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OCTOBER 14, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FACT SHEET

WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE

The President today has directed that the Report of the Domestic Council's Drug Abuse Task Force be made public.

Background

President Ford, last April, called for an in-depth review of the Federal Government's entire drug abuse prevention program. To accomplish this mission, a Domestic Council task force, consisting of senior representatives of 12 Federal departments and agencies, was created and charged with responsibility for preparing a comprehensive report to the President.

The specific objectives of the review were to:

- . Assess the effectiveness of current drug programs and policies;
- . Determine if the Federal drug strategy, priorities and organizational structures are appropriate to meet current needs;
- . Examine the need for, and structure of, a drug management and coordination mechanism in the Executive Office of the President.

That report, the "White Paper on Drug Abuse", has been completed and presents the task force's extensive findings and recommendations in detail.

Highlights and Recommendations of the Task Force

The task force strongly endorses the concept of a Federal program which balances the effort to reduce the supply of drugs with an effort to reduce the demand for drugs, and it recommends that this concept should continue to be the cornerstone of the Federal strategy for containing drug abuse.

In addition to confirming the validity of this fundamental strategy, the White Paper contains numerous programmatic recommendations based on the following themes:

- . We must be realistic about what can be achieved and what the appropriate Federal role is in the war against drugs. We must be prepared to continue our efforts and commitment to contain the problem at a minimal level. We must also recognize that the Federal Government cannot do the job alone. Only through the combined efforts of the Federal, State and local governments, private individuals and business, and a variety of local organizations, working together, can we hope to ultimately succeed.

more

- . Not all drug use is equally destructive and we should give priority in our treatment and law enforcement efforts to those drugs which pose the greatest risks to the individual and to society, as well as to compulsive users of drugs of any kind. The highest risk drugs are heroin, amphetamines, particularly when taken intravenously, and barbiturates when taken in combination with other drugs.
- . Supply reduction is broader than law enforcement and we should utilize a variety of approaches and tools to reduce the supply of illicit drugs.
- . Federal law enforcement efforts should focus on the development of major conspiracy cases against the leaders of high-level trafficking networks and should move away from "street-level" activities.
- . The current treatment focus of demand reduction efforts should be supplemented with increased attention to prevention and vocational rehabilitation.
- . Neither successful prevention nor successful rehabilitation is drug specific. Both should be closely integrated with other, comprehensive social programs.
- . The success program managers have in enlisting the support and cooperation of foreign governments, and State and local governments and private organizations domestically, is greatly enhanced when our national leaders clearly manifest their commitment to combatting drug abuse.

Finally, the White Paper observes that there is a significant need to better coordinate and manage the Federal drug program and to more effectively mobilize and utilize all the resources available, and it makes a number of recommendations to accomplish these objectives.

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OCTOBER 14, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

During the last six months the Domestic Council has conducted an intensive review of the drug abuse problem in the United States. I directed this review because I was concerned about reports of increasing availability and use of drugs. Specifically, I wanted to know the extent and nature of drug abuse in this country and the effectiveness of our current programs in responding to this serious problem.

The Domestic Council Drug Abuse Task Force has completed its review and has prepared a "White Paper on Drug Abuse" for my consideration. I am grateful to the Vice President, the members of the task force and to the many others from inside and outside of government who offered advice and counsel in the preparation of this report.

Drug abuse is a problem of deep personal concern to me and one which requires a careful but forceful policy both at home and abroad. We have completed an important first step. Now we must continue the vital process of communication and analysis which has begun.

In order to assure prompt implementation of this report, I am directing each Federal agency with direct program responsibility to analyze and respond to the White Paper within the next 60 days. I am also directing that the report be released to help refocus the current public dialogue on drug abuse.

This Administration is firmly committed to improving the quality of life for all Americans. Clearly drug abuse has no place in our society. I believe the White Paper outlines in realistic terms the drug abuse problem this nation faces and presents for my consideration comprehensive recommendations for ways in which the Federal government, working with state and local governments, and the private sector, can control drug abuse.

#

CECIL E. COONROD
2709 COUNTRY PLACE DRIVE
CARROLLTON, TEXAS 75006

214 - 242-9366

Oct. 8, 1975

Sheila Weidenfeld

Patti

*Can you
draft a
letter for
reply?
Sue*

Mr. Ron Nessen,
The White House,
Washington, D. C. 20000

Sir:

Surely the President realizes that remarks made by members of his family cannot be blown away like smoke.

Ford defends son

Smoke cleared up

By HELEN THOMAS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (UPI)—President Ford said Tuesday he has never smoked marijuana, and refused to publicly chastise his son Jack for doing so.

