

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

THE WICHITA COUNCIL ON DRUG ABUSE
WICHITA, KANSAS
SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1971

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE THIS EVENING TO KEYNOTE THIS MEETING OF THE WICHITA COUNCIL ON DRUG ABUSE. ALTHOUGH THE SUBJECT WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON AT THIS SESSION IS DRUG LEGISLATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, I KNOW THAT EVERYONE HERE RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY IN COMBATTING DRUG ABUSE, A PROBLEM THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DECLARED "AMERICA'S PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER 1."

PROUD OF COUNCIL RECORD

WICHITA CAN BE JUSTLY PROUD OF THE WORK DONE BY THIS COUNCIL -- OF THE RESEARCH, TRAVEL AND PREPARATION OF ITS MEMBERS, WHICH EVEN PRE-DATES THE FORMATION OF THE GROUP IN MARCH OF 1970. IF THE DRUG PROBLEM IS LICKED IN AMERICA -- AND I BELIEVE IT WILL BE -- IT WILL BE IN LARGE PART DUE TO THE WORK AND SACRIFICE OF MEN AND WOMEN LIKE YOU.

-2-

AND IT IS A PROBLEM THAT CALLS FOR NOTHING LESS. IN UNVEILING A WIDE RANGE OF NEW FEDERAL INITIATIVES IN THE BATTLE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, THE PRESIDENT SUMMARIZED WHAT IS AT STAKE.

THREAT TO PEOPLE

"THE THREAT OF NARCOTICS AMONG OUR PEOPLE," HE SAID, "IS ONE WHICH PROPERLY FRIGHTENS MANY AMERICANS. IT COMES QUIETLY INTO HOMES AND DESTROYS CHILDREN, IT MOVES INTO NEIGHBORHOODS AND BREAKS THE FIBER OF COMMUNITY WHICH MAKES NEIGHBORS. IT IS A PROBLEM WHICH DEMANDS COMPASSION, AND NOT SIMPLY CONDEMNATION, FOR THOSE WHO BECOME THE VICTIMS OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS. WE MUST TRY TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CONFUSION AND DESPAIR THAT BRING PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY YOUNG PEOPLE, TO THE USE OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS."

TOLL HIGH

TODAY, THE FACTS ARE ON THE BOOKS AS TO HOW SERIOUS A PROBLEM IT HAS BECOME FOR AMERICA. THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH HAS ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY 250 THOUSAND HEROIN ADDICTS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS IN 1970 DOUBLED FROM THE PRECEEDING YEAR. IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO ALONE, THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 9,000 DRUG ADDICTS. LAST YEAR, IN NEW YORK CITY, 1,154 PERSONS DIED FROM DRUG ADDICTION.

-3-

BUT IT IS NOT A PROBLEM LIMITED ONLY TO THE BIG CITIES OF THE EAST AND WEST COASTS. DRUG ABUSE IS A NATION-WIDE PROBLEM WITH FAR-REACHING EFFECTS. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, IT TOUCHES THE LIVES OF ALL AMERICANS BY ITS EFFECT ON THE CRIME RATE, OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM, THE ARMED FORCES AND SOCIETY IN GENERAL. PRESIDENT NIXON STATED THE CASE CLEARLY AND FORCEFULLY.

"IF WE CANNOT DESTROY THE DRUG MENACE IN AMERICA," HE SAID, "THEN IT WILL SURELY IN TIME DESTROY US."

KILLER OF YOUNG

MANY AMERICANS DO NOT REALIZE IT, BUT DRUG ABUSE IS THE LARGEST CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 22 TODAY. THE MEDIAN AGE FOR ADDICTS DYING FROM HEROIN IS ONLY 22.

U.S. ADDICTS ARE ESTIMATED TO SPEND \$7.5 MILLION EVERY DAY ON HEROIN -- A TOTAL OF \$2.7 BILLION A YEAR.

THIS IS A MONSTROUSLY EXPENSIVE HABIT TO SUPPORT -- AND FOR MANY ADDICTS, THE ANSWER IS CRIME, VIOLENT CRIME, SHOPLIFTING, EMBEZZLEMENT, PETTY THEFT -- ALL OF THESE ARE SIDE EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE THAT ARE INFLICTED ON THE GENERAL PUBLIC. PERHAPS THE WORST OF THEM ALL IS THE TENDENCY OF YOUNG DRUG ADDICTS TO SUPPORT THEIR HABIT BY SELLING DRUGS TO THEIR FRIENDS OR FELLOW STUDENTS. THIS VICIOUS CYCLE, WHEN LEFT UNCHECKED, KEEPS THE PROBLEM GROWING AND WRECKS MORE AND MORE YOUNG LIVES.

