



NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL FOUNDATION



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"DE OPPRESSO LIBER"

May 19, 1997

Mr. Dennis Burke
Domestic Policy Council
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Burke:

I write to you to express concern over U.S. efforts to curb methamphetamine abuse.

Since 1978, National Defense Council Foundation's (NDCF) mission has been to study the immediate and long-term effects of low intensity conflicts internationally and report these findings to U.S. lawmakers, the general public, and media. Too often, these conflicts become intertwined with the drug trade, threatening our national security.

Ten years ago methamphetamine abuse was little known, today it has exploded like no other drug. The current action has been to go after over-the-counter medicines. The only problem with this is that there is no evidence these products have played a measurable role in the manufacture of illegal drugs.

Last year, before Congressional testimony on "Narcotics Threat to the United States Through Mexico-S. 1547," George Doane, chief of California's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement cited Mexico's cartels and non-regulation of precursor chemicals for dominance in the methamphetamine industry. In addition, Thomas Constantine, administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, indicated that the problem we now face are the several hundred clandestine labs often located along States bordering Mexico and operated by individuals with direct ties to Mexican based organizations.

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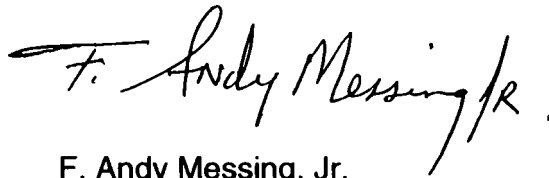
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Reflecting both the increased methamphetamine trade in Mexico and the country's effort to combat it, seizures in 1992 rose from virtually none in 1992 to 1,100 pounds in 1995. Ephedrine seizures climbed from just over three tons to seven tons in the same period.

While many do not question Mexico's inherent right to be a proud nation, the drug threat is real and we must continue to ask tough questions on certification. For Mexico this means an end to political corruption, stepped-up arrests of traffickers, and controls on precursor chemicals. For the United States this means increased border searches and cooperation with Mexican political figures to make a broken narcotics control system work.

Countless articles and editorials have run across the nation about the threat Mexican drug trafficking poses to the United States. I have enclosed one by NDCF for you information. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Andy Messing, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

F. Andy Messing, Jr.
Major, Special Forces
USAR (Ret.)
Executive Director

*P.S. Please feel free to contact NDCF as
we have been working the Anti-Drug effort Aggressively!*

CARSON NIGHTWINE/ROWAN KELLY

Unabated methamphetamine abuses

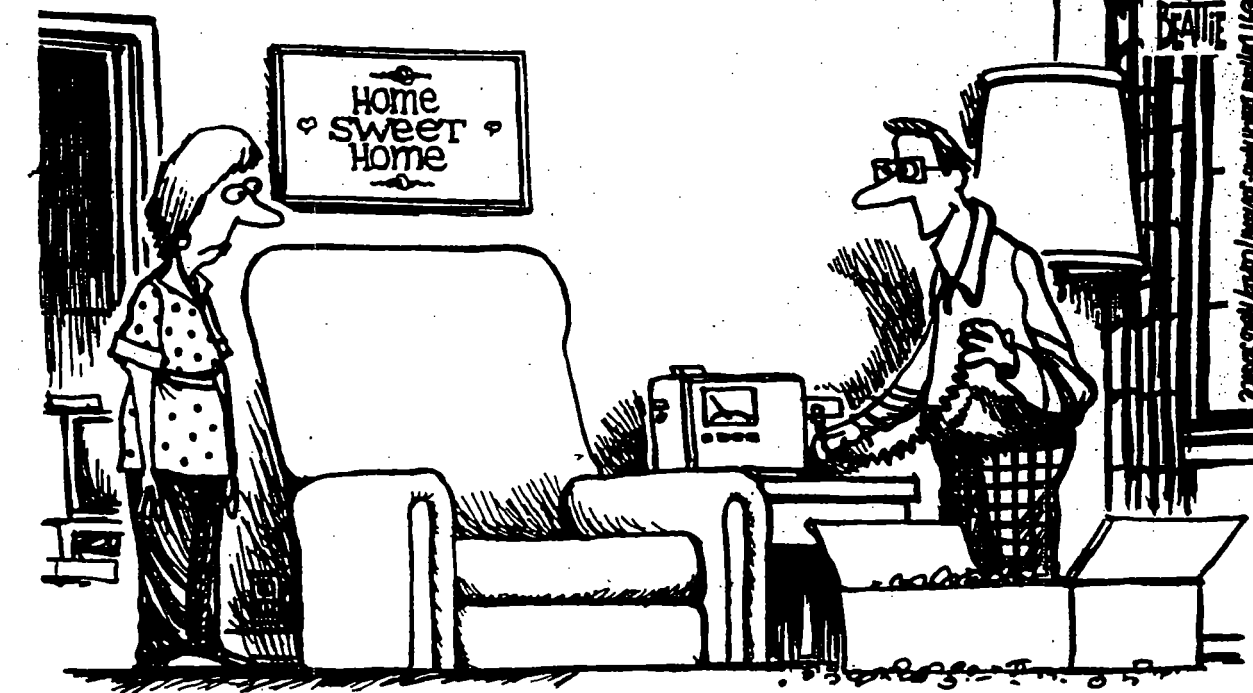
President Clinton signed the Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act on Oct. 3, 1996. This new law attacks precursor chemicals and establishes new penalties for trafficking in chemicals and the possession of equipment needed to manufacture methamphetamines.

