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Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron Files, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13539
Folder ID Number: 13539-003

Folder Title:
Drug Strategy Briefing 9/5/90 [OA 5376]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	16	4	3

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST *AD*
FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*
SUBJECT: DRUG STRATEGY BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

This morning at 11:00 a.m., you will give brief introductory remarks at a briefing for news media in O.E.O.B. Room 450 on the one-year anniversary of the National Drug Control Strategy.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (5 minutes, on cards) cover the progress made, but stress the need to continue the fight against drugs. Director Bennett will answer questions after you leave.

McNally/Simon
Sept. 5, 1990
Draft Three (B:DRUGS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING
ROOM 450, O.E.O.B.
WED., SEPT. 5, 1990, 11:05 A.M.

One year ago today, I announced one of the most important initiatives of my Administration -- the National Drug Control Strategy -- my blueprint for the War on Drugs.

We have devoted unprecedented new resources to the fight -- new materiel, new money, new management, and new manpower. And this is true virtually across the board: for law enforcement; for treatment; for school, community, and workplace prevention; and for our allies in Latin America.

We've pulled the entire federal effort together. We've given every participating department a clear, anti-drug mission. And we've joined hands with state and local governments -- and private citizens -- across the country. Never before has so much effort, involving so many people, been applied to the scourge of drugs.

In a moment, Bill Bennett will give you a more detailed assessment of the progress the nation has already made -- of what we have done -- and what we have left to do.

But I'm here because I want to tell you personally that I think America is making progress against drugs -- and will continue to do so. \\\

The crisis is far from over. But there are clear signs of progress. So-called "casual" drug use is continuing to decline. There are early, promising signs that even the problem of hard

core addiction has taken a turn for the better. And today in America, cocaine is harder to find, more expensive, and less pure than it was one year ago. \\\

Statistics like these help put perspective in the very real progress we've made in the war on drugs. Too often public attention focuses only on the face of battle -- drive-by shootings and individual tragedies.

The other side might not always make good TV. But many of you in the press have traveled with me this past year, seen the recovering addicts who are getting help, seen the families, the neighborhoods, the whole communities that are being restored to health and safety. I think of Erma Scales, who took back a park in Acres Homes, part of my old congressional district in Houston. Heroes like Al Brooks in that Baptist church basement in Kansas City. And the rallying cry of Father George Clements in Chicago: "There are more of us than there are of them."

And so, while the statistics are good, progress can't be measured only by statistics. The past year has also seen a fundamental change in attitude, a growing awareness that drugs can take away your family, your job, your health, your freedom and your very life.

And we've also seen stunning new successes in law enforcement -- in both this country and Latin America -- that are difficult to measure by statistics alone. There are drug lords who -- arrogant and free only a year ago -- are today behind

bars, on the run, or have already paid the ultimate price for a life of crime and violence. \\\

Today's good news is welcome. We've made important progress. But it's not enough. There is still too much violence. Too much destruction. Too many innocent victims. Drugs are still an international menace. So we are going to stick to our comprehensive drug strategy. We're going to renew our call for Congress to pass a true crime bill -- one that's tough on criminals -- not on police. And my Administration will remain on the front lines until this scourge is licked for good.

Block by block. School by school. Child by child. We will "Take Back The Streets." And we will never surrender. \\\

Thank you. And God bless the United States of America.

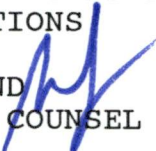
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: NELSON LUND 
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks -- Statement at Drug War
Briefing

This is to confirm our 8:25 a.m. telephone call to your office today to inform you that the Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objections.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BENNETT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 8:30 AM, Wednesday, September 5, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP -4 PM 5:27

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Statement at Drug War
Briefing

We have reviewed the attached draft and have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint. We approve of the draft remarks in their current form.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 8:30 AM, Wednesday, September 5, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP - 4 PM 5: 27

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

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RESPONSE:

OK Don Ben for (SR)

Elevating
SEP 5 1990

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP -4 PM 5:27

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 SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1990
11:05 AM

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
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HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 5, 1990

1990 SEP - 5 AM 9:18

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST
FROM: EDWARD McNALLY
SUBJECT: DRUG STRATEGY BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

This morning at 11:00 a.m., you will give brief introductory remarks at a briefing for news media in O.E.O.B. Room 450 on the one-year anniversary of the National Drug Control Strategy.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (5 minutes, on cards) cover the progress made, but stress the need to continue the fight against drugs. Director Bennett will answer questions after you leave.

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**Block by block. School by school. Child by child. We will "Take Back The Streets." And we will never surrender. **

Thank you. And God bless the United States of America.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓ MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ PORTER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ CARD <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BENNETT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ GRAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ HOLIDAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 8:30 AM, Wednesday, September 5, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP -4 PM 5:27

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING
ROOM 450, O.E.O.B.
WED., SEPT. 5, 1990, 11:05 A.M.

One year ago today, I announced one of the most important initiatives of my Administration -- the National Drug Control Strategy -- my blueprint for the War on Drugs.