Ford, talking with Knoxville reporters in a televised interview that covered subjects mainly of local interest, refused to state his views on the use of pot but pondered at length the subject of honesty.

Asked if he had ever used marijuana and his views on his 23-year-old son's acknowledged use, the President said, "Let me say, I never have."

"I again would say everybody in our family tries to be frank and

honest . . . We brought up our children to be frank and honest.

"I think honesty is the best policy—you inevitably get caught if you don't tell the truth . . . I can express disagreement with what some of our children do but as long as they are honest and give us an opportunity to express our view, I don't think I should go any further," Ford said.

Ford laughed when asked if he would advise his wife, Betty, to curtail her frank public comments as the presidential election neared. "She's doing better than I am at the polls," Ford said.

"I don't think I would be very popular at home if I tried to lay down the law. She has very good judgment," he said.

The President said the First Lady probably would still speak her mind in public.

The President, making his third out-of-Washington trip since being shot at in California, said he has "some very strong feelings" about gun control—he opposes registration of guns or gun owners.

"We have to prosecute, convict and put in jail those people who illegally use guns," he said.

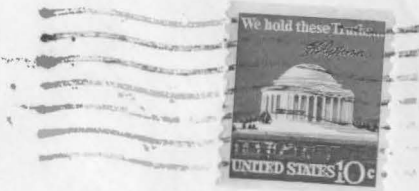
Ford said he has no fear of moving in crowds.

"The Secret Service does a superior job . . . Whatever you do in life, there are certain risks. I had more potential risks when I was driving my automobile than I do now," Ford said

This is the second member to make a very poor impression on millions of Mothers who have teen age sons and Daughters. If this family is as religious as they claim, they should start making remarks that would encourage others to follow their good example...and not deviate from it. Americans expect decent and respectable conduct from them.

C. E. Coonrod (A Republican)

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Mr. Ron Nessen,
The White House,
Washington, D. C. 20000

C. E. COONROD
2709 COUNTRY PLACE
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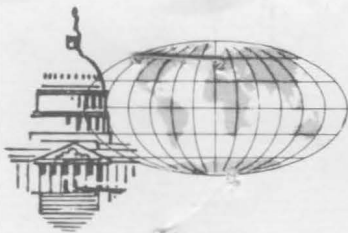
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Press

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Any comment?

No.

Steve Somer
Forum Page writer
Human Events

File

Human Events

THE NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY

FOUNDED IN 1944

Frank C. Hanighen (1899-1964) • James L. Wick (1897-1964)
Milton I. Wick, Publisher Emeritus

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2 / Human Events / NOVEMBER 1, 1975

President Ford once again had to come to the defense of a member of his "out-spoken" family. Jack Ford, the 23-year-old son of the President, disclosed in an interview with the *Portland Oregonian* that he is concerned that his experience with "pot" could be exploited politically to hurt his father in the 1976 presidential campaign. Young Ford went on to admit that he has smoked marijuana before and he doesn't think it's so exceptional for young people growing up in the 1960s. In fact, he added that he has a friend who is "into all types of narcotics." Apparently that doesn't matter to Jack, for he says "he has shown me that he is still a human being and very much my friend."

President Ford said that he was unaware of Jack's actions but praised him for being "open and honest." As for Jack's future role in helping his father during the 1976 campaign, he said he would do whatever was asked of him. As a result of Jack's "open and honest remarks," the President Ford Committee has decided to hold off on Jack's campaign appearances in New Hampshire. Syndicated Columnists Evans and Novak have reported that Ford campaign managers were planning major campaigning for him in the Granite State. Now they are fearful of how he will

Los A. Times 12/27/75

ATTACK ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

Continued from First Page

ers "so those who are spreading this evil throughout our communities will be put behind bars, where they belong."

The task force report said that drug enforcement had been hampered by lack of proper priorities.

"Not all drug use is equally destructive," the report said, "and we should give priority in our treatment and enforcement efforts to those drugs with the potential for causing the highest social cost."

Also cited were rivalries among agencies and "unrealistic expecta-



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Ford Vows to Curb Heroin Trafficking

Associated Press

Pres 12/24/75

President Ford is promising to do "whatever it takes" to curb illegal heroin traffic to the United States, according to some members of Congress.

However, the three House members, who met with Mr. Ford Monday, said in response to questions that the President made no commitment to cut off U.S. aid to opium-growing countries like Turkey and Mexico.

