment strategies as well as measures to reduce the demand for illegal drugs. The legislative package which we propose contains a separate title to implement each of these six goals.

The following discussion will briefly summarize the six titles of the proposed administration bill, analyze the rationale for their inclusion and explain how they fit in with the strategy recently announced by the President. The bills themselves and accompanying material discuss the actual effect of the statutory changes in greater detail.

## **B. THE ADMINISTRATION BILL**

### **I. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**

There can be little doubt that drug use, whether on or off the job, seriously impairs employee health and productivity.



Moreover, due to current law enforcement priorities, drug use has been effectively decriminalized in most jurisdictions, thereby allowing drug users to escape responsibility for the harm which their conduct causes society. It is a fundamental principle of life in a free society that individuals should be held accountable for their actions, hence, we believe that an essential first step in reducing the demand for illegal drugs is to ensure that drug users suffer some penalty for their actions. Mandatory drug testing for employees in sensitive positions, with some employment related sanction, will reduce the demand for illegal drugs and is a necessary first step if we are to realize our goal of a drug-free workplace.

The first title of the administration bill would mandate a drug free federal workplace and authorize a limited program of drug testing for employees with sensitive responsibilities relating to national security, public safety and the protection of life and property. Drug testing would also be authorized for all applicants for employment and for any employee where there is reasonable suspicion to believe that he uses illegal drugs or in the course of an accident investigation relating to national security, public safety and the protection of life and property. The bill also amends existing statutes, including the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, to make clear that neither of these statutes would preclude the federal government from taking disciplinary action against

employees found to be using drugs. Finally, federal employees convicted of trafficking in drugs would be automatically dismissed and barred from all future federal employment.

While the federal government can set the standard for a drug-free workplace, much remains to be done among private sector employers. Many corporations have instituted drug-testing programs with great success, but others have been deterred by the potential for legal liability arising under certain vaguely worded federal statutes and expansive judicial interpretations. In an effort to remove this impediment, this title of the bill would also provide that no federal statute should be interpreted to bar the use of drug testing by private employers. In light of the administration's commitment to the principle of federalism, the bill does not preempt state and local laws which might also prevent drug testing programs. Hopefully, the President's leadership will encourage states and localities to reconsider any prohibitions which they may have enacted.

## II. DRUG FREE SCHOOLS

Title II of the administration bill addresses the problems of drugs in our educational institutions. In order to help schools fight the problem of illegal drug use, this title would establish a special \$100 million grant program to help fund school drug prevention programs and research aimed at reducing

drug use in schools. In addition, continuation of the funding levels for local educational agencies would be contingent on their submission of a plan for achieving and maintaining drug-free schools and then demonstrating that its schools had made progress in reducing drug use.

With respect to drug testing programs, educational institutions could face the same legal constraints as does private enterprise. Hence, this title too would provide that no federal statute be interpreted to bar drug testing by educational institutions.

### III. IMPROVED RESEARCH INTO PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Many individuals who abuse drugs do so not out of physical or psychological compulsion, but consciously, as a matter of free choice. These people should learn to "just say no" and be held accountable for their decisions. Sadly however, many others have become addicted to drug use and can only break free with the aid of psychological counseling or medical treatment. Here, it is appropriate for government, schools and private employers to lend a helping hand.

The third title of the administration bill focuses on research and assistance programs to enhance drug treatment and prevention programs. Specifically this bill will authorize an additional \$\_\_\_million for drug research and treatment programs.



#### IV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The administration remains committed to an aggressive strategy to stop the supply of drugs through effective law enforcement techniques in the United States and improved international cooperation to halt the flow of drugs before they reach our borders. As a general matter, we are doing as much as we can, in consultation with our allies, to halt the flow of narcotics across our borders. However, we have identified several additional changes, incorporated in title IV, to aid in this effort.

First, is repeal of the "Mansfield Amendment" which prohibits federal officers from participating in illegal drug arrests in foreign countries or from being present during interrogation of an American arrested in a foreign country. Another proposal would allow federal authorities to seize and civilly forfeit property located in the United States that was either derived from the commission of a violation of a foreign drug law or intended to be used in the commission of such a violation. Finally, this title would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow deportation of aliens involved in all types of drug trafficking.