We have devoted unprecedented new resources to the fight -- new material, new money, new management, and new manpower. And this is true virtually across the board: for law enforcement; for treatment; for school, community, and workplace prevention; and for our allies in Latin America.

We've pulled the entire federal effort together. We've given every participating department a clear, anti-drug mission. And we've joined hands with state and local governments -- and private citizens -- across the country. Never before has so much effort, involving so many people, been applied to the scourge of drugs.

In a moment, Bill Bennett will give you a more detailed assessment of the progress the nation has already made -- of what we have done -- and what we have left to do.

But I'm here because I want to tell you personally that I think America is making progress against drugs -- and will continue to do so.

And the bottom line is this: Today in America, cocaine is harder to find, more expensive, and less pure than it was one year ago. \\\

Statistics like these help put perspective in the very real progress we've made in the war on drugs. Too often public attention focuses only on the face of battle -- drive-by shootings and individual tragedies.

The other side might not always make good TV. But many of you in the press have traveled with me this past year, seen the recovering addicts who are getting help, seen the families, the neighborhoods, the whole communities that are being restored to health and safety. I think of Erma Scales, who took back a park in Acres Homes, part of my old congressional district in Houston. Heroes like Al Brooks in that Baptist church basement in Kansas City. And the rallying cry of Father George Clements in Chicago: "**There are more of us than there are of them.**"

And so, while the statistics are good, progress can't be measured only by statistics. The past year has also seen a fundamental change in attitude, a growing awareness that drugs can take away your family, your job, your health, your freedom and your very life.

And we've also seen stunning new successes in law enforcement -- in both this country and Latin America -- that are difficult to measure by statistics alone. There are drug lords who -- arrogant and free only a year ago -- are today behind bars, on the run, or explaining their crimes to St. Peter.

The good news is welcome. We've made important progress. But it's not enough. There is still too much violence. Too much destruction. Too many innocent victims. Drugs are still an

international menace. So we are going to stick to our comprehensive drug strategy. We're going to renew our call for Congress to pass a true crime bill -- one that's tough on criminals -- not on police. And my Administration will remain on the front lines until this scourge is licked for good.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BENNETT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP -4 PM 5: 27

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ROOM 450, O.E.O.B.
WED., SEPT. 5, 1990, 11:05 A.M.

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The good news is welcome. We've made important progress. But it's not enough. There is still too much violence. Too much destruction. Too many innocent victims. Drugs are still an

international menace. So we are going to stick to our comprehensive drug strategy. We're going to renew our call for Congress to pass a true crime bill -- one that's tough on criminals -- not on police. And my Administration will remain on the front lines until this scourge is licked for good.

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#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: JIM PINKERTON *JP by AJ*

SUBJECT: Draft Statement At Drug War Briefing

Two minor comments:

1,2,2 "...new material, new money, new managment, and new manpower."

We would prefer a non-sexist alternative to "manpower" even if this scuttles the alliteration. Also: should "material" be "materiel"?

2,4,5 "...or explaining their crimes to St. Peter."

We are uncertain as to whether those who go to Hell stop by to explain to St. Peter, as is the case here, or whether they proceed directly to their warmer destination.

###

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 8:30 AM, Wednesday, September 5, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *See comments*

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

McNally/Simon
Sept. 4, 1990
Draft Two (B:DRUGS)

1990 SEP - 4 PM 5: 27

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING
ROOM 450, O.E.O.B.
WED., SEPT. 5, 1990, 11:05 A.M.

we
One year ago today, I announced one of the most important initiatives of my Administration -- the National Drug Control Strategy -- my blueprint for the War on Drugs.

our
(Mollin
x3060)
We have devoted unprecedented new resources to the fight -- new material, new money, new management, and new manpower. And this is true virtually across the board: for law enforcement; for treatment; for school, community, and workplace prevention; and for our allies in Latin America.

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The good news is welcome. We've made important progress. But it's not enough. There is still too much violence. Too much destruction. Too many innocent victims. Drugs are still an

"in perspective" ?
(Not quite here
what is meant
here -
Sculley
x5178)

international menace. So we are going to stick to our comprehensive drug strategy. We're going to renew our call for Congress to pass a true crime bill -- one that's tough on criminals -- not on police. And ~~my~~ Administration will remain on the front lines until this scourge is licked for good.

this
(Mollen
X 3060)

**Block by block. School by school. Child by child. We will "Take Back The Streets." And we will never surrender. **

Thank you. } And God bless the United States of America.

#

God bless you.
(Mollen
X 3060)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/4/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/5/90 8:30 AM

Sept 5 8:35 A.M.