Chairman Peter W. Rodino (D-N.J.) of the Judiciary Committee said Mr. Ford's commitment to take strong steps to limit heroin traffic was echoed by Secretary of

State Henry A. Kissinger and other high-level administration officials whom Mr. Ford summoned to the meeting.

New York Democrats Lester L. Wolff, who chairs the House narcotics control panel, and Charles B. Rangel also attended.

Mr. Ford promised to make full use of \$42 million appropriated by Congress to send helicopters and other equipment to the opium-producing nations to assist local officials in finding and destroying poppy crops, the lawmakers said.

SALE THRU SUNDAY ONLY

Ford Gives Priority To Hard-Drug Fight

DRUGS, From A1

Mexico and with the leaders of Turkey and Colombia "in an effort to strengthen cooperation of other nations involved in the fight against illicit drug traffic."

The task force said that drug enforcement had been hampered in the past by lack of proper priorities.

"Not all drug use is equally destructive," the report said, "and we should give priority in our treatment and enforcement efforts to those drugs with the potential for causing the highest social cost."

The President's endorsement of the task force report appeared to settle a policy disagreement within the executive branch. The Treasury Department and the U.S. Customs Service had filed a dissent with the report

contending that "to diminish efforts against marijuana and cocaine can only erode further respect for law and law enforcement officers."

Also cited were rivalries among agencies and "unrealistic expectations of total elimination of drug abuse from our society."

The report called for more attention to intelligence-gathering on large-scale drug operations and less emphasis on so-called "street-level activities" that catch addicts and small-time pushers but miss the major traffickers.

Mr. Ford's stepped-up consultation with Mexican leaders was in line with a recommendation by the task force, which said Mexico was "the major source country of illicit drugs" entering the United States.

January 22, 1976

Dear Mr. Coonrod:

Mr. Nessen has referred your letter concerning Jack Ford to me, and I am happy to have the chance to speak to your concerns.

I feel you may be interested in how the President and Mrs. Ford address themselves to the drug problem, and I've marked some passages in an interview which might be helpful.

I understand your concerns and appreciate your interest. You are right--Americans do expect decent and respectable conduct from their leaders in public office. In working with the President and Mrs. Ford daily, I can assure you that you have those qualities represented here at the White House.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mr. Cecil E. Coonrod
2709 Country Place Drive
Carrollton, Texas 75006

Enclosure

PM/SAQ
Central File
EWPress Office: cron/alpha

UP-033

(WASHINGTON BRIEFS)

WASHINGTON (UPD -- PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT TELEVISED NEWS CONFERENCE ON CIA REFORMS WAS SET AT 8 P.M. EST INSTEAD OF A MORE POPULAR LATER HOUR TO AVOID PREEMPTING "POLICEWOMAN" -- ONE OF HIS FAVORITE TELEVISION PROGRAMS.

THE PRESIDENT'S TELEVISION ADVISER, ROBERT MEAD, SAID FORD IS SO FOND OF THE SHOW STARRING ANGIE DICKINSON THAT IT WAS THE DETERMINING FACTOR IN CHOOSING THE TIME FOR THE NEWS CONFERENCE FEB. 17.

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WASHINGTON (UPD -- PRESIDENT FORD SAYS THE PROBLEM OF HIS SON JACK'S SMOKING MARIJUANA "HAS BEEN SOLVED."

FORD WAS ASKED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH MIAMI TELEVISION STATION WTVJ THURSDAY WHAT ADVICE HE HAD FOR "THE THOUSANDS OF FATHERS WHO DISCOVER THEIR CHILDREN MIGHT BE SMOKING POT."

"I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH ANY CHILD -- MINE OR THE CHILD OF ANY OTHER FAMILY -- IF THAT INDIVIDUAL DOES SMOKE MARIJUANA," FORD REPLIED.

"AND WHEN WE HAVE FOUND IN OUR FAMILY THAT THERE WAS ANY DEVIATION, WE HAVE HEARTILY SPOKEN TO THEM AND I THINK THE PROBLEM -- IF IT EVER DID EXIST -- HAS BEEN SOLVED."

... ARE HELPING SCIENTISTS LOCATE

Ford Announces Major Attack on Drug Smuggling

From Times Wire Services

VAIL, Colo.—President Ford Friday announced a major new attack on the flow of illegal drugs into the United States and appealed to leaders of Mexico, Turkey and Colombia to strengthen their enforcement efforts.

Ford gave belated endorsement to a White House task force recommendation for low-priority enforcement of marijuana laws and intensified concentration on heroin, amphetamines and mixed barbiturates as far greater threats to society.

Ford had withheld comment on the