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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** TURNER, CARLTON: FILES

**Withdrawer**

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**File Folder** MEMOS - AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1983 708 (3)

**FOIA**

F06-0060/01

**Box Number** 34

POTTER

25

Doc No	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	MEMO	C. TURNER TO FRED FIELDING RE TESTIMONY IN FEDERAL COURT (PARTIAL)	1	8/22/1983	B6 B7(C)
2	NOTES	RE SAME TOPIC AS DOC #1 (PAGE 1, PARTIAL)	1	8/22/1983	B6 B7(C)
3	MEMO	COPY OF DOC #1 (C. TURNER TO FRED FIELDING RE TESTIMONY IN FEDERAL COURT) (PARTIAL)	1	8/22/1983	B6 B7(C)
4	MEMO	FIELDING TO RICHARD DARMAN RE DRAFT TELEGRAM TO GOV. HARRIS	1	8/16/1983	
THE ABOVE DOCUMENT IS PENDING REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH E.O. 13233					

open  
11/3/09  
KMU

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

MEMOS : AUGUST, 1983

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ROGER PORTER

FROM: <sup>CA</sup> CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: Sharyn Lumpkins

Sharyn Lumpkins has been loaned to the Drug Abuse Policy Office by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for one year. She has been of great assistance in preparing for the release of the 1982 Federal Strategy for Prevention of Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking, writing articles for publication, coordinating the preparation of the Strategy Implementation Status Report, chairing our Research Task Force, preparing background papers and talking points and many other projects relating to the overall operations of the office.

For your information, her pass expires on September 1, 1983 and she will be returning to DEA. It is with much regret that we bid Sharyn farewell, but she is returning DEA to take over a new position; Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Intelligence.

cc: Judy Johnston



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 30, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR DANIEL J. MURPHY

FROM: <sup>CA</sup> CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: Dr. Murdock Head

For your information, I have talked to the National Federation of Parents For Drug Free Youth (NFP) and Straight, Inc., a drug rehabilitation program, regarding Dr. Murdock Head.

NFP would like to look over the information about Dr. Head. Mrs. Pat Burch will be in touch with me by September 10, 1983. Please feel free to contact Pat at her home, 983-1294.

Mr. Mel Sembler of Straight, Inc. and I will have dinner in mid-September and discuss the issue in more detail.

READERS DIGEST



MELVIN R. LAIRD  
*Senior Counsellor: National and International Affairs*

July 20, 1983

PERSONAL

Dear Dan:


This letter concerns two rather important items on which you can be of great assistance.

One concerns our mutual friend, Murdock. His attorney is preparing a request for Murdock to do public service work for the remainder of his term in accordance with the remarks made by the late Judge Oren Lewis at the time he pronounced the sentence. I am enclosing a "Draft Talking Paper For Discussion Purposes Only" which was prepared at Airlie this month. I think it is self-explanatory. You will also find enclosed a draft of a letter to Murdock's attorney to be used in the filing of the public service request. This letter needs to be worked on, as you can see. But, I thought it would be helpful for you to have some guide to follow.

The second item has to do with an article which I would like to see in the over 19 million copies of the Digest here in the United States. It would be a great help to the Reagan Administration efforts, I believe. I am enclosing a little memorandum which I would like to get approved so that we can go forward with the story.

With best wishes and kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



Melvin R. Laird

Admiral Daniel J. Murphy (USN Ret.)  
Chief of Staff to the Vice President  
Room 272, Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20501

Enclosures

1                   The judgment of the Court in that case is that you  
2                   be committed to the custody of the Attorney General for a  
3                   period of three years. The second matter that was heard here  
4                   was, I call it the lesser of the bribery charges. I don't  
5                   know, giving of a gratuity or whatever you want to call it.  
6                   It was referred to as Count Two, but it was a separate charge  
7                   although it wasn't an indictment. It was for all legal  
8                   purposes because you consented to it, same as an indictment,  
9                   That is the one involving giving a gratuity to Congressman  
10                  Flood within the statutory period which was expressly  
11                  submitted to the jury.

12                  They found that it occurred within the statutory  
13                  period and there is evidence to support it. It is the  
14                  judgment of the Court on that Count that you be committed to  
15                  the custody of the Attorney General for a period of 18 months.  
16                  The two of them are to run consecutively. I do that because  
17                  I don't believe and never did believe that you get the same  
18                  thing for doing or committing two offenses as you got for  
19                  one.

20                  ~~Now, I'm very much interested, Doctor, I will tell~~  
21                  ~~you this, I have already talked to the Probation Department.~~  
22                  ~~I make you no guarantees of any kind or description. I think~~  
23                  ~~you have a lot of natural ability. You have three~~



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~~professional expert trainings in the field of law, dentistry  
and medicine, and I am interested in a field myself which  
you might be able to help the public on as well as satisfy  
my curiosity, and that is in what can and should be done  
not to rehabilitate the youth of America, but to stop or to  
curtail and/or to slow down in some method this horrible  
juvenile misconduct beginning at the young ages of even  
eight or nine going on up to 18 and becoming our number one  
residians, becoming the number one felones, those that are  
convicted and now occupying our penitentiaries because they  
are from 18 to 23 or 4. That is the great bulk of them.~~

I have got some old fashioned ideas. I think you  
have got the talent. I would like for you to give some  
thought to it.

