

recognize, in all due sincerity, that my friend probably has a number of colleagues who just do not want to agree to even 5 weeks. I recognize that, too.

Mr. SARBANES. If the Senator will yield on that point, there are many people who feel the committee should have done its work within the requirements of Senate Resolution 120, just as Iran-Contra had to do its work within its allotted requirements under the resolution under which it was operating.

Mr. D'AMATO. I really tried as hard as possible to attempt to put forth an offer—

Mr. SARBANES. No, I just want you to understand there are some strongly held views of that sort.

Mr. D'AMATO. Sure, and you must recognize that there are legitimately held views that people themselves feel strongly about without any partisan motives being attached to their feeling; that they say we want to end that. I understand that, and I am saying to you that I have a number of Members who do not want to compromise as it relates even to a time line and they suggest we are going to be back in the same problem again. But there comes a point in time when you have to make the best of the situation.

I am suggesting possibly we explore looking at a time certain, from which we say we will conclude, that being the conclusion of the trial, one way or the other, if it is a hung jury, whatever it might be. We may not be able to get any of those witnesses.

Mr. SARBANES. That is right, and we need to examine that up front.

Mr. D'AMATO. I am first to admit that. I am first to admit that. What I am trying to do is to say there is a good faith offer, an attempt to wind this up in a manner that does not detract from everything and everybody because there are going to be those who say in the drumbeat of the political spin doctors on one side saying the Senator from New York is attempting to keep this going for political reasons.

Mr. SARBANES. That is right.

Mr. D'AMATO. I understand that. On the other side, there will be the chorus, What are you hiding? For every editorial you can produce, I can produce one, two, three, four and you can produce some, and back and forth. What does that achieve? My gosh, what have we advanced?

So I am—and I am not asking you for an answer now—I am asking you to consider attempting to deal with this impasse, so that we do not have to come down here and have our colleagues vote, line up on one side, those vote to cut off debate, cut off the filibuster, and those who take the opposite possible positions and all the various characterizations that are going to flow—from both sides, absolutely totally well-meant. All right. So I hope I have covered the waterfront on that.

It may be that we cannot find a way to resolve this. But I am suggesting that I am certainly willing to spare us further debate here, further time here,

and let us be able to do the best we can, given that we cannot control all the circumstances in this investigation. Some of it is beyond our ability to control.

I yield the floor, and I thank my friend for his courtesies in giving me the opportunity at various times to make some points that I thought were important.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition?

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I believe, without imposing upon my colleague, that concludes our discussion with respect to going forward on the Whitewater resolution.

Mr. SARBANES. Yes.

VACANCIES AT THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, on that note, let me say this. The Banking Committee has been waiting for months now for the President to fill vacancies at the Federal Reserve Board. It was just a little less than 2 weeks ago last Saturday, March 2—there are two vacancies, two other vacancies aside from Mr. Greenspan—I guess it was about 10 days ago when the President indicated that he was going to recommend not only Chairman Greenspan but two other people, Alice Rivlin as the Vice Chairman, and Lawrence Meyer as a Governor.

Since this announcement from the White House—and I have indicated publicly that we would move expeditiously to take up these nominees—we have not received any word and the Federal Reserve has been forced to adopt various rules to address this gap so that Chairman Greenspan could carry on his work. This continues to be a very critical post, and these positions are critical. I hope the administration will move with some speed and alacrity in sending those nominations over to us so we can move.

I pledge to the body here and to the administration and to the President that we will move as quickly as we possibly can. We will set up a hearing—if it means in the afternoon, if it means whatever time convenient to the nominees—to deal with these important nominations, because they are important and they are critical.

We want to move this. I hope they will send those nominations over. Certainly they should send over Mr. Greenspan at this point in time. We could dispose of that. I do not understand why they would not have Mrs. Rivlin ready, given her long stewardship in Federal Government and the fact that she has had all her clearances, et cetera. So at least two of those positions are something we would be willing to move on very expeditiously.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a

period for the transaction of routine morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEPLORING TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ISRAEL

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, every American deplores the bombings in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem in the past days.

