

have been asleep at the switch, and the Defense Information Systems Agency has been timid in questioning the White House practices.

In particular, the IG's reports reveal that the White House Communications Agency budgets have been unreviewed; the White House Communications Agency annual performance plan has failed to meet Department of Defense standards; acquisition planning has been inadequate, and has included an unwillingness to put millions of dollars' worth of contracts out to bid, essentially ignoring Federal procurement law; wasteful purchases have been made, including the purchase in 1994 of a \$4.9 million piece of mobile communications equipment that the White House now admits—and this is something out of the keystone cops—will not fit on the C-141 airplane that transports such equipment for the President, and was also made incompatible with most hotel electricity units; and the White House Communications Agency has also purchased goods and services without legal authority, and without binding contracts.

In short, this has been a black hole, over at the White House, into which we have been pouring nearly \$100 million annually without any executive branch oversight. It has also become a pot of money devoted to many things that have nothing to do with telecommunications or the President.

For example, the White House deploys Department of Defense moneys to fund an elaborate frame shop in the basement of the White House, which frames any personal picture with the President or anything else a White House staffer brings in to be framed. It funds stenographic services, audiovisual services, photos, and emblems, podiums and other nontelecommunications expenditures.

What this amendment would do is put an end to the broadranging mission creep that has occurred, and start us back toward a degree of accountability.

Now, as a footnote to all this, I must say that I am also greatly disappointed in the White House, frankly. After learning of this level of mismanagement and waste, my subcommittee invited them—in particular, Mr. Sullivan, and Ms. Torkelson—who recently herself negotiated a memorandum of understanding permitting this broad mission—to testify before the subcommittee on Thursday.

They were asked to respond to the IG's reports. They were asked because they are operational and have oversight responsibility—or have had until now. —Instead of complying, as has been the track record of this White House on other matters, they are declining to even appear.

I will, therefore, once more ask them—before other measures are considered—to appear and testify on Thursday. In the meantime, I urge support for this narrowing amendment.

USA TODAY RECOGNITION OF
WAYNE VALLEY (NJ) HIGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity today to commend the community

of Wayne, NJ and its educators for their commitment to excellence in education. In the third article of a five-part series currently running in USA Today, the Wayne Valley High School District was specifically cited as an education system worth migrating to.

This May 15, 1996, article on education in the United States focused on the importance of residential location and school districting when families make decisions on where to raise families. The story pointed out that "real estate agents, appraisers, home builders, and tax authorities overwhelmingly agree that proximity to high-quality schools is now the No. 1 factor in determining what a home is worth in any given market."

Citing schools as her top priority, the article specifically mentioned Ms. Alice Li of Wayne, NJ. Ten years ago the Li family, with very young daughter Winnie, moved from Pennsylvania to New Jersey. Although her daughter was very young, Ms. Li cited the talented and gifted program of the Wayne School District as an important factor which brought them to the 8th district.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Li had the foresight to plan for young Winnie's future education. The result: Winnie has scored perfectly three straight years on the National Latin Exam, is the editor of the school newspaper, and will graduate Wayne Valley High with a 4.0 grade point average. It comes as no surprise that with such strong academic credentials, Winnie will attend Harvard University in the fall. I commend Winnie for her achievements and certainly wish her continued success in Cambridge, MA.

Mr. Speaker, this article is just another example of how vital quality school systems are to our communities. Without responsible teachers and challenging curricula in place, towns and cities have very little to offer parents and would be residents. Strengthening education programs remain a top priority for me and I will continue to work toward raising the standards by which our schools measure themselves. I am pleased that Wayne, NJ and one its stand-out pupils have been recognized in this capacity.

Again, I commend Ms. Alice Li, her daughter Winnie, and the Wayne Valley High School District.

ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 15, 1996, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM DRUGS

An estimated 12.2 million Americans consume illegal drugs at least once a month, causing enormous human costs in terms of lost productivity, drug-related violence, and ruined lives. Over 20,000 Americans die each year in drug-related deaths. Fighting drugs is not cheap. The federal government will spend \$15 billion this year, and local governments spend far more. Yet half of Americans say that they, or someone in their family, or a close friend, has used illegal drugs, and drug use is increasing among young people. We may not have lost the war on drugs, but

neither are we winning it. We must reassess and revitalize our efforts.

Fighting drugs requires a systematic approach on a number of fronts. There are four key elements to drug control policy:

LAW ENFORCEMENT

There is no question that cities have felt the brunt of drug-related crime, but law enforcement officials in our small towns and rural areas express their concern that theft, domestic violence, and juvenile crimes are increasingly linked to illegal drugs. I answer letters each week from Hoosier children who are worried about drugs and violence in their schools.

In southern Indiana, federal funds support local police officers, Drug Enforcement Agency officers, and the Southern Indiana Drug Task Force for undercover operations. The National Guard and the Civil Air Patrol eradicate billions of dollars of marijuana and other plants each year. We must focus on youth, gangs, and domestic violence, and give law enforcement officers, judges, and prosecutors the resources to provide swift justice. Prosecutors must focus on key drug crime figures, and judges should be given tough but flexible sentencing guidelines to ensure that first-time offenders do not become addicts, and that drug traffickers are severely punished.

EDUCATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT

Law enforcement officers tell me that, unless we reduce the demand for drugs, no level of punishment or eradication will be able to win the war on drugs. Drug education programs have helped stigmatize drug use in schools and the workplace, and treatment—when available—has proven successful in getting people off drugs. Federal funds help numerous southern Indiana drug prevention programs in schools and community agencies. Studies show that, for each \$1 spent on prevention, \$7 is saved on crime, health, and welfare costs. Treatment can be improved with more research, early access to treatment, and compassionate care to the victims of drug abuse. We should also consolidate and streamline the dozens of government prevention programs, working hand in hand with America's religious, community, and educational groups.

INTERDICTION AND ERADICATION

The main focus of U.S. counternarcotics efforts should be here at home, but there is a key international dimension—eradicating drug crops abroad and stopping the narcotics flow across U.S. borders. Most illegal drugs enter the U.S. along the Florida shoreline or the Mexican border. Federal interdiction efforts include border control and interception of drug planes and ships in international territory. We must use the most sophisticated intelligence, technology, and science to shield our borders from the drug threat.

SOURCE COUNTRIES

Drug traffickers can best be stopped by arresting, convicting, and incarcerating them on their own turf, and other countries must do their share. Money laundering, drug production, and organized drug cartels are international problems, and cannot be solved by the U.S. alone. We should strengthen foreign law enforcement and judicial institutions. Cooperation with Mexican authorities has improved, as demonstrated by the recent destruction of a major Mexican-American drug ring. We should reward countries that convict drug traffickers, eradicate cocaine and heroin farms, seize drug shipments, and aggressively pursue illegal drug labs. We should punish countries that do not do their share by linking drug cooperation to trade sanctions and foreign assistance. We must use the U.N. and other multilateral organizations to share the burden and the costs of narcotics control.