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BENNETT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 8:30 AM, Wednesday, September 5, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comment.
HW
 Holly Williamson
 09/05/90

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

**STATEMENT AT DRUG WAR BRIEFING \ ROOM 450, O.E.O.B.
SEPTEMBER 5, 1990 \ 11:05 A.M.**

**ONE YEAR AGO TODAY, I ANNOUNCED ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT INITIATIVES OF MY ADMINISTRATION -- THE
NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY -- MY BLUEPRINT FOR THE
WAR ON DRUGS.**

**WE HAVE DEVOTED UNPRECEDENTED NEW RESOURCES TO THE
FIGHT --NEW MATERIEL, NEW MONEY, NEW MANAGEMENT, AND
NEW MANPOWER.**

- 2 -

**AND THIS IS TRUE VIRTUALLY ACROSS THE BOARD: FOR LAW
ENFORCEMENT; FOR TREATMENT; FOR SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND
WORKPLACE PREVENTION; AND FOR OUR FRIENDS IN LATIN
AMERICA.**

**WE'VE PULLED THE ENTIRE FEDERAL EFFORT TOGETHER.
WE'VE GIVEN EVERY PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENT A CLEAR,
ANTI-DRUG MISSION. AND WE'VE JOINED HANDS WITH STATE
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS -- AND PRIVATE CITIZENS -- ACROSS
THE COUNTRY.**

NEVER BEFORE HAS SO MUCH EFFORT, INVOLVING SO MANY PEOPLE, BEEN APPLIED TO THE SCOURGE OF DRUGS.

IN A MOMENT, BILL BENNETT WILL GIVE YOU A MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS THE NATION HAS ALREADY MADE -- OF WHAT WE HAVE DONE -- AND WHAT WE HAVE LEFT TO DO.

BUT I'M HERE BECAUSE I WANT TO TELL YOU PERSONALLY THAT I THINK AMERICA IS MAKING PROGRESS AGAINST DRUGS -- AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. \\\

THE CRISIS IS FAR FROM OVER. BUT THERE ARE CLEAR SIGNS OF PROGRESS. SO-CALLED "CASUAL" DRUG USE IS CONTINUING TO DECLINE. THERE ARE EARLY, PROMISING SIGNS THAT EVEN THE PROBLEM OF HARD CORE ADDICTION HAS TAKEN A TURN FOR THE BETTER. AND TODAY IN AMERICA, COCAINE IS HARDER TO FIND, MORE EXPENSIVE, AND LESS PURE THAN IT WAS ONE YEAR AGO. \\\

STATISTICS LIKE THESE HELP PUT PERSPECTIVE IN THE VERY REAL PROGRESS WE'VE MADE IN THE WAR ON DRUGS.

TOO OFTEN PUBLIC ATTENTION FOCUSES ONLY ON THE FACE OF BATTLE -- DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS AND INDIVIDUAL TRAGEDIES.

THE OTHER SIDE MIGHT NOT ALWAYS MAKE GOOD TV. BUT MANY OF YOU IN THE PRESS HAVE TRAVELED WITH ME THIS PAST YEAR, SEEN THE RECOVERING ADDICTS WHO ARE GETTING HELP, SEEN THE FAMILIES, THE NEIGHBORHOODS, THE WHOLE COMMUNITIES THAT ARE BEING RESTORED TO HEALTH AND SAFETY.

I THINK OF ERMA SCALES, WHO TOOK BACK A PARK IN ACRES HOMES, PART OF MY OLD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN HOUSTON. HEROES LIKE AL BROOKS IN THAT BAPTIST CHURCH BASEMENT IN KANSAS CITY. AND THE RALLYING CRY OF FATHER GEORGE CLEMENTS IN CHICAGO: "US THAN THERE ARE OF THEM."

AND SO, WHILE THE STATISTICS ARE GOOD, PROGRESS CAN'T BE MEASURED ONLY BY STATISTICS.

THE PAST YEAR HAS ALSO SEEN A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN ATTITUDE, A GROWING AWARENESS THAT DRUGS CAN TAKE AWAY YOUR FAMILY, YOUR JOB, YOUR HEALTH, YOUR FREEDOM AND YOUR VERY LIFE.

AND WE'VE ALSO SEEN STUNNING NEW SUCCESSES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT -- IN BOTH THIS COUNTRY AND LATIN AMERICA -- THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO MEASURE BY STATISTICS ALONE.

THERE ARE DRUG LORDS WHO -- ARROGANT AND FREE ONLY A YEAR AGO -- ARE TODAY BEHIND BARS, ON THE RUN, OR HAVE ALREADY PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR A LIFE OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE. \\\

TODAY'S GOOD NEWS IS WELCOME. WE'VE MADE IMPORTANT PROGRESS. BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH. THERE IS STILL TOO MUCH VIOLENCE. TOO MUCH DESTRUCTION. TOO MANY INNOCENT VICTIMS. DRUGS ARE STILL AN INTERNATIONAL MENACE. SO WE ARE GOING TO STICK TO OUR COMPREHENSIVE DRUG STRATEGY.

WE'RE GOING TO RENEW OUR CALL FOR CONGRESS TO PASS A TRUE CRIME BILL -- ONE THAT'S TOUGH ON CRIMINALS -- NOT ON POLICE. AND MY ADMINISTRATION WILL REMAIN ON THE FRONT LINES UNTIL THIS SCOURGE IS LICKED FOR GOOD.

BLOCK BY BLOCK. SCHOOL BY SCHOOL. CHILD BY CHILD. WE WILL "TAKE BACK THE STREETS." AND WE WILL NEVER SURRENDER. \\\

THANK YOU. AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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