The Tel Aviv bombing was a senseless act of violence cynically targeted to hit as many innocent people as possible at a shopping mall on a school holiday commemorating what is to be a joyous holiday of Purim. Once again, a suicide bomber did this awful deed; people are dead and injured; a nation is stricken; and the peace process is further jeopardized.

Ironically, Purim commemorates the time in which Esther, a Jewish heroine, convicted her husband to stop the slaughter of the Jews. There was no modern day Esther Monday in Tel Aviv.

Monday's bombing follows Sunday's in Jerusalem, which took place on a street down which I have walked. I can see with terrible clarity the horror of Sunday's bombing.

Mr. President, along with my colleagues, the President, and all Americans, I offer my condolences to the families of those killed and injured. I fear for the future of the peace process, which offers hope that, maybe, some day, Israelis and Palestinians can walk down these same streets in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in peace, free of the fear that they may be the terrorists' next victims. I join the President in pledging to do all we can to stop this senseless slaughter; apprehend the terrorists and bring them to justice; and get the peace process back on track.

GEN. BARRY McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, in today's Washington Post there is a remarkable article. I commend all to read it. It is about the President's appointment of Gen. Barry McCaffrey, a four-star general, to the position of drug czar. It has been my privilege to know this fine American for some many years. I recall on one occasion, together with other colleagues in this body—it may well have been the distinguished whip was on that trip, the Senator from Kentucky, when we visited the gulf region. We visited a number of the U.S. commanders who had taken an active participation in the war in the gulf. General McCaffrey was the general who spearheaded the tank column which crushed Saddam Hussein's armor.

From that experience and many other chapters of complete heroism as a soldier, he now takes on another assignment and immediately goes into

battle, this time a battle to counter the threat of illegal drugs and drug abuse to this Nation. It is a threat as serious as any that has ever faced this Nation in our history from any foreign military power or terrorist organization. I congratulate the President of the United States. Indeed, he had awesome powers of persuasion, to get this American to step aside, to promptly retire as a four-star officer, a man who may well have been destined to become Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. He will take on a new challenge and enter another battle in a life which, although this man is quiet and humble, is filled with heroism.

But General McCaffrey's appointment is timely, Mr. President. As today's Washington Post article opens up—and I will quote the article and I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in full at the end of my statement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. WARNER [reading]: "By moving full circle in this election year, President Clinton plans an ambitious upgrading of the White House drug control policy office three years after virtually wiping out that office in order to fulfill a campaign pledge to reduce White House staff."

How tragic, Mr. President. Just look what happened statistically since the Clinton administration has been in office.

The statistics over the past 2½ years are astonishing and alarming. The number of 12- to 17-year-olds using marijuana in the United States increased from 1.6 million in 1992 to 2.9 million in 1994.

The category of recent marijuana use increased a staggering 200 percent among the 14- to 15-year-olds in this same period of time.

Since 1992 there has been a 52-percent jump in the number of high school seniors using drugs on a monthly basis.

I spoke with a group of parents the other day. The principal theme of our meeting was education. Yes, we talked extensively about education, but in the course of an exchange between myself and this group they quickly turned to the threat that drug abuse poses to their children's safety. We all know that safety in the educational environment equates with the quality of education that these children hope to receive. We also know that a portion of the violence that occurs in our schools is related to illegal drugs and their sales and distribution.

One in three high school seniors now smoke marijuana. The American people recognize the problems with drug abuse. A December 1995 Gallup Poll shows that 94 percent of Americans feel illegal drug abuse is either a crisis, or a very serious problem.

So, Mr. President, I am glad the President of the United States has responded. He has gone to general quarters, as well he should. He is providing

General McCaffrey considerable support, and I am glad General McCaffrey's conditions are being met.

Just look at the record. The Clinton administration has virtually wiped out the Drug Control Policy office reducing the staff from 146 in 1993 to just 25 as of today. This decision to staff up, made in conjunction with the appointment of General McCaffrey, comes at a time when numerous articles and television programs about the terrible increase in substance abuse are appearing throughout our country.

Mr. President, thank you for getting the message from the American people.

I pledge to this fine general and his staff my full cooperation so long as I am privileged to be a Member of the U.S. Senate. I daresay my colleagues likewise will support him.

I yield the floor. I thank the Chair.

EXHIBIT 1

ABOUT-FACE

(By Ann