Mr. Clinton said, "I am particularly pleased we are acting before this epidemic spreads." Mr. Clinton added, "We have to stop 'meth' before it becomes the crack of the 1990s. And this legislation gives us a chance to do it." Unfortunately "meth" is not a new problem in the United States. Methamphetamine, which is known on the street as "speed," "crank" or "ice," is a powerful stimulant. So powerful in fact, that the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has called it the most lethal substance to hit the streets during the entire 35-year war on drugs.

Methamphetamine use has spread to all areas of the United States and continues to be on an upswing. Estimates from the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) indicate that methamphetamine-related emergency room episodes increased 346 percent from 1991 to 1995.

Like other illegal drugs, methamphetamine can be administered in a variety of ways. It can be snorted, injected, smoked, or taken orally. No matter how it is administered, methamphetamine is instantly mind-altering. Users typically experience increased alertness, decreased fatigue, and an overall feeling of euphoria. This euphoria, however, conceals a host of dangers faced by individual methamphetamine abusers. According to the Center for a Drug Free Workplace, prolonged methamphetamine abuse causes "severe depression, weight loss, rapid mood changes, hallucinations, and permanent brain, heart, and lung damage." Intravenous methamphetamine users face the further risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS.

A methamphetamine-induced



"It's an at-home polygraph. Now we can ask Junior if he's faking the at-home drug tests we're giving him."

"high" artificially boosts self-confidence, many users are overcome by a so-called "superman syndrome." In this state, methamphetamine abusers ignore their physical limitations and attempt tasks which they are normally incapable of performing.

Methamphetamines can be produced virtually anywhere. Motel rooms, trailer parks, and suburban homes can all be turned into clandestine "meth" labs capable

of producing substantial quantities of the drug. The technical know-how needed to produce methamphetamines can easily be found on the internet. These peculiarities make the production of methamphetamine unique, and especially difficult to control. Recent analyses have indicated that methamphetamine from these labs can be as high as 97-99 percent pure.

About the only thing that stands in the way of widespread production and distribution of methamphetamine is the limited availability of the chemicals required to make it. Ephedrine and hydriotic acid, two components of methamphetamine, are tightly controlled in the United States. Yet the recent surge in methamphetamine use suggests that drug traffickers are finding ways

around this impediment.

In the past the methamphetamine problem was centered in the southwestern United States. The DEA even identified California as a "source country" of methamphetamine because of the hundreds of illicit drug labs throughout the state. More than 1,800 deaths were caused by methamphetamine abuse from 1992-1994 — a 145 percent increase in just two years. The

majority of these cases occurred in the four western cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego and Phoenix. California emergency room admissions related to methamphetamine abuse increased by more than 366 percent from 1983 to 1993. (Methamphetamine Control Act of 1996) The recent surge in methamphetamine abuse can be attributed to the growth and influence of the U.S.-Mexican drug connection.

Although the precursor chemicals may be effectively regulated in the United States, in Mexico they are not. Highly organized Mexican drug trafficking syndicates have taken advantage of their country's lenient regulatory practices to dominate the United States methamphetamine trade. Utilizing the same trafficking routes through which up to 70 percent of the cocaine arriving in the United States now passes, the Mexican trafficking organizations have been able to deliver the chemicals needed to produce methamphetamine to associates living in the United States. These associates then "cook-up" and distribute the final product. In addition to this practice of illicit chemical diversion, these criminal groups also smuggle methamphetamine produced in Mexico to the United States.

It is this "Mexican Connection" that makes methamphetamine a particularly ominous threat. Operating with impunity south of the U.S.-Mexico frontier, the Mexican trafficking organizations are now in a position to expand the methamphetamine market in the United States. With their cocaine and marijuana businesses already booming, we can expect these organizations to market methamphetamine alongside their cache of other illegal substances in more and more cities across America.

Carson A. Nightwine, Jr. and Rowan B. Kelly are research assistants at the National Defense Council Foundation.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

United States Attorney
Western District of Missouri

Telephone No. 816-426-3122

1201 Walnut Street, Suite 2300
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2149FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: _____

Time: _____

To: Mr. Rahm Emanuel

Office Phone #: _____

Facsimile Phone #: _____

From: Steve Hill

Office Phone #: _____

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Number of Pages: _____
(+ cover sheet)

Remarks: _____

Meth materials



MAY 22, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**U.S. ATTORNEYS FROM SEVEN DISTRICTS ANNOUNCE
MIDWEST HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA)
TO FIGHT METHAMPHETAMINE IN FIVE-STATE REGION**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — United States Attorneys from seven districts in the nation's heartland today announced the establishment of a five-state anti-drug plan by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies specifically to fight the spread of the illegal stimulant methamphetamine throughout the Midwest.

The **Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area**, or **HIDTA**, which includes the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota, was designated by Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), in January. The **Midwest HIDTA** is funded by an \$8 million bipartisan Congressional appropriation.

