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STATEMENT

OF

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BEFORE

THE

TASK FORCE ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCERNING

THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD

ON

SEPTEMBER 30, 1986

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MR. CHAIRMAN, I AM PLEASED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE ROLE AND MISSION OF THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD IN COORDINATING OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS AND POLICY. WHILE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICY BOARD ITSELF, I CHAIR THE POLICY BOARD'S COORDINATING GROUP, THE SUB-CABINET LEVEL ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD WAS CREATED BY THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS ACT OF 1984 WHICH TOOK EFFECT ON JANUARY 20, 1985.

THE CENTRAL IDEA BEHIND THE BOARD WAS TO CREATE A SINGLE, COMPETENT AND RESPONSIBLE HIGH-LEVEL BOARD OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COORDINATING UNITED STATES POLICY AND OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, SECTION 1304 (A) OF THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS ACT OF 1984 CHARGES THE POLICY BOARD WITH:

- o REVIEWING, EVALUATING, AND DEVELOPING UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT POLICY, STRATEGY, AND RESOURCES WITH RESPECT TO DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS, INCLUDING BUDGETARY PRIORITIES AND A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY;

- o FACILITATING COORDINATION OF ALL UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO HALT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS AND COORDINATING THE COLLECTION AND EVALUATION OF INFORMATION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT UNITED STATES POLICY WITH RESPECT TO DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT. SECTION 1304(A) OF THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS ACT OF 1984.

CHAIRERD BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE BOARD INCLUDES THE SECRETARIES OF STATE, TREASURY, DEFENSE, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND THE DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR DRUG ABUSE POLICY AND THE VICE PRESIDENT'S CHIEF OF STAFF.*

THE BOARD IS SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONALLY BY A COORDINATING GROUP, WHICH I CHAIR AS THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND AN INTER-AGENCY STAFF THAT SUPPORTS THE BOARD AND THE COORDINATING GROUP. THE STAFF IS PERMANENTLY HOUSED IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS ON A PERMANENT OR CONSULTING BASIS AS THE NEED ARISES. CURRENTLY, 22 INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING THE TOP OFFICIALS OF 11 AGENCIES, REGULARLY PARTICIPATE IN THE COORDINATING STRUCTURE.

* IN ADDITION, WHILE THEY ARE NOT STATUTORILY-DESIGNATED MEMBERS OF THE POLICY BOARD, BOTH THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATE IN POLICY BOARD AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

THE POLICY BOARD STAFF, INCLUDING LIAISON PERSONNEL, HAS HELD WEEKLY MEETINGS SINCE JULY 1985 TO ADDRESS THE POLICY BOARD AGENDA AND TO INSURE THAT POLICY BOARD MATTERS ARE GIVEN PRIORITY CONSIDERATION BY THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.

WHILE THE POLICY BOARD HAS MADE PROGRESS IN MANY SPECIFIC AREAS, WHICH I WILL DETAIL IN A MOMENT, MUCH OF THE BOARD'S WORK AS WELL AS THAT OF ITS STAFF, TAKES PLACE BEHIND THE SCENES. IN ORDER TO GAIN THE CONFIDENCE AND FULL COOPERATION OF THE OPERATIONAL AGENCIES WITH THE ASSETS AND THE KNOW HOW TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKERS, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT THESE AGENCIES GET FULL CREDIT FOR THEIR SUCCESSES. LOW-KEY ADVICE AND CONSULTATION ARE FREQUENTLY PROVIDED THROUGH THE POLICY BOARD MECHANISM IN SUPPORT OF AGENCY EFFORTS.

FOR INSTANCE, BEHIND MANY OF THESE OPERATIONS SUCH AS BLAST FURNACE, OR OPERATION ALLIANCE, IS THE GENERAL POLICY GUIDANCE OF THE BOARD. GUIDANCE IS OFTEN PROVIDED AT THE GERMINAL STAGE WHERE AGENCIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO MOVE TOWARD THE SPECIFIC KIND OF OPERATION THAT BLAST FURNACE EXEMPLIFIED.