~~I have already told the Probation Department  
and when this becomes final, if something can be worked out  
to satisfy me in this case, that we're doing everybody some  
good, including you, by in repaying for your offenses,  
would certainly consider reducing the major portion of the  
sentence that is just imposed with the express condition  
that you spend the years that you would have to serve in  
the Penitentiary doing worthwhile work that  
ought to be done here.~~



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~~That is to see if we can find out, since you're~~  
~~qualified in three fields, that is legally and medically,~~  
~~what is causing the youth of this country to become so~~  
~~violent.~~ And it is greatly alarming, to me and particularly  
in a field where we don't have the old fashioned home  
supervision that we had when some of us were growing up due  
to changing in social standards with the women working in  
the degree that they are now. I don't know the cause of it,  
but I know it is alarming. ~~And I would much prefer to see~~  
~~you devote a lot of your time to that worthwhile endeavor~~  
~~than spending this four and a half or five years in the~~  
~~penitentiary. I would rather see you spend most of it~~  
~~outside.~~

Maybe nothing can be worked out. Of course, I also  
know that you are eligible for it not to serve more than  
25% of it. So I'm making no promises, but that is what it  
is. Let's get this back of us, get this appeal over, get  
all this other stuff back of us because you're still a  
young man compared to some people in age. I'm certain about  
it. You have got a lot of life ahead of you. If you save  
your \$500,000, your next \$500,000 instead of hiring  
attorneys, let's put it on this good, useful work. Next  
case.

Frank W. Dunham, Jr., Esquire  
Cohen, Gettings, Alper & Dunham  
1400 North Uhle Street  
Suite 500  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Frank:

It has come to my attention that you represent Dr. Murdock Head and that you anticipate requesting a reduction in his sentence so that he might pursue useful community service projects in lieu of further incarceration.

I have recently received the materials provided by Airlie Foundation concerning the experience of the Foundation and its Founder, Dr. Murdock Head, in matters involving interpersonal communications with leaders of Latin American countries, dissemination of information in those countries through utilization of mass media, including radio and television, and the particular experience of Dr. Head in the areas of drug trafficking and substance abuse. I have also conducted my own inquiry into Dr. Head's abilities and aptitude in order to determine whether he could be of assistance to me in my role as advisor to the Vice President. (As you must know from press accounts, Vice President Bush has been assigned the special task and responsibility of \_\_\_\_\_ by the President.)

I believe that Dr. Head could be of great assistance to me in my efforts to advise and assist the Vice President on the problem of drug importation from Latin America and on health issues generally related to substance abuse. I cannot imagine



a more worthwhile contribution to our efforts at this time than to have Dr. Head, if he is willing, to satisfy all or a part of any community service project the Court might impose by using his expertise to consult and work with me and members of my staff on this problem of great national concern. I am willing to not only utilize his talents, but I am also willing to monitor his efforts and report as required to any person the Court might designate to assure that any required number of hours of actual work is performed. Please let me know if you need any further specifics on what I have in mind.

Very truly yours,

Admiral Dan Murphy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 30, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ROGER PORTER

FROM: CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: Travel to South Africa

Due to the international travel regulations requiring that an employee of the Federal government leave the United States on an American Flag Carrier, I will not be attending the South African Conference on Marijuana in Durban, South Africa (September 14-21, 1983).

In order to leave the United States on an American Flag Carrier, I would have been forced to arrive two (2) days early and spend three (3) days en route. Please deobligate the money in Travel Authorization #XD3E14 (see attached).

cc: Judy Johnston



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MIKE BAROODY

FROM: CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: MacNeil/Lehrer Invitation

The MacNeil/Lehrer Show has invited me to be a guest on the Wednesday, August 31, show. The subject is paraquat and its uses. There will be three other guests in the half-hour program, but I was the first to be contacted; they would like to have one from Georgia, where we first sprayed paraquat on cannabis plants.

I welcome your comments, suggestions and/or concerns.

cc: Roger Porter



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1983

MEMORANDUM

FOR: WHITE HOUSE PHOTO OFFICE  
FROM: CARLTON TURNER  
SUBJECT: Picture Request

Please furnish 2 copies of each of the following pictures:

---

23 MA 83 313563-03  
5 AUG 82 C9576-07A

Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 26, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MIKE BAROODY

FROM: PATRICK McKELVEY *Patrick*

SUBJECT: People Magazine Interview

People Magazine has requested a two-hour interview with Dr. Carlton Turner for Monday morning, August 29, beginning at 9 a.m. in Carlton's office. The reporter is Margie Bonnett of Time Inc.'s Washington staff.

The subject is the eradication of domestic cannabis plants by paraquat spray.

People is not sending a photographer with Bonnett. However, they would like to put one in an aircraft the next time there is a DEA spraying, and they would like to photograph Carlton off the job with his family.

Carlton is on leave and out of town this week, but has been alerted and is willing to do the interview. If you have any problems with this or suggestions, please let me know on 6554 or 2209.



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 23, 1983

FOR: JUDY JOHNSTON  
FROM: SUE DAULAS  
SUBJECT: Dictaphone Equipment

WHCA has provided Dictaphone dictating/transcribing equipment to replace the previously used Lanier equipment. Carlton, Dan and Dick each had desk top dictating/transcribing Lanier equipment. These units were replaced by hand held Dictaphone dictating equipment. Would it be possible to acquire the desk top dictating/transcribing units for our office? The units are used for recording meetings in addition to playing back tapes which we are sent.

Today we had a situation where Jennifer tried to take dictation over the telephone. Because neither of us know shorthand, this is a very slow process. Dictaphone offers a Telephone Recording Adapter (P/N 877282) which permits two-way telephone recording. Would it be possible for OPD to order one of these and have it available for the entire staff to use?