-4-

PROBLEM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

THE COMPARATIVE CHEAPNESS AND AVAILABILITY OF DANGEROUS DRUGS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA HAS LED TO A SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEM WITH OUR ARMED FORCES STATIONED THERE. IN VIETNAM, A 97 PERCENT PURE GRAM OF HEROIN SELLS FOR \$1.82. THE SAME DRUG WOULD COST \$32.00 IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS CHEAPNESS, AND THE OPEN SALE OF DRUGS IN COUNTRIES LIKE VIETNAM, HAS LED TO A CRITICAL DRUG PROBLEM AMONG OUR GI'S.

THAT, IN SUMMARY, IS THE PROBLEM FACING AMERICA TODAY. IT REQUIRES NOTHING LESS THAN A CONCERTED NATIONAL EFFORT -- WITH FULL LOCAL COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION -- TO MEET IT. FORTUNATELY, THE PRESIDENT HAS OUTLINED JUST SUCH A PROGRAM.

HIS APPROACH IS TWO-FOLD. IT SEEKS BOTH TO ELIMINATE THE SUPPLY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND TO ELIMINATE THE DEMAND FOR THEM.

BUREAU OF NARCOTICS CUTS TRAFFIC

SPEARHEADING THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE SUPPLY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS HAS BEEN THE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS, AN AGENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE BUREAU WAS

-5-

ESTABLISHED THREE YEARS AGO WITH A TOTAL BUDGET OF \$14 MILLION. TODAY, THAT BUDGET HAS GROWN TO \$42.7 MILLION FOR THE PRESENT FISCAL YEAR. AND PRESIDENT NIXON HAS REQUESTED A BUDGET OF \$54.9 MILLION FOR FISCAL 1972 -- SUBSTANTIAL PROOF OF THE DRUG PROBLEM'S HIGH PRIORITY IN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION. THE AGENT FORCE OF THE BUREAU WILL GROW BY MORE THAN 40 PERCENT THIS YEAR, RAISING THE TOTAL TO 1,334.

IMPRESSIVE RECORD

THE BUREAU'S RECORD OF DRUG INTERCEPTION IS IMPRESSIVE. IN 1970, IT SEIZED A TOTAL OF 427 POUNDS OF HEROIN, AN INCREASE OF 205 PERCENT FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. IT ALSO SEIZED 197 POUNDS OF COCAINE, AN INCREASE OF 170 PERCENT, AND 17,402 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA, AN INCREASE OF 97 PERCENT. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ILLEGAL DRUGS CONFISCATED BY FEDERAL AGENTS HAS RISEN NEARLY 500 PERCENT OVER WHAT IT WAS THREE YEARS AGO, AND THE BUREAU HAS SEIZED OR CLOSED AN AVERAGE OF ONE CLANDESTINE LABORATORY (WHERE ILLEGAL DRUGS ARE MADE OR PROCESSED) PER WEEK.

-6-

RECENTLY, THE BUREAU COMPLETED TWO OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL DRUG RAIDS IN AMERICAN HISTORY. ONE OF THESE, "OPERATION EAGLE," RESULTED IN THE ARREST OF 169 PERSONS IN NINE U.S. CITIES AND THE CONFISCATION OF 66 POUNDS OF HEROIN AND COCAINE. THE SECOND RAID, "OPERATION FLANKER," WAS AIMED AT WHAT ATTORNEY GENERAL JOHN MITCHELL REFERRED TO AS "THE UPPER ECHELONS OF ORGANIZED CRIME NARCOTIC ACTIVITY IN THE EAST AND MIDWEST." THE RESULTS: 154 ARRESTS IN SEVEN EASTERN AND MIDWESTERN CITIES AND THE SEIZURE OF \$12.8 MILLION WORTH OF ILLEGAL DRUGS.

TRAINING LOCAL LAW OFFICERS

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITY OF THE BUREAU IS ITS PROGRAM OF TRAINING SCHOOLS AND SEMINARS HELD FOR STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS. IN 1970, 20,000 POLICE OFFICERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY ATTENDED THESE COURSES AND LEARNED THE LATEST TECHNIQUES AND TACTICS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC.