WITH OPERATION ALLIANCE ON OUR SOUTHWEST BORDER, THE BOARD HAS PLAYED A MORE DIRECT ROLE IN APPORTIONING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE OPERATION. MAJOR OPERATIONS ARE FOLLOWED AND REGULARLY REVIEWED BY THE BOARD.

THE POLICY BOARD NORMALLY MEETS MONTHLY AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND HAS HELD ELEVEN MEETINGS SINCE APRIL OF 1985. THE COORDINATING GROUP ALSO MEETS ON A MONTHLY BASIS. THE POLICY BOARD HAS TAKEN A NUMBER OF NOTEWORTHY ACTIONS DURING THE PAST NINE MONTHS. BEGINNING WITH SOME OF THE MOST RECENT, THESE INCLUDE:

- A RECENT POLICY BOARD STAFF STUDY MISSION SPENT THREE WEEKS IN THE FIELD STUDYING AIR AND RELATED MARINE INTERDICTION CAPABILITIES ALONG OUR SOUTH-EAST BORDER. THE RESULTS OF THIS STUDY MISSION AND THE BOARD'S JUDGMENT WILL SOON BE REPORTED TO THE CONGRESS AS THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THE MOST APPROPRIATE AIR INTERDICTION MEASURES FOR THIS REGION.
- THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN ITS OMNIBUS DRUG BILL, H.R. 5484, §203, RECOGNIZED THE COMPETENCY OF THE POLICY BOARD ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER, AS IT WOULD AUTHORIZE \$213 MILLION FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND RADAR AEROSTATS, TO BE MADE AVAILABLE "TO AGENCIES OF THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED BY THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD."
- THE POLICY BOARD CONVENED SEVERAL INTER-AGENCY WORKING LEVEL MEETINGS TO CONSIDER THE RECENT OMNIBUS DRUG LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS, BOTH TO HELP FORMULATE THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE TO CONGRESSIONAL INITIATIVES AND TO FASHION THE PRESIDENT'S OWN DRUG-FREE AMERICA BILL. INTER-AGENCY VIEWS ON LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES WERE DISCUSSED AND RESOLVED AT FULL POLICY BOARD MEETINGS ON SEPTEMBER 10 AND SEPTEMBER 24.
- THE PARTICIPATING POLICY BOARD AGENCIES CONTINUED TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY. THIS STRATEGY WILL BE FINALIZED SOON AFTER ONGOING LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS ARE COMPLETED. THIS CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON THE DIRECTION OUR STRATEGY WILL TAKE.
- THE POLICY BOARD MOUNTED AN IMPORTANT INTER-AGENCY EFFORT TO BRING GREATER CONSISTENCY TO REPORTING OF DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT SPENDING. THE POLICY BOARD HEARD A REPORT FROM OMB AT THEIR SEPTEMBER 24, 1986 MEETING WHICH LAID OUT REVISED AND IMPROVED ESTIMATES OF 1987 SPENDING FOR FEDERAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES BROKEN DOWN BY INVESTIGATIONS, INTERDICTION, PROSECUTION, CORRECTIONS, AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL. THIS INFORMATION WILL

IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW OUR FEDERAL DOLLARS ARE BEING SPENT AND HELP US DETERMINE WHETHER THE MONEY IS BEING ALLOCATED TO THE BEST USE.