Today, in a series of announcements at sites throughout the five states, federal prosecutors from those states' seven districts unveiled **Midwest HIDTA's** strategic mission, structure and operating budget for its inaugural fiscal year, which is currently underway.

Making today's announcements were U.S. Attorneys Stephen J. Rapp, Northern District of Iowa; Don Nickerson, Southern District of Iowa; Jackie N. Williams, District of Kansas; Edward L. Dowd, Jr., Eastern District of Missouri; Steve Hill, Western District of Missouri; Thomas J. Monaghan, District of Nebraska; and Karen E. Schreier, District of South Dakota.

"The **Midwest HIDTA** promotes a comprehensive, cooperative strategy by law enforcement at the federal, state and local level to meet the problem of methamphetamine head-on," said U.S. Attorney Monaghan, Chairman of the **Midwest HIDTA's** 20-member Executive Committee.

Since the **HIDTA** concept was initiated by the ONDCP in 1990, 15 regional designations, including the **Midwest HIDTA**, have been made. The designations recognize the regions as having the most critical drug trafficking problems that adversely impact the nation as a whole, and then attempt to focus anti-drug resources on those problems in a coordinated fashion. Missions are specific: one **HIDTA** might address only cocaine; another only marijuana.

"In the Midwest, in the span of just a few years, methamphetamine has rapidly become Public Enemy Number One," said Executive Director Mike Hinkle, who is coordinating **Midwest HIDTA's** activities from a headquarters office in Kansas City, Missouri.

(MORE)

MIDWEST HIDTA**Page 2 of 2**

Statistics from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration show that 12 clandestine methamphetamine labs were seized in the five-state area during Fiscal Year 1993, 14 labs during FY 1994, 66 labs during FY 1995, 305 labs during FY 1996, and in just the first six months of FY 1997 (October 1996 through March 1997), 235 labs have been seized.

"The threats posed by this illegal industry go far beyond severe health risks to the users," Hinkle said. "The related increases in crime, particularly violent crime, threaten all of us. The environmental and public safety hazards presented by the labs themselves threaten all of us. The expense of simply reacting to these problems hurts all of us in the pocketbook."

But the Midwest HIDTA is employing a series of proactive strategies to fight meth:

- * The Midwest HIDTA Investigative Support Center, based in Kansas City, Mo., will collect, analyze and disseminate intelligence information and other data to participating agencies.
- * Clandestine Lab Certification Seminars and Equipment will provide equipment and conduct training for agencies on safety procedures for meth lab investigations.
- * Forensic Laboratory Enhancement, Training and Equipment will increase personnel and upgrade equipment to provide greater on-site support for meth lab investigations.
- * The Nebraska Task Force Enhancement/Coordination will create a system to better coordinate Nebraska's existing anti-meth task forces.
- * The Iowa Enforcement Initiative will seek to reduce meth distribution in Iowa.
- * The Missouri State Metropolitan and Rural Drug Task Force HIDTA Enhancement Project will identify and combat the proliferation of clandestine labs in Missouri.
- * The South Dakota Comprehensive Initiative will increase investigations and provide officer training to better coordinate anti-meth efforts in South Dakota.
- * The Kansas Methamphetamine Enforcement Initiative will focus on reducing the amount of meth imported, manufactured and consumed in Kansas through aggressive enforcement, prosecution and demand reduction initiatives.
- * Regional and State Drug Demand Reduction Campaigns will utilize multi-media efforts to educate the public about problems associated with meth, and offer community-based solutions.
- * The DEA Methamphetamine Investigation Support will provide additional funding and technical equipment to assist local, state and federal law enforcement in investigations.

For More Information About Midwest HIDTA's State and Local Strategies:

Stephen J. Rapp, Northern District of Iowa, (319) 363-6333.
Al Overbaugh, Southern District of Iowa, (515) 284-6283.
Chris Watney, District of Kansas, (316) 269-6481.
Edward L. Dowd, Jr., Eastern District of Missouri, (314) 539-6889.
Chris Whitley, Western District of Missouri, (816) 426-4213.
Anne Camp, District of Nebraska, (402) 221-4757.
Karen Schreier, District of South Dakota, (605) 330-4400.



MAY 22, 1997

Midwest HIDTA's Structure and Leadership

The Midwest HIDTA was designated in January 1997 by Gen. Barry McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), a White House agency. HIDTA (pronounced "HIDE-ah") is a designation given to regions of our country that are determined to have the most critical drug trafficking problems that adversely impact the nation as a whole.

The Midwest HIDTA, which specifically addresses problems associated with methamphetamine, includes the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota. It is one of 15 such HIDTAs designated by the ONDCP since the program began in 1990. The other HIDTAs, each with a unique mission, are in Houston, Los Angeles, New York/New Jersey, South Florida, the Southwest Border, Baltimore/Washington, Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands, Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia/Camden, Rocky Mountain, Gulf Coast, Lake County Indiana, and the Pacific Northwest.

The Midwest HIDTA is overseen by a 20-member Executive Committee, whose members represent the ranks of local, state and federal law enforcement within the five states.