Thanks.

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*pages tions*

*NO Document Description*

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1 MEMO

1 8/22/1983 B6

C. TURNER TO FRED FIELDING RE TESTIMONY  
IN FEDERAL COURT (PARTIAL)

B7(C)

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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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E.O. 13233

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 22, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

 CARLTON E. TURNER   
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Testimony In Federal Court

I have been asked by Don Ayer, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of California, to testify before the Federal Court on August 31, 1983 in Sacramento, California at the sentencing of three co-defendants. The defendants have been found guilty on two counts:

1. Conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana; and
2. Possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute.

The three co-defendants are:



b(6)  
b(7)(c)

The U.S. Attorney's office prosecuted the case and is preparing a Memorandum of Reiteration to stress why the Federal Government should take a strong stand in the sentencing of marijuana cases. Mr. Ayer has asked me to testify on the medical and psychological effects of marijuana at the sentencing. Do you have any objection to my testifying? Please let me know by August 26 so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Like Mr. Ayer, I believe it is important that we take a strong stand. Major marijuana cases have been treated lightly for too long and this is complementary to our eradication program.

cc: Roger Porter

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<i>NO Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>	
2	NOTES	1	8/22/1983	B6
	RE SAME TOPIC AS DOC #1 (PAGE 1, PARTIAL)			B7(C)

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8/22

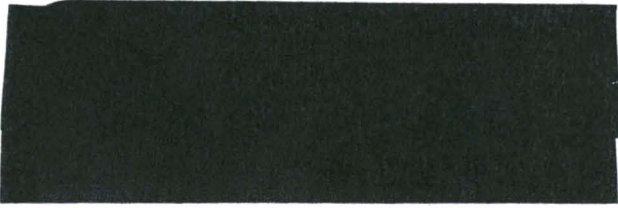
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Mary  
Ray

Don Ayer - FTS:448-2331  
US Atty - Sacramento

David Levy, Co-Counsel

Fed Court; Etn Dist of  
CA



b(6)  
b(7)(c)

found guilty

- 1) conspiracy to possess  
w/ intent to distr  
more than 1,000 k lbs  
of mj
- 2) pass. of controlled sub  
w/ intent to distribute

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

memo of reiteration  
why fed govt should  
take a strong stand

enhance point:  
recommend strong  
sentence

←—————→  
5:05  
5 pm

Explain / Medical &  
psych. effects  
on mj  
prove: that mj is  
a dangerous drug



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 22, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR KEN CRIBB

FROM:

for CARLTON TURNER *CT*

SUBJECT:

1983 Cannabis Eradication Program

For your information, the Kentucky Congressional Delegation was informed by the Drug Enforcement Administration prior to any paraquat spraying. The problem with some of the Congressmen was not that they hadn't been informed, but that they wanted an indepth briefing and had not received one. I talked with Congressmen Harold Rogers (R-KY) and Larry Hopkins (R-KY) while in Kentucky last Friday and they support our efforts.

Per our previous conversations, Mr. Meese would be likely to draw the most press coverage if he visited an area where we were spraying. However, in view of the publicity our paraquat spraying has already received, no spraying is scheduled for the next week or so.

I recommend Mr. Meese visit the Command Center in Sacramento while he is in California. It is not necessary that I participate, but will be there if Mr. Meese prefers.

I may be in California on August 31, 1983. Don Ayer, U.S. Attorney in Sacramento has requested that I testify at the sentencing of three convicted "growers." The U.S. Attorney prosecuted the case and is afraid that despite the fact that 4,500 plants were confiscated, the case will be treated lightly. Attached is my memo to Fred Fielding.

Arrangements for Mr. Meese's visit to the Command Center can be made through the U.S. Forest Service and DEA. Please let me know if you want me to set it up.

cc: Roger Porter

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3 MEMO

1 8/22/1983 B6

COPY OF DOC #1 (C. TURNER TO FRED FIELDING  
RE TESTIMONY IN FEDERAL COURT) (PARTIAL)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 22, 1983

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b(7)(c)

The U.S. Attorney's office prosecuted the case and is preparing a Memorandum of Reiteration to stress why the Federal Government should take a strong stand in the sentencing of marijuana cases. Mr. Ayer has asked me to testify on the medical and psychological effects of marijuana at the sentencing. Do you have any objection to my testifying? Please let me know by August 26 so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Like Mr. Ayer, I believe it is important that we take a strong stand. Major marijuana cases have been treated lightly for too long and this is complementary to our eradication program.

cc: Roger Porter




THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR KEN CRIBB

FROM:

for CARLTON TURNER 

SUBJECT:

The President's Trip to Spokane, WA

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has now sprayed paraquat in two (2) states; Georgia on August 12 and Kentucky on August 19. Because of the paraquat spraying there has been a great deal of media coverage given to our 1983 Domestic Marijuana Eradication/Suppression Program. Therefore, attached are all the fact sheets and talking points we have prepared on the subject. Also attached is a paraquat fact sheet released by DEA.

Due to the publicity given to our eradication program, it is possible the President will be asked questions during his upcoming trip to Spokane, Washington. The U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington, John E. Lamp, strongly supports the eradication program. For your information, also attached is an editorial which appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer on August 12, 1983.

Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

cc: Roger Porter

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Drug Abuse Policy Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 1983

FACT SHEET

DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES

The National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS) is the latest in a series of drug law enforcement initiatives directed at reducing the availability of illicit drugs in the United States.

The Reagan Administration has increased the overall effectiveness of drug law enforcement by bringing all available Federal, State and local resources and expertise to bear on the full spectrum of drug trafficking and related criminal activities.