- THE POLICY BOARD CONVENED A MEETING ON NARCOTICS COOPERATION WITH MEXICO UNDER THE AUSPICES OF A DRUG CRISIS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. THIS SYSTEM WAS A CREATION OF THE POLICY BOARD DESIGNED TO DECIDE ON UNIFIED INTER-AGENCY APPROACHES TO URGENT PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE ONE WITH MEXICO.
- I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR COMMITTEE RECENTLY RECEIVED A CLOSED BRIEFING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DEA ON THE SITUATION WITH MEXICO. WHILE I CANNOT GO INTO THIS MATTER PUBLICLY, I WOULD POINT OUT THAT IT IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE BEHIND-THE-SCENE GUIDANCE OF THE POLICY BOARD, SINCE IT WAS THE BOARD THAT TRIGGERED THE INTER-AGENCY MECHANISM TO ENSURE COORDINATED POLICY DEVELOPMENT.
- THE POLICY BOARD REVIEWED DRUG PROBLEMS DEVELOPING ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER, AND ESTABLISHED A PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE POLICY BOARD TO PLAN A CAREFUL RESPONSE. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FRANCIS KEATING, DEA ADMINISTRATOR JOHN LAWN, AND INS COMMISSIONER ALAN NELSON HAVE FASHIONED OPERATION ALLIANCE. THIS INVOLVES UNPRECEDENTED COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN SHARING DRUG ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION AMONG DEA, CUSTOMS, AND THE INS BORDER PATROL.

SOME OF THE OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD SINCE ITS INCEPTION HAVE INCLUDED:

- CONSIDERED AND REAFFIRMED THE PRESIDENT'S 1984 STRATEGY AS AN IMPORTANT GUIDE FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES.
- APPROVED AN INTERAGENCY SYSTEM FOR COLLECTING AND PROCESSING DRUG SEIZURE STATISTICS. THIS SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE FOR THE FIRST TIME A CENTRAL AND UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING DRUG SEIZURE DATA IN GOVERNMENT.
- PRODUCED A STAFF REPORT THAT EVALUATES THE FEDERAL EFFORT TO ERADICATE DOMESTIC CANNABIS AND MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS.
- REVIEWED THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE'S PROPOSALS FOR EXPANDED DOD SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

- APPROVED THE CONCEPT OF AN ALL-SOURCE DRUG INTELLIGENCE CENTER THAT WOULD CONSOLIDATE DRUG INTELLIGENCE AT ONE LOCATION FOR IMPROVED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN DRUG INTERDICTION.
- SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS A REPORT ON PROGRESS IN FEDERAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT DURING 1984 AND 1985 AND A REPORT ON CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ANALOGS.
- REPORTED TO CONGRESS ON INFORMATION SHARING AGREEMENTS AMONG THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DEA, CUSTOMS, AND INS TO IMPROVE THE SCREENING PROCESS IN DENYING VISAS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS SUSPECTED OF DRUG TRAFFICKING. MORE COMPLETE GUIDELINES WITH ADDITIONAL FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ARE UNDER DEVELOPMENT.
- PARTICIPATED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION DIRECTIVE (NSDD) WHICH RAISES THE DRUG ISSUE TO ONE OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND PROVIDES FURTHER AND HEIGHTENED DIRECTION FOR MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY COOPERATION IN THE DRUG WAR. THE CURRENT BOLIVIAN AND BAHAMIAN OPERATIONS ARE EXAMPLES OF THIS COOPERATION.
- INITIATED A REVIEW PROCESS FOR ALL BUDGETARY ITEMS GOING INTO THE DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT BUDGET.
- CONDUCTED A SERIES OF BRIEFINGS FOR THE PRESIDENT IN REFERENCE TO THE DRUG PROBLEM BOTH FROM SUPPLY REDUCTION AND DEMAND REDUCTION.
- REVIEWED THE NEW FBI NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY.
- SUGGESTED RESOURCE ENHANCEMENTS IN THE INTERDICTION, INTELLIGENCE, AND PROSECUTION AREA ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER IN ITS ROLE AS PRINCIPAL ADVISOR TO CONGRESS AND CURRENTLY IS IN THE PROCESS OF EVALUATING SIMILAR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SOUTHEAST BORDER.

