

FOIA MARKER

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Don't Ask, Don't Tell

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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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THIS MESSAGE WAS ELECTRICALLY TRANSMITTED ON 9/20/95
NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS PAGE): (3)TO: George Stephanopoulos / Mary Ellen Glenn
AGENCY: _____

FAX NO.: _____ PHONE NO.: _____

FROM: Bob Hattoy

MESSAGE:

Heads up.
(Masha Scott is gone until Tues.)
I thought you folks should
know about this. Poz will do
a press conference tmrw Thurs.
It's in your court. Bob

News From POZ Magazine

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of POZ Magazine, contact
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"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Was A Done Deal in January '93

New York, September 18, 1995: The entire gay and lesbian community's effort to overturn the ban on gays in the military was a wasted effort, according to former White House legal counsel Bernard Nussbaum.

In an extensive profile of longtime activist Tom Stoddard, appearing exclusively in *POZ*, Stoddard biographer Robert Murphy reports on conversations he has had with Nussbaum about the Campaign for Military Service, which was chaired by Stoddard.

"There was a quick hard decision not to lift the ban (on gays in the military) made in January (of 1993)," Nussbaum says.

Murphy writes "If Nussbaum is right -- and he was certainly in a position to know -- Clinton's direct, repeated promises over the following months to lift the ban were bald-faced lies, and the Campaign was doomed before it began." The Campaign for Military Service was a high-level, expensive, nationwide effort to mobilize grassroots support for lifting the ban.

For over a year, rumors have circulated that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" decision was made many months before it was announced in July of 1993. Nussbaum's frank admission is the first time a senior Clinton Administration official has acknowledged that this was the case.

Millions of dollars in donations, and an enormous amount of effort was invested in the Campaign for Military Service, an effort that it is now clear was totally without the possibility of success.

Stoddard, who has AIDS and has Kaposi's Sarcoma for more than six years, spoke frankly about his role in the effort to lift the ban, his activism, personal life and health status in a series of extensive interviews with *POZ*.

Perhaps best known for his work leading Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, Stoddard has also worked as a lobbyist for the New York Civil Liberties Union, a law professor and author of numerous articles on gay rights, civil liberties and HIV-related law.

POZ Publisher Sean Strub noted, "When the history of our movement is written, Tom Stoddard's name will rank among those most respected for their contributions to our cause. His courage is remarkable and his commitment unparalleled."

Other articles in this issue of POZ include:

- *Pulitzer Prize nominee Elinor Burkett's investigation of IL-2, a controversial AIDS treatment.*
- *Does Broadway Really Care: A look behind the curtain at how the Great White Way really treats actors with HIV.*
- *Another White House Hitt on the new Presidential Advisory Commission on HIV/AIDS.*
- *Profiles, POZ Partner, a memorial tribute to Swen Swenson and much, much more.*

POZ is the national magazine about life with AIDS. Published bi-monthly since 1994, the magazine's frequency is increasing to nine times in 1996.

POZ has been called "easily as plush as Vanity Fair" by Frank Rich of *The New York Times*, "literate and provocative" by *The Los Angeles Times*, "powerful, courageous and beautifully written" by Liz Smith, "larger-than-life influence," by *Adweek* and "(an) extraordinarily well-written, meticulously crafted periodical" by the *Utne Reader*.

In August of 1995, *Rolling Stone* named POZ "Hot Magazine" of the year and the *Utne Reader* awarded POZ the prestigious Alternative Media of the Year recognition.

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