

## United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

# AMBASSADORS CONFERENCE ON NARCOTICS THE WHITE HOUSE NOVEMBER 12 - 13, 1986

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- 1) Bureau of International Narcotics Matters (INM)
- 2) INM Budget

#### THE UNITED NATIONS' ROLE

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### THE PRESIDENT'S DRUG ABUSE INITIATIVES

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# THE AMBASSADORS CONFERENCE ON NARCOTICS THE WHITE HOUSE NOVEMBER 12-13, 1986

At the Domestic Policy Council meeting of July 25, 1986, a proposal was made for the President to invite a representative group of U.S. Ambassadors from countries where drug production, trafficking and consumption are major problems, or might develop into major problems to attend a two-day conference in Washington.

This conference, endorsed at the meeting by Secretary Shultz, has three goals:

- -- First, to provide the President with the opportunity to demonstrate U.S. commitment to the issue of narcotics control, and to update the Ambassadors on recent domestic drug-control initiatives;
- --Second, to encourage Ambassadors to discuss ways to enhance the international narcotics control program by exploring options for regional cooperation;
- --Third, to send to foreign governments a strong message that narcotics is a critical international problem which must be addressed.
- In 1971, President Nixon recalled Ambassadors to Turkey, France, Mexico, Luxembourg, Thailand, Vietnam and the United Nations for consultations on improving international cooperation to reduce opium production and trafficking. In 1986, narcotics production, trafficking and consumption have become major problems not only in Southeast Asia and Europe, but also in Southwest Asia and Latin America. The dramatic increases in the availability of cocaine in U.S. cities, and the recent phenomenon of "crack" have had the effect of raising public awareness of the narcotics issue; the international community has also become sensitized to how narcotics production, trafficking and abuse threaten institutions.

The recent U.S.- Bolivian "Operation Blast Furnace" focused attention on the role that the U.S. military can play in assisting foreign governments in their narcotics control efforts.

The international anti-narcotics work of First Lady Nancy Reagan has succeeded in mobilizing international action against drug abuse. Mrs. Reagan hosted two First Ladies Conferences in 1985, the first in Washington in April, and an October Conference at the United Nations. Over forty First Ladies from around the world attended the Conferences which have generated follow-up activities by First Ladies in Asia, South America, and Europe. In May, 1986, the First Lady travelled to Malaysia and Thailand to stress the importance of the private sector in drug abuse prevention and education efforts.

The narcotics issue, however, is not solely the province of First Ladies; in his September 14 speech to the nation, the President announced that one of the goals of his narcotics program was to "expand international cooperation while treating drug trafficking as a threat to our national security." In April, 1986, President Reagan signed a National Security Decision Directive which states definitively that narcotics trafficking is a national security threat, while mobilizing resources to combat that threat.

During the Economic Summit meetings in Bonn (1985) and Tokyo (1986), the President stressed to Summit nation leaders the importance he attaches to the narcotics issue. The President has made drug abuse one of the critical issues during the remainder of his term in office.

### THE AMBASSADORS CONFERENCE

The first day of the two-day Conference will focus on drug demand/ prevention issues; the second day focuses on supply reduction. Presidential and high-level Cabinet participation, as well as the involvement of the First Lady and the Vice President, will signal to foreign governments how seriously the Administration considers the narcotics issue. Ambassadors have been asked to prepare recommendations for the President to enhance the international narcotics control program; these recommendations will be formulated during the working group sessions of the meeting and will be presented to the Secretary of State and the President.

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U.S. Ambassadors will also have the opportunity for interchange with Senators and Members of Congress during a session scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Congressional interest in the narcotics issue has increased dramatically over the years, and this year Congress's involvement in the drug issue has resulted in the drafting and passage of the Omnibus Drug bill which increases resources, among other things, for international narcotics control programs.

During the Conference, the Ambassadors will be asked to redouble their efforts with foreign governments to increase international cooperation in the area of narcotics control. They will also be tasked to convey to foreign governments the sense of urgency with which the U.S. government is approaching the problems of narcotics trafficking and drug abuse.