Members of the Executive Committee include Chairman Thomas J. Monaghan, U.S. Attorney for the District of Nebraska; Steve Hill, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri; Stephen J. Rapp, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa; Karen E. Schreier, U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota; Sam Bertolct, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri; Allen C. Curtis, Director of the Nebraska Crime Commission; Col. Ron Tussing, Nebraska State Patrol; Ken Carter, Director of the Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement; Joe Frisbie, Chief of Police of Sioux City, Iowa; Gary Kempker, Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety; Col. Fred Mills, Missouri State Highway Patrol; Larry Welch, Director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation; Jim Swafford, Chief of the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department; Doug Lake, Director of the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation; Bill Pattison, Chief of the Sioux Falls, S.D., Police Department; Joe Corcoran, Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, St. Louis; George Andrew, Special Agent In Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Omaha; F. Gerard Heinauer, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Omaha; Tom Fischer, U.S. Customs Service, St. Louis; and Pat Finnessy, Internal Revenue Service, St. Louis.

Daily operations of the Midwest HIDTA are coordinated by Executive Director Mike Hinkle, a 26-year veteran DEA Special Agent who most recently served as Chairman of the Board of Professional Conduct at DEA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.



MAY 22, 1997

Midwest HIDTA's FY97 Operating Budget

The Midwest HIDTA has an operating budget of \$8 million for Fiscal Year 1997, which began on October 1, 1996, and continues through September 30, 1997. This funding, and subsequent annual funding, comes from bipartisan Congressional appropriation through the Office of National Drug Control Policy, a White House agency.

In its inaugural year, the Midwest HIDTA has allocated funding for law enforcement initiatives on a regional, state and local level. As shown below, the allocations to each of the five states in the Midwest HIDTA—Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota—include monies that will be passed down to local agencies within those states.

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

* Midwest HIDTA Project Staff	\$235,227
* Midwest HIDTA Intelligence Center	\$1,000,000

STATE INITIATIVES

* Missouri State Highway Patrol HIDTA Project	\$1,084,735
* Nebraska Task Force Enhancement	\$612,774
* Iowa Enforcement Initiative	\$450,585
* Kansas Methamphetamine Enforcement Initiative	\$636,000
* South Dakota Comprehensive Initiative	\$425,216

OTHER INITIATIVES

* Regional and State Demand Reduction Campaigns	\$464,700
* Hiring of Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys	\$387,655
* State Forensic Lab Enhancements	\$761,413



MAY 22, 1997

What is Methamphetamine?

Methamphetamine, or meth, is a powerful synthetic stimulant that is produced and sold illegally in pill form, capsules, powder and chunks. Two such forms of the drug are commonly known as crank and ice. Crank refers to any form of methamphetamine, but usually an off-white to yellowish grainy powder that is snorted, injected, smoked or swallowed. Ice is a crystallized smokeable chunk form of the drug that produces a more intense reaction than cocaine. Ice appears clear and crystal-like, resembling frozen water.

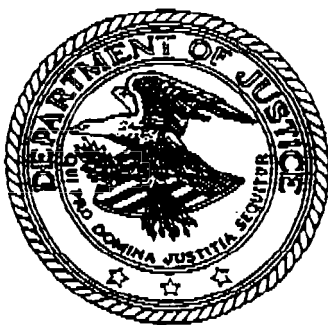
Methamphetamine in all forms is an extremely addictive drug that produces severe cravings. Methamphetamine stimulates the central nervous system, with effects lasting anywhere from eight to 24 hours or more.

Short-term effects of methamphetamine use include increased alertness, a sense of well-being, paranoia, an intense high, hallucinations, aggressive behavior, increased heart rate, convulsions, extreme rises in body temperature, uncontrollable movements, violent behavior, insomnia, impaired speech, dry or itchy skin, loss of appetite, acne or sores, and numbness.

Long-term effects of methamphetamine use include fatal kidney and lung disorders, brain damage, depression, hallucinations, violent and aggressive behavior, severe weight loss, insomnia, paranoid-schizophrenia, decreased sociability, poor coping abilities, disturbed personality development, liver damage, stroke or death.

Methamphetamine causes a severe crash after its effects wear off. The crash, or low feeling, is more intense and longer lasting than those associated with cocaine or other stimulants. The drug's adverse affects continue to cause damage to users long after the use has stopped. Methamphetamine abuse can lead to legal, financial and social problems, and there is an increased risk of child abuse and neglect for children whose parents use the drug.

Once predominantly acquired from illegal sources outside of the United States, or from clandestine production facilities on the west coast, the recent years have seen a proliferation of clandestine meth labs in the Midwest. Production methods have been simplified to the point that a person willing to invest a few hundred dollars in over-the-counter pharmaceuticals and relatively easily-to-obtain substances from chemical supply houses and common hardware stores can produce several thousand dollars worth of potent methamphetamine in a "bathtub" lab.



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

STEPHEN L. HILL, JR.

1201 Walnut Street, Suite 2300 • Kansas City, MO 64106-2149 • (816) 426-3122 • Contact: Chris Whitley, Public Affairs Officer

MAY 22, 1997
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. ATTORNEY: MISSOURI A KEY BATTLEGROUND IN NEW HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA) INITIATIVE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Steve Hill, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, said that Missouri's law enforcement agencies will have a crucial role in a five-state anti-methamphetamine strategy announced today.