On January 21, 1982, the Attorney General assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation concurrent jurisdiction with the Drug Enforcement Administration to investigate drug law offenses and assigned to the Director of the FBI general supervision over drug law enforcement efforts and policies.

In July 1981, there were 12 cooperative FBI/DEA investigations; today there are 475 underway. The number of court authorized wiretaps increased 178 percent between 1981 and 1982. The value of trafficker assets seized by DEA increased from \$94 million in 1980 to \$190 million in 1982.

The Reagan Administration was the first to encourage and support an aggressive national Domestic Marijuana Eradication/Suppression Program. Coordinated by DEA, the program has expanded from 7 States in 1981 to 40 States in 1983. In 1982 with 25 States participating, 2.5 million plants were destroyed and 2,512 violators were arrested.

Working together in the drug law enforcement effort are seven Federal agencies with law enforcement authority, prosecutors, U.S. military personnel, and State and local officials. The South Florida Task Force, created by President Reagan on January 28, 1982 and headed by Vice President Bush, is an outstanding example of cooperation and of the U.S. commitment to stop drug trafficking and related crime.

-more-



The South Florida experience is a model for two major national initiatives. The criminal investigation aspects are mirrored in 12 Organized Crime/Drug Enforcement (OCDE) Task Forces. The drug interdiction effort is expanded in the new National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS).

The Organized Crime/Drug Enforcement Task Forces were announced by President Reagan on October 14, 1982 as part of a major program headed by the Attorney General to combat drug trafficking by organized crime. The OCDE Task Forces are now operational in 12 key areas throughout the country to investigate and prosecute major organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking.

The National Narcotics Border Interdiction System, with an Executive Board chaired by Vice President Bush, was created by President Reagan on March 23, 1983 to combat drug smuggling around the borders of the United States from six regional offices.

On March 16, 1983, President Reagan forwarded to Congress the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1983. This significant legislative proposal includes reform of the bail laws, comprehensive reforms in Federal forfeiture laws, and sentencing reform.

Law Enforcement Coordinating Committees (LECC's) have been established by the Attorney General in 91 of the 94 Federal judicial districts. The heads of Federal, State and local prosecutorial and law enforcement agencies in the area are members and work together to focus all available resources on the most serious crime problems in each district. Indeed, each LECC has identified drug trafficking as the single most serious problem facing all levels of law enforcement.

These major initiatives are reinforced by U.S. military assistance, international cooperative investigations, refined intelligence collection and dissemination, innovative programs to control the diversion of drugs from legitimate commerce, and a spirit of cooperation and commitment at all levels.

# # #



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
DRUG ABUSE POLICY OFFICE

FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 19, 1982

COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT:

"One of the single most important steps that can lead to a significant reduction in crime is an effective attack on drug trafficking. Let me outline the major points in our narcotics enforcement strategy: a foreign policy that vigorously seeks to interdict and eradicate illicit drugs wherever cultivated, processed or transported. This includes the responsible use of herbicides." (New Orleans, LA - September 28, 1981)

"Drugs are already deeply into our social structure, so we must mobilize all our forces to stop the flow of drugs into this country, to let kids know the truth, to erase the false glamour that surrounds drugs, and to brand drugs such as marijuana exactly for what they are - dangerous, and particularly to school age children." (Rose Garden Ceremony, The White House - June 24, 1982)

"We're rejecting the helpless attitude that drug use is so rampant that we are defenseless to do anything about it. We're taking down the surrender flag that has flown over so many drug efforts; we're running up a battle flag." (Rose Garden Ceremony, The White House - June 24, 1982)

KEY POINTS:

The Administration's position is in support of domestic and international eradication of cannabis; however, the role of the Federal Government is to provide technical information and training, but not to be actively involved in actual eradication.

The method of eradication may vary depending on considerations such as accessibility of the growing site, the density and quantity of cannabis plants and the availability of manpower. Plants may be destroyed by handcutting, machine cutting, flame devices, or chemical herbicides applied by hand-operated sprayers or by aircraft. Cannabis eradication efforts have been underway in Hawaii and California for several years.

Regarding Marijuana and Marijuana Containing Paraquat

- Marijuana smoking impairs lung functions and marijuana is more widely used by high school seniors than tobacco cigarettes according to the 1981 High School Seniors Survey.

- The National Institute on Drug Abuse estimates that each year over 60,000 young people (under the age of 18) require treatment for problems related to marijuana use.
- Since 1976, the Mexican Government has used Paraquat successfully to eradicate cannabis in order to reduce marijuana production in Mexico.
- In 1977, it was confirmed that marijuana containing Paraquat was available on the street in the United States. Analysis by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in 1978 found that 3.6 percent of their samples of confiscated marijuana contained Paraquat.
- Not a single case of lung damage due to smoking marijuana containing Paraquat was found by CDC despite a follow-up on all reported cases during the "Paraquat Scare" in 1978.
- Marijuana containing Paraquat is very different from Paraquat alone. In the smoking process, approximately 99.8% of the Paraquat decomposes.
- Paraquat is a fast-acting herbicide which is biodegradable, photodegradable and decomposes upon storage and heating.
- Paraquat has been on the market as a herbicide since 1962 and is one of the most widely used herbicides in the world.
- Paraquat is a legal herbicide for use anywhere in the U.S. as long as the label instructions are followed.
- Paraquat is used to control broad-leaf weeds and cannabis is a broad-leaf weed.
- Approximately 4 million pounds of Paraquat is sprayed on over 10.7 million acres in the U.S. each year.
- The Administration supports the eradication of the cannabis plant as a legitimate activity to reduce the availability and use of marijuana.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Drug Abuse Policy Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 27, 1983

FACT SHEET

THE DOMESTIC MARIJUANA SUPPRESSION PROGRAM

Domestic cultivation of cannabis now supplies an estimated 20 percent of the marijuana available in the United States. Domestic production has been increasing since the early 1970's. Some marijuana production is now occurring in almost every state.