THE POLICY BOARD HAS BEEN CONTINUALLY INCREASING THE LEVEL AND SCOPE OF ITS ACTIVITIES. A QUICK REVIEW OF THESE ACTIVITIES SHOWS THAT THE BOARD IS MEETING ITS STRATEGY, POLICY, RESOURCE, AND COORDINATION FUNCTIONS MANDATED BY THE 1984 ACT.

AS YOU KNOW, ONE OF THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING ANY GOVERNMENTAL EFFORT ON A BROAD-SCALE PROBLEM SUCH AS DRUGS, IS THE JURISDICTIONAL OVERLAP THAT ENSUES WHEN MANY DIFFERENT AGENCIES (OR COMMITTEES) FIND THEMSELVES DEALING WITH THE SAME PROBLEM. THE BOARD HAS BEEN VERY CAREFUL TO GAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF ALL OF THE AGENCIES WITH OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND TO FOSTER COOPERATION AMONG THEM. I THINK THIS HAS BEEN A VERY WISE AND SENSIBLE AVENUE TO FOLLOW. AS THE BOARD HAS GAINED IN EXPERIENCE AND AS THE AGENCIES HAVE BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE BOARD MECHANISM, COORDINATION AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES HAVE BEEN ENHANCED.

IT IS CLEAR THAT WITH OUR EXPANDING INTER-AGENCY EFFORTS AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING, THERE WILL BE AN EVER-INCREASING NEED FOR A COORDINATING AND POLICY ORGANIZATION LIKE THE BOARD. IF IT DID NOT EXIST TODAY, WE WOULD HAVE TO INVENT IT.

FINALLY, THE SUCCESS OF THE BOARD MUST BE MEASURED BY THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ENTIRE ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. THE BOARD ITSELF DOES NOT HAVE THE ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES, IT ONLY PLAYS A BROAD POLICY GUIDANCE AND COORDINATION ROLE.

INTERDICTION

- o OPERATION ALLIANCE, A MAJOR FEDERAL INITIATIVE FOR ATTACKING DRUG TRAFFICKING ON THE SOUTHWEST BORDER, WAS INITIATED IN THE SUMMER OF 1986. THE OPERATION PROPOSES TO ASSIGN SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES TO THE SOUTHWEST BORDER, INCLUDING OVER 350 CUSTOMS AGENTS, 200 FBI, DEA, AND IRS AGENTS, 60 FEDERAL PROSECUTORS, AND AN ARRAY OF NEW EQUIPMENT.