-7-

THE BUREAU HAS ALSO SET UP A NETWORK OF METROPOLITAN ENFORCEMENT GROUPS TO AID THOSE AREAS OF THE COUNTRY INCAPABLE OF FIELDING THEIR OWN DRUG ENFORCEMENT UNITS. THE BUREAU ORGANIZES THE GROUPS, WHICH ARE USUALLY MADE UP OF AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, AND FURNISHES THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EQUIPMENT. EIGHTEEN SUCH GROUPS ARE ALREADY OPERATING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WITH ANOTHER 28 IN FORMATIVE STAGES.

INTERNATIONAL EFFORT IMPORTANT

THAT IS SOME OF THE WORK THE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS IS DOING ON THE NATIONAL SCENE. INTERNATIONALLY, IT ALSO HAS AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD. BY THE END OF FISCAL 1972, IT WILL HAVE 110 EMPLOYEES STATIONED ABROAD -- TWO-AND-ONE-HALF TIMES THE NUMBER TWO YEARS AGO. IN 1970, BUREAU AGENTS PLAYED A DIRECT ROLE IN THE ARREST OF 74 MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST. ALSO, LAST YEAR, JOINT EFFORTS WITH THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES INTERCEPTED 893 POUNDS OF HEROIN AND MORPHINE BASE THAT WAS BOUND FOR THE UNITED STATES -- ONE OF MANY IMPORTANT SEIZURES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE REACHED BUYERS IN AMERICA.

-8-

THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE SEIZURES IS TWO-FOLD. FIRST, THEY KEEP THE INTERCEPTED DRUGS OUT OF THE HANDS OF ADDICTS AND, SECONDLY, THEY CUT DOWN ON THE PROFIT DERIVED FROM THE ILLICIT DRUG TRADE BY SMUGGLERS. IF THE PROFITS CAN BE REDUCED ENOUGH, THE INCENTIVE TO MAINTAIN THE ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC WILL CEASE.

PRESIDENT INTERVENES

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALSO PERSONALLY INTERVENED TO CUT DOWN THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN DRUGS AND NARCOTICS. RECENTLY, AFTER CONFERRING WITH THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, HE WAS ABLE TO ANNOUNCE "THE MOST SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN STOPPING THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY OF HEROIN."

AS A RESULT OF THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO COMPLETELY HALT THE GROWING OF THE OPIUM POPPY. THIS IS A DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, SINCE IT IS ESTIMATED THAT BETWEEN 60 AND 80 PERCENT OF THE ILLEGAL HEROIN THAT ENTERS THE UNITED STATES COMES FROM TURKISH POPPY FIELDS.

-9-

THE ADMINISTRATION IS WORKING FOR SIMILAR BREAKTHROUGHS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT FIGURE IMPORTANTLY IN RAW DRUG PRODUCTION, AND, SO FAR, THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING. JUST THIS PAST WEEK, THE LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT ACTED TO PHASE OUT PLANTING OF THE OPIUM POPPY WITHIN ITS BORDERS, WHICH CAN HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON THE DRUG PROBLEM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

ELIMINATING THE DEMAND

BUT THE PRESIDENT REALIZES, AS DOES EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM, THAT EFFORTS AT STOPPING THE DRUG TRAFFIC ARE NOT THE WHOLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. THEY CAN REDUCE IT -- BUT THEY CANNOT ELIMINATE IT ALONE.

AND SO PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALSO STEPPED UP GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY AIMED AT **ELIMINATING** THE DEMAND FOR DANGEROUS DRUGS AND NARCOTICS -- PROGRAMS THAT EDUCATE YOUTH TO THE DANGERS INVOLVED, AND THAT RESEARCH AND APPLY NEWER, MORE EFFECTIVE TECHNIQUES FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS.

-10-

AS THE PRESIDENT SAID IN HIS MESSAGE ON DRUG ABUSE, "ENFORCEMENT MUST BE COUPLED WITH A RATIONAL APPROACH TO THE RECLAMATION OF THE DRUG USER HIMSELF." THIS WAS WHAT THE PRESIDENT HAD IN MIND ON JUNE 17th OF THIS YEAR WHEN HE ESTABLISHED, BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, THE SPECIAL ACTION OFFICE FOR DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION. THE NEED FOR SUCH A CENTRAL, UNIFIED OFFICE IS MADE CLEAR WHEN YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY NINE DIFFERENT FEDERAL AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH THE DRUG PROBLEM. THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER CONSOLIDATES WHAT, IN THE PAST, HAS BEEN A FRAGMENTED FEDERAL EFFORT.