A key element of President Reagan's strategy against drug abuse is the interdiction and eradication of illicit drugs "wherever cultivated, processed or transported. This includes the responsible use of herbicides." All cocaine and heroin and about 80 percent of the marijuana available in this country are produced in foreign countries. The United States has undertaken a vigorous foreign policy to encourage other nations to meet their drug control responsibilities, and we must set the example.

The Reagan Administration is the first to encourage and support a nation-wide aggressive domestic cannabis eradication program.

- Marijuana is a dangerous drug which has damaging effects on the lungs, reproductive organs and the immunity system; impairs memory, learning performance and motivation; and may permanently damage brain tissue. Eleven percent of our young people ages 12-17 are regular users of marijuana.
- The production and distribution of marijuana are illegal activities which breed contempt for the law, threaten public safety, and create the potential for violence and public corruption.
- The domestic eradication program is an integral part of the overall Federal strategy to apply pressure on all aspects of the drug abuse problem so that success in reducing supplies from one area will not be reversed by increased production from other sources.

The nature of domestic production places it primarily under the jurisdiction and capabilities of state and local authorities. The Federal role is one of leadership, coordination and technical support to local efforts and vigorous pursuit of illegal cultivation on Federal lands.

The Federal government will also directly prosecute large cases of commercial cultivation where major drug traffickers are involved or where state penalties are inadequate in the particular situation.

The Drug Enforcement Administration coordinates the national Domestic Marijuana Suppression Program which promotes information sharing and contributes training, equipment, investigative and aircraft support to state and local law enforcement officers. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is also assisting.

The States of California and Hawaii initiated eradication programs in 1979. In 1981, Oregon, Florida, Georgia, Missouri and Kentucky started eradication programs. Since 1981 when seven states participated, the cooperative eradication program has expanded rapidly to include 25 states in 1982 and 40 in 1983. In 1982, 2.5 million plants were destroyed in 4,657 plots, 2,512 violators were arrested, and 785 weapons were seized.

The use of state National Guard resources to assist is also expanding. In 1982, Hawaii, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma were assisted by their state National Guard. In 1983, 10 states have signed support agreements. The National Guard Bureau is encouraging state participation.

Federal funding for the cooperative effort has more than doubled, from about \$960,000 in 1982 to \$2.4 million in 1983. Training is being expanded from four aerial observation schools in 1982 to 17 eradication schools and 12-17 prosecutors schools in 1983. DEA has dedicated 11 aircraft to the national eradication effort in 1983. Detection is also being improved by the use of high altitude surveillance. Individual citizens can play an important role by reporting suspected cultivation to local law enforcement agencies.

The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are actively involved in a major effort to eradicate cannabis being cultivated on Federal lands.

The use of herbicides for the eradication of cannabis is encouraged whenever feasible and environmentally sound. Trace amounts of herbicide in a marijuana cigarette have never been found to cause lung damage, but the serious health problems caused by marijuana itself are well documented.

The seriousness with which Federal authorities view the domestic production of marijuana is well illustrated by the fact that a recent case, involving four growers and approximately 4,400 cannabis plants, was personally prosecuted by the United States Attorney in Sacramento, California.

# # #



## DOMESTIC CANNABIS FACTS

The following information was developed by a domestic marijuana working group, chaired by the Special Assistant to the President for Drug Abuse Policy and consisting of representatives from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Department of Agriculture, Department of Interior, Department of State, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), State Drug Enforcement Alliance (SDEA), U.S. Forest Service, and University of Mississippi Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

### Domestic Cannabis Cultivation:

Cannabis sativa is a broad-leaf weed which is found in three basic types: (1) Fiber type cannabis (Indian hemp) has been cultivated around the world for hundreds of years as a source of rope. (2) Intermediate type cannabis is cultivated in Southwest Asia to produce hashish. (3) Drug type cannabis is cultivated in South America, North America and Southeast Asia to produce the crude drug marijuana.

It is important not to confuse naturalized hemp with drug type cannabis cultivated for the production of marijuana. Thousands of acres of naturalized hemp grow wild in the United States, especially in the mid-West. Naturalized hemp has an extremely low potency and normally is not used to produce marijuana.

Most domestic cannabis cultivation occurs in small plots (versus fields). Sometimes domestic cannabis is cultivated among other vegetation.

Cannabis is a hardy annual weed. If all other conditions are excellent, temperature has to fall below 25 degrees to kill cannabis. Most drug type cannabis matures at 20-22 weeks from date of planting. Plants may be about 10-12 feet tall at maturity, although this depends on the variety of cannabis and the method of planting.

### Potency:

The principal psychoactive or mind-altering ingredient of marijuana is a substance known as THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol). The average potency of marijuana available in the United States has increased from less than 1 percent THC in the early 1970's to almost 3 percent as a result of the development of higher potency varieties by foreign and domestic sources. Some special varieties of marijuana may have a THC content of up to 11 percent: however, this is the exception.



Sinsemilla:

Sinsemilla is the seedless crude drug product from any female cannabis plant regardless of type. Production of sinsemilla requires removing the male plants before they release pollen.