#### V. STRENGTHENING LAW ENFORCEMENT

While much has been accomplished in our law enforcement efforts, we have also identified a number of statutory enhancements of our existing powers which would aid in the war on illegal drugs. The six subparts of this title of the bill would strengthen and clarify the penalties for drug dealing in a number of significant respects, including the imposition of the death penalty for the principal organizer of a major drug ring.

Three changes are particularly noteworthy. One would amend rule 35 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to authorize a court to reduce a sentence upon the application of the government if the defendant has provided substantial assistance to the government in the investigation and prosecution of another crime. Currently, some courts have concluded that where there is a statutory mandate for a minimum sentence, they cannot reduce this minimum even where the government so moves the court. Another change would establish controls over the production of drug precursors and chemicals essential to the manufacture of controlled substances. And controlled substance analogs (so called "mutant" drugs) would be placed on the schedule of controlled substances absent the filing of an Investigational New Drug request by the manufacturer.

Although not included in this package, increased funding for law enforcement agencies is clearly the key to a successful anti-

drug effort. The President's budget requests additional money to fund various drug enforcement activities and these requests are generally being favorably received by the Congress.

## VI. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

Perhaps our most powerful weapon in the war on drugs is a determined campaign of public education to warn Americans, and particularly our youth, of the dangers illegal drug use. In this struggle to change public attitudes toward drug use, it is essential that we enlist the assistance of private enterprise, educational institutions and non-profit groups in a coordinated fashion. ACTION and the Department of Health and Human Services have taken the lead in establishing the kinds of private sector-public sector partnerships which can make a serious impact on public perceptions about drugs.

Unfortunately, these efforts have been hampered by certain statutory constraints on the utilization of volunteer services. Notably, the Competition in Contracting Act and other laws governing procurement have frustrated efforts by private individuals, particularly producers and directors, who offer to prepare TV and radio public service announcement on the dangers of drug use if the government will pick up their out of pocket expenses. Because some money must be spent, the laws require that the proposal be advertised to solicit competition, and the



attendant red tape and delay generally leads to a withdrawal of the offer.

To resolve this problem, title VI of the administration bill would create a narrow, one year exemption from the federal statutes mandating competition in procurement for services donated to the government to aid in the campaign against drug use--but only where at least 50% of the actual reasonable costs of providing the property and services have been donated. This exemption is limited in scope and duration because we do not want to imply that we are seeking to dispense with the salutatory principle of competition in government procurement in all cases. Instead, this limited exemption could be reviewed and extended by the Congress if it proves to be effective.

Another statutory barrier to our public education efforts is contained in section 1461 of title 22, the general authorization of the United States Information Agency. This bars USIA from releasing any film, radio spot, or book to domestic audiences if it was prepared for a foreign audience. While such a prohibition in the domestic display of "political propaganda" might make sense as a general matter, there have been several occasions in which outstanding USIA films on the dangers of drug use could not be shown to domestic audiences for this reason. Hence, section 2 of this title would create a narrow exception from this

prohibition for USIA film and other material discussing the dangers of illegal drug use.

C. CONGRESSIONAL DRUG INITIATIVES

The working group has carefully examined the myriad of Congressional anti-drug proposals, devoting particular attention to the package of bills being prepared by the House Democratic leadership. Many of these proposals are similar to those included in the administration bill, or in other bills which we have previously proposed. Unfortunately, many others are motivated by the simple desire to "throw money at the problem" either in the form of grants to local law enforcement and treatment programs or in the purchase of expensive new hardware to aid in the interdiction effort. While more money may be needed, our preliminary conclusion is that many of the Congressional proposals are poorly thought out and not cost-effective. We have prepared a detailed analysis of the House package in the form of a views letter from Justice and hopefully, we can work with our supporters in Congress to bring any legislation into conformity with the administration's priorities.