11/5/86

## AGENDA/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:00-9:30	Preconference Meeting
9:30-9:40	Administrative Arrangements
9:40-10:00	Preliminary working Group Meetings Ambassadors will meet with members of their working groups in a preliminary session
10:00-10:45	First Lady Nancy Reagan Speaks with Two Young People in Treatment
10:45-11:00	Break
11:00-11:30	Donald Regan, The President's Chief of Staff Details of the President's new antidrug initiative
11:30-12:30	Panel on Private Sector Initiatives in Preventing Drug AbuseShirley Coletti, Chairman of the Board National Federation of Parents for Drug-Free Youth, FloridaJohn Ziegler, President National Hockey LeagueJoe Clark, Principal Eastside High School, Patterson, N.JKevin Wanzer, Co-Chairman, World Youth Against Drug Abuse
12:30-1:45	Lunch
1:45-2:15	Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger The Decline in Drug Use Among U.S. Military Personnel; the Role of the Military in Narcotics Control
2:15-3:30	Ambassadors Panel: Ambassadors O'Donohue (Burma), Hinton (Pakistan), Rowell (Bolivia) Discussion of Problems/ Progress in three INM Program Countries
3:30-4:00	Secretary of HHS, Dr. Otis Bowen The Role of HHS in the Fight Against Drugs

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4:00-4:15 Break

4:15-5:15 Ambassadors Working Groups

#1: Narcotics Trafficking:
Ambassador Gillespie, Colombia, CHAIRMAN
Ambassador Davis, Panama
Ambassador Levitsky, Bulgaria
Ambassador Lyman, Nigeria
Ambassador Okun, United Nations
Ambassador Shlaudeman, Brazil
Ambassador Reich, Venezuela
Ambassador Rondon, Ecuador

#2: Narcotics Consumption/ Demand Ambassador Burt, FRG, CHAIRMAN Ambassador Chapman, UNVIE Ambassador Hallett, Bahamas Ambassador Hinton, Pakistan Ambassador Rabb, Italy

#3: Narcotics Production
Ambassador Brown, Thailand, CHAIRMAN
Charge Ealum, Afghanistan
Charge Isom, Laos
Ambassador O'Donohue, Burma
Ambassador Pilliod, Mexico
Ambassador Rowell, Bolivia
Ambassador Sotirhos, Jamaica
Ambassador Watson, Peru

The Working Groups will produce recommendations to the President for enhancing the international narcotics control program

5:30-6:00 Working Group Chairmen Meeting

6:00-8:00 Reception for Ambassadors, Ben Franklin Room Department of State hosted by Secretary Shultz

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

9:00-9:30	Administrative Arrangements
9:30-10:15	Attorney General Edwin Meese III Justice's Role in the War on Drugs
10:15-11:00	CIA Briefing on Narcotics, Robert Gates Deputy Director, CIA
11:00-11:15	Final Working Group Meeting
11:15-11:35	Vice President George Bush The Role of the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System
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11:45-12:45	Lunch
11:45-12:45	Move to Cabinet Room
12:45-1:00	Move to Cabinet Room  Secretary of State George Shultz Narcotics as a Foreign Policy Issue; Discussion of Ambassadors Recommendations

### LIST OF AMBASSADORS PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE:

Ambassador Maxwell M. Rabb Ambassador Daniel O'Donohue Ambassador Deane R. Hinton Ambassador Melvyn Levitsky Ambassador William Brown Ambassador Edward Rowell Ambassador Charles Gillespie Ambassador Fernando Rondon Ambassador Richard Burt Ambassador Bruce Chapman Ambassador Michael Sotirhos Ambassador Herbert Okun Ambassador Arthur Davis Ambassador Otto Reich Ambassador Harry Shlaudeman Ambassador Carol Hallett Ambassador Princeton Lyman Ambassador Charles Pilliod Ambassador Alexander Watson Charge Maurice Ealum Charge Harriet Isom

Italy Burma Pakistan Bulgaria Thailand Bolivia Colombia Ecuador FRG UNVIE Jamaica United Nations Panama Venezeula Brazil Bahamas Nigeria Mexico Peru Afghanistan Laos