Sinsemilla is rarely, if ever, found in large plots. The production of sinsemilla requires tightly controlled conditions and is so labor-intensive that it requires the care of one person full-time for every 20-40 plants.

Contrary to popular belief, the production of sinsemilla may or may not result in a higher potency product. The myth that all sinsemilla has a high potency helps generate a demand. In fact, sinsemilla potency ranges from 0.1 to 11 percent and, therefore, some sinsemilla has a lower potency than regular marijuana. Regardless of potency, sinsemilla is sold for a much higher price (reportedly \$125-\$200 per ounce vs. \$16-\$32 for regular marijuana).

Further, not all marijuana sold as sinsemilla is, in fact, sinsemilla. Many users who believe they are buying sinsemilla are actually buying regular marijuana at sinsemilla prices. If the finished product contains seeds, the proper designation is "buds" and not sinsemilla.

Plant Yields:

Domestic production and eradication estimates are most accurately measured by number of plants versus acreage due to the nature of domestic cultivation and the manageable number of plants for each operation.

Estimated yield of drug product per cannabis plant should assume that the plant has reached full maturity in order to establish a standard. Average yield estimates recognize that there is much variety in individual plants.

The weight of marketable marijuana produced from the average cannabis plant is approximately 13 percent of the wet weight of each plant.

Each regular cannabis plant will yield approximately 0.75 pounds of marketable marijuana. Each sinsemilla cannabis plant will yield approximately 1 pound of marketable sinsemilla.

An estimated 5 percent of cultivated plants (12" +) will be lost to disease and other natural causes, e.g., fungal stem and root rot, pests, nutrient deficiencies, adverse weather, etc. Of those plants reaching maturity, an unknown number will not be harvested, but will be abandoned due to enforcement pressure or destroyed by other means.

## TALKING POINTS

### Domestic Marijuana Production

- A key element of President Reagan's strategy against drug abuse is the interdiction and eradication of illicit drugs "wherever cultivated, processed or transported. This includes the responsible use of herbicides."
- All cocaine and heroin and about 80 percent of the marijuana available in this country are produced in foreign countries.
- Domestic cannabis cultivation supplies about 20 percent of the marijuana available in the U.S. Domestic production has been increasing since the early 1970's, and some marijuana production is now occurring in almost every State.
- The cultivation of cannabis is an illegal activity which breeds contempt for the law and increases the potential for violence, corruption, and the threat to public safety.
- The United States, as a signatory to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, is required to control the domestic production of marijuana. The Single Convention is the cornerstone agreement which we cite in encouraging other nations to meet their responsibilities in narcotics control, and we must set the example.
- The Reagan Administration is the first to encourage and support an aggressive national cannabis eradication program.
- The Drug Enforcement Administration coordinates the program, which promotes information sharing and contributes training, equipment, investigative and aircraft support to State and local law enforcement officers.
- The States of California and Hawaii initiated eradication programs in 1979. In 1981, Oregon, Florida, Georgia, Missouri and Kentucky started eradication programs. Since that time, the cooperative eradication program has expanded rapidly to include 25 States in 1982 and 40 in 1983.
- In 1982, 2.5 million plants were destroyed in 4,657 plots, 2,512 violators were arrested, and 785 weapons were seized.
- In 1982, Hawaii, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma were assisted by their State National Guard. In 1983, 10 states have signed support agreements. The National Guard Bureau is encouraging state participation.
- The use of herbicides for the eradication of cannabis is encouraged whenever feasible and environmentally sound.



- Detection is being improved by the use of high altitude surveillance.
- Federal funding for the cooperative effort has been increased by 150 percent, from about \$960,000 in 1982 to \$2.4 million in 1983.
- Training is being expanded from four aerial observation schools in 1982 to 17 eradication schools and 12-17 prosecutors schools in 1983.
- Full time training and airwing coordinators have been assigned.
- DEA has dedicated 11 aircraft to the national eradication effort in 1983.
- The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are expanding programs to detect and eradicate cannabis being cultivated in national forests and on other public lands.
- The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is participating.
- The Federal government will also directly prosecute large cases of commercial cultivation where major drug traffickers are involved or where state penalties are inadequate in the particular situation.



U.S. Department of Justice  
Drug Enforcement Administration

Washington, D.C. 20537

FACT SHEET: PARAQUAT

August 1983

HISTORY/PURPOSE OF PARAQUAT

Developed in England in the late 1950's; been on the market as a herbicide since 1962. Used widely throughout the world since that time.

Non-selective, fast-acting herbicide for broad-leaf weeds. (Cannabis is a broad-leaf weed.) Bio-degradable, photodegradable and decomposes upon storage and heating.

Known internationally as Gramoxone. Sold in United States as Paraquat C, by Ortho c/o Chevron Corporation.

A legal herbicide for use anywhere in the United States as long as the label instructions are followed.

EXTENT OF LICIT USE

One of the most widely used herbicides in the world.

Acreage: over 10.7 million acres annually in United States

444,000	acres of farmland in	Kentucky	in	CY 82
318,000	" "	" "	" Tennessee	" "
312,000	" "	" "	" Georgia	" "

Quantity: 4 million pounds used in United States annually

Between 50,000 - 80,000 gallons were used for agricultural purposes in Georgia in 1982. Some was applied by aerial spraying.



### Crops

Pre-Emergent, i.e., spray fields before crops are up: corn, lettuce, melons, peppers, sugar beets, tomatoes, barley, wheat, asparagus, cotton, soybeans.