Missouri, along with Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota, comprise an officially designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), a definition established by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, a White House agency.

The HIDTA designation means that Missouri law enforcement will receive a significant share of the region's \$8 million Congressional appropriation to fight meth this fiscal year, with more funds to come in future years, Hill said.

"The HIDTA concept recognizes that there are regions of our country that have serious drug trafficking problems affecting our nation as a whole," Hill said. "Here in the Midwest, our problem is the production, trafficking and use of meth."

During calendar year 1996, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration assisted or participated in seizures of 290 clandestine meth labs in the five-state HIDTA region. Of that number, 235, or 81 percent, were in Missouri, Hill said.

"Clearly, Missouri is the key battleground for fighting this epidemic," he said. "In terms of labs alone, no other state in the region is nearly so challenged by this problem as we are. Nationally, only California has reported more lab seizures."

Appropriately, Hill said, Missouri will play a key role in the Midwest HIDTA's various strategies in its first year of setting up operations:

(MORE)

HIDTA IN MISSOURI

Page 2 of 2

* **The Headquarters Office** for the five-state Midwest HIDTA is located within the U.S. Attorney's Office in Kansas City, Mo. Executive Director Mike Hinkle, who oversees the day-to-day operations of the initiative, is assigned there.

* **The Midwest HIDTA Investigative Support Center**, also located within the U.S. Attorney's Office in Kansas City, Mo., will receive \$1 million to collect, analyze and disseminate intelligence information and other data to participating agencies throughout the five-state region.

* **The Missouri State Metropolitan and Rural Drug Task Force HIDTA Enhancement Project**, led by the Missouri Department of Public Safety and the Missouri State Highway Patrol, will receive \$1,084,735 specifically to target the proliferation of clandestine meth labs throughout the state.

* **Crime Lab Enhancements** will provide \$190,920 to the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Lab in Jefferson City and \$31,250 to the Kansas City Regional Crime Lab for personnel and equipment to expand testing capabilities, enabling quicker turnaround in meth lab investigations.

* **Funding to Hire Additional Federal Prosecutors** will provide \$231,000 to the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri to hire Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys who will be devoted solely to the prosecution of methamphetamine cases. In the Western District of Missouri, one new prosecutor will be hired and assigned to Kansas City; another to the district's branch office in Springfield.

* **Demand Reduction Campaigns**, multi-media efforts aimed at educating and informing the public about the dangers associated with meth, will also help forge community-based solutions to meth-related problems. Missouri and the other four HIDTA states will devote portions of a \$464,700 budget to this strategy.

"It's important to emphasize that these expenses are just for HIDTA's first fiscal year," Hill said. "In future years, once we have HIDTA's infrastructure in place, the goal will be to bolster funding for Missouri's regional anti-drug task forces and local police and sheriffs' departments. Many of these local law enforcement agencies are already receiving federal funds to fight meth by way of the state's \$8.8 million pool of Byrne Grant money, which is administered by the Missouri Department of Public Safety, and which is totally separate from the HIDTA funds."

The Midwest HIDTA is led by a 20-member Executive Committee, whose members represent the ranks of federal, state and local law enforcement within the five-state region.

Missouri has eight members on the Executive Committee: Steve Hill, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri; Sam Bertolet, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri; Gary Kempker, Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety; Col. Fred Mills, Missouri State Highway Patrol; Joe Connoran, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, St. Louis; Tim Hill, U.S. Marshal, District of Missouri; and Bill Hickey, Federal Reserve Bank, St. Louis.

METROPOLITAN

★ Friday, May 23, 1997
The Kansas City Star

C-5

Grant to help states in methamphetamine battle

By JOHN T. DAUNER
Staff Writer

Kansas and Missouri will share more than \$1.5 million of an \$8 million congressional appropriation to five Midwestern states to fight methamphetamine, officials said Thursday.

Over the last three years, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota have become awash in methamphetamine and the clandestine laboratories where the illegal stimulant and hallucinogen is manufactured.

In January, Barry R. McCaffrey, director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, designated the five-state region as the "Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area."

Jackie Williams, U.S. attorney for Kansas, and Kansas Attorney General Carla Sioval announced the Kansas grant of \$634,000 Thursday.

Missouri will get slightly more than \$1 million. An additional \$1 million will be used to establish a regional intelligence center in the U.S. attorney's office in Kansas City.

The bulk of the grant money is to be used

to increase federal, state and local investigations; beef up crime laboratories; and hire additional chemists, special assistant U.S. attorneys and state prosecutors to attack methamphetamine trafficking.

During the last few years, the number of meth labs seized has been increasing rapidly, authorities said. During calendar 1996, 290 meth labs were seized in the five states. Of the 290, 235 were in Missouri.

In Independence alone, police uncovered 44 meth labs last year, U.S. Attorney Stephen L. Hill of the Western District of Missouri said.

Hill said the Missouri funds would permit the Kansas City and Independence police departments and several multi-county drug task forces to hire additional officers. More chemists also will be hired to clear evidence backlogs and get cases to trial sooner.