- UNPRECEDENTED EFFORTS IN THE AREA OF INTERDICTION HAVE RESULTED IN MASSIVE DRUG SEIZURES AND THE DISRUPTION OF ESTABLISHED TRAFFICKING ROUTES.
- MARIJUANA TRAFFICKERS HAVE REDUCED THE SIZE OF INDIVIDUAL SHIPMENTS FROM APPROXIMATELY 19,000 POUNDS IN FY 1981-82 TO 10,000 POUNDS IN FY 1985, MAKING THEIR OPERATIONS MORE COSTLY.
- TRAFFICKERS HAVE ALSO BEEN FORCED TO STOCKPILE MARIJUANA, REFLECTED IN A DECLINE IN MARIJUANA SEIZURE STATISTICS. THE NNBIS-COORDINATED INTERDICTION EFFORT, HAT TRICK I, FORCED STOCKPILING OF MARIJUANA IN COLOMBIA. COLOMBIAN OFFICIALS WERE THEN ABLE TO SEIZE MUCH OF THIS MARIJUANA IN FY 1984.
- MEANWHILE, COCAINE SEIZURES HAVE INCREASED STEADILY, REFLECTING BOTH THE INCREASED VOLUME OF COCAINE TRAFFICKING AND INCREASED ENFORCEMENT AGAINST COCAINE TRAFFICKERS. TRAFFICKERS HAVE INCREASED THE USE OF VESSELS TO TRANSPORT COCAINE. THE AMOUNT OF COCAINE SEIZED BY THE COAST GUARD INCREASED 200 PERCENT BETWEEN FY 1984 AND FY 1985.
- IN FY 1985, FEDERAL AGENCIES SEIZED A TOTAL OF 55,187 POUNDS OF COCAINE, 2.9 MILLION POUNDS OF MARIJUANA AND 784 POUNDS OF HEROIN.
- OPERATION BLUE LIGHTNING, COORDINATED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL NARCOTICS BORDER INTERDICTION SYSTEM WITH THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE AS THE LEAD AGENCY, TARGETED THE FLOW OF DRUGS THROUGH THE BAHAMAS IN APRIL 1985. THE OPERATION RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF 5,500 POUNDS OF COCAINE, 36,000 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA, AND 26 VESSELS DURING THE TWO-WEEK OPERATION.
- THE SUCCESS OF OPERATION BLUE LIGHTNING HAS LED TO THE CREATION OF THE BLUE LIGHTNING OPERATIONS CENTER IN FLORIDA, A MULTI-AGENCY COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY DIRECTING PARTICIPATING MARINE RESOURCES.
- OPERATION BAT IS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE DEA AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BAHAMAS AND TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, BEGUN IN 1982, TO DISRUPT THE FLOW OF DRUGS TRANSITING THE AREA. BETWEEN MARCH 1983 AND DECEMBER 1985, OPERATION BAT RESULTED IN 261 ARRESTS, THE SEIZURE OF MORE THAN 18,000 POUNDS OF COCAINE, 360,000 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA, AND MORE THAN 100 VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT.
- OPERATION BUCKSTOP WAS INITIATED BY CUSTOMS IN 1985 TO INTERCEPT DRUG-RELATED CURRENCY. A TOTAL OF \$25 MILLION HAS BEEN SEIZED DURING THIS OPERATION.

- THE ACQUISITION OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY HAS IMPROVED INTERDICTION EFFORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS LOANED EIGHT BLACKHAWK HELICOPTERS AND FOUR P-3 AIRCRAFT TO CUSTOMS.
- AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 12333, THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS PROVIDED INCREASING SUPPORT TO THE FEDERAL INTERDICTION EFFORT.

INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION

- FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE AND PROSECUTORIAL ACTIVITIES FOCUS ON FOUR MAJOR OBJECTIVES: ARRESTING DRUG TRAFFICKERS; SEIZING THEIR CONTRABAND; FORFEITING THEIR DRUG-DERIVED ASSETS; AND CHARGING THEM WITH ALL RELATED OFFENSES.
- TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES, THE GOVERNMENT TARGETS HIGH-LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS AND EMPLOYS SOPHISTICATED INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES INCLUDING COURT-ORDERED ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND COMPLETE FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS.
- INTERAGENCY COORDINATION IS A KEY INGREDIENT IN CONDUCTING THOROUGH INVESTIGATIONS LEADING TO SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS. OVER 20 FEDERAL AGENCIES, JOINED BY MANY STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, CONTRIBUTE TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING. THESE AGENCIES WORK TOGETHER TO DESTROY THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT TRAFFIC DRUGS AND TO INCARCERATE THEIR MEMBERS. THE ORGANIZED CRIME DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE PROGRAM ILLUSTRATES THIS INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.
- TOTAL DRUG ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS HAVE INCREASED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS. IN FY 1985 DEA DRUG ARRESTS INCREASED APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT OVER FY 1984; MAJOR VIOLATOR ARRESTS INCREASED ABOUT 40 PERCENT. CONVICTIONS RESULTING FROM IRS INVESTIGATIONS SHOW STEADY INCREASES FROM FY 1981 TO FY 1985, WITH A TOTAL INCREASE OF 46 PERCENT IN CONVICTIONS FROM FY 1984 TO FY 1985. UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS FILED MORE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CASES WITH MORE DEFENDANTS AND OBTAINED MORE CONVICTIONS IN FY 1985 THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. CONVICTIONS, AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL DEFENDANTS WHOSE CASES WERE TERMINATED, INCREASED FIVE PERCENT FROM FY 1984 TO FY 1985.
- DEA AND FBI DOMESTIC COCAINE REMOVALS, WHICH INCLUDE SEIZURES AND PURCHASES, INCREASED BY 57 PERCENT FROM FY 1984 TO FY 1985. THIS INCREASE REFLECTS BOTH INCREASED LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPHASIS ON, AND INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF, COCAINE. DOMESTIC MARIJUANA REMOVALS DECREASED DUE TO SUCCESSFUL INVESTIGATIONS, ERADICATION, AND INTERDICTION EFFORTS, ALONG WITH A DECREASE IN MARIJUANA

CONSUMPTION. CLANDESTINE LABORATORY SEIZURES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS INCREASED 45 PERCENT FROM FY 1984 TO FY 1985.

- DEA, FBI, AND U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE DRUG-DERIVED ASSET SEIZURES INCREASED 54 PERCENT FROM FY 1984 TO FY 1985. DEA AND FBI DRUG-DERIVED ASSET FORFEITURES ORDERED BY THE COURT INCREASED 62 PERCENT DURING THE SAME PERIOD. THESE INCREASES REFLECT INTENSIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPHASIS ON AND EXPERTISE IN FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS AS WELL AS CHANGES ENACTED BY THE COMPREHENSIVE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1984.
- THE U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE MAINTAINS SEIZED PROPERTY FROM THE TIME OF SEIZURE UNTIL DISPOSITION FOLLOWING FORFEITURE. AT THE END OF FY 1985, THE MARSHALS HAD \$321 MILLION IN SEIZED PROPERTIES IN THEIR CUSTODY.
- NEARLY EVERY MEASURE OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE PROGRAM, THE PRINCIPAL FEDERAL INTERAGENCY INVESTIGATIVE AND PROSECUTORIAL PROGRAM, SHOWS STEADY IMPROVEMENT SINCE ITS INCEPTION. THE NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS CHARGED IN OCDETF INVESTIGATIONS INCREASED 22 PERCENT FROM 1984 TO 1985, AND 90 PERCENT OF ALL DEFENDANTS CHARGED IN ADJUDICATED CASES EITHER PLEADED OR WERE FOUND GUILTY. THE VALUE OF NON-DRUG ASSETS FORFEITED IN OCDETF CASES INCREASED 44 PERCENT FROM 1984 TO 1985.

DOMESTIC CANNABIS ERADICATION

- MARIJUANA IS THE MOST WIDELY ABUSED ILLICIT DRUG IN THE UNITED STATES. AN ESTIMATED FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE MARIJUANA CONSUMED HERE IN 1984 WAS PRODUCED DOMESTICALLY.
- TO COMBAT THIS PROBLEM, THE UNITED STATES HAS MOUNTED AN EXTENSIVE DOMESTIC ERADICATION CAMPAIGN, WHICH BEGAN WITH TWO STATES IN 1979, AND WHICH NOW INCLUDES ALL FIFTY STATES. DEA IS THE LEAD AGENCY IN THIS PROGRAM WHICH ALSO INCLUDES THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, AND NATIONAL GUARD.
- THE DEA ADMINISTRATOR SIGNED A RECORD OF DECISION IN SEPTEMBER 1985, BASED ON THE DOMESTIC CANNABIS ERADICATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, WHICH CALLS FOR USE OF THE FULL RANGE OF ERADICATION METHODS ON FEDERAL LANDS: MANUAL, MECHANICAL, AND HERBICIDAL. HE RECENTLY SIGNED A SECOND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR SIMILAR PURPOSES ON NON-FEDERAL LANDS.

- THE NUMBER OF CANNABIS PLOTS ERADICATED INCREASED 100 PERCENT BETWEEN 1984 AND 1985. THE NUMBER OF WEAPONS SEIZED ALSO INCREASED, REFLECTING THE VIOLENCE THAT IS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH CANNABIS CULTIVATION.
- OPERATION DELTA-9, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN AUGUST 1985 IN ALL FIFTY STATES, WAS THE LARGEST INITIATIVE AGAINST DOMESTIC CANNABIS CULTIVATION IN U.S. HISTORY. THIS OPERATION, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, RESULTED IN 225 ARRESTS, THE ERADICATION OF 3,010 CANNABIS PLOTS, AND THE SEIZURE OF 78 WEAPONS.
- THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LEADERSHIP IN THE DOMESTIC CANNABIS ERADICATION PROGRAM, THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, AND THE 50 STATE CAMPAIGN DEMONSTRATE THE U.S. RESOLVE TO EMPLOY THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO FIGHT THIS PROBLEM.

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

- THE GLOBAL NATURE OF DRUG ABUSE HAS RESULTED IN THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS, UNITING DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY.
- EXTRADITION TREATIES HAVE ENTERED INTO FORCE IN COLOMBIA, IRELAND, ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, AND TURKEY. THE UNITED STATES NOW HAS MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE TREATIES IN FORCE WITH ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, AND TURKEY. THESE TREATIES EXTEND THE RULE OF LAW AND REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS TO ESCAPE JUSTICE.
- FOURTEEN COUNTRIES CONDUCTED ERADICATION PROGRAMS AGAINST CANNABIS, COCA, OR OPIUM POPPIES IN FY 1985, COMPARED WITH ONLY TWO COUNTRIES IN FY 1981.
- MULTILATERAL COOPERATION HAS EXPANDED THROUGH SUCH GROUPS AS THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE, THE CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL, THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS, AND THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL. THE UNITED NATIONS IS CONSIDERING A NEW INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONVENTION, AND A WORLD CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE WILL BE HELD IN 1987.
- REGIONAL DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS ARE EXPANDING. THE GOVERNMENTS OF COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR, WITH DEA ASSISTANCE, COMPLETED A SUCCESSFUL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT IN LATE 1985, KNOWN AS ORIENTE II. THIS EFFORT RESULTED IN THE ERADICATION OF 192 HECTARES OF COCA AND THE SEIZURE AND DESTRUCTION OF MANY COCAINE LABORATORIES.

- o SOME INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS HAVE FOCUSED ON THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION, A COMMON FEATURE OF DRUG TRAFFICKING. FOR EXAMPLE, ONE SUCH INVESTIGATION RESULTED IN THE CONVICTION OF THE CHIEF MINISTER OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, NORMAN SAUNDERS, THE HIGHEST RANKING FOREIGN OFFICIAL EVEN CONVICTED ON DRUG CHARGES.
- o OPERATION BLAST FURNACE, A JOINT DEA, DOD AND GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA OPERATION INITIATED IN JULY 1986, DESTROYED 15 COCAINE PROCESSING FACILITIES IN BOLIVIA (AS OF 9/24/86). AS A RESULT, THE MARKET FOR COCA LEAVES HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY DEPRESSED, TAKING THE PROFIT OUT OF COCA PRODUCTION.

IN SHORT, THERE IS PROGRESS TO POINT TO, AND THERE ARE IMPRESSIVE STATISTICS TO QUOTE. BUT WE DO NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE BASIC FACT THAT WE MUST BE MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN WE ARE AT PRESENT. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE EFFORTS REFLECTED IN THIS TESTIMONY DEMONSTRATE THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. THE MAJOR NEW LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE THAT WAS RECENTLY PASSED BY THE HOUSE AND SENATE WILL PROVIDE US WITH ADDITIONAL, MUCH NEEDED TOOLS, RESOURCES, AND MOST IMPORTANT, THE NATIONAL WILL TO GET THIS JOB DONE.