Pasture and range reseeding. Preharvest vine killing for potatoes. Direct application as a defoliant for soybeans, sunflower, sugarcane.

Directed Sprays to certain areas of the fields in orchards (peaches, pears, almonds, walnuts, sour cherries), vineyards, shade and ornamental trees, guava, passion fruit, pineapple, small berries, grain sorghum, field corn.

Non-Crop uses: along public roadways, railroads, electric utility stations, etc.

### **MEDICAL EFFECTS**

In 1978 the Center for Disease Control (CDC) found only 3.6 % of confiscated samples had traces of paraquat.

Not a single case of lung disease was reported to CDC due to smoking marijuana containing paraquat residue despite a follow-up of all cases reported from the "paraquat scare" of 1978.

In July 1979, CDC calculated that if over several months, the regular marijuana using population of 10-20 million daily smoked 5 marijuana cigarettes which contained 500 ppm of paraquat, it was statistically possible that 50-100 individuals could suffer some lung damage over and above that related to marijuana use alone. However, to date, no case of human poisoning from paraquat-contaminated marijuana has been confirmed in the United States.

In the smoking process, 99.8 % of any paraquat residue on a marijuana cigarette is decomposed.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS (EFFECTS/THC)**

Trace amounts of herbicide in a marijuana cigarette have never been found to cause lung damage, but the serious health problems caused by marijuana and primary psychoactive ingredient, THC, are well-documented.

## PROGRAM OPTIONS FOR MARIJUANA CONTROL

(considered by State/INM in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Statement)

- No action
- Legalization
- Increased enforcement activity
- Different land use programs
- Alternative eradication techniques
- Use of alternative herbicides
- Use of a marking agent in conjunction with herbicides
- Application of paraquat

## ALTERNATIVES IN MARIJUANA ERADICATION

Genetic manipulation: controlled breeding to produce THC-less plants, integrate seeds into illicit cultivation. Not practical.

Biological agents: insects, pathogens, etc. to attack marijuana. Not complete enough destruction of plant; could move toward licit crops. Generally unacceptable.

Fire: effective, inexpensive. Large labor force to prevent fire from spreading. Most effectively used on large fields.

Mechanical: Mechanical or manual means, e.g., uprooting, cutting, breaking down. Environmentally safe. Feasible when plantlings are concentrated and accessible. Otherwise requires large labor force, security, logistical problems.

Chemical: Demonstrated effective. Environmental and health hazards negligible if instructions followed. Local conditions and regulations determine appropriate application.

1979 United Nations study of "Methods of Eradication of Illicit Narcotic Crops" looked at 60 herbicides, 5 had merit for primary consideration (2,4-D; 2,4,5-T; paraquat, diquat and glyphosate) rated for: efficacy in use, environmental hazard, human health hazard. Only one (glyphosate) was more "desirable" than paraquat, but it is an extremely slow-acting material (plant death 2-3 weeks v. paraquat plant death hours to several days).

(Seized, harvested product should be incinerated as most positive way to deny illicit growth to consumer.)



## METHOD OF APPLICATION AGAINST ILLICIT CROP

Mexico primarily sprays from aircraft

Options: Aerial, Vehicular, Manual

DEA has issued explicit instructions regarding method of application to prevent drift, overspray, etc. The technique has been refined. Local environmental assessment takes into account area habitat, proximity of population, streams, wildlife, etc. before spraying.

## EXTENT OF USE AGAINST ILLICIT CROP

Used by Mexico since 1976 in their marijuana eradication program

3,262 cannabis plants in Florida panhandle (Red Bay) in September 1982

2.3 acres in Georgia in August 1983 (1.5 pounds of paraquat.)

Compare to some cannabis producers who use 200 pounds of insecticide on 1 acre of national forest.

## USG OFFICIAL POLICY STATEMENTS

President Reagan 9/28/81: "...the major points in our narcotics enforcement strategy: a foreign policy that vigorously seeks to interdict and eradicate illicit drugs wherever cultivated, processed or transported. This includes the responsible use of herbicides."

The Federal policy is that state and local officials should eradicate using the most effective method, either manual eradication or the use of herbicides. We will use paraquat on Federal lands wherever possible. We are doing all possible to ensure that paraquat is a viable option for state and local authorities. (Dr. Turner)

The United States is a signator to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and is therefore required to control the domestic production of marijuana.

The Task Force on Violent Crime recommended (Number 16) "the responsible use of herbicides domestically and internationally...."



**KEY DATES**

- Mexico started using paraquat to destroy marijuana in 1976.
- December 9, 1977 Peter Bourne released a press notice regarding paraquat in marijuana samples.
- 1978 NORML begins the "Marijuana/Paraquat Blitz".
- August 1978 HEW Secretary Califano releases study re: paraquat contamination and negative health consequences.
- August 1978 Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act (Percy Amendment -- no foreign aid for paraquat) enacted.
- July 1981 DEA (in compliance with DOJ and NEPA regulations) issued an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" in conjunction with proposed Florida herbicide eradication program.
- December 1981 "Percy Amendment" repealed.
- August 17, 1982 NORML v. DEA decided by Judge Parker holding, "DEA reasonably determined that the paraquat spraying program will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment." He also dismissed NORML's other claims about possible adverse environmental effects as "baseless....(primarily because paraquat) is a registered herbicide in wide use throughout the United States."
- September 1982 State of Florida eradicated in Red Bay in the panhandle.
- December 13, 1982 State Department releases Final Environmental Impact Statement.
- June 1983 DEA publishes "Guidelines for the Eradication of Cannabis with Paraquat."
- July 19, 1983 DEA Acting Administrator issues Environmental Assessment regarding domestic marijuana eradication with paraquat and places notice in Federal Register.
- August 12, 1983 DEA sprays 2 acres in Northern Georgia.