Johnson County Community College has been designated one of two sites for training officers to dismantle meth labs.

"We call meth the triple death drug," Hill said. "Its use kills. Its manufacture kills from fumes, flames and explosion. It is an environmental killer when the chemicals used to make it are dumped."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FROM THE OFFICE OF:

RAHM EMANUEL

SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT

DATE: 5-27

PAGES: 6

TO: Jose / Leanne

FROM: Serena in Rahm's Office

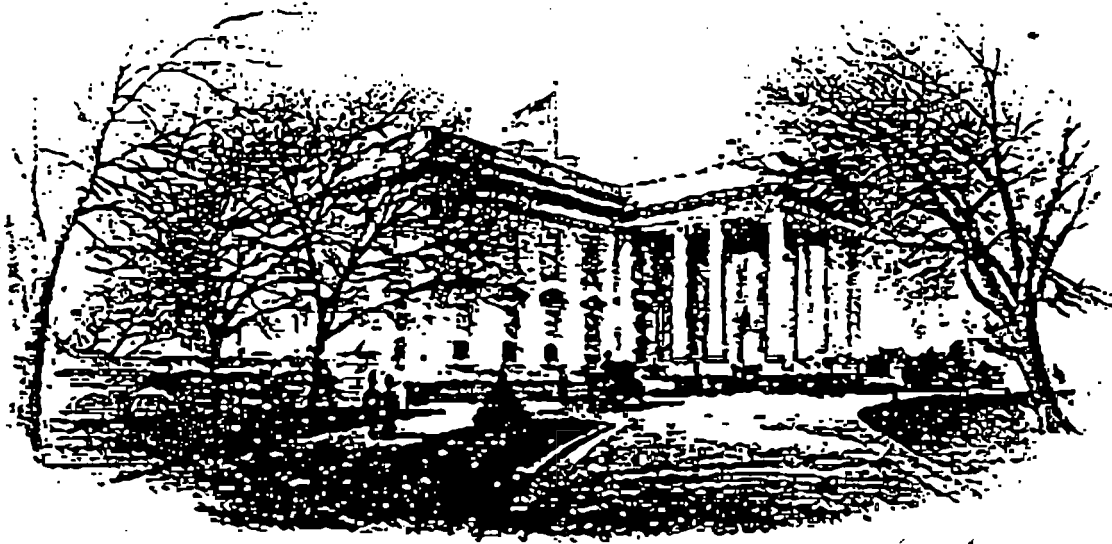
FAX NUMBER: 67028

COMMENTS: Would you please take a look
at the new draft and let us know
what you think?

If there are any problems with this transmission please call (202) 456-2531

URGENT

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Number of pages including cover 6

Date 5/27/97

To Serena for Rahm Emanuel

FAX Number 62530

Comments The attached proposed text is for a conference taking place TOMORROW in Nebraska. Neither the President nor the Vice President was able to do a video, so we are sending a written message instead. We had to substantially shorten the

proposed text to fit it on 1 page, and Anne McGuire in Cabinet Affairs asked that we clear it thru Mr. Emanuel for his edits/approval. Thanks for your help.

From Maureen Hudson **X65902**

FAX 62993

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
Presidential Correspondence
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Phone: 202-456-7610
Fax: 202-456-2993

DRAFT OF BC MESSAGE

INITIALS: BC / tfs /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/pm/meth.mah

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: May 27 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3519834

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Return to Anne McGuire

ENCLOSURES AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
based on draft

Warm greetings to the participants of the National Methamphetamine Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. You have come together to combat an extremely dangerous substance, and I applaud you for your efforts.

Substance abuse continues to plague our nation, putting lives at risk and fueling crime and violence in communities across America. Methamphetamine, now threatening to overtake crack cocaine as the most virulent illegal substance linked to violent behavior, is leaving a trail of crime and death in its wake. Chemically and physiologically volatile, methamphetamine ravages the lives of its users and pollutes the environment surrounding sites where it is secretly manufactured.

The most effective weapon against this deadly substance -- and all other illegal drugs -- is education. We can best protect our children from corrosive drugs by speaking honestly and openly about them. In schools and churches, youth groups, and sports clubs, on television and radio, and especially at home, we must teach America's young people about the dangers of substance abuse.

We are relying on law enforcement as well as education in our efforts to protect our people from methamphetamine. The Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act of 1996 targeted precursor chemicals, both at home and abroad, that are used in making this drug. We also increased

penalties for trafficking and for the production or possession of equipment involved in manufacturing controlled substances. These and other measures in our National Methamphetamine Strategy, released in April of last year, hold out real hope for progress in reducing the prevalence of methamphetamine use.

I am pleased that so many concerned individuals are participating in this important conference, including government officials, law enforcement leaders, policymakers, caregivers, medical experts, and scholars. I am confident that, working together, we can create a safer, healthier America for the generations to come.

Best wishes for a successful conference.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO:

Omaha National Methamphetamine Conference
Omaha, Nebraska

THE WHITE HOUSE

Jim D. -

This is a regretted
POTUS video request
that is now pending
w/ VPOTUS. If the
VPOTUS can't do it
they would like a POTUS
message. However you
want to handle -
I just wanted to
give you advance notice

Call me w/
questions
Anne McGuire

CC: Michelle Crisco

Video Address to Omaha National Methamphetamine Conference, May 28-30, 1997

I wish to salute all participants at the National Methamphetamine Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. You have come together to combat an extremely dangerous substance, which Dr. Michael Abrams of Broadlawn Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa described as "the most malignant addictive drug known to mankind."

Once largely confined to sections of the West and South, this deadly speed-trap of a drug has been racing across our country -- leaving a trail of crime and death in its wake. "Meth" now threatens to replace crack cocaine as the most virulent, illegal substance linked to violent behavior. Chemically and physiologically volatile, methamphetamine pollutes both the internal and external environment. This drug poisons land and water around clandestine labs where it is made -- just as it ravages the flesh and blood of individual victims.

A powerful stimulant of the central nervous system, methamphetamine is associated with paranoia, stroke, and heart attack. You who have gathered from around the country are aware of tragic fires caused by explosive ingredients in this super-amphetamine. In addition, byproducts of the drug's manufacture leach into motel rooms and other temporary sites where methamphetamine is "cooked." Unsuspecting families, who next rent the rooms, become violently ill. Dumped into rivers or buried in holes, methamphetamine contaminates soil and ground water, working its way up the food chain from plants to animals. Clean-up for this drug is so hazardous and expensive that property owners, who discover spoiled real-estate, often cannot afford to render it safe. Landscapes and lives literally have been "wasted" by deadly chemicals.

Well before illegal drugs became a multibillion-dollar, international industry, Ben Franklin taught Americans that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The best weapon against methamphetamine is education. We can protect youngsters from corrosive drugs by speaking honestly and openly. In schools and churches, youth groups and sports clubs, on television and radio, we must teach one another to resist caustic substances that erode our surroundings and assault the soul.

General Barry McCaffrey, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, has proposed to Congress a \$175 million-dollar media campaign for motivating youth to reject illegal drugs. With the help of the private sector and entertainment industries, whose support can essentially double this figure, an ad campaign will illustrate the dangers of amphetamines, opiates, and other addictive poisons. Parents must speak to children across the generational divide if we are to preserve the earth and herald a healthier century.

For citizens already caught in the gruesome grip of illegal drugs, we must offer treatment. The justice system can provide an excellent opportunity to break the cycle of drugs and crime that keeps users and communities alike at the mercy of merciless elements. Without help in conquering addiction, former criminals -- and the streets to which they return -- are unlikely to become drug-free. Without treatment, illegal drugs are *themselves* a life sentence -- and all too



often a death sentence.

The Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act of 1996 targeted precursor chemicals, both at home and abroad, used in making this drug. We also increased penalties for trafficking and for the production or possession of equipment involved in manufacturing controlled substances. The Methamphetamine Act provided for seizure and forfeiture of regulated compounds (inside and outside the United States), restitution for cleanup charged to defendants convicted of "meth" manufacture, mail-order restrictions, coordinated law enforcement, public/private education programs, public health monitoring, and research. Figures from the National Institute of Justice's Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) Report, which tests for drug use among arrestees, offer hope that our National Methamphetamine Strategy -- released in April of last year -- is beginning to work. In key Western cities, the prevalence of methamphetamine appears to be dropping.

Further scientific study is critical because there is currently no specific treatment protocol for methamphetamine. Our Administration is funding research in this area. This terrible drug affects brain chemistry for up to six months following a binge, according to Dr. Alan Leshner of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Because this synthetic drug is cheaper than cocaine, there is a greater potential for widespread abuse. Methamphetamine is associated with permanent brain-damage in long-term users. There has also been a dramatic increase in deaths connected with methamphetamine.

This conference brings together policy makers, care-givers, medical experts, and scholars to assess progress and solicit input. The presence of Attorney General Janet Reno, DEA Administrator Tom Constantine, Director Jeremy Travis of the National Institute of Justice, Director Leshner of NIDA, and ONDCP Director McCaffrey underscores the importance of your collective work. Publication of the conference report will help educate the American people about the methamphetamine threat.

On behalf of the American people, let me thank all of you for your contributions to this national effort. We hope your work over the next few days will give us cause for optimism. In addition to individuals I have already mentioned, let me express our gratitude to Senator Bob Kerry of Nebraska, Director Richard Canas of the National Drug Intelligence Center, Dr. David Musto of Yale University School of Medicine, and Chancellor William Berndt and the University of Nebraska Medical Center for generous support of this conference.



U.S. Department of Justice

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Per conversation last night



Department of Justice

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NIJ
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METHAMPHETAMINE USE AMONG ARRESTEES DECLINES IN THE WEST AND SOUTHWEST

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- New figures indicate a downward trend in methamphetamine use among adult arrestees between 1995 and 1996, according to a report released today by the Justice Department's National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Use of the drug among adult arrestees is still significant in the West and Southwest. Adult arrestees who tested positive for methamphetamine use in San Diego, Phoenix and Portland showed the most notable declines. In San Diego, methamphetamine use by adult arrestees dropped from 37.1 to 29.9 percent; in Phoenix from 21.9 to 12.2 percent; and in Portland from 18.7 to 12.4 percent. Only San Antonio showed an increase between 1995 to 1996, from 1.5 to 2.1 percent.

Last year, the Clinton Administration announced a National Methamphetamine Strategy, including a request to Congress to raise penalties for trafficking and impose tighter regulatory controls on drug products containing the chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine.

Marijuana now exceeds cocaine as the drug of choice among adult male arrestees, particularly in Western cities. Most cities reported an increase in the percentage of adult male arrestees testing positive for marijuana. A majority of cities reported lower rates of cocaine use among adult male arrestees while 9 reported increases and 2 showed no change. Substantial decreases in cocaine use were reported in Dallas and Houston. However, significant increases

(MORE)

were also reported in Omaha, Miami and Indianapolis.

Most cities reported very low rates of opiate use. While six cities reported rates of opiate use at 10 percent or more, these rates are consistent with 1995 findings.

For 10 years, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has administered the Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) program. NIJ's DUF program has conducted quarterly assessments of substance abuse among booked arrestees in 23 sites around the nation. Interviews and urinalysis are conducted with arrestees within 48 hours of arrest. Urinalysis detects evidence of recent use of any of 10 drugs, including cocaine, marijuana, opiates and methamphetamines.

NIJ has recently proposed to expand the program and develop a national Arrestee Drug Use Monitoring (ADAM) system. The proposed expansion will include 52 additional sites, as well as an outreach component in each site to study drug use in suburban and rural areas.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research arm of the Department of Justice, is the primary sponsor of criminal justice research and evaluations of programs to reduce crime. For general information about NIJ, the Internet address is <http://www.ncjrs.org>. General information about the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>.

Copies of the 1996 DUF report are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) by calling toll-free, 1-800/851-3420.

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NIJ 97-082

After hours contact: James Phillips at 888/582-6750

NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE STRATEGY UPDATE**May 21, 1997**

- Attorney General Janet Reno and Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Barry McCaffrey presented President Clinton with an update on the National Methamphetamine Strategy which was announced one year ago in Miami.
- Thanks to vigorous enforcement efforts, the trend of methamphetamine trafficking and abuse has moderated.
- The preliminary data from the 1996 Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) Report indicate that in eight western cities (Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Omaha, Phoenix, Portland, San Diego, and San Jose), methamphetamine use among arrestees declined between 7 and 52 percent from 1995 figures.
- San Antonio is the only city that showed an increase in methamphetamine use. In the remaining 14 cities participating in the DUF program (Miami, Cleveland, New Orleans, Chicago, the District of Columbia, Ft. Lauderdale, Detroit, the borough of Manhattan, Birmingham, Houston, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Atlanta, and Philadelphia), fewer than 1 percent of the arrestees tested positive for methamphetamine.
- With the Administration's leadership, Congress enacted the Methamphetamine Control Act last year, strengthening criminal penalties for methamphetamine trafficking and establishing new controls over precursor chemicals.
- In the last year, at the request of the Attorney General, every U.S. Attorney assessed their district's methamphetamine problem and together with federal, state, and local agencies, came up with a plan to address the problem. In some cases -- particularly in the Midwest and California -- the U.S. Attorneys developed regional strategies.
- We cannot let up our efforts to combat the spread of this potent drug. Curbing the tide of methamphetamine from abroad, stemming its eastward march, and punishing those who traffic in this pernicious poison must all be a part of our efforts.
- The Justice Department will continue its efforts to ensure that the penalties for trafficking in methamphetamine and its precursor chemicals appropriately reflect the acute threat to the public health and safety and the seriousness of the offense.

POINT PAPER: LATEST METHAMPHETAMINE DATA

- ▶ Data from NIJ's Drug Use Forecasting Program (DUF) is key to early identification of emerging drug trends. In 1995, the last year for which data are publicly released, the DUF data showed a significant rise in meth positives, primarily in eight western cities (see attached map). This was key in the development of the meth strategy.
- ▶ The preliminary DUF data for 1996 indicate meth use is down in all of these cities, in some instances by a substantial amount. Only in San Antonio did the rate of meth positives rise, from 1.5 percent to 2.1 percent. Specifically, for the eight cities the reduction in positive rate were as follows:

Omaha, NE
8.1% to 4.3%
(down 47%)

Denver, CO
3.8% to 2.2%
(down 42%)

Portland, OR
18.7% to 12.4%
(down 34%)

Dallas, TX
2.7% to 1.3%
(down 52%)

San Jose, CA
18.5% to 14.8%
(down 20%)

Phoenix, AZ
21.9% to 12.2 %
(down 44%)

Los Angeles, CA
7.5% to 7%
(down 7%)

San Diego, CA
37.1% to 29.9%
(down 19%)

- ▶ One key point -- in line with trends of recent years, adult females showed greater meth use than males. Since the violent crime issue is so often linked to meth use, this is an interesting finding.
- ▶ DAWN data, another valuable indicator, are not yet available for 1996. We are working with HHS on getting at least preliminary data and will get it to you as soon as possible.
- ▶ A copy of the relevant sections of the draft DUF Report (with key points highlighted) is also attached.

Attachments (as stated)