SPECIAL ACTION OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES

THE SPECIAL ACTION OFFICE WILL OPERATE FROM WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, AND ANSWER DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT NIXON.

IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MAJOR FEDERAL DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

-11-

IT WILL COORDINATE THESE ACTIVITIES THROUGH A DIRECTOR, WHO WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE PRESIDENT.

AND, IT WILL OPERATE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS FOLLOWING ENACTMENT, WITH THE OPTION OF EXTENSION.

THE PRESIDENT HAS APPOINTED DR. JEROME H. JAFFE, CHIEF OF THE ILLINOIS DRUG ABUSE CONTROL PROGRAM, AS DIRECTOR OF THE SPECIAL ACTION OFFICE. TO GIVE THE OFFICE THE KIND OF FINANCIAL BACKING IT WILL NEED, HE HAS REQUESTED THAT THE CONGRESS AMEND THE 1972 BUDGET TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$155 MILLION TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE. THIS WOULD BRING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS DIRECTED TOWARD THE DRUG PROBLEM TO \$371 MILLION. OF THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUESTED, \$105 MILLION WOULD BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS.

PRESIDENT ACTS ON G.I. PROBLEM

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALSO ORDERED A SERIES OF STRONG MEASURES TO COPE WITH G.I. DRUG PROBLEMS IN VIETNAM. HE HAS DIRECTED THE MILITARY TO PURSUE A FOUR-POINT PROGRAM OF EDUCATION, AMNESTY, REHABILITATION AND INTERCEPTION.

-12-

EDUCATION WILL CONSIST OF MASSIVE NEW TRAINING EFFORTS TO FAMILIARIZE THE AVERAGE G.I. WITH THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE AND TO TEACH OFFICERS TO BETTER COPE WITH THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM. AMNESTY, FREEDOM FROM PROSECUTION, WILL BE OFFERED TO THE G.I. ADDICT WHO AGREES TO UNDERGO MEDICAL TREATMENT. REHABILITATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN TREATMENT CENTERS SET UP SPECIFICALLY FOR CURING DRUG ADDICTS. INTERCEPTION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE INCREASED GOVERNMENT EFFORTS I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED, AND THROUGH NEW INITIATIVES WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

ALREADY IN FULL SWING IS THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM TO TEST ALL G.I.'S SCHEDULED TO LEAVE VIETNAM, SO THAT THOSE WITH A DRUG PROBLEM CAN BE IDENTIFIED, TREATED AND REHABILITATED BEFORE THEY RETURN TO CIVILIAN LIFE.

HE HAS ALSO ASKED THE CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE BUDGET OF THE VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION BY \$14 MILLION, TO BE USED FOR REHABILITATION OF VIETNAM VETERANS WITH DRUG PROBLEMS.

-13-

EXPANDED FEDERAL EFFORT

TAKEN AS A WHOLE, THIS REPRESENTS A TREMENDOUSLY EXPANDED AND IMPROVED FEDERAL EFFORT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AT HOME AND ABROAD. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT SIMILAR MEASURES WERE NOT TAKEN IN THE EARLY AND MIDDLE 1960's, WHEN THE PROBLEM FIRST BEGAN MUSHROOMING. BUT THE IMPORTANT THING TODAY IS THAT THE EFFORT IS BEING MADE NOW -- AND IT IS GETTING RESULTS. DRUG ABUSE -- PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE -- IS A PROBLEM THAT, IN THE WORDS OF THE PRESIDENT, "AFFLICTS BOTH THE BODY AND SOUL OF AMERICA." IT IS A PROBLEM THAT NONE OF US -- IN OR OUT OF GOVERNMENT -- CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE.

IF WE WORK TOGETHER, LOCALLY, STATE-WIDE AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE NEW FEDERAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, THE SAME SPIRIT, DETERMINATION AND KNOW-HOW THAT HELPED US REACH THE MOON CAN HELP US TO STAMP OUT THIS GRAVE NATIONAL BLIGHT.