# Seattle Post-Intelligencer

THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST SINCE 1863

## P-I EDITORIALS

### Aerial pot effort producing results

Seizure this week of marijuana plants with a street value of nearly \$1.5 million in Chelan County lends credibility to recent assertions of U.S. Attorney for Eastern Washington John E. Lamp, who has been criticized for his well-publicized campaign to eradicate the state's illegal pot crops.

In declaring that marijuana eradication is a priority goal of his office, Lamp cites U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration estimates that eastern Washington has become one of the leading pot producing areas in the nation and that its cultivation is spreading in western Washington as well.

The criticism of Lamp's war on marijuana has stemmed from his appeal to some 10,000 private airplane pilots in the state to assist law enforcement agencies by reporting aerial sightings of marijuana growth. A few pilots have expressed fears that the appeal will make low-flying private planes targets of marijuana-growing marksmen.

Although that's within the realm of possibility, the firing of bullets at aircraft is a criminal offense at least as serious as pot farming and it seems doubtful that many growers of the illicit leaf would risk compounding their exposure to arrest and prosecution on drug charges with potential homicide charges.

This week's marijuana seizure in Chelan County, near Lake Chelan State Park, which resulted in the arrests of four persons, resulted from discovery of marijuana greenhouses by a Washington State Patrol surveillance aircraft, which is evidence of the effectiveness of airborne detection.

While some may question the public value of committing heavy law enforcement resources to marijuana eradication, it should be noted there is mounting evidence of the drug's harmful physical and psychological effects and of organized crime's involvement in its cultivation and distribution. Its producers are not all Cheeches and Chongs. As Lamp recently observed, large-scale growers are "not a bunch of long-haired kids . . . they are criminals."

Law enforcement agencies not only are justified in seeking to eliminate the state's pot farms, it is their duty to do so. It's the duty of good citizens to assist them.

→ C. Turner

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 16, 1983

FOR: RICHARD G. DARMAN  
 ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND  
 DEPUTY TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *FFF/RMB*  
 COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Telegram to Governor Harris of Georgia

Counsel's Office has reviewed the proposed telegram from the President to Governor Harris of Georgia, concerning the use of paraquat for marijuana eradication. The spraying conducted last week in Georgia prompted the filing of a lawsuit and the issuance of a preliminary injunction. While we certainly do not mean to suggest that there is any merit to the lawsuit, the pendency of litigation counsels against involving the President directly and personally in the dispute. Accordingly, we recommend that the proposed telegram not be sent over the President's signature. If it is sent at all, it should be over Dr. Turner's signature.



August 17, 1983

The Honorable Joe Frank Harris  
Governor of Georgia  
State Capital  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334


Dear Governor Harris:

Your strong support for the recent efforts to eradicate cannabis being grown in your state is very much appreciated.

The dangers of marijuana and other illicit drugs are widely known and condemned. Stopping production is a valuable contribution to the health and well-being of our citizens, especially our youth.

I support the eradication of cannabis wherever it is grown. By encouraging your citizens to support these eradication efforts, you are making a real contribution to the future of Georgia and of the United States.

Sincerely,



Carlton E. Turner, Ph.D.  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Drug Abuse Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON  
August 16, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ROGER PORTER

FROM: CARLTON TURNER

SUBJECT: Draft Telegram from President Reagan

Last Friday, August 12, 1983, the U.S. Forest Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration sprayed the herbicide paraquat on U.S. Forest Service land in Georgia where cannabis (marijuana) was being cultivated. The sites were evaluated according to the criteria set forth in the Environmental Impact Assessment. The issue has become quite controversial because of the sensationalism triggered by the media and pro-drug organizations.

Paraquat is a legal herbicide used regularly on agricultural land to control broad leaf weeds and to defoliate selected crops such as soy beans. When sprayed on these agricultural lands there is no issue made by the communities, media or pro-drug organizations. But when we spray paraquat on a field of cannabis, some individuals scream that they are being poisoned by the Federal Government.

Governor Joe Frank Harris of Georgia has spoken strongly in favor of our spraying program and has received some criticism. We need his continued support, therefore, attached is a draft telegram from the President to Governor Harris thanking him and encouraging him to continue.

Please process this for clearance. The telegram will have the greatest impact if it could be sent out today. Please let me know if you have any questions.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD G. DARMAN

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER

SUBJECT: Draft Telegram from the President

Attached is a draft telegram from the President to the Governor of Georgia thanking him for his support of our efforts to spray paraquat to eradicate cannabis (marijuana) on U.S. Forest Service lands in Georgia.

Also attached is a memorandum from Carlton Turner which explains the current situation. Please process this for clearance and advise if there is any additional information you require. Carlton has requested the telegram be sent today. Please let me know if this is not possible.

cc: Carlton Turner



August 16, 1983

The Honorable Joe Frank Harris  
Governor of Georgia  
State Capital  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Governor Harris:

Your strong support for the recent efforts to eradicate cannabis being grown in your state is very much appreciated.

The dangers of marijuana and other illicit drugs are widely known and condemned. Stopping production is a valuable contribution to the health and well-being of our citizens, especially our youth.

I support the eradication of cannabis wherever it is grown. By encouraging your citizens to support these eradication efforts, you are making a real contribution to the future of Georgia and of the United States.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan