

**NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS**

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

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MAY 14, 1997
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CONTENTS

	Page
Hearing held on February 14, 1997	1
Statement of:	
Owen, Brad, Lieutenant Governor of Washington; Michael J. Bowers, attorney general, State of Georgia; Major General Russell C. Davis, vice chief, National Guard Bureau; James E. Cople, president and CEO, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America; and Ronald E. Brooks, chair, drug policy committee, California Narcotics Officers' Association	7
Letters, statements, etc., submitted for the record by:	
Bowers, Michael J., attorney general, State of Georgia, prepared statement of	15
Brooks, Ronald E., chair, drug policy committee, California Narcotics Officers' Association, prepared statement of	43
Cople, James E., president and CEO, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, prepared statement of	34
Davis, Major General Russell C., vice chief, National Guard Bureau, prepared statement of	24
Hastert, Hon. J. Dennis, a Representative in Congress from the State of Illinois, prepared statement of	4
Mica, Hon. John L., a Representative in Congress from the State of Florida, letter dated May 12, 1997	71
Owen, Brad, Lieutenant Governor of Washington, prepared statement of	10

NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1997

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 1 p.m., in room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. J. Dennis Hastert (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Hastert, Souder, Mica, Shadegg, LaTourette, Barrett, and Cummings.

Staff present: Robert Charles, staff director/chief counsel; Andrew Richardson, professional staff member; Ianthe Saylor, clerk; Michael Yeager, minority counsel; Mark Stephenson, minority professional staff member; and Ellen Rayner, minority chief clerk.

Mr. HASTERT. The hour of 1 having arrived, the Subcommittee on the National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice will come to order.

Today's hearing will focus on the important role that the National Guard has played in the Nation's counterdrug effort. Before I discuss the counterdrug mission of the National Guard, I want to review the bidding. I think the continuing and deepening nature of the menace we are facing from illegal drug use and the drug cartels cannot be overemphasized.

A few facts make the point. Teenage drug use has doubled in the last 5 years. Our children are using LSD and other hallucinogens as well as cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and marijuana at shocking levels. Heroin's purity has at the same time risen from 10 percent to 90 percent over the past two decades, and marijuana is now up to 25 times more potent than in the hippy era in the late 1970's. MDMA, commonly referred to as ecstasy, has been used by 5 percent of 10th and 12th graders, and is creeping into use by 8th graders. MDMA is just one example of new and emerging drugs that threaten our youth. Sadly, parents have stopped talking to their children about the dangers of drug abuse.

I was in Dixon, IL, kind of the heartland of America last week, talking to an assembly of 250 eighth graders. I asked how many of your parents have sat down and talked to you about drugs. Only about one in five of those kids raised their hands. That is less than the average we talk about here, and that is not good.

It is with facts like these in mind that we are here to implore the administration to continue fully funding the National Guard's

counterdrug efforts, from border operations to crucial support for local law enforcement, from critical counterdrug training to life saving and innovative antidrug prevention. No mission is more important or more underfunded.

Here are a few more facts in a nutshell. Historically, the National Guard has performed missions tasked by the Governors. As the drug epidemic has increased, the Governors have turned to the National Guard to assist State and local governments to combat the flow of illegal drugs. Indeed, they deeply rely on the National Guard.

In fact, if you were traveling to the Southwest Border, you could see the countless contributions being made by the National Guard first hand. National Guard units in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas assist with counterdrug operations across our over 2,000 mile Southwest Border.

Beyond this is the leadership that the Guard has played in establishing the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute, known as NICI, in San Luis Obispo, CA, where officials from all government agencies meet to train and to coordinate counterdrug efforts. One of the greatest challenges facing those of us who participate in counterdrug policy is assisting with agency coordination between Federal, State and local officials, and the National Guard is at the forefront of this effort. NICI is doing this.

But beyond all this, at the United States-Mexico border one can view the roads that Guard engineers constructed that are giving law enforcement officials better access to the border and barriers that are deterring drug smugglers. At the land port of Otay Mesa, CA, Guardsmen assist Immigration and Customs officers with cargo inspection, traffic control, and security. In Arizona, they operate sophisticated aircraft and surveillance systems that help law enforcement pinpoint methamphetamine labs and marijuana fields. These aircraft also patrol the border and lend invaluable assistance and intelligence to law enforcement officers on the ground.

However, I would be remiss if I mentioned only the National Guard's interdiction and law enforcement programs. In Arizona, for example, Project Challenge is also run by the Arizona National Guard. This program is reaching out to the community by providing positive alternatives to drugs and gangs that have victimized far too many young people. These demand reduction and youth assistance programs deserve our fullest support, and the administration's proposed deep cuts in the National Guard would eviscerate not only their interdiction and law enforcement role, but also their prevention efforts. These are vital programs and the Guard has performed the counterdrug mission with distinction.

But let's be frank. To continue this high level of mission performance, the Guard needs the right assets and support. I have grave concerns that the budget does not support this role for the Guard. Indeed, his lack of support is starkly reflected in his fiscal year 1998 budget. The President's budget submission for fiscal year 1998 reflects a 42 percent cut for National Guard support plans. That simply is unconscionable. This proposal, if adopted, would reduce the Governors' State plans funding from their fiscal year 1997 level by \$76.6 million. How can we, in good conscience, adopt a stance like that? These funds provide critical National Guard as-

sistance to State and local law enforcement and individual communities in their fight to reduce the supply and the demand for illegal drugs. The Guard uses and is trained on specialized surveillance equipment and other assets that State and local governments cannot afford to operate.

A reduction in funding of the magnitude proposed by the President would swiftly result in severe reductions in aviation capabilities, intelligence gathering and analysis, as well as tactical and engineer support to State and local law enforcement. Does anyone doubt that this would have severe implications for the Nation's counterdrug efforts? I think the answer is obvious. We need to support the National Guard's counterdrug efforts and support them fully.

And before asking the witnesses to begin, I will yield to my colleague and friend, ranking member, Tom Barrett, for any comments he might have.

[The prepared statement of Hon. J. Dennis Hastert follows:]

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
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OPENING STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN J. DENNIS HASTERT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
MAY 14, 1997.

Today's hearing will focus on the important role that the National Guard has played in the Nation's counterdrug effort. Before I discuss the counterdrug mission of the National Guard, I want to review the bidding. I think the continuing and deepening nature of the menace we are facing from illegal drug use and the drug cartels cannot be overemphasized.

A few facts make the point. Teenage drug use has doubled in the last five years. Our children are using LSD and other hallucinogens as well as cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines and marijuana at shocking levels. Heroin's purity has at the same time risen from 10% to 90% over the past two decades, and marijuana is now up to 25 times more potent than in the late 1970s. MDMA, commonly referred to as ecstasy, has been used by 5 percent of 10th and 12th graders, and is creeping into use by eighth graders. MDMA is just one example of new and emerging drugs that threaten our youth. Sadly, parents have stopped talking to their children about the dangers of drug abuse, with only 3 of 10 children saying their parents have talked to them about drugs.

It is with facts like these in mind that we are here to implore the Administration to continue fully funding the National Guard's counterdrug efforts, from border operations to crucial support for local law enforcement, from critical counterdrug training to life saving and innovative anti-drug prevention. No mission is more important or more under-funded. Here are a few more facts in a nutshell. Historically, the National Guard has performed missions tasked by the governors. As the drug epidemic has increased, the governors have turned to the National Guard to assist state and local governments to combat the flow of illegal drugs. Indeed, they deeply rely on the National Guard.

In fact, if you were travel to the Southwest border you could see the countless contributions being made by the National Guard first hand. National Guard units in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas assist with counterdrug operations across our 2,000 mile southwest border. Beyond this is the leadership that the Guard has played in establishing the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute, known as NICI, in San Luis Obispo, California, where officials from all government agencies meet to train and to coordinate counterdrug efforts. One of the greatest challenges facing those of us who participate in counterdrug policy is assisting with agency coordination between Federal, state and local officials, and the National Guard is at the forefront of this effort.

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Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for holding this important hearing.

I think we all recognize the importance that the National Guard plays in not only in the counterdrug effort, but in security matters throughout the country.

I would like to welcome our distinguished panel of visitors today, Lt. Governor Owen, Attorney General Bowers, General Davis, Mr. Copple and Mr. Brooks. Together with the men and women of the National Guard you have made significant contributions in our fight against illegal drugs. I commend you for your work.

The National Guard plays a unique role in our country's counterdrug effort. The men and women of the National Guard forces have all the training, organization and capabilities of our Armed Forces, which are second to none in the world. But Guard members bring even more to bear in this fight. National Guard forces are community based, working together with law enforcement and community organizations like those which make up the Community Antidrug Coalition of America.

Guard members know and understand the differing needs of their communities. With training and sophisticated surveillance and communications systems, the National Guard adds important operational capabilities to law enforcement agencies on the ground. And we have seen results. Thanks to the National Guard involvement, law enforcement agencies in 1996 seized 84 metric tons of cocaine and 371 metric tons of processed marijuana, and thanks to help from the Guard, the law enforcement made over 128,000 drug-related arrests.

Just as important, National Guard members serve as mentors and role models in prevention programs around the country, teaching kids how to resist gang involvement and peer pressure to use drugs and building self-confidence and leadership skills. In my home State of Wisconsin, the Guard has been hard at work. Its Challenge By Choice low ropes course teaches young people problem solving and self-confidence.

Working with the Milwaukee Police Department, the Guard's gang resistance and education program teaches 7th graders at school and at summer camp to avoid gang influences and become responsible members of the community. And as part of the Experimental Aircraft Association International Convention, the Wisconsin National Guard provided drug-related information to more than 60,000 people. This is important work. I look forward to hearing about your past successes and challenges for the future.

With respect to the budget issue, frankly, it is quite easy to criticize the President's budget when the Republicans didn't produce a budget of their own. It is my belief that the American people don't want us to sit up here squabbling on partisan issues and want us to work together. That is why I am pleased that the President extended a hand to work with the Republican majority, and, frankly, I think it is sort of a cheap shot to go after the President when we are trying to work together.

Thank you very much.

Mr. HASTERT. If there are any other opening statements, we will ask that they be entered into the record. And without objection.

Today, we are joined by distinguished representatives from Government and the private sector and from several States. We are joined by the Honorable Brad Owen, the Lieutenant Governor of Washington, welcome; the Honorable Michael Bowers, who is the attorney general of Georgia, welcome.

We are also pleased to have Major General Russell Davis here, General, the vice chief of the National Guard Bureau, who will present us with an overview of the Guard's contribution and counterdrug operations; Mr. James Copple, director of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, thank you for being with us, and Mr. Ronald Brooks, chair of the Drug Policy Committee of the California Narcotics Officers' Association. The gentlemen will present the views of their respective organizations.

Gentlemen, we are pleased to have you here today and look forward to your testimony. As a matter of committee rules, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight swears in all witnesses and I would, therefore, ask you to stand up and raise your right hands.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. HASTERT. Let the record show that the witnesses have answered in the affirmative, and Lt. Governor Owen, please proceed.

STATEMENTS OF BRAD OWEN, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON; MICHAEL J. BOWERS, ATTORNEY GENERAL, STATE OF GEORGIA; MAJOR GENERAL RUSSELL C. DAVIS, VICE CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU; JAMES E. COPPLE, PRESIDENT AND CEO, COMMUNITY ANTI-DRUG COALITIONS OF AMERICA; AND RONALD E. BROOKS, CHAIR, DRUG POLICY COMMITTEE, CALIFORNIA NARCOTICS OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. OWEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate both of your remarks on the issue.

Let me first say at a time when substance abuse is rising, especially amongst our children, we need to be recruiting troops, shoring up our forces, and analyzing our battle plans, not selling the war effort short.

I hope that the esteemed members of the subcommittee do not take offense to my using phrases associated with war. I am a wholesale, 100 percent proponent of prevention and education as the key elements in our strategy to take on drug abuse. But, when faced with the absolutely devastating consequences of the rising tidal of substance abuse, we have to prepare ourselves and our communities for an all out assault.

If any foreign country inflicted as much pain and suffering, killed as many of our people, threatened as many of our children, injured 350,000 of our newborn American babies each year, or stole as much of our property as drugs and drug dealers do, we would be in an all out war of which the cost would not be an issue.

Even though there is an absolute correlation between the decrease in our Nation's public and private investment in substance abuse prevention and the recent dramatic increase in the use of illegal drugs, we still have to battle to maintain what little we have. The proposal to cut the National Guard support plans by 42 percent will make this cycle a great deal worse.

We have got to find a way to resensitize America, our families and friends, policymakers and media to the seriousness of substance abuse and to the wisdom of consistent, long-term funding of substance abuse prevention.

In Washington State, the strongest partnerships that we have forged have been between the social services, school community, law enforcement, and military community. Every substance abuse prevention organization that I know of has had an absolutely excellent experience with the Washington National Guard. The high profile of the National Guard, with its high physical and moral standards, brings a great deal of respect and impact to our community drug prevention efforts.

The drug demand reduction effort by the National Guard is involved with youth leadership training camps and mentoring programs throughout my State. National Guard personnel annually participate in or facilitate over 100 public/private school visitations, 75 community events, 25 youth leadership camps, 50 civic group presentations, and 15 onsite training/mentoring programs.

The National Guard has strengthened school based antidrug programs and, of real importance, it has served as a catalyst for coalition development among the diverse groups and organizations across Washington State.

In terms of the very important interdiction efforts of the National Guard, I find it difficult to believe we are even talking about cutting this funding. The Counterdrug Task Force provides support to 30 local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies, and 20 statewide multiagency, multijurisdictional narcotic task forces. Specially equipped aircraft provide regional support when asked by law enforcement agencies.

During the last 18 months, approximately 2,488 flight hours were flown in direct support of law enforcement agencies. Because of the shortage of trained personnel with the Guard and the increasing demand for services, approximately 15 percent of requests are actually turned down. In the last 18 months, National Guard interdiction efforts in Washington State were instrumental in seizing in excess of \$308 million in narcotics and associated assets and approximately 4,047 arrests.

Make no mistake, in the battle against substance abuse, the National Guard has made critical links and partnerships within my State. It is an investment with a great return.

Marijuana use by our kids is higher than the national average. Methamphetamine use has been described as at epidemic levels, and Seattle's heroin problem was identified and covered in national magazines as severe. Our ports and borders make our State an easy mark for importation and distribution. Consequently, Washington State has been identified as a high intensity drug trafficking area.

I have every confidence that my troops on the front lines of prevention in Washington State will fight well, and we can beat back this epidemic. But we need the National Guard.

The impact of the National Guard's efforts to stop drug abuse is real and is powerful. The impact is touching the lives of tens of thousands of our children and our families. Unfortunately, the impact of the National Guard's efforts will be gone if this funding is

taken away. We simply cannot let that happen. When we call, in Washington State, we need the National Guard.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Governor Owen.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Owen follows:]



Brad Owen
Lieutenant Governor



Remarks by Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen
Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice
May 14, 1997

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee,

I have flown here to Washington D.C. from my home in Washington STATE, where I serve as Lt. Governor, to explain the benefits of the National Guard Support Plans.

Let me first say that at a time when substance abuse is rising, especially amongst our children, we need to be recruiting troops, shoring up our forces, and analyzing our battle plans, not selling the war effort short.

I hope that the esteemed members of the subcommittee do not take offense to my using phrases associated with war. I am a whole-sale, 100% proponent of prevention and education as the key elements in our strategy to take on drug abuse. But, when faced with the absolutely devastating consequences of the rising tide of substance abuse, we have to prepare ourselves and our communities for an all out assault.

If any foreign country inflicted as much pain and suffering, killed as many of our people, threatened as many of our children, injured 350,000 of our newborn American babies each year, or stole as much of our property as drugs and drug dealers do, we would be in an ALL OUT WAR of which THE COST would not be an issue.

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As Acting Governor of Washington state a couple of months ago, it fell on me to make the decision to call out the National Guard to help us deal with the emergency of severe flooding. Well, we have another type of severe flooding hitting our streets and communities every day, only now I don't have the authority to call out the National Guard. It's the flood of drugs.

Marijuana use by our kids is higher than the national average, methamphetamine use has been described as at epidemic levels and Seattle's heroine problem was identified and covered in National magazines as severe. Our ports and borders make our state an easy mark for importation and distribution.

Consequently, Washington state has been identified as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

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The impact of the National Guard's efforts to stop drug abuse is real and powerful. The impact is touching the lives of tens of thousands of our children and our families.

Unfortunately, the impact of the National Guard's efforts will be gone if this funding is taken away.

We simply cannot let that happen. When we call, we need the National Guard.

Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Bowers.

Mr. BOWERS. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, I appreciate very much this opportunity to be with y'all. I am the attorney general of Georgia, but I am also an International Guardsman and I work for General Davis on my left as chairman of the National Guard Counterdrug Board, so it's with those two perspectives that I am going to share some remarks with you, but I am here as the capacity of the attorney general of my State.

First of all, let's look at from a national perspective what is the problem. The problem is for the past few years the budget for the counterdrug program of the National Guard has gone up and down like a yoyo. In 1973, we had \$193 million for State counterdrug programs. By 1996, that had been reduced to \$134 million. In fiscal year 1997, it went back up to \$180 million, and now it is being proposed to go back down to \$132 million.

Well, whether you think the National Guard does good or bad, that's no way to run any organization, because you can't plan, you can't predict, you can't be dependable to your customers, in this case the States and the various law enforcement agencies.

And the way this problem manifests itself, and it will manifest itself if this \$132 million budget is put into place, is that all of the accomplishments of the National Guard, both Army and Air, with respect to the counterdrug program are going to be put into jeopardy, and I think it's worthwhile to look at those very briefly.

As Mr. Barrett mentioned earlier, some of those are very significant accomplishments: 128,000 arrests the National Guard participated in in fiscal year 1996; \$337 million in seizures of assets; 1.9 million marijuana plants eradicated; 371 metric tons of processed marijuana. All of these sorts of things are placed in jeopardy if that budget comes down, and I don't think any of us, irrespective of our politics, would want any of these accomplishments jeopardized by the reduction of that budget. And that's what happens.

So from a national perspective, as best I can discern that, I would urge y'all to do two things. No. 1, put somewhere like \$200 million or work toward putting somewhere like \$200 million, working through the appropriators and the authorizers, in the budget for the National Guard and fence that money so it can only be used for that single purpose.

Now, if you will, let me turn to the State. Let me be very specific with you as to what is going to happen if this budget is reduced, the National Guard budget for counterdrugs to \$132 million. This is my State. We are about a \$3 million program, mid level if you compared all of the programs from California down to the smallest one. We are not the biggest, about in the middle, fairly representative.

We have about 70 employees in this program. This is what my people tell me will most likely happen: Now, when I say "my people," I am talking about the people in the National Guard, and I can assure you from a law enforcement perspective if these things happen it will cripple the 159 sheriffs and the various police chiefs in Georgia in terms of their counterdrug fight.

A 30 percent reduction is predicted in seizures, both of assets, plants, processed drugs and whatever; 30 percent reduction if this budget is cut in the manner that's planned. Thirteen drug law en-

forcement agencies will lose their National Guard support. Now, what kind of agencies are these? The DEA, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Marshall Service. The Atlanta HIDTA, recently established, it will also lose support.

Seven multi-jurisdictional drug task forces will lose highly trained intelligence analysts. Five drug enforcement agencies will lose their operational investigative case support analysis. This is one of the most important. Our raid unit, which is our reconnaissance and interdiction detachment, will lose one pilot and two mechanics, and that means the marijuana eradication in Georgia is going to severely suffer.

Now, not all of the marijuana eradication is done by the Guard, but a great portion is, and in 1995, fiscal year 1995, we destroyed over 30,000 plants. Now, it dropped way down in 1996 because so much effort was devoted to the Olympics, it dropped down to 6,000 plants, but that effort is going to be severely restricted by this.

We have an operation called Silent Watch. They are going to be reduced by a significant percentage. All of our vehicles, all of the National Guard vehicles being used for the counterdrug program are going to be in jeopardy.

Georgia is a big State. It may not be as big as some of y'all's, but it's the biggest State east of the Mississippi River. We need a lot of vehicles. Fifty percent of the Federal law enforcement officials that are trained at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at Brunswick probably won't get trained.

So from a Federal perspective, I would urge you from the perspective of a State law enforcement legal officer, which I am, to restore the proposed cut in the National Guard budget, and more specifically, plus it up to about \$200 million so we can at least accomplish about 80 percent of what we are called upon to accomplish through the local law enforcement agencies, \$200 million, and then fence it so nobody can touch it.

And I would challenge anyone to look at the record of the National Guard, because you are going to find that of all the DOD agencies, and I am not being disparaging of anybody, but of all the DOD agencies, nobody can match the National Guard dollar for dollar in terms of its effectiveness in fighting drugs in this country. Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, General Bowers.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Bowers follows:]

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL J. BOWERS
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF GEORGIA
BEFORE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The National Guard is a community based asset - a force of trained men and women, equipment and facilities organized and dedicated to preserving peace, order and public safety in America's communities and in communities around the world.

The men and women of the Guard are your next door neighbors. When not performing military duty, they are students and educators; accountants and business owners; doctors and nurses; ranchers and farmers; counselors and clergy.

The men and women of the National Guard are stable role models in our communities. They are committed to a policy

of zero tolerance for drug use for themselves, their families and for others with whom they serve. They are a dedicated cadre of drug free men and women who can make positive changes in your communities.

The Army and Air National Guard is organized, positioned and trained to provide support to community-based drug demand reduction programs and drug interdiction law enforcement agencies. They have a long history of success in providing drug supply reduction support to law enforcement agencies. In 1988, National Guard personnel were called to support approximately 100 counterdrug missions. Four years later, in 1992, National Guard personnel from 53 states and territories, and the District of Columbia, were called to support over 5,900 counterdrug missions. The National Guard continues to support drug supply reduction requests,

from law enforcement agencies, at an ever increasing rate. This year it will total 10,000.

The value of National Guard counterdrug assistance is amply demonstrated by just a few statistics from 1996. National Guard assistance to law enforcement agencies resulted in over 128,000 arrests and the confiscation of almost \$337,000,000. Almost 1.9 million marijuana plants were eradicated, and 371 metric tons of processed marijuana were seized. Two thousand six hundred and seventy-one (2,671) pounds of heroin never reached the streets and 16,116 weapons were taken from the hands of drug dealers.

The National Guard has a history of superb performance in supporting the needs of law enforcement agencies and community anti-drug coalitions. Every day the National Guard has nearly 4,000 soldiers and airmen on full-time

counterdrug duty. Unfortunately, for the last five years, this successful program has been on a budget rollercoaster. In FY1993 the Congress appropriated over \$191 million dollars for State Counterdrug Programs. This had been reduced each year through 1996 when they received \$134 million dollars, a 30% reduction in overall funding. This year the Congress appropriated \$179.9 million dollars and the Guard was able to start a recovery and regain the confidence of those agencies they support. To reduce this to \$132 million dollars, a 26% reduction for FY1998, would keep them on this budget rollercoaster and demoralize and strain the credibility they have with state and local law enforcement.

On October 1, 1997, the National Guard will need to reduce its work force from 4,000 people to 3,000 people. Their flight hours in support of law enforcement across the nation would be reduced by 25%. They would be unable to meet

even 50% of their law enforcement requests. And, most important, their credibility with hundreds of state and local law enforcement agencies and community coalitions would be hurt.

A stable funding level for the National Guard Counterdrug Support Program should be in the range of \$200 million dollars. Most of their funding is used for pay and allowances for the 4,000 people on counterdrug duty every day and for the flight hours in their aviation support program. With pay raises and inflation adjustments in FY1998 an increase from the current level of \$180 million to \$200 million dollars would help the National Guard meet over 80% of their requests for support from state and local law enforcement.

The Guard is extremely proud of the contributions they have made in the fight against drugs. However, they realize that the

fight is far from over. The National Guard's approach to the fight against drugs is now focused on a long-term commitment to America's communities, a commitment that more clearly defines how the National Guard will balance support to the increasing demand for the drug fighting capabilities they maintain. As an Air Guardsman and Chair of the National Guard Counterdrug Board, I know this to be true.

In your deliberations I urge you to focus on these things:

- 1) A stabilized budget of \$200 million dollars is a must for the continued efficacy of the program; and
- 2) The current budget submission of \$132 million dollars is far too low and will result in a reduction of 1,000 people on October 1, 1997. This must be stopped.

Mr. HASTERT. And now Major Davis.

General DAVIS. Thank you, distinguished members of the subcommittee. I would first like to thank you for holding this hearing so we can have an opportunity to hear about the program and understand the potential impacts on it. But as importantly on behalf of Lt. General Ed Baca and the over 500,000 folks in the National Guard, I would like to say thanks for empowering us and allowing us to go out and assist the communities in this great Nation in their fight against drugs, and we do it at all levels.

As most of you are aware, the National Guard has a long history of service to our great country. We did it during colonial times protecting the frontiers, as we expanded west, during the Revolutionary War, two world wars, Korea, Vietnam, and the sands of Desert Storm. We still have some folks who currently serve over there along with other soldiers and airmen from the National Guard and Reserve in Bosnia.

As the founding fathers envisioned, the National Guard has and always will be there for the call of this Nation, their States, and communities in time of crisis. The National Guard is called upon to help this time in our communities, a call that we think is a call to serve and defend American's children. This call to duty is one which we are proud and pleased to have the opportunity to once again serve.

Counterdrug operations are a high priority in the national security of the United States, and that's a top notch mission, we think, for the National Guard. Each day we have about 4,000 soldiers and airmen, citizen soldiers, if you please, working to restore health, safety, and economic well-being to the communities of this great Nation that are infested by illicit drugs.

Operating in programs that were authorized starting back in 1989, the National Guard has been a principal contributor to supporting this great fight against illicit drugs in terms of distribution, use, as well as providing specific support to local, State, and national Federal law enforcement agencies.

The National Guard's long-range counterdrug plan directly supports all five of the Presidents' National Drug Control Strategy goals. In 1996, support of law enforcement agencies resulted in eradication of almost 2 million marijuana plants, seizure of 371 metric tons of marijuana, 84 metric tons of cocaine, the confiscation of over \$336 million in cash. And when you combine all of that together, we talk in terms of street value, value of illicit drugs of over \$10 billion.

In 1997, the Guard will continue to conduct a lot of these operations, some 10,000 of them throughout the territories and jurisdictions of the United States.

In terms of eradication as well as interdiction, we will be doing our jobs. Approximately two-thirds of these missions will be in support of local and State law enforcement agencies. The other, it's almost 40 percent, will be in support of Federal law enforcement agencies, and this will be in the form of task force multijurisdictional, as we have in many instances.

This support continues to be provided on a volunteer basis. Our people volunteer to come out and we do pay them, but they take their own time to come out, a lot of time on evenings, weekends.

We have a few folks that are full time. The bulk of them go to their regular jobs and they will give us 1 or 2 days a month to participate in this great effort.

Let me talk about some of the operational aspects of law enforcement agency support. We have eight aircraft, which are C-26s. They are metroliners, civilian style aircraft. We place a part on the bottom of it and go out and work with law enforcement agencies and do photo recon and infrared surveillance, and we help support the marijuana effort.

Marijuana grows at a very high temperature. Right after sunset I have had the opportunity to go out in one of these aircraft, and at night they tend to glow in the dark almost. They grow at much higher rates and temperatures than other plants and it's easy to identify them.

In addition to those eight aircraft, and we will have two more coming on line later this year in New Mexico and Arizona. We still have and have today 116 Army helicopters which we have out there with similar type equipment. They don't have the range or the endurance, but they get out there and can do it. With thermal imaging they can work with not only just the eradication, but also with these. They are able to do some observance of drug transactions and that kind of thing taking place.

The Air National Guard also has some C-130 aircraft which house tactical reconnaissance photos, and we can go out and look in areas and determine where points are during the day as well as support directly in the prosecution.

One of the problems we have, if we say this drug bust took place at the corner of 5th and U here in DC, we take you down 5th and put you on that corner, we can take you down U and put you on the corner and you know exactly where you are.

We are also operating 600 intercept missions in Panama with our F-16s and rotating units. I was just talking to Governor Owen about some of the folks from Washington involved in that process. The National Guard is not in this alone. We are fighting and working with a large number of agencies throughout the Nation, and that's important.

Our role is support to law enforcement and other agencies. Recently we have established a relationship, about a year and a half ago, with CADCA, and Mr. Copple is going to talk about that in a little bit here. But we are working with drug coalitions, working in the community, trying to make that work.

During the next fiscal year, the Guard will network as a potential to educate and motivate almost 10 million young people under the age of 18 to reject the use of illicit drugs, and we think that's important, as does he. We think education is the key to avoiding and preventing young people being involved in drugs.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, as I appear before you here today, our National Guard is located in 3,400 communities throughout the Nation and have over 4,000 young people out there every day working on this. Our commitment to the successful

prosecution of this war is no less than our commitment to prosecute our Nation's defense throughout the rest of the world.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I thank you for the opportunity to appear before you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, General.

[The prepared statement of General Davis follows:]

TESTIMONY
FOR
THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

HEARING ON: National Guard Support In The Fight Against Illegal Drugs.
Scheduled for 14 May 1997 at 9:00pm in the Rayburn Office Building Room
2154.

Introduction

The National Guard continues to be a principal contributor in the fight against the production, distribution and use of illicit drugs. Operating in a program that was authorized in 1989, the National Guard provides counterdrug support at the request of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The National Guard Long Range Counterdrug Plan directly supports all five of the President's 1997 National Drug Control Strategy Goals.

Counterdrug operations are a high priority national security mission for the National Guard. Every day the National Guard has 4,000 soldiers and airmen, on the job, working to restore the safety, health, and economic well-being of communities that are infested with illicit drugs.

During the past twelve months, the National Guard has focused additional attention on the mission of drug demand reduction. Specifically, more people, equipment, and assets are being used to reduce the demand for illicit drugs, especially among our youth.

To strengthen this effort, the National Guard has formed a partnership with the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). This partnership brings together a formidable number of community-based drug fighting capabilities. The outcome of this partnership will be the ability to more effectively blanket communities, across America, with drug fighting capabilities.

During the next fiscal year, the National Guard network has the potential to educate and motivate almost ten million young people, under the age of eighteen, to reject the use of illegal drugs. If resourced appropriately, the drug prevention and demand reduction initiatives of the National Guard will continue to effect positive change in the lives of our nation's children, especially those at-risk.

In FY 1997, the National Guard will conduct almost 10,000 supply reduction (eradication and interdiction) support operations. Approximately two-thirds of these missions will be in support of state and local agencies, while one-third will be at the request of federal law enforcement. This support continues to be provided on a volunteer basis and is in addition to the normal federal readiness training requirements and state missions that the National Guard performs. The readiness state of National Guard members participating in the Counterdrug Program is, unequivocally, strengthened by the experience and training opportunities afforded through support of counterdrug operational missions.

National Guard Assisting Law Enforcement Helped Seized The Following:

Cash Confiscated: \$336,656,342

Marijuana Plants Eradicated

Cultivated: 1,898,848

Marijuana (Processed): Pounds: 816,765, Metric Tons: 371

Cocaine: Pounds: 185,104, Metric Tons: 84

Heroin (Pounds): 2,671

Opium (Pounds): 445

Hashish (Pounds): 11,581

Vehicles (Drug-related Operations): 8,569

Weapons (Drug-related Operations): 16,116

Arrests Resulting (Drug-related Operations): 128,482

In addition, the National Guard assisted the U.S. Customs Service with the inspection of over 145,000 sea/land containers and 750,000 trucks. In 1996, National Guard Counterdrug Coordinators in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands reported the following results from National Guard counterdrug support to law enforcement operations:

National Guard Counterdrug Air Operations

Eight of our Air National Guard C-26B aircraft have been modified to support law enforcement agencies in counterdrug investigations. The modification includes a sensor pod and an internal console that enables the crew to provide photo reconnaissance and infrared surveillance capabilities. Originally, the C-26B aircraft was a dual-role aircraft providing both Operational Support Airlift (OSA) as well as counterdrug support. However, with the addition of the enhanced technology, the C-26B aircraft is now used exclusively for counterdrug support. The C-26B aircraft are based in Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, New York, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. Two

additional aircraft are scheduled to be modified this year. They will be positioned in Mississippi and New Mexico.

By year's end, 116 Army National Guard OH-58 helicopters will provide critical aviation and surveillance support to law enforcement, to include thermal imaging. These aircraft allow law enforcement agents to gather evidence critical to the development of successful counternarcotics prosecutions in addition to enhancing the safety of agents during arrest and seizure operations. Approximately 40,000 flight hours will be logged in support of local, state, and federal counterdrug operations this fiscal year.

Air National Guard C-130 aircraft have been equipped with specialized pallets housing tactical reconnaissance cameras. These cameras provide extensive wide angle photographic reconnaissance capabilities. Agencies responsible for federal and state land management, as well as state and federal law enforcement agencies, utilize this National Guard resource to monitor vast areas of land to detect evidence of illegal drug activity.

Examples of successful counterdrug air support operations:

Alabama: A National Guard aircraft provided aerial surveillance of a vehicle suspected of transporting illegal drugs. Using the specialized surveillance and communications equipment onboard the aircraft, law enforcement agents orchestrated a search of the vehicle and discovered over 500 kilos of cocaine.

California: A National Guard aircraft provided aerial surveillance of a suspicious vehicle illegally crossing the U.S. border. Agents onboard the aircraft directed a ground team to a successful interdiction that netted over 1,200 pounds of cocaine.

Wisconsin: A confidential informant, his vehicle, 220 pounds of marijuana, and a law enforcement team were airlifted in a National Guard C-130 from Nebraska to Wisconsin. An interstate drug deal was initiated. This National Guard support facilitated the arrest of additional drug dealers in the state of Wisconsin. The elapsed time from the law enforcement request to the C-130 launch was six hours.

Arizona: Over a six month period, a National Guard aircraft provided photo reconnaissance of suspected methamphetamine laboratories operated by a sophisticated gang network. These photographs were used to develop evidence and to support detailed raid planning. During the resulting raid, the aircraft provided law enforcement agents with a command and control capability to oversee the raid of three different locations by over 200 SWAT officers. As a result, over 80 gang members were arrested and three laboratories were closed down. In spite of the complexity of this operation, no injuries were incurred by law enforcement agents.

Air National Guard Air Defense Fighter Forces have been on continuous rotational alert at Howard AFB, Panama since August of 1990. These Air Defense fighters have made over 600 intercepts of suspected drug smugglers. This year, Air National Guard units from Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, Vermont, New Jersey, Texas, California, and Florida participated in this operation. Over the last thirty months, Air Defense fighters have been credited with assisting law enforcement agencies in seizing or disrupting the movement of over 33 metric tons of cocaine. This is \$3 billion dollars worth of cocaine that was kept off the streets of America. In comparison, for the same time period, the cost of this operation has been less than \$35 million dollars.

National Guard Translation & Transcription Program

The National Guard continues to provide language support to the Drug Enforcement Administration with our Transcription/Translation Support System. This system became operational during the second quarter of FY 1996. Currently, 125 National Guard linguists support this effort using 75 digital workstations. Thousands of wiretaps are translated each year from Spanish and several other languages into English. This year, the National Guard will increase the number of workstations by 75 and add up to 25 additional linguists to meet increasing Drug Enforcement Administration and Department of Justice language support requirements. It is important to note that because almost all of these National Guard linguists would have similar translation ù transcription duties in time of war, their readiness capabilities are strongly enhanced.

National Guard Digital Mapping Support

Many county and local drug law enforcement agencies have very limited budgets. One of their important counterdrug needs centers around current and accurate mapping products. Each year, the National Guard Counterdrug Program produces thousands of digital mapping products for hundreds of law enforcement agencies. Agencies use these maps in raid planning as well as courtroom presentations.

In one recent project for a local, state, and federal task force in Georgia, officers used these digital mapping products to develop detailed evidence of a major drug smuggling ring working out of Mexico and crossing into Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. The maps were critical in assisting law enforcement in building the case. They were also used to help jury members understand the complex routes and techniques used by drug traffickers to move illicit drugs. The traffickers involved in this case were convicted and sent to prison.

The National Guard's Call To Action

The National Guard has a long history of service to country. From the early colonial days of protecting our frontiers; to the Revolutionary War; through two World Wars; in Korea and Vietnam; to the sands of Desert Storm. The National Guard is always ready, always there.

The National Guard has been called to serve once again. This time, the call is from our own communities; a call to serve in defense of America's children. This call to duty may prove to be more difficult and challenging than any duty ever performed by the National Guard.

The National Guard cannot fight the drug battle alone; the fight must be driven by our communities. The National Guard is committed to approaching the fight against drugs as a Total Force - community leaders, anti-drug coalitions, and law enforcement agencies working in partnership with America's citizen-soldiers.

In Summary

The National Guard is conducting real world operations within the United States against an enemy that strikes at the very heart of our communities and our families. The National Guard is a community-based organization. Because of our community nexus, the National Guard has thousands of volunteers eager to support law enforcement agencies in their effort to engage and destroy those who would corrupt our government, our neighborhoods, and our children. Again, we provide counterdrug mission support over and above our federal readiness responsibilities. We pledge to support our nation's counterdrug efforts to the very limits of our resources and energy. While remaining vigilant to foes abroad, we must not allow enemies from within to undermine the safety, health, and economic well-being of our society and endanger our way of life.

Mr. HASTERT. Now, Mr. Copple.

Mr. COPPLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I want to begin by expressing my appreciation to this committee and its work in a bipartisan way, and especially your leadership, Mr. Hastert, in your work around the Drug Free Communities Act and your interest to protect the interests of communities and what they are doing locally to address this issue.

At a time when our organization has supported the President's National Drug Control Strategy, we have at the same time been very concerned about the lack of resources directed to communities. We are at the same time concerned with what is happening with the budget with the National Guard.

In the past 2 years, we have developed a close working relationship with the National Guard that we believe has been a critical piece in our contribution coalition building. The problem of drug abuse is not only a problem in the local community or individual States or the Nation as a whole, the problem is a national problem that requires national solutions effectively applied in local communities.

There is no single sector to blame for many of the statistics and data you cited around increased drug abuse, nor can any sector adequately address this issue alone. This problem will require persistent and consistent messages from preschool to high school from multiple sectors of the community. The schools, parents, workplace, media, faith, medical, criminal justice community must be consistent in their messages and realize that it requires diligence and persistence if we are to recapture the high ground necessary to win this struggle.

I have been asked to describe our relationship with the National Guard and its impact. As General Davis has indicated, the Guard is in 3,400 communities; Community Antidrug Coalitions of America is in 4,300 communities in every State and in 3 territories. Several weeks ago we sent out a communication to our members regarding the potential budget issues around the National Guard, and there was no other single issue in communication to our members that generated a more dramatic response to our office of what can we do, because the Guard is becoming a major, an important voice in local communities addressing this issue.

And there are four areas that I wish to highlight about how they are working with communities, especially in the demand reduction arena. First of all, there is direct community participation. These Guard members live in the community, they work in the community, and when they are present with the community coalition efforts, they give specific guidance and assistance in strategic planning. Guardspeople are outcome focused.

If we are to address this issue in a systemic and realistic way, we are going to need outcome driven plans and strategies in local communities. Many community activists have been captured by process and activity oriented thinking that has little or no effect in reducing substance abuse. When the Guard has been involved in community planning, efforts to reduce substance abuse and violence, and are part of the sectors that are at that table, the result is a strategic plan that is focused, outcome based and measurable.

And that is critical if we are to strategically place resources and use our resources effectively in local communities.

Their participation has made a world of difference in local communities, not only in terms of the planning process but in implementing and helping to identify local community resources, financial and human, to address the challenges we face in the community. The demand of the Guard is found in 50 States and four territories, and they are critical to our eventual success in this issue.

The second area where the Guard has been most helpful in the last several years is their distance learning capabilities. The Guard has provided through its satellite telecommunications network a valuable link for our communities to receive additional education and information around critical issues in the drug arena. Through its network, hundreds of communities in 48 States have participated in satellite teleconferences. These programs have included an overview of Department of Defense efforts to address the drug abuse issue in local communities and a program on the CADCA-sponsored initiative, Say it Straight, Our Health, Our Youth and Marijuana. This program was picked up by 8 cable stations, 15 school districts, and broadcast in 48 States. Future programs include topics on methamphetamine, parenting, drug exposed infants, and community alternative programs to address adolescent drug abuse. This technology is critical to the ongoing education of our members and of communities in general.

Increasingly, citizens are beginning to participate in that downlink/uplink capability that the Guard provides. This is very important for rural and frontier States, because that is often the only means for them to receive ongoing training and information, and that's where our members have expressly identified as a value added of our Guard partnership.

The third is the liaison partnership. We have ongoing consistent communication with the Guard as to a way we can strategically plan together as well as the demand reduction liaisons that are being used in local communities and community coalitions. They work side by side, strategically planning around particular areas.

The Guard was very visible in our National Leadership Forum recently where they provided again an uplink capacity for communities that could not attend the National Leadership Forum, which is a major opportunity for training.

The fourth area is the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute, which Mr. Chairman, you have already emphasized in terms of its importance. Their capacity to provide ongoing training, and now under the leadership of Congressman Portman and Congressman Levin and others, the Congressional Coalition Initiative, where about 60 Members of Congress are currently working to organize community coalitions in their congressional districts.

The institute is developing a curriculum to assist CADCA's congressional coalition effort where Members of Congress are launching community coalition efforts replicating the work, as I said, of Congressman Portman and others.

This training link for communities, not only do communities participate in the actual training of law enforcement officers bringing the community voice to bear, but they also receive valuable train-

ing at the NICI institute in San Luis Obispo and the training facilities throughout the country.

These are just four areas where we think this partnership is critical to our future. They will have not only an impact on what they do in the counterdrug but will have a severe impact on the demand reduction efforts and us thinking of a comprehensive conclusive strategy.

In closing, I would say again our hope is we can provide persistent and consistent messages from preschool to high school for multiple sectors of the community. This cannot be left to the media, law enforcement, or the schools. It will take all of us. The Guard and its citizen soldiers are a critical part of that and our efforts to reducing drug abuse in our country. We stand ready to work with you, Mr. Chairman, in any way we can to rally in support of the Guard's efforts.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Copple follows:]



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Chair
Representative J. Dennis Hastert
March 14, 1997

"In Defense of America's Children"

by
James E. Copple
President and CEO
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America

Mr. Chairman, members of the distinguished Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice, it is a pleasure for me to appear before you today on behalf of the 4300 community coalitions that comprise the membership of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). This committee's support of comprehensive and inclusive community strategies to reduce substance abuse is greatly appreciated. Mr. Chairman, your sponsorship, along with Congressman Rob Portman, of the Drug-Free Communities Act demonstrates your commitment to think smarter and carefully about how we address this most critical issue facing our nation. To adequately correct the five year trend of increased use of illicit drugs by America's youth requires systemic and comprehensive strategies that integrates the thinking and resources of Federal, State and Local participants.

The problem of drug abuse is not only a problem of the local community, of the state and federal government. The problem is a **national** problem that requires **national** solutions effectively applied in local communities. There is no single sector to blame nor can any single sector of a community reverse the trend. This problem will require consistent and persistent messages from pre-school to high school and from multiple voices in the community. The schools, parents, workplace, media, faith, medical and criminal justice community must be consistent in their messages and realize that it requires diligence and persistence if we are to recapture the high ground necessary to win this struggle.

CADCA Membership Working for You

Mr. Chairman, I have been asked to describe the ways in which the National Guard has assisted our efforts in the fight against illegal drugs. These citizen soldiers, living and working in 3200 communities throughout America, have played and continue to play a vital role in local coalitions and communities fighting substance abuse. Their interest is twofold. Guard members live, work and educate their children in local communities. Their Governors call on them frequently to assist in the aftermath of natural disasters and they defend the interests of the citizens in their respective states. Increasingly, they are being called upon to do more than pick up the pieces of disasters and calamity. They are being asked to be pro-active in local communities, working with neighbors to strategically think about how we defend our children against a drug-dealing predator who profits from poisoning our children with addictive drugs. For communities addressing this problem, the National Guard has been a new and most important partner. They have brought to the community table, commitment, skills, and resources that have enhanced and empowered community efforts to protect our children from drugs. Let me be specific about the value and importance of the Guard's efforts in the fight against illegal drugs.

1. Guard - Community Participation

Leadership within the National Guard have training and experience in outcome and mission driven strategic planning. Many community activists have been captured by process and activity oriented thinking that has little or no effect on reducing substance abuse. When the Guard has been involved in community planning efforts to reduce substance abuse and violence, the result is a strategic plan that is focused, outcome based and measurable. The skills of the National Guard have saved many efforts from being an endless string of meaningless activities and transformed them into action steps that produce real and measurable community change. Because these citizen soldiers live and work in the community they are assisting, they understand the challenges and barriers to change and have assisted in identifying important human and financial resources to overcome those challenges and barriers.

Community Coalitions have utilized local Guard members for strategic planning, public awareness campaigns, work with youth around specific community projects from graffiti removal to neighborhood park clean-up, and on the supply or enforcement side, supported efforts to eradicate crack houses. The Guard has conducted summer youth camps, mentoring programs and provided drug education to millions of young people. These important youth focused programs provide an additional community voice to the messages that our youth desperately need to hear. In neighborhoods disproportionately affected by drug abuse, the presence of the National Guard has been viewed positively. Demand reduction activities of the Guard are found in 50 states and 4 territories. Many of their efforts have been exemplary and have made a fundamental difference in community efforts to address drug abuse. To retreat from these efforts at a time when we have seen a steady increase of drug abuse for the past five years would be sending the wrong message to America's children and their communities.

2. The Guard and Distance Learning

The National Guard has provided through its satellite telecommunications network a valuable link to communities. Through its network, hundreds of communities in 48 states have participated in Satellite teleconferencing. These programs have included an overview of Department of Defense's efforts to address the drug abuse issue in local communities, and a program on the CADCA sponsored initiative *Say It Straight, Our Health, Our Youth and Marijuana*. This program was picked up by eight cable stations, 15 school districts and broadcast in 48 states. Future programs include a topics on Methamphetamines, parenting, drug exposed infants and community alternative programs to address adolescent drug abuse.

The Guard's capacity to deliver this technology is critical to the education and professional development of the community coalition field. Increasingly, citizens are participating in these broadcasts at "downlinks" located in community colleges, hospitals, schools, community libraries, universities and government centers. As coalitions in rural and frontier states mobilize to address their substance abuse problems, teleconferencing is vital to networking and information dissemination. Rural and frontier areas have difficulty accessing information and conferences that are more

readily available in urban and suburban centers. Through the growing satellite teleconferencing technology, citizens in these remote areas can now participate as full partners in sharing and accessing information. The Guard's role in this process must be sustained.

3. Liaison Relationship

The National Guard provides important liaisons with community coalitions and with CADCA. These are individuals who are assigned to various communities and placed in offices where they work side-by-side with coalition leaders working in demand reduction efforts. In the CADCA office, this has allowed us to have better communication with the Drug Demand Reduction Administrator in each state. National drug awareness campaigns and information to coalitions is better coordinated through these liaison relationships. Further, as result of this effort, the National Guard has participated in training efforts provided by CADCA such as our National Leadership FORUM and our Leadership Connection. The presence of the Guard at these events has reinforced the message that there are both human resources and that the military can enhance and strengthen local efforts to reduce drug abuse.

4. National Inter-Agency Counter Drug Institute (NICI)

This important Institute is responsible for training members of the Guard, Community and Law Enforcement in counter-drug efforts. A key component of their initiative is training on topics related demand reduction efforts and coalition development. Community coalition leaders have participated in the Institute as both trainers and students. The Institute is currently developing curriculum to assist in CADCA's Congressional Coalition Initiative where members of Congress are launching community coalition efforts replicating the work of Congressman Portman in Cincinnati. The Institute, with its mobile classroom capabilities will train Congressional staff members here in Washington and then organize community training efforts in Congressional districts. This will provide for an organized and consistent training mechanism for this initiative.

NICI has played an important role in information dissemination and strategic planning with local communities. The Institute has trained

hundreds of communities and several thousand community leaders in drug demand strategies. They integrate technology with substantive content and bring some of the nation's major leaders into the training experience. Support of this effort is cost effective and smart. This allows us to have a centralized training opportunity that captures the best in practice and science in demand reduction efforts. The potential of this Institute for developing comprehensive and coordinated demand reduction strategies in local communities is unlimited.

These are four examples of how the National Guard has worked with our organization in demand reduction efforts throughout the country. We are very concerned about the President's budget and specifically what will be eliminated if the budget being advanced by the Office of Secretary of Defense is adopted. The OSD FY98 budget request has the potential to reduce National Guard drug fighting resources by as much as 42%. This drastic reduction in resources will mean that more than 50% of community requests for National Guard support will go unanswered. Almost 1,000 National Guard men and women will be removed from the counter drug program on October 1, 1997. Aviation support to law enforcement will be reduced from 40,000 hours to 30,000 hours and demand reduction and prevention program expansion will cease.

As critical as the budgets cuts are to the survival of the program, is the manner in which programs continue to have to fight for voice in the budget process. While no program is immune to the "yo-yo" affect of the budget process, the Guard has been particularly vulnerable. In 1993 their program high was \$191.6 million; in 1994, \$150.3 million; in 1995, \$160 million; in 1996, \$133.9 million; in 1997, \$179.9 million; and now, they are facing a 26% reduction in the budget request for 1998, which is \$132.4 million. The program needs stabilization. Communities, the National Guard and those working to address these critical issues need to know that there is resolve and commitment on the part of the President and Congress.

Mr. Chairman, CADCA stands ready to work with you and members of Congress to honestly examine the value and importance of the National Guard's efforts to reduce substance abuse. This partnership will enhance

and empower our ability to reverse this five year trend of increased drug abuse among our nation's youth. The budget must be restored to highest levels in order to maximize their contribution to this field. Now is not the time to retreat but to aggressively advance if we are to have any long-lasting impact.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Brooks.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, first of all, I applaud your leadership on this issue and I appreciate the opportunity to be here to speak before you today regarding the successes of the National Guard counterdrug programs, and the devastating effects that a proposed 42 percent budget cut would have on our Nation's ability to fight the evils of drug abuse.

I am here as a past president of the California Narcotics Officers' Association, the chair of its Drug Policy Committee, and as the chair of the National Narcotic Officers' Association Coalition. In California, we represent 7,000 members and the national coalition represents 33 State narcotic officers' associations, 1 with 60,000 police officers.

Although I am not an expert in military matters, national security affairs or our country's budget, I am a veteran narcotic officer with 22 years of service in California, where I continue to work.

California is a State that is plagued with drug problems. As part of the Southwest Border, we are particularly vulnerable to the vast quantities of heroin, marijuana, cocaine, heroin and precursor chemicals that flow through our borders from Mexico. We also produce much of the Nation's domestically grown high grade marijuana, and have been labelled by the DEA as a source country for methamphetamine. The California Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement this last year in 1996 seized 835 operational methamphetamine labs. This is a dramatic increase from the 465 labs seized by the same agency the year before. If we don't win the war on drugs in California, then the Nation will not win the war on drugs.

But California is not alone. No State, city or town in this Nation has not been affected by drug abuse. With the end of the cold war, the greatest threat to the security of our Nation is drug use. Use that carries with it the misery of addiction, ruined health, prolific violence, school dropout and failed careers. The answer to this Nation's drug problem is a comprehensive policy, including treatment, education and strong law enforcement.

Americans, when polled, continue to describe drug use along with crime and gangs as their major concerns, and they should be. Quality of life including living in a safe, drug-free environment should be the right of every American.

We live in a time when those of us in law enforcement face yearly budget cuts and diminishing resources. We are frequently asked to do more with less. One of the ways we have been able to continue our success in the daily fight against drugs is through a partnership formed with the National Guard counterdrug programs. This partnership has proven to be invaluable in aiding law enforcement's efforts to stop the flow of drugs into our country, to eradicate domestically grown marijuana, and to combat the growing epidemic of domestically produced methamphetamine.

The review of the President's budget submission for fiscal year 1998 reflects a 4 percent cut in the National Guard counterdrug programs. This would cut much needed funds that are currently used by the National Guard to provide assistance to law enforcement in communities in their fight to reduce the supply of and demand for illegal drugs. The reduction of funding of this magnitude

would decimate aviation, intelligence, tactical and engineering support as well as demand reduction training to State and local law enforcement.

My own State, California, will be forced to reduce its National Guard counterdrug support by 35 percent. To put these budgets statistics in real terms, we must look at the efforts and successes of the Guard in California. They provide tactical aircraft missions, ground surveillance, demand reduction training, engineering efforts at the borders that help us in law enforcement, Federal, State, and local, in doing our job more efficiently. They truly are trained investigators who perform functions for which they were trained.

The proposed budget cuts will be devastating to civilian law enforcement counterdrug efforts. The cuts in California will mean a 42 percent reduction in aerial reconnaissance and observation missions for State and local agencies. This will severely affect the support provided by the National Guard in the aerial detection and suppression of cannabis cultivation and methamphetamine manufacturing; the 60 percent reduction in ground reconnaissance and observation, this is a key component and complement of the aerial reconnaissance and observation mission which provides early detection of cannabis gardens and surveillance of methamphetamine labs; a 42 percent reduction in the California-Mexico border engineering support mission, this will severely hamper the efforts of the United States Border Patrol on Operation Gatekeeper and other successful interdiction operations; a 42 percent reduction in intelligence analysis, translation, and linguist support to Federal, State, and local law enforcement; a 60 percent reduction in transportation support, which is utilized to extensively conduct controlled drug deliveries for interdictions and to transport special equipment and law enforcement personnel to conduct complex narcotic investigations; and a 42 percent reduction in drug demand reduction activities. This is in direct contradiction to the President's Drug Control Policy Strategy, which established as its No. 1 goal to educate and enable America's youth to reject illegal drugs and alcohol.

Additionally, these cuts, as, Mr. Chairman, you have alluded to, these cuts will severely affect and decrease the training provided by the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute, NICI. This program located at Camp San Luis Obispo is a civil-military institute that trains management level civilians and military personnel to work together in counterdrug operations and drug demand operations.

To summarize, the proposed budget cuts will cost the California National Guard to lose up to 42 percent of its current counterdrug force. This will have a tremendous negative impact on military support to each of the California's designated HIDTAs. Law enforcement agency support will drop by 50 percent. More importantly, more than 60 percent of law enforcement requests for support will have to be denied. This translates into fewer resources being devoted to educating youth about the dangers of drugs and a dramatic decrease in our vigilance of drug traffickers smuggling their deadly loads into the United States.

We in law enforcement are fighting a difficult battle, one that will only get worse if support for the National Guard is reduced.

I know there is only a finite amount of funding available and there are ongoing efforts to balance our Nation's budget. Spending must be prudent and justified. I believe, however, to fail to adequately fund the National Guard counterdrug programs at the current level will clearly send a message to law enforcement officers, community leaders, and most importantly, to our Nation's young people.

I believe a request to cut funding and deemphasize the war on drugs is due in part to a feeling of frustration and a belief that our drug policies have been a failure. It's important to remember that from 1979 to 1992 through enforcement treatment and education, we reduced our Nation's drug abuse by 50 percent. If we had a 50 percent reduction in AIDS, cancer, heart disease or teenage pregnancy, we would all rally in the streets. These would be tremendous successes. In 1992, we took our eye off the ball. Drug abuse, especially among our young people, has increased. Much of this, I believe, can be attributed to budget reductions and the deemphasis of enforcement and demand reduction training.

It's time that we strengthen our resolve to look to our previous success as an example of how we can reduce drug abuse and the devastation to our great Nation. Based on my own involvement with the National Guard, I know that their programs are well designed, professionally administered, cost-effective, and user friendly. The National Guard has earned the admiration of law enforcement and deserves full funding for its programs.

I would urge you to restore funding to the National Guard's State programs' counterdrug effort to the fiscal year 1997 budget level and provide line item funding for the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute. I urge this on behalf of the 7,000 CNOA members, the 50,000 National Narcotic Officers' Association Coalition members, along with all the men and women of law enforcement that risk their lives each day to stop the flow of drugs in our country, and I urge it in memory of the 66 California police officers that have lost their lives since 1965 enforcing our drug laws, and most importantly, I urge the funding on behalf of our country's young people, because they are truly the future of the Nation. Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Brooks follows:]

Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the success of the National Guard Counter-Drug Programs and the devastating effect that the proposed 42% budget cut would have on our nation's ability to fight the evils of drug abuse. I am here as a past president of the California Narcotic Officers' Association (CNOA) and current chair of its drug policy committee representing President Ed Ladd, the members of our executive board, and our 7,000 members from throughout California. I am also speaking as the chair of the drug policy committee for the National Narcotic Officers' Association Coalition (NNOAC), a group representing 33 state narcotic officers' associations and more than 50,000 police officers from across the nation.

Although I am not an expert in military or national security matters, or in our country's budget, I am a veteran narcotic agent with more than 22 years of service in California.

California is a state that is plagued with drug abuse problems. As part of the Southwest border, we are particularly vulnerable to the vast quantities of heroin, cocaine, marijuana and precursor chemicals being smuggled into the U.S. from Mexico. We also produce much of the nations domestically grown high grade marijuana, and have been labeled by DEA as a source country for methamphetamine. The California Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement seized 835 methamphetamine laboratories in 1996. A dramatic increase from the 465 labs seized in 1995. If we don't win the war on drugs in California, then the nation will not win the war on drugs. But California is not alone. No state, city or town in this nation has not been effected by illegal drugs.

With the end of the cold war, the greatest threat to the security of our nation is drug use. Use that carries with it the misery of addiction, broken families, horrifying violence, school dropout, failed careers and ruined health. The answer to this nations drug problem is a comprehensive drug policy including treatment, education and strong law enforcement.

Americans, when polled, continue to describe drug use, violent crime, and gangs as their major concerns, and they should be. Quality of life, including living in a safe, drug free environment should be the right of every American.

We live in a time where those of us in law enforcement face yearly budget cuts and diminishing resources. We are frequently asked to do more with less. One of the ways that we have been able to continue our success in the daily fight against drugs is through the partnership that we have formed with the National Guard Counter-Drug Program. This partnership has proven to be invaluable in aiding law enforcement's efforts to stop the flow of drugs into

our country, to eradicate domestically grown marijuana and to combat the growing epidemic of domestically produced methamphetamine.

A review of the President's Budget Submission for FY 1998 reflects a 42% cut in National Guard Counter-Drug programs. This would cut much needed funds that are currently used by the National Guard to provide assistance to law enforcement and communities in their fight to reduce the supply of and demand for illegal drugs. A reduction of funding of this magnitude would decimate aviation, intelligence, tactical and engineering support to state and local law enforcement. My own state, California, will be forced to reduce its National Guard Counter-Drug support by 35%. To put these budget statistics in real terms, one must look at the Guard's many successful programs.

- * Joint Counter-Drug Task Force Grizzly (JCDTFG) supports more than 75 local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout California. It brings together a wide assortment of individual skills and equipment to support the law enforcement communities increasingly complex and difficult tasks of stopping the illegal flow of drugs into California. Skills that range from searching for drugs in trucks and cars at ports of entry to translating foreign language documents into English. Team Grizzly coordinated "Operation Castle Rock" which brought National Guardsmen from Connecticut, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Texas to build a fence along a portion of California's border. They are also responsible for administrating the pay and benefits for more than 400 soldiers and airmen who are working full-time in counter-drug programs.
- * Team Shield was responsible for more than one billion dollars of drug and contraband seizures between October 1, 1996 and April 17, 1997. Members of the team provide countless hours of assistance at U.S. border crossings along the California/Mexico border and assist in searching containers at the port of Los Angeles. Members of Team Shield not only conduct physical searches of vehicles and containers, but operate sophisticated x-ray and other detection devices to scan commercial vehicles crossing into California from Mexico. In performing these duties, Team Shield members have released Customs Agents so that they are able to concentrate on investigative and other enforcement functions.
- * Team Wolf is primarily comprised of soldiers trained in infantry tactics and the sophisticated techniques for operating hi-tech night vision and land navigation equipment. These teams conduct ground reconnaissance and

operate observation and listening posts on behalf of law enforcement during the investigation of marijuana cultivation, methamphetamine manufacturing and drug smuggling. Between January and April of 1997, Team Wolf supported law enforcement operations that resulted in the confiscation of more than 3,500 marijuana plants, 1,500 pounds of processed marijuana, 50 pounds of methamphetamine, and \$100,000 in cash. Through their efforts, Team Wolf has provided nearly 11,000 hours of support to law enforcement agencies.

- * Team Engineer is an extremely visible operation designed to help stop the flow of drugs at our nations border. These military engineers have built 42 miles of roads and have upgraded 442 miles and maintained 550 miles of roadway along the U.S. Mexico border. These roadways allow for much safer and efficient operation by Customs and Border Patrol Agents conducting drug interdiction operations. The engineers also assisted in building more than 14 miles of steel matted fence stretching from the Pacific Ocean to San Ysidro. Since the National Guard initiated these projects in 1990, cocaine seizures have increased by more than 1,200% and injuries to border patrol agents have decreased by nearly 40%.
- * Through Team Eagle, Falcon, Hawk and Condor, the Army and Air Force National Guard have provided aerial support, including photography, air lift, aerial reconnaissance missions and transportation missions. Team Eagle is used extensively to locate and eradicate the marijuana gardens throughout California's Northwest coast. Team Eagle helicopters are equipped with Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR). Flying both day and night missions, they can identify and track heat signatures of vehicles and people, as well as confirm the existence of clandestine drug labs and indoor marijuana cultivations.
- * Team Fox provides California National Guard intelligence specialists and linguists to analyze data that help civilian authorities determine smuggling patterns and trends. Because of California's diverse culture combined with the dynamics of the worldwide drug trade, trafficking is often conducted in a variety of languages, including Hmong, Thai, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, and others. National Guard language specialists translate and transcribe seized documents related to drug trafficking and turn these documents over to law enforcement agencies for support. Analysts are using their training and skills to study drug cartels, their habits and their available options for transporting drugs. With this knowledge, National Guard analysts are helping civilian authorities predict when, where and how

the cartels will smuggle drugs across the border into the United States.

- * Team Shadow began its counter-drug mission in September of 1994. As a subordinate member of Task Force Shield, Shadow conducts night vision surveillance for the Border Patrol using state of the art long range infra-red systems and night vision goggles. Their mission is to support U.S. Board Patrols drug interdiction efforts in San Diego. This allows agents to spend more time performing their primary duty of patrolling the border.

The proposed budget cuts will be devastating to civilian law enforcement counter-drug efforts. The cuts will result in:

- * A 42% reduction in aerial reconnaissance and observation missions for state and local agencies. This will severely effect the support provided by the National Guard in the aerial detection and suppression of cannabis cultivation and methamphetamine laboratory identification.
- * A 60% reduction in ground reconnaissance and observation. A key component and complement of the aerial reconnaissance and observation mission which provides early detection of cannabis gardens and surveillance of methamphetamine labs.
- * A 42% reduction in the California Mexico Border Engineer Support Mission. This will severely hamper the efforts of the United States Border Patrol and the highly successful border interdiction program, "Operation Gatekeeper."
- * A 42% reduction in intelligence analysis, translation and linguist support for federal, state and local law enforcement. Support that greatly enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement investigations.
- * A 60% reduction in transportation support which is utilized extensively to conduct controlled drug deliveries from freeway interdictions and to transport specialized equipment and law enforcement personnel to conduct complex narcotic investigations.
- * A 42% reduction in drug demand reduction activities. This is a direct contradiction to the President's 1997 Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) strategy which established as its number one goal, "to educate and enable America's youth to reject illegal drugs as well as alcohol and tobacco." The National Guard, due to its

community base and involvement, is ideally suited to play a major role in this campaign. This year in California alone, over 200 drug demand reduction missions were conducted.

Additionally, these cuts would severely effect and decrease the training provided by the National Interagency Counter-Drug Institute (NICI), a program located at Camp San Luis Obispo, California. This is a civil-military institute that trains management level civilians and military personnel to work together in counter-drug operations and drug demand reduction activities. This outstanding program receives students from every state in the union and includes law enforcement officers, community leaders, and personnel from the active military, military reserves, and the National Guard. NICI's training helps to make military counter-drug support more efficient and effective by improving the planning and coordination necessary for successful joint efforts. Although NICI is a national program for military and civilian students and was the first National Guard counter-drug school, its funding is still taken from the National Guard's state plan's budget and the proposed state counter-drug cuts would force the cancellation of at least 1/3 of the classes currently planned for fiscal year 1998. It would result in a reduction of the number of off-site courses and would create a greater attendance cost for students from outside of California.

To summarize, the proposed budget cuts will cause the California National Guard to lose up to 42% (184 soldiers and airmen) of its current counter-drug force. This will have a tremendous negative impact on military support to each of California's designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). Law enforcement aviation support by the National Guard will drop by 50%. More importantly, more than 60% of law enforcements requests for support will have to be denied. This translates into fewer resources being devoted to educating youth about the dangers of illegal drugs and a dramatic decrease in our vigilance against drug traffickers smuggling their deadly loads into the United States. We are fighting a difficult battle. One that will only get worse if law enforcement's support from the National Guard is reduced.

I know that there is a finite amount of funding available and there are ongoing efforts to balance our nations budget. Spending must be prudent and justified. I believe, however, that to fail to adequately fund the National Guard Counter-Drug Programs at the current level will clearly send the wrong message to law enforcement officers, community leaders, and most importantly to our nations young people. I believe that requests to cut funding and de-emphasize programs in the war on drugs is due, in part, to a feeling of frustration and a belief that our drug policies have been a failure. It's important to remember that from 1979 to 1992, through enforcement, treatment, and education efforts this nation

cut drug abuse by 50%. If we had a 50% reduction in AIDS, cancer, heart disease, or teenage pregnancy, it would be considered a tremendous success. Beginning in 1992, we took our eye off the ball. Drug abuse, especially among our young people, has increased. Much of this can be attributed to budget reductions and the de-emphasis of enforcement and demand reduction programs. It is time that we strengthen or resolve and look to our previous success as an example of how we can reduce drug abuse and the resulting devastation to our great nation.

Based on my own involvement with the National Guard, I know that their programs are well designed, professional administered, cost effective and user friendly. The National Guard has truly earned the admiration of law enforcement and deserves full funding for its programs.

I would urge you to restore funding to the National Guard state programs counter-drug efforts to the FY 1997 budget levels and to provide line item funding for the National Interagency Counter-Drug Institute (NICI). This would require that \$180 million in FY 98 appropriations be allocated for National Guard support of the state plans and \$3.7 be allocated for NICI's programs. I make this request on behalf of the 7,000 CNOA and 50,000 NNOAC members, along with all the men and women of law enforcement that risk their lives each day to stop the flow of drugs in this country. I encourage it in the memory of the 66 California peace officers that have lost their lives since 1965, enforcing our state's drug laws and more importantly, I urge this funding on behalf of our country's young people. They are the true future of this nation.

Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Bowers, talk me through a typical National Guard and local law enforcement action that would happen in Georgia.

Mr. BOWERS. You would have a multijurisdictional task force, let's say in Hinesville, GA, down on the coast. In that group, you would have the local sheriff, you would have the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, you might have DEA, other Federal agencies, you would have the local police from Hinesville, you would have the National Guard.

Let's say they are busting crack houses. What could very well happen is they would have conducted intelligence before to say this most likely is a locale from which crack is being sold. Sometime during the day, the task force would move out to that crack task force, there would be a National Guard helicopter in the air to, actually as a communications platform. More than likely, with this Operation Silent Watch, some of the LURSU people, that's the MPs who are Sneaky Petes, they go out through the woods, get around the crack house to make sure that nothing goes wrong, make sure nobody gets killed, let the folks, the task force come and know exactly what is happening on the ground. That communication is relayed to a National Guard helicopter then back down to the law enforcement officials who go out to the crack house. Before anybody can get away, the bust is made.

I have been on one of those. I have been on several of them, but I have been on one in a little town, Warrenton, GA, which is in east Georgia, in a trailer. In this tiny community of maybe 2,500 people, this trailer had several thousands, I think \$17,000, almost a kilo of powdered cocaine, several wafers of crack, and that's the kind of thing that can be done in these joint operations. And that's the sort of the way it works. It's all under civilian control. The National Guard's only role is to provide assistance, intelligence analysts, communications platform, the LURSU people, again, doing surveillance. That sort of thing. That's a typical operation.

Mr. HASTERT. General Bowers, you mentioned the fluctuating budgets the Guards received over the last few years. General McCaffrey recently came before us and discussed both his proposal for ONDCP reauthorization. One of the things he talked about was the proposal to change his budget to a 5-year budget for counterdrug efforts.

Do you think that a 5-year budget would provide the Guard, other counterdrug agencies, with the stability necessary for effective counterdrug planning?

Mr. BOWERS. No question about it, sir, yes, absolutely, and that would be an enormous windfall and boon to the National Guard, and I say that from my experience working on the counterdrug board, being able to predict and then to be able to communicate a predictable level of support to the law enforcement in the field would be enormously valuable.

Mr. HASTERT. General Davis, one of the pleas that we have heard throughout the country from law enforcement agencies is they need and want more National Guard intel analysis and linguistic services that you would provide.

Who can translate—you are doing the translation for languages that sometimes small communities can't do that. Do you have the

funding necessary to meet the demand for these specially trained personnel?

General DAVIS. The missions we are doing now, which we can't fulfill all the requests, Mr. Chairman, because we get more requests than we currently have linguists available to do the translating. Our funding is directly related to the number of people we can put out there to support law enforcement agencies, so a lot of this is done for DEA. If we had more money, we could send more people out. It's kind of directly proportional to the number of dollars.

Ninety-two percent of the dollars we get in this program go for flight hours as well as for personnel, pay and allowances for the individual people we have on board. So if we had more dollars, we could do more of that.

It's not a problem getting more linguists. We have got some programs and have expanded significantly in the past 4 or 5 years, and could expand it some additionally. So if we had more money, we could obviously hire more people to do it.

Mr. HASTERT. So you are pretty much at capacity, you are actually over capacity—under capacity of the demand with the people? And where are these actions basically taking place?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, a large percentage, significant percentage is taking place at Utah. We have linguists out there who do multilanguage translations, so we have a large number of folks who can do it.

We have other linguists located at other parts of the country which we have not used as extensively because we have to put together equipment to provide that support.

Mr. HASTERT. Let me ask you one more question. We talk to Customs, all these people on the border, what is the advantage of using Guardsmen to assist the Border Patrol, as opposed to simply hiring more Customs agents and Immigration officers?

General DAVIS. Part of that would be we have people already trained. We have them today; you don't have to train them. You only pay for them when you use them. We come with a large amount of high-tech equipment.

We talked about the night sensors that we used very successfully in prosecuting the war in the Gulf. We have that on board for virtually no cost, just the cost of operations. Those are available—

Mr. HASTERT. Those are like FLIRs, and those types of things?

General DAVIS. Yes, sir. Those are available and our people are trained to use them. Long term, I think we should look at that as an option.

One of the advantages also with the Guard is you have people stationed in, permanent people stationed there. You can't move them around quite as easily as with the Guard. We just put them on the ground in whatever location and move them, but you could certainly do a significant amount of that if you had fully trained Customs available. You could substitute those.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you. The gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Barrett.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you. I want to thank all of you for your fine testimony this afternoon.

I represent a district where drug use is a significant problem, so obviously I am interested in any effective efforts we can make to combat drug use, either from the demand side or the supply side. I also come from a community in a State where there is very little defense spending, so to the extent that I can get defense spending in my State, the National Guard is one of the areas, which is, frankly, an area where I see the potential for the growth.

What concerns me, and we have talked a lot about the budget here, in some way it reminds me of the town hall meeting where the politician fields many, many questions and they are conflicting questions about priorities and where money should be spent, and the politician listens to all the questions and doesn't give an answer to each question, but after all the questions were asked he said, I wanted to agree with every one of you, so I am going to ask that we meet privately, so I can agree with every one of you.

The reason it reminds me of that is we are dealing with a situation now where basically there has been an agreement between the President and the leadership in Congress, and I don't, frankly, know what is going to happen with that agreement. I assume that the budget blueprint will be approved. But that is going to set the parameters for the defense spending, and I think each of us understands that. And what concerns me today with the criticism of the President's figures is that, frankly, that is water over the dam at this time. Now the ball is in Congress's court.

And I don't think that it is an accurate reflection of the process to say, well, it is the President's terrible numbers. It reminds me a little bit of the Flip Wilson character on Rowen and Martin where he says "The devil made me do it, the devil made me do it," because now we are beyond or we will soon be beyond the White House. And the priorities will be set in the committees here on Capitol Hill, and you will be competing with other parts of the defense establishment who are looking for dollars.

So I don't want anybody to leave this room today under the—what I believe is a mistaken belief that if you don't get the funding that you probably deserve, that it was President Clinton's fault. Because each person in this room and actually the Republican leadership has a far greater role at this point in shaping how much money will be spent on the National Guard.

I think it is accurate to say, and, again, I think most of you will agree with me, whether we want it to be or not, National Guard spending is not the tail that wags the dog. I can't see President Clinton saying, "I am going to veto this appropriations bill because there's too much spending for the National Guard."

So I think you are doing a service today by presenting the case for the National Guard. I think that that is a very important function. And I am glad that we are having the hearing for that reason.

But my concern is that there are hearings all around Capitol Hill that are going on where the majority is criticizing the President for his submission, knowing full well that there has never been a submission by the Republicans for a budget. And so, to the extent that there are decisions, it will be difficult decisions that will have to be made; that they will blame the President when we are all grown ups, and at this point it is Congress and the President working together.

So I don't want this to be a kick fest against the President. And to the extent that there is a legitimate disagreement as to what the level of funding should be, from a submission from Secretary Cohen or anyone else in the administration, I think that is fair game for debate. But I think that we should definitely keep in mind that what you are up against, basically, is other demands in defense spending.

So I am going to ask each of you where you think that we should be curtailing defense spending in order to fully fund the National Guard. Maybe, Mr. Owen, if you have any thoughts.

Mr. OWEN. Thank you, Congressman. I specifically didn't run for Congress so I wouldn't have to answer that question. That's not true. I couldn't tell you. I don't know the defense budget adequately enough to try to guess whether or not you should make the shifts. But what I do know is, in the battle that we've been fighting for years, the biggest problem that we've had is consistent, ongoing funding in—

Mr. BARRETT. And I agree.

Mr. OWEN [continuing]. In this area.

Mr. BARRETT. I agree. I think that Mr. Bowers' comments were very well taken. The worst thing we can do is have an up and down budgeting process. I think that is unfair to anyone. So I agree. I don't mean this to be a loaded question, but I just—if anyone has any ideas where we should be moving from.

Mr. BOWERS. I think it's easy, Your Honor.

Mr. BARRETT. I am not Your Honor.

Mr. BOWERS. I've forgot I wasn't in court. I think that's an easy question to answer. You go to the other DOD agencies—and I can say this, I am a civilian here—you go to the other DOD agencies and take counterdrug money from them and put it here, for a very simple reason. This is where you get the best bang for the buck. I mean, that's a given in terms of a question. Take it from the Navy, take it from the Army, take it from the active Air Force, because this is where you get the bang for the buck, right here.

Mr. BARRETT. OK. I appreciate that.

Mr. COPPLE. And I, as another citizen, I would agree with General Bowers 100 percent. I think that the Guard's capacity to coordinate and strategically plan, and the continuum from law enforcement to prevention, is critical for communities.

I mean, our organization has continually been concerned about the split. This would be an issue with some of the members of the panel, I'm sure, between the split and the drug budget as a whole, between supply side and demand side.

I think there's a critical issue in this country that we have to face, that demand continues to fuel supply. And we're very concerned about how resources get to the communities.

What we have in the National Guard out of the Department of Defense—and if you would have asked me this 20 years ago, I would have thought no way would this have happened—but out of the Department of Defense we are getting a major commitment to do a continuum, a comprehensive approach, not just supply side, not just prevention side, but a continuum of service that I think is critical to the future.

I think your comments are appropriate that what we're dealing with, either in a national drug control strategy or as a budget, is that this is a baseline from which we're beginning this discussion. And from a community perspective, we were very concerned from both the Democratic and the Republican side and from a congressional side and from a White House side as to what we were seeing in communities.

I'm here today because the Guard is one resource that really gets to local communities. And we're very concerned about it being cut. I'm concerned about any program that takes away from community.

Mr. BARRETT. OK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HASTERT. The gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Souder.

Mr. SOUDER. I have been sitting here very patiently, but I want to make a couple of comments. One is that, first, Mr. Brooks, I had the privilege of being out along the California border over spring break, took an unofficial tour with a member from Duncan Hunter's staff—both in the middle of the night and the next day around—along the Tijuana border and along Campo.

Without the roads and changes that have been done there, I don't know how you can begin to watch the border. It is up and down, it is back in. And I think your work is to be commended in the 442 miles and 550 miles along the border, because it is essential to try and enforce any national policy, and we all have a lot of frustrations with that.

I can think of a couple places we could cut. Possibly we could reduce funding for crucifixes in urine and calling it art. Perhaps we could fund a few less abortions in China. In other words, it is an artificial construct to say it has to come out of the defense of our country.

We have to look at the full budget, and the budget, in fact, does show priorities. If the drug war is our No. 1 priority, and people know back home that the crime on the streets and the gangs and the drugs are totally interrelated, along with alcohol, then we have to focus on that area.

And when there are proposed cuts to start, I understand it is a negotiating process, but it does say whose priorities are what. And this committee has focused on this for now 2 years, to try and keep this priority up there.

And I know the election is over. But as soon as the election is over, we can't say the drug war over, and that is the danger we have right now. I personally am so upset about Governor Weld being proposed as Ambassador to Mexico, when he has insulted our drug czar by saying that he shouldn't enforce the national laws and should back off on just so-called medicinal use of marijuana. You can get the THC component in other drugs. It is back door legalization.

I am now also, to be bipartisan with this, upset at Congress. Today or tomorrow we are going to vote on an international bill, that an amendment was put in in committee that would change it so Congress doesn't have the right to work on the decertification question, to put that in.

And I wanted to ask Mr. Brooks: Do you think this is going to help in California, if we back off from the pressure on Mexico and

say that we are no longer going to raise the decertification issue with them? Is that going to help the narcotics officers in California and your relationships with Tijuana border patrol and so on?

Mr. BROOKS. No, I don't think it will. I just recently testified in the Senate on the decertification issue, and I think it's very important that we keep the pressure on Mexico. I think Administrator Tom Constantine from DEA was exactly correct, from my experience, being from a border State, when he says right now in Mexico there's not one single law enforcement component that we can trust.

We are being inundated with drugs from Mexico, and with methamphetamine labs. When I spoke about these 835 methamphetamine labs, the vast majority of those are run by cartels in Mexico operating them in California. They're run by the Carillo Fuentes group and the Arellano Felix group with the money going back to Mexico.

When we hit those labs, we don't get their money. We don't find their palatial estates here in California. We find that that money is channeled directly to Mexico. And so it's absolutely imperative, in my opinion, that we keep the pressure up on Mexico and other source and transshipment countries in an effort to get some cooperation.

Mr. SOUDER. The scary thing is that, amazing thing with these numbers, they go up in election years and down in nonelection years. Drugs can't be an election issue. We have to keep the pressure on all across the board and on many fronts.

I also had—this is more of a technical question to Attorney General Bowers. You mentioned about fencing the money.

Mr. BOWERS. Yes.

Mr. SOUDER. Could you explain how you would do that and what exactly you mean? I mean, I know what you mean in the sense it goes for Guard, for just drug operations. And you made an interesting side comment, and I wondered how it related. You said eradication went down because of the Olympics in Georgia. Did that mean that drug money got diverted and wasn't fenced, or what did you mean?

Mr. BOWERS. No. It means that assets that would have been used for drugs were used for other things associated with the Olympics. And it was a dramatic drop in the number of marijuana plants destroyed from 1995, 1996: 30,000 in 1995, about 6,000 in 1996. But it was not diversion of drug money. That's a criminal offense, and I can assure you we weren't doing that.

Mr. SOUDER. So what—how do you mean fencing, in the sense of—

Mr. BOWERS. Fencing, something like the Senate bill, I think it's S. 862, which says that of this appropriation, so much will be for the National Guard counterdrug program. And, quite frankly, the purpose behind that is to make sure that that is not diverted into other DOD counterdrug programs, and is used right here where you get the best bang for the buck.

And I would challenge anybody to look at it in terms of a dollar-for-dollar effectiveness. Nothing comes close to the Guard in terms of where you get the bang for the buck. And the other thing that's critical is, this is money that is being used to support your home

town law enforcement agency, not some Federal bureaucracy up here in Washington, although I'm very fond of them, and they do wonderful jobs. I would much rather that dollar be spent for the sheriff of Clinch County, GA, or whatever county you're from.

Mr. SOUDER. Lieutenant Governor, I had a question for you, too. We focused mostly on the Southern borders. Could you explain a little bit the challenges you face? Is it more coming in through water into Washington State, across the border from Canada? Give me a little idea. Or up from California?

Mr. OWEN. Washington State has a number of challenges in that area, because we are a border State both with other States—with Canada, I mean, and of course the ocean with all the ports.

Our ports, I think that we're something like sixth in the Nation for container port activity in Washington State. We've got one of the busiest airports, activity coming from all of the world into Seattle, Tacoma International Airport. We have a tremendous amount of international travel, from people coming up from Mexico to work, et cetera. We have a tremendous number of challenges.

But at the same time, Washington State's youth lead the Nation in increasing marijuana use and are still ahead of the rest of the Nation. And I think there are significant pressures there that contribute to that.

A child that uses marijuana is 85 percent more likely than another child that doesn't to use another drug. So you have that compounding problem when you let that get out of hand.

Washington State has a huge music industry that is very, very popular amongst the kids who openly espouse the legalization and use. We are a targeted State for legalization. We are under medicinal use attack right now of any schedule one drug, not just marijuana.

So we have pressures that are not just international pressures. We have pressures from within, as well, to try to deal with the problem.

And I want to make it crystal clear that I don't believe that this is a President Clinton or any other President issue, a problem here. If you take a look at the increase in use by the citizens of America, it started back when the attention went down and the investment went down in 1989 to 518 network news stories about substance abuse. Four years later there were only 78. Public service announcements went down by 20 percent. Today they think they're down by 30 percent, and those that have been placed are placed in nonpeak hours. At the same time, the attack or the open assault for legalization just went crazy.

Those are contributing factors, as well as the public and private investment into the issue that has driven up the use. Washington State just has all those factors funneled at it, as well as the ports and the borders to deal with.

Mr. SOUDER. I thank you all for your leadership.

Mr. HASTERT. The gentleman from Maryland, Mr. Cummings.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Thank you very much. I want to thank you all for being here. As I was just sitting here, I was just listening and thinking that just this morning, on my way here from Baltimore, which has a major drug problem, I saw about five or six drug deals just in about six or seven blocks. That is not an unusual picture

for me, living in the area that I live in near downtown Baltimore, so I see it up front and very, very personal.

And, you know, I want to commend the National Guard in Maryland. They have done a great job. They have been very helpful to us, to our law enforcement agencies. As a matter of fact, working with the National Guard, our U.S. Customs and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents seized about 2,400 pounds of cocaine worth \$25 million back in February. So that is very, very significant, and that is real good.

But it just seems like there is so much flowing into our country that even a big hit like that, \$25 million worth, you would think that that would have a tremendous impact, but I get the impression that that is part of the cost of dealing in drugs. I guess they just assume there are going to be some situations where they are going to lose out.

But, Mr. Attorney General, I just want to ask you something. I listened to the example that you gave just now, talking about the small town. What are you guys doing with regard—I mean, how is it the National Guard helps you in the urban areas?

Mr. BOWERS. Same kinds of ways.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Same types of ways?

Mr. BOWERS. Exactly the same kinds of ways: communication support, aviation support, surveillance, reconnaissance, all of those kinds of things, not dissimilar from what's done out in the rural areas.

Mr. CUMMINGS. How do you all make that determination? I heard you use the words "task force." How to you make the determination as to which types of—I practiced criminal law for 20 years, so I kind of, you know, I mean, I have a lot of mixed feelings about drug—our so-called war on drugs. But I am just wondering, when you make a determination as to how you are going to use the National Guard, how is that done? Is your office involved?

Mr. BOWERS. No. No. It would be the local law enforcement officials.

Mr. CUMMINGS. OK.

Mr. BOWERS. We're prosecutors.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Right.

Mr. BOWERS. We're not—I don't—I have one investigator. So I'm not really in the law enforcement business. But it could be the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, which is a State-wide entity. It depends on which part of the State, what geographic multijurisdictional task force. Or it might be just working directly for a local sheriff or a local police chief.

Mr. CUMMINGS. When you say that—I think several of you have said that you get your most bang for your buck from this. Can you elaborate just a little bit for me?

Mr. BOWERS. Yes. If you look at seizures, if you look at confiscations, dollars, weapons, arrests, drugs, and you compare the various DOD agencies, there is no question where you get the most for the dollar spent. And that is with the National Guard, and that should not be surprising.

I would attribute it to two things. One, posse comitatus does not apply to the National Guard. As long as the National Guard is in State service, which it is in in performing these duties, posse com-

itatus doesn't apply. So it can have a much bigger role in law enforcement, albeit not performing arrest functions and functions where the Guards might have to be witnesses and such, but it can still help out a lot more.

And the second reason is, rather than working for Federal agencies, it's working for the local police chief, the local sheriff, the local multijurisdictional task force, where really street crime is dealt with in this country in the main.

So if you compare all those objective statistics to see where are you getting value, I will guarantee you, the Guard will come out way ahead of all the Department of Defense agencies. And I'm not being disparaging of them. They're all essential, but this is where you get the dollar, right here.

General DAVIS. If I might add something to that, please, just a couple of statistics we throw out: 92 percent of the marijuana drug seizures are seizures as a result of the Guard being involved in support of law enforcement agencies; 90 percent of heroin seizures; 34 percent of cocaine seizures.

I was a commanding general of the District of Columbia for about 4 years, the National Guard in the District of Columbia about 4 years. We work with these multiagency task forces routinely. I was out, as General Bowers, Attorney General Bowers was out on a number of instances with these, just to see what our young people are doing in terms of the activity.

And the activities will relate to those which relate to active drug operations. They'll relate to, as we had in the District, we closed about four or five crack houses every year. We supported a number of requests from the attorney general who was the prosecute—she would prosecute, as Attorney General Bowers is in Georgia.

Here in Washington, whenever they were prepping for a case, they would always have us come in and help do that as they developed the evidentiary portions of the—the visual display, primarily, so we can put in a drug deal on that corner. It's very difficult for a lot of people to visualize it. But, as I said a little earlier, if you come down T Street from one direction, I can put you on the corner. From the other direction, I can put you on the corner of 14th and T. I can come down 14th Street. And all of a sudden, your head and your mind, as the jury, are on 14th and T on the northwest corner. And when that drug bust takes place, you can relate to it, identify with it, and it makes it happen.

Mr. CUMMINGS. You all may have talked about training a little bit earlier, but I am just curious, what kind of training got into the National Guard with regard to these issues?

General DAVIS. A lot of that would be training we already have.

Mr. CUMMINGS. OK.

General DAVIS. I would say probably 85, 90-plus percent of it is people who are trained as military policemen or doing military police types of things, be that evaluating data in intelligence analysis, computer inputting. We do have some specialized training. We haven't talked, but we deal with support to Customs, mail inspection, those kinds of things, bag inspection, port inspection, as we do out in the State of Washington. And when we do that, people are using—95 percent of those people are using skills that they already possess.

We do do some specialized training in mail handling, operation of the special x-ray type machines and that kind of thing. But most of the folks who are out there doing—and that's the beauty of using the Guard, we don't have to have a lot of additional training. We come as a trained resource. I talked a little bit ago, we talked about Customs agents. We come trained. And we have a large amount of high-tech equipment: night vision goggles, infrared sensing, those kinds of high-tech equipment that's part of the military operation, and we just convert that use over for purposes of the drug operation to, on a cost basis, to utilizing it with our already trained folks and equipment we have available.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Thank you very much.

Mr. HASTERT. The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. LaTourette.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

As I listened to all of your testimony, I want to focus on the asset forfeiture section. I used to be an old broken-down county prosecutor before I came to Congress, and we are very interested in asset forfeiture. And, more particularly, after we seized the assets, we were very interested in what we could do with the assets we seized.

As you testified, I wrote down from the Lieutenant Governor \$308 million in assets, \$337 million in Georgia from the attorney general, and General Davis, I think you said \$336 million in cash.

Do each of you have in place, when the National Guard is involved in a task force or joint operation, does the National Guard get to share in the proceeds of the seized cash or assets? Is there an equitable sharing arrangement in place in Georgia and in Washington?

Mr. OWEN. I'm not aware in Washington State. General Barlow has consistently said that it's his mission to support the efforts of the local folks. It's not his place to take the—for the National Guard to take the lead, but to be there to provide the equipment, the talent, the support services and that. So I don't believe that they are taking a share of that, that I know.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Attorney General Bowers?

Mr. BOWERS. In Georgia, the answer to your question is yes. And as best I understand, that is going to vary State-by-State.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Sure. OK.

Mr. BOWERS. But Georgia, yes.

Mr. LATOURETTE. We used to have—what we drew up is a contract based upon the level of participation of each law enforcement agency. And, General Davis, do you have a response to that? Is that a widely practiced practice?

General DAVIS. It's—I don't know. I would say, as far as my last recollection, it was around a third of the States who were having some level of participation in asset seizure. Some of them it's difficult to work.

In the District of Columbia we were involved in asset seizure. We never could do it because of the nature of the way we do funding for the District of Columbia. But many States have it, and they do participate in it.

More States are seeking it. In many instances they require special legislation within a State in order for them to participate in asset seizure. It's an unusual process in the law, which is not typical and probably hadn't been thought of 15, 20 years ago.

Mr. BOWERS. Also, at one time, a year or so ago, there were a couple of Federal agencies that had balked at asset forfeiture sharing with the National Guard.

Mr. LATOURETTE. OK.

Mr. BOWERS. I think that's been cleared up now, and we are sharing, but that was the case a couple years ago.

General DAVIS. In other States, as opposed to asset seizure—and I was just handed a note here by our real true experts behind me that said 10 States have programs where they do share in asset seizures.

But a number of the States, what happens is, if they have a special requirement for equipment—as an example, in the District of Columbia, we inherited through the Metropolitan Police two vans which we could use. And they will customize vans that they use for undercover work and all, and we could use these vans. Actually, one of the vans we used to transport our people back and forth to Dulles Airport, where we did mail inspection and evaluation for our counterdrugs.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Sure. The reason I asked the question is, one, regardless of the funding level that eventually comes out, whether it is the \$179 million that was in this fiscal year, or whether or not the President's proposal of \$103 million, or whether there is some other figure that comes out of the appropriations process, those States that don't have asset sharing and equitable distribution, I think you can make up some of the shortfall that way.

But more seriously, in Georgia, Attorney General Bowers, I wrote down when you were testifying that if the reduction that was proposed in the budget were to come to pass in the final budget, that there would be a 30 percent reduction in seizures. Now, I would take that to mean that you would not only take the whack and whatever the reduction in the State's planned budget was, but you would likewise see, if you received \$1 million, for instance, in asset forfeiture, you would see that reduced by a third as well. So that the problem is not just a problem of less Federal participation, it is a problem that is going to compound itself in the Guard's ability in those States that share.

Mr. BOWERS. That is correct.

Mr. OWEN. Congressman, can I clarify?

Mr. LATOURETTE. Certainly.

Mr. OWEN. \$308 million was narcotics and assets. We can't sell the narcotics. And I just wanted to make clear that—

Mr. LATOURETTE. The only one I wrote down cash for was Major General Davis. Everyone else, I just wrote down those were assets that were seized, and I assumed that you included drugs in those assets as well.

But out of that \$300 million, everyone, at least every drug enterprise I have been involved in, you not only find your kilos or rocks of crack cocaine, but you also find that they have a little cash laying around that is labeled in most States as contraband.

Mr. OWEN. Cars, boats.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BOWERS. May I clarify one thing?

Mr. LATOURETTE. Oh, sure, you can.

Mr. BOWERS. We may have miscommunicated, and I probably have misspoken, but the \$336 million that you mentioned seized, that is a national figure. That's not a Georgia figure. That's for the whole National Guard.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Well, I am from Ohio, and I know the folks down in Georgia are a lot wealthier than we are. I thought that was a lot of money but I wasn't going to quibble with it. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HASTERT. I thank the gentleman. The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Mica.

Mr. MICA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I want to take just a moment to thank you all for the tremendous contribution you make, not only to our national security but also to this tremendous domestic threat that we face and where the drug war has inundated every community and affected so many people across our land.

I just returned about a week ago from south Florida, where I met with some of our DEA officials and Customs and other law enforcement folks, and they also were praising the work that you do. I believe you work with some of the HIDTAs, the high intensity drug traffic areas.

One of the things that was raised is—well, first of all, they compliment you again on your fine efforts, the contributions you make. But they were concerned that the tenure and rotation of these folks, just by the time they—and some of the work that they are doing is a bit technical. And you provide great resources and personnel backup assistance. But by the time they get someone acquainted with the mission and the task that they are—their history, is there anything that we can do to address that? Because we want your presence. We want your assistance, but we want it to be helpful, useful to these folks in this effort. Anyone can respond. General Davis?

General DAVIS. I will take a cut at that, sir. One of the problems that we have is that these programs are funded from year to year. And I think Attorney General Bowers talked about some of the fluctuation, as did some of the other panelists.

So the people we hire for those programs, we hire basically on kind of almost a 1-year contract basis. And at the end of that year, then we will see what the funding is to see whether they will continue the following year. So it's almost an at-will type hiring arrangement. And so that's one of the problems of getting the continuity of personnel that you discussed.

We talked a little bit earlier about, I think before you joined us, about some of the folks who don't require training because they work pretty much in the same areas that they have military skills in. But we do have some people who are trained.

And some of those folks who are trained, it's very disquieting to them, as well as the agencies we support, when they leave the program. But if you have basically what amounts to a 1-year contract with no guarantee of employment the following year, and you have an opportunity to go to work—let me give you an example.

We have lost people in the District of Columbia, I know, to DEA, to ATF and some of the agencies we worked for. They've left us as full-time military members working in a counterdrug program, to

go work as civilians and then participate on drill weekends as our—what we call our mobilization day soldiers. So there's that kind of problem that we have also with continuity.

It's in part related, I think, to the fact we don't have long-term funding, that it is year-to-year. And sometimes during the course of the year we've had money withdrawn from the counterdrug program in the Department of Defense, from the National Guard, so we end up having to make up that deficit by releasing people. So there's some insecurity involved in it. And the long-term continuity is definitely impacted by year-to-year funding.

Mr. MICA. Is there any way we can assure some longer-term personnel commitment, or is that not possible under the structure?

General DAVIS. We get money to hire people for this program, sir. And I would say probably 60 percent of them work for us through the entire year, maybe a higher percent of that now that we've been in it, will work for us for the entire year.

The remainder of the people will work for us for 2 or 3 months, and then they will go and get a full-time job doing something else. They may be between school terms. We have a lot of students who we utilize in these kinds of programs, and they'll be there during the Christmas break and during the spring break and that kind of thing, in the summer, but then they go back to school full time. If the program allows them to work evenings, sometimes they'll participate at that level.

So these are not our full-time cadre people who are designed and hired by us to produce readiness in the National Guard. These are people over and above that, and they're paid for out of these counterdrug funds that we get.

Mr. MICA. Are there any other instances where we could use your personnel if you had, you know, the funding, support? And I notice, of course the administration's proposal to dramatically cut, I guess it is 42 percent of your support plan funding. But if you had additional funding, could you tell me, are there other areas where you could help? I, too, am concerned about the District of Columbia, other high intensity drug traffic areas. Are you doing all you can do with the resources, the resources and personnel that you have?

General DAVIS. If we base all we can do, sir, on the fact that we have more requests than we can fulfill, no. There's a lot more that could be done if we had the funding. We fulfill now something in the area of 50 to 60 percent of the requests at the current funding. More money, we could fund a greater percentage of the requests.

The requests for National Guard support have to fall within certain guidelines. I might say that. So this is not just requests for anything we do. All of this has to be approved through State plans that the Governors submit to the National Guard Bureau and they're approved at Department of Defense. So we've already preapproved these given sets of plans and actions that we can take. Once we tell our law enforcement agencies about it, they make their request. Some of those we can't fulfill because we just don't have the manpower.

Mr. MICA. So you have requests now beyond what you have financial capability?

General DAVIS. Yes, sir, we do. And I might let Attorney General Bowers—because the requests come through, the State requests would come through his agency.

Mr. MICA. If you like to respond, I would appreciate that.

Mr. BOWERS. Yes, sir. One thing that immediately comes to mind, that would be a boon to law enforcement officials in this country, would put us back in the transporting of prisoners business.

If you have a major drug bust in this city, right here, and there are a lot of illegal immigrants involved, most likely the U.S. attorney is only going to prosecute ring leaders. So you're going to be left with a group of people who are not going to be prosecuted, who are illegal immigrants in this country, and for whom the INS does not have money to send them to a port of debarkation. So what's going to happen to them? They're going to be turned loose, right back out on the streets, I'll guarantee you.

At one time we were authorized to take prisoners in our transport aircraft and take them to ports of debarkation. If you asked the Federal law enforcement officials, like the people at North Star and projects like that, I think they'd tell you, if you all were willing to give us the money, that would be one of the No. 1 priorities: get these illegal immigrants, most likely criminals, back out of the country.

Mr. MICA. Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. I thank the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. Brooks, you have talked about watching the crack epidemic in the 1980's, and going through the boom in production of methamphetamine. Can you kind of tell us, what are the similarities, and where the stuff comes from, and how does it affect your ability in law enforcement?

Mr. BROOKS. Well, they're both central nervous system stimulants. They affect the body very similarly, except that methamphetamine is a much longer lasting, much more easily obtained drug. And it's a drug that can be made in small and large production labs throughout this country with readily available precursor chemicals.

This has caused such a tremendous problem throughout the West Coast and now throughout the Nation. You know, I was surprised, as I travel across the country and talk on this issue, that they told me—that law enforcement executives in Des Moines, IA tell me that the single biggest problem they face is California-manufactured methamphetamine; that they make more arrests for methamphetamine-related crime in Des Moines than any other crime, DUIs, family violence, public intoxication.

What we find with methamphetamine use is it is so consuming that people are unable to parent. They cannot provide for their children. They become very paranoid and violent. There's tremendous family violence and abuse that's associated with it. And a study in the Antelope Valley, which is north Los Angeles County, 86 percent of all child abuse cases were related to persons that were under the influence of meth and couldn't take care of their kids.

Mr. HASTERT. Did you say 86 percent?

Mr. BROOKS. Yes, sir. We have a case in Riverside County, CA, southern California, where a methamphetamine laboratory blew up in a trailer. And the parents allowed their children to perish in the fire because they were busy moving the precursor chemicals and trying to save those chemicals from the fire.

You've probably heard about the case in New Mexico, an Arizona man that cut his own son's head off and threw it out the window while his 13-year-old son watched in horror, because this person had been on a 3- or 4-day methamphetamine run, had not slept, was hearing voices, was delusional, and thought that God had told him to hack this child's head off.

And I can go on. I still run a narcotic task force where I am out on the street every single day, and I can go on with stories like this forever. The violence and the destruction of family is so tremendous with methamphetamine, it's the single biggest problem we face in narcotic enforcement.

And California's meth problem is the Nation's meth problem. When I go to Florida, I was in Florida, and they said, "Hey, you know, we always think of ourselves as the cocaine capital in south Florida." The biggest problem they face in south Florida today is California methamphetamine being shipped across the country.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Copple, you talked persuasively about the National Guard's role in prevention. Can you tell me precisely what does the Guard do to help your communities, and how many communities do you represent?

Mr. COPPLE. We represent 4,300 communities, but I would like to finish General Bowers' story, if I could. I will move it to Kansas where I lead a local coalition.

The same National Guard that would be working on counterdrug strategies are the same Guard who were in neighborhoods that had a number of crack houses, and a major task force worked to close down those crack houses. In some cases there were crack houses where gang members were being jumped in.

And for a year I rode with our gang unit 4 nights a week, doing street interventions and volunteer Guard on weekends. When a crack house was torn down, the Guard worked with us to put in what we call progressive playgrounds. And this lot, we put swing sets; three lots down, we put basketball courts; five lots down, we put jungle gym activities. We turned lots that were basically vacated by crack houses and gang houses in neighborhoods where the houses were boarded up, and the Guard worked with us in that community to build those.

Those were the kinds of resiliency and prevention activities which were important to our communities. And it's that kind of thing that is going on in numerous communities, again, where the Guard is working to get coalitions to think more strategically and comprehensively in the way they plan, and in the way they work together, and to reach out to do mentoring programs where Guards—members are actively involved as mentors, to work with them to do, in collaboration with law enforcement, prevention education programs and working directly in the schools.

So those are just a couple of things that work. So they run, again, the continuum of activity from law enforcement to very real prevention activities, making very substantive community change.

Mr. HASTERT. I thank the gentleman. And I recognize the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

General Davis, what percentage of the Guard's personnel man-hours and budget is devoted to the counterdrug effort?

General DAVIS. We're talking in terms of total budget of about \$9 million, Army Guard and Air Guard. And it's \$180 million. I guess that's something, 1 percent, somewhere along in there.

Mr. BARRETT. OK. I was trying to get a feel of what percentage of it. And when you—Mr. Copple was talking about the interaction with community. When the Guard goes into the community, maybe either one of you can answer this, who is the spark that brings them into the community? Is it something that the Guard does or is it something that the community asks the Guard to do?

General DAVIS. It's actually at the request. As I talked a little earlier, sir, the Guard is in support of activities. As an example, a coalition would request that we come in. Sometimes we go in and do planning and help with some of the strategic planning. That's part of what the Guard brings as how we organize and equip ourselves and all. So we will take that to a community.

But it's a request, usually will come from a law enforcement agency more typically. It will come in and it will get filtered through the process of a letter comes in and we would like to have you support us on this.

In DC, we have a process, and most States have something similar, where we look at the request to see whether it falls within the Federal guidelines that have been approved by DOD for spending money or funding for that type of activity. On the basis of that, we will decide whether we can do it or not and then contact the agency and then move out and do it.

Other times it will come, as I said, through one of the coalitions. If they're in the counterdrug, we will request from them maybe, what's your charter? You're a nonprofit organization. We will ask those kinds of questions before we send our people out, to make sure we're not subsidizing their payroll, we're out there with nonprofit organizations, people who really need. If they're a member of CADCA-MET, we can get with Jim and his folks right down here in Old Towne and talk to them. We can—they have—they're kind of like the Red Cross. You have to send them all your charters and all those other things, fiscal statements, and everything else. So that's how we go about it, to make sure we aren't just out subsidizing an organization that doesn't have any legitimacy.

Mr. COPPLE. I would add that, to me, one of the real silent powerful forces working with the Guard in each of the States are the demand reduction administrators. These demand reduction administrators, again, it may come as a request through law enforcement.

Mr. BARRETT. I'm not understanding. Who is that person?

Mr. COPPLE. That is an assigned staff member in each State.

Mr. BARRETT. For the National Guard?

Mr. COPPLE. For the National Guard who works on demand reduction issues. Part of what's happened in the last couple of years is we've partnered with the National Guard. We've let our members know who those demand reduction members are. Coalitions are

made up of law enforcement, prevention, treatment, education, and continuing care folk.

It may be the district attorney in Wichita, KS, that contacts the demand reduction administrator and says, you know, we could use some help from the Guard in a variety of activities, and they would meet, begin to strategically plan, work with the local Guard unit in those respective communities in a variety of areas.

Mr. BARRETT. And again you used the example of building.

Mr. COPPLE. Playgrounds.

Mr. BARRETT. Playgrounds. Did they actually build them or were they involved in it?

Mr. COPPLE. They were involved in the actual building.

What happened was the Guard—once we decided that's what we were going to do, and we strategically planned it, we identified the lumber company, the resources that were going to help fund it to raise the money to actually build the playground equipment, the volunteer Guard on weekend, the Guard unit was assigned, and also a Reserve unit that was attached to McConnell Air Force Base where we were at were also working side by side in this effort. The resources for it were generated from the private sector.

Mr. BARRETT. And the localities, how were they identified, and how were they approved? Were they private pieces of property?

Mr. COPPLE. Yes. But they were properties that lapsed either in taxation. The city took them over. We had a major code enforcement measure dealing with gangs and drug issues, so that if properties that were being rendered or lost, and code enforcement was not applied, then we gave the community the power to take over those crack houses.

Mr. BARRETT. If you could give me more information on that committee, I would be very interested.

Mr. COPPLE. Sure.

General DAVIS. One of the things we'll do during the course of the years is we'll set up a letter of agreement, and this will be one we will just ratify it each year in terms of making sure it's current with all the law enforcement agencies, other agencies we routinely deal with. And that list will come out as a result of there either being a Federal agency or a—an organization that's been identified by the police.

You see the orange hat coalitions. I've got an orange hat in my office because I've been around here in the District with those orange hat coalitions. And what they do is they are nonprofit organizations and, many times, loose associations who are out there trying to take their communities back. And so we will know who they are and we will deal with them from time to time. And then those requests, formal written requests come from the Metropolitan Police here in the District. So there's some process similar to that in each and every one of our jurisdictions so that we have an official sanction of that organization and the activity.

Mr. BARRETT. OK.

General DAVIS. And as a reasonable script to assure ourselves that we're doing appropriate things with taxpayers money, sir.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you very much.

Mr. MICA [presiding]. Thank you. I had a couple of questions.

General Davis, one contribution I understand the Guard is making to the community of Tyler, TX, is that they are contributing personnel and assets to the raising of former crack houses that have been abandoned. If you can, could you elaborate a bit on this program? And I would like to know if other communities in Texas or elsewhere have considered this program?

General DAVIS. I want to look at my cheat sheet on Texas here. I don't see that particular program in Tyler. But one of the things that we do is we do raise crack houses, and that's a very involved procedure, because it takes a court order to declare the property a public nuisance. Then there are appeal opportunities and all. Once that's all done—we don't get involved in that. That's done typically by the local prosecutor or by the local, one of the local law enforcement agencies.

Once that's done and then they come to us and make the written request, and if all the paperwork is in order, then we will do it.

Frequently what we will try to do with that is get an engineer unit who has demolition as one of their requirements. We'll take them over there and let them do it. Now, we don't use any explosives or anything like that. But we will take—you normally—normally a ball or something like that to raise the crack house and then carry it away.

So we do that in a large number of instances, not only raising crack houses, but we board up crack houses, whatever seems to be appropriate to the issue and whatever the request is. As I said before, the Guard does not initiate these activities, sir. These activities are initiated by the local law enforcement agencies more typically.

Mr. MICA. Thank you.

Mr. Brooks, as you know, a couple of months ago, the President of the United States has certified Mexico as cooperating in the war on drugs. In your experience as a law enforcement officer, can you describe what cooperation you have received from your fellow law enforcement officers across the border or anything you may be familiar with as far as the threat assessment of Mexico and its flow of drugs, illegal narcotics into the United States? Can you elaborate on that?

Mr. BROOKS. Yes. You know, the problem with dealing with Mexico right now is, it is completely internally corrupt. The institutions in Mexico in law enforcement, from the INCD all the way down to municipal police departments that we deal with on a regular basis, are corrupt and controlled by the "rule of mordida" or payoffs. These are agencies that we cannot, and as I said before, the DEA has said, that we cannot deal with these agencies because there is no one there that we know can be trusted.

You know, this is clearly demonstrated by the discovery that—that INCD Director General Guitierrez-Rebollo was completely compromised and corrupt and had been placed in charge of what their equivalent of DEA would be. We know that our 2,000 mile border with the United States and Mexico makes us extremely vulnerable to drug trafficking from Mexico, that Mexico is not only a producing nation of marijuana and of opium and heroin, but it's also a transshipment point for precursor chemicals for the manufacturer of methamphetamine, for steroid, and for heroin, and co-

caine from other source countries. So, you know, we're extremely vulnerable with Mexico. We receive no cooperation, no credible cooperation.

The threat to our Nation's security and our Nation's drug problems from Mexico is extremely real. And we know that, in California, we face drug cartels that are run directly out of Mexico on a daily basis. On a daily basis, we have Mexican drug cartels coming in to San Diego and Imperial Counties and carrying out their drug trafficking in hits. And we know that the drug cartels, especially the Arellano Felix group, has employed American citizens, drug gang members from Logan Heights and other neighborhoods in San Diego to carry out murders and witness intimidation.

Mr. MICA. I appreciate your insight.

One of the other questions I had, I guess you are from the California area and represent the Narcotics Officers' Association there. There is a study, I guess it was a Rand study recently sort of blasting the mandatory, minimum mandatory sentences and also advocating more emphasis on treatment programs for offenders. I don't know if you know the details of that report. I haven't seen it. But what is your opinion on that? Should we do away with minimum mandatory sentences for drug dealers, and should we put more of our eggs in the treatment basket?

Mr. BROOKS. Well, I haven't read the report, but I've certainly read the newspaper coverage on the Rand report. And you know, it's my position and the position of our association that if we're going to be successful in our Nation's fight against drug abuse, then we're going to have to do so through a comprehensive approach. That we can't put all our eggs in any one single basket.

As a law enforcement officer, you know, certainly I believe in strong drug enforcement, but I would never be so naive as to believe that we don't absolutely need treatment and education, because without education and treatment, we're never going to win this. We're never going to win this battle.

So we feel that—you know, there are studies in California and New Jersey where 76 percent of all the youth that choose not to use drugs in this Nation say they don't use drugs because they're afraid of getting caught. They don't want the consequences of law enforcement. So we know that education, the treatment and that enforcement in partnership can have an impact on our drug problem.

Mr. MICA. I appreciate your response. I will now recognize Mr. Shadegg.

Mr. SHADEGG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate you gentlemen being here today, and I apologize that I couldn't have been here earlier. I want to kind of run through some points very quickly to get them on the record that I am concerned about.

I have a 15-year-old daughter and an 11-year-old son. I represent a district in Phoenix, AZ, and I am gravely concerned about the effect of the increased flow of drugs in this society.

I want to start with the first one, which is a factual one. I want to ask each of you to confirm, it is my understanding, and I want you to confirm for me that it is also your understanding, that in the President's budget proposal right now before us, his budget

calls for a reduction in the funding of this category of interdiction by roughly 26 percent from the current number to a number of about \$132.4 million down from a \$179.9 million.

Is that your understanding, Governor Owen or Lieutenant Governor Owen?

Mr. OWEN. My understanding is the reduction. I don't know the specific percentages that you quoted.

Mr. BOWERS. Yes.

Mr. SHADEGG. General?

General DAVIS. That's roughly the part that directly impacts on the State programs. The actual reduction is slightly larger than that, because there's some other things that are included.

Mr. SHADEGG. So the actual reduction is slightly larger than that?

General DAVIS. Would be, yes, sir.

Mr. SHADEGG. And that is a reduction in interdiction funds; is that correct?

General DAVIS. Primarily in interdiction funds, because that's what most of the State programs are related to.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Copple, would that be your understanding?

[Witness nodded affirmatively.]

Mr. SHADEGG. And Mr. Brooks?

Mr. BROOKS. Yes, that's correct.

Mr. SHADEGG. I have a strong belief that we have made a grave mistake in this country in reducing rather radically interdiction funding over the last several years and increasing drug treatment funding.

Is it your understanding, and, again, I would like to go down the line that we have, in fact, in recent years reduced interdiction funding compared to drug treatment funding over the last several years and actually at the beginning of this administration reduced interdiction funding rather dramatically?

Lieutenant Governor Owen, is that your understanding?

Mr. OWEN. I don't think that I can appropriately answer that question.

Mr. SHADEGG. OK. Mr. Owen—Mr. Bowers, I'm sorry.

Mr. BOWERS. Yes, that's correct.

Mr. SHADEGG. General?

General DAVIS. That number has both gone down and up. You know, we had some money added last year, so it's kind of difficult.

Mr. SHADEGG. It is actually during the President's first year, it went from a \$196—\$191.6 million down to \$150.3 million. It then, you are right, did go up a couple of times. And in last year, an election year, again, interestingly, it went up to \$179.9. And now in the post election year it is being dropped from \$179.9, at least under the President's proposal, to \$134.4. So it has gone up and down, but it is quite clearly down over time you would agree.

Mr. BOWERS. Are you asking—

Mr. SHADEGG. No.

General DAVIS. As a general trend, it has been down, yes, sir.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Copple.

Mr. COPPLE. My answer is a little bit more complicated. I think we've increases in the State block grants for treatment. But we've seen overall decreases for treatment. We're very concerned. We—

the similar Rand studies that have been quoted here show that for every dollar we spend on treatment, we save \$7 in what we do in law enforcement. Interdiction dollars have gone down, but, at the same time, the treatment dollars have not picked up the slack.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Brooks.

Mr. BROOKS. It's my understanding, also, that certainly dollars for interdiction are down overall.

Mr. SHADEGG. Let me ask this last question, since I am running out of time. I have a personal belief that we need to be funding interdiction, even though that fight is difficult, and we need to be funding prevention. I would like to see the children of America taught the devastation of this disease. For example, I would like the children of America to understand how much more dangerous today's drugs are than the drugs that were around when I was a kid. So I personally think we need to be emphasizing interdiction dramatically and emphasizing prevention dramatically.

I guess I would be interested in your perspectives on what the policy of this country and this committee and this Congress ought to be vis-a-vis both prevention and interdiction as we go forward. Should we be reducing funding for those two objectives? Mr. Owen.

Mr. OWEN. Well, if I were king for a day, I would put significant resources in in both of them. If you give me the budget that the beer companies and the rock stars and the movie folks and the legalizations and the George Soros' of the world are spending, I can show you a reduction in the use and attitudes—and the change of attitudes by our young people today. If in fact we could do that. But you cannot do one, you have to do both. And you have to do it significantly. But I think the primary message, from my perspective in dealing with this for a number of years, is it's got to be consistent and ongoing and long-term.

Mr. SHADEGG. And not shrinking, not getting smaller over time.

Mr. OWEN. But I think it's a misrepresentation to say today the problem is Clinton's, when, in fact, if you go back over the history the roller coaster has been through both parties.

Mr. SHADEGG. I am not trying to pick that fight. I do, in fact, think this President has reduced interdiction and prevention and increased treatment. And we can get into a policy discussion of whether that is good or not. I really am not interested in blame pointing. I am interested in trying to win this fight, as much of it as we can, going forward.

Mr. OWEN. The frustration, from my perspective, is consistent, ongoing, long-term, planning and funding.

Mr. SHADEGG. Thank you.

Mr. BOWERS. If you consider that drugs and crime are inextricably intertwined, which they are, it's far worse than you have described. It's not your daughter and your children that's the problem, Congressman. It's the very social fabric of this country.

Let me tell you something real quick about my home town, Atlanta, GA. I left there in 1959 to go to college. In 1960, it had a population of 485,000 people. That year, we had 67 murders, 44 rapes, and 308 robberies. Thirty-five years later, the population has dropped to 404,000 within the corporate limits. Instead of 67 murders, we have 184. Instead of 44 rapes, 441. Instead of 308 robberies, 5,260.

Now, drugs and crime as to the increase of those numbers are just one and the same. So I would urge you not, not to worry about where you spend the money, but spend the dickens out of it, because there's nothing in this country that is as important as getting this whole thing under control. Prevent, yes. Interdict, absolutely. And we've got to trade. I don't hold out a lot of prospect for the efficacy in treatment in terms of solving the drug problem, but this is a good Nation, and we've got to do it because we're a good people.

Mr. SHADEGG. I agree. I couldn't agree more with your discussion of the issue.

Mr. COPPLE. We have to do treatment.

Mr. BOWERS. For a prosecutor, it's a disaster.

Mr. SHADEGG. Could I get the other gentleman to answer quickly?

Mr. MICA. There is a vote, and I would like to defer. What we could do is ask them if they would submit their responses in writing, if that's OK, Mr. Shadegg. I would like to yield for just a minute to the ranking member, if I might.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And just to clarify, just to flush out the record, I don't even like doing this but since Mr. Shadegg wanted to talk about the President's budget, as you all know, there is no Republican budget, so I would ask you and will go down the line too, are you aware of any formal submission from the Republicans to fund any National Guard drug money this year?

Mr. Owen.

Mr. OWEN. No, I'm not.

Mr. BOWERS. Well, I'm a Republican, so I don't know whether this advocacy counts. But it doesn't matter. We just want the money to try to operate.

Mr. BARRETT. I understand. Formal submissions, do you know of any?

Mr. BOWERS. No, sir.

Mr. BARRETT. General Davis.

General DAVIS. We are not aware of any, but we don't get involved.

Mr. BARRETT. I understand. I am sorry to drag you into this. Mr. Copple.

Mr. COPPLE. No, I see no budget of that nature.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you. Mr. Brooks.

Mr. BROOKS. I'm not aware of any.

Mr. BARRETT. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MICA. Thank you.

Just for the record, I understand we did submit \$132 million last year for the budget. But we are out of time. I do ask unanimous consent—I have a letter from Governor Pete Wilson of California regarding the critical role that the California National Guard is playing in the Nation's counterdrug effort. Without objection, it will be made part of the record.

[The letter referred to follows:]



GOVERNOR PETE WILSON

May 12, 1997

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs,
and Criminal Justice
Committee on Government Reform and Oversight
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter soliciting my views on the critical role of the California National Guard (CNG) in executing federal counterdrug programs.

California has three of the nation's 17 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (Los Angeles, the Southwest, and the San Francisco Bay Area). More than one-third of the cocaine that enters the United States comes through Imperial County on the Mexican border. Methamphetamine and marijuana consumption in the state have also steadily increased during the 1990s. Last year, the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement seized twice as many methamphetamine laboratories as it did in 1995. Just since 1994, traffickers furthermore managed to smuggle higher quantities of both Asian and refined white heroin into our air and seaports. These trends only increase the power and profits of organized criminal syndicates such as the 20,000-member 18th Street Gang based in Los Angeles.

In the face of this dramatic threat, the California National Guard has diligently supplemented or expanded law enforcement agency anti-drug initiatives. Trained Air and Army Guard units, for example, at least double the capacity of the Customs Service to conduct cargo and mail inspections at state Ports of Entry. CNG engineers work full time with the U.S. Border Patrol to improve roads and anti-vehicular barriers in the southern counties. The Guard's Joint Counterdrug Task Force aircraft fly more than 90% of California's marijuana targeting missions. Over the past four years, federal and local authorities directly supported by the CNG have seized illegal drugs and contraband with a total combined value of seven billion dollars.

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
May 12, 1997
Page two

I therefore urge Congress to carefully scrutinize the administration's funding priorities to ensure that the National Guard can continue to operate as an effective force multiplier in the realm of narcotics interdiction. These resources flow directly into efforts that experience has proven as the most useful in assisting law enforcement personnel to eliminate or control trans-national drug trafficking. In this regard, Mr. Chairman, I call the Subcommittee's attention to the fact that the California National Guard dedicates more than half of its Pentagon counterdrug allotment to the core missions of aerial and surface reconnaissance, port inspection, and eradication.

Finally, I request your support for funding the CNG's National Interagency Counterdrug Institute (NICI) at a level that reflects its current year expenditures. Despite its rhetorical commitment to the development of effective drug interdiction programs, the administration has proposed a one-third reduction in NICI's budget as part of its \$76M cut to National Guard's FY98 allotment for the Governors' Counterdrug Support Plans. The only organization of its type throughout the nation, NICI brings together law enforcement representatives from all levels of government for intensive training in the full range of both drug interdiction and demand reduction practices.

Thank you once again for your inquiry and leadership on a matter so important to California's public health and safety.

Sincerely,



PETE WILSON

Mr. MICA. Also, any Member who wishes may submit questions for the record.

Also, we will, without objection, leave the record open for one additional week for responses.

There being no further business, I would like to thank our witnesses for being with us and for your valuable contributions to this subcommittee and our effort, too, for the country.

There being no further business to come before the subcommittee, this meeting is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 3 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

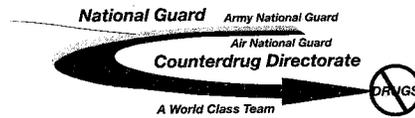
[Additional information submitted for the hearing record follows:]



CADCA Strategizer

*A series of technical assistance manuals
for community coalitions*

23. The National Guard — In Defense of America's Children



With Support from and in Collaboration with

BEHRING DIAGNOSTICS, INC.





The National Guard — In Defense of America's Children

Written and Developed by Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America in collaboration with The National Guard Bureau — Counterdrug Directorate

PUTTING A FACE ON THE GUARD

Editor's Note: The goal of this Strategizer is to provide information about the National Guard. Who are they? What do they do? What are their capabilities? How can National Guard capabilities be accessed and used?

✓ The National Guard is a **community based** asset — a force of trained men and women, equipment and facilities organized and dedicated to preserving peace, order and public safety in America's communities and in communities around the world.

- **The men and women of the National Guard are citizen-soldiers.**

They take an oath to their state constitution and to the United States Constitution. As citizen-soldiers they live, work and train in thousands of communities across America. When needed, they join with their active duty partners in a Total Force to protect our freedoms here at home and the freedoms of others around the world.

- **The men and women of the National Guard are your neighbors next door.**

When not performing military duty, they are students and educators; accountants and business owners; doctors and nurses; ranchers and farmers; counselors and clergy.

- **The men and women of the National Guard are experienced community servants.**

They are active members and leaders in Chambers of Commerce, Rotary and Kiwanis, youth organizations, city councils, local school boards and church groups.

- **The men and women of the National Guard are stable role models in our communities.**

They are committed to a policy of zero tolerance for drug use for themselves, their families and for others with whom they serve. They are a dedicated cadre of drug free men and women who can make positive change in your communities.

✓ The National Guard is **organized, positioned and trained** to provide support to community-based drug demand reduction initiatives.

- **The National Guard commands a powerful presence in our communities** with more than 3,200 bases and armories and 480,000 soldiers and airmen.

- **The National Guard has been assisting in the fight against drugs since 1977.**

In 1989 the National Defense Authorization Act expanded the role of the National Guard by approving the funding of Governors' State Counterdrug Plans to use the National Guard in support of drug enforcement and demand reduction activities.

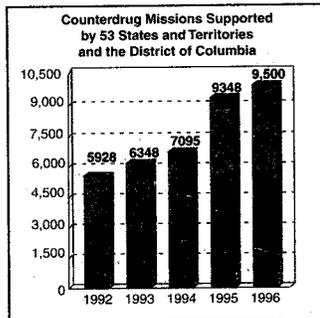
- **The National Guard already has a highly developed and credible drug supply reduction program** in every state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands.



“...Demand Reduction focuses on strategies and activities that help America’s youth to remain drug-free. The National Guard is a powerful resource to help communities with these activities.”

*James E. Copple, President & CEO
CADCA*

The National Guard has a history of success in providing drug supply reduction support to law enforcement agencies. In 1988, National Guard personnel were called to support approximately 100 counterdrug missions. Four years later, in 1992, National Guard personnel from 53 states and territories, and the District of Columbia, were called to support over 5,900 counterdrug missions. In 1996, the National Guard continues to support drug supply reduction requests, from law enforcement agencies, at an ever increasing rate.



- The National Guard has a Counterdrug Coordinator and a Drug Demand Reduction Administrator positioned in every state and territory; men and women trained to provide effective supply and drug demand reduction support at the grass roots level.



The National Guard supports one collective National Drug Control Strategy. The National Guard’s Long Range Counterdrug Plan focuses resources on this collective effort. Specifically, the National Guard supports three of the five National Drug Control Strategy Goals. These goals are to:

- motivate America’s youth to reject illegal drugs and substance abuse;
- increase the safety of America’s citizens by supporting the reduction of drug related crime and violence;
- continue the National Guard’s long-standing history of assisting law enforcement agencies in shielding America’s air, land and sea frontiers.

THE NATIONAL GUARD’S CALL TO ACTION

The National Guard has a long history of service to country. From the early colonial days of protecting our frontiers; to the Revolutionary War; through two World Wars; in Korea and Vietnam; to the sands of Desert Storm. The National Guard is *always ready, always there.*

The National Guard has been called to serve once again. This time, the call is from our own communities; a call to *serve in defense of America’s children.* This call to duty may prove to be more difficult and challenging than any duty ever performed by the National Guard.

The National Guard cannot fight the drug battle alone; the fight must be driven by community. The National Guard is committed to approaching the fight against drugs as a *Total Force — community leaders, anti-drug coalitions and law enforcement agencies working in partnership with America’s citizen-soldiers.*



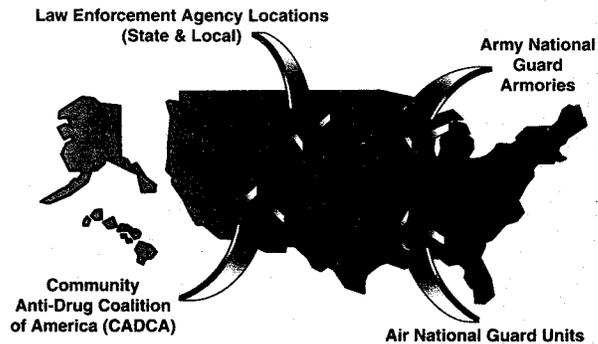
CADCA Strategizer 23

THE PARTNERING PROCESS HAS BEGUN

During September 1996, a powerful event signaled the most formidable combination of community-based resources ever achieved in the history of this country's fight against drugs; the beginning of a partnership program between the National Guard Bureau and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. This partnership brings together an unprecedented number of drug fighting assets. The outcome of this partnership agreement will be the ability to **blanket communities**, across America, with drug fighting capabilities.

BLANKETING AMERICA ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

The National Guard — In Defense of America's Children



CAPABILITIES — WHAT THE NATIONAL GUARD BRINGS TO THE TABLE

Community-based assets — people, equipment and facilities

- People — trained in planning, organization and logistics
- People — role models, mentors, trained facilitators, public speakers
- People — an organized, extensive volunteer network of Guard members, their families and National Guard retirees
- Equipment — transportation assets, tents, video-conferencing capabilities, communications equipment and other large group support supplies
- Facilities — armories and airbases for youth tours and meeting sites

National Guard personnel, equipment and facilities may be located in the community where you live.



CADCA
Strategizer 23

EFFECTIVE USE OF NATIONAL GUARD CAPABILITIES

1) ESTABLISH A PLANNING PROCESS.

Determine the purpose of your event/activity. Who should be involved in planning the event? Who will lead the planning group? Who is the target audience? What is the message? What are the objectives and desired outcomes? What are the major tasks? What equipment and resources might be needed? When will the event take place? How will the event be advertised? What process will be used to review and improve future events?

Construct a draft of your event plan first, then contact your state's Counterdrug Coordinator (CDC) and Drug Demand Reduction Administrator (DDRA). These men and women are trained to provide planning assistance for your coalition's needs. They should be your first point of contact in accessing the drug demand reduction capabilities of the National Guard in your state.
(See Strategizer inserts for complete listings of CDC and DDRA addresses and phone numbers)



2) INVOLVE THE NATIONAL GUARD IN THE EARLY STAGES OF YOUR PLANNING

The National Guard has a trained force of soldiers and airmen with skills in planning, organization and logistics. They are trained to determine resource needs. They know the resources available in the National Guard inventory, and they have contacts with other agencies who have additional resources. They can assist your planners in matching available resources to the specific requirements of your event.

3) PLAN AHEAD!

FOR MAJOR EVENTS, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONTACT THE NATIONAL GUARD AT LEAST 90-120 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU WANT THE COALITION EVENT TO OCCUR.

Why? The National Guard is made up primarily of part-time soldiers and airmen who train in their military units one weekend per month and two full weeks per year. Training schedules are constructed and equipment and facilities may be reserved many months in advance of the actual training date.

Why? Soldiers and airmen are also students and civilian workers. They have families and are active participants in many community activities and associations. While they are anxious to provide service in the counterdrug program, they have limited additional time available.

Why? The National Guard is committed to providing support to your coalition. However, the Federal Readiness training requirements of airmen and soldiers will always take precedence over other activities. Advance planning and coordination is the key to effective use of National Guard capabilities.



CADCA Strategizer 23

WHEN WILL THE NATIONAL GUARD BE READY TO ASSIST COMMUNITIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS?

The National Guard is *already on the job*. Thousands of National Guard airmen and soldiers are already supporting drug demand and supply reduction initiatives. They are providing leader-

ship, planning and organization skills. They are helping community groups access and use the capabilities of the National Guard and the resources of other agencies.

KIDS AT (ANNUAL TRAINING)

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM

COALITION DEVELOPMENT

MENTORING PROGRAMS

RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN

LEADERSHIP CAMPS

NGB YOUTH PROGRAMS

STARBASE

Challenge Program

Youth Conservation Camps



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD?

The National Guard is extremely proud of the contributions that they have made in the fight against drugs. However, they realize that the fight is far from over. The National Guard's approach to the fight against drugs is now focused on a long-term commitment to America's communities; a commitment that more clearly defines how the National Guard will

balance support to the increasing demand for the drug fighting capabilities they maintain.

The National Guard believes that, to achieve success in the battle against drug use, community leaders and coalitions must lead the fight.



***In communities
across America,
the National Guard
stands ready . . .***

***in defense
of America's children.***

***. . . . when Americans
stop using drugs,
our fight will be over.***



Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America is a membership-driven organization put in place to give anti-drug and drug-related violence coalitions technical assistance and support.

The purpose of the *Strategizer Technical Assistance Manuals* is to provide step-by-step assistance to you on various topics relevant to the work you do in your community each day. We know you are busy, so the *Strategizers* are designed to be easy-to-use guides to streamline the thinking process.

Strategizers cover such topics as long-range planning, board and staff development, development of media, marketing plans, fundraising for coalition operations and programs, how to engage hard-to-reach populations, and more.

For a complete list of *Strategizer Technical Assistance Manuals* that are currently available or for additional technical assistance on the topic covered in this *Strategizer*, contact the CADCA staff by writing to:

901 North Pitt Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

or call toll-free: 1-800-54-CADCA

Please notify CADCA regarding the technical assistance needs you may have. Your coalition is the front line against the ravages of drugs, alcohol and violence.

Keep up the good work!

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REPRODUCE STRATEGIZERS

**Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
901 North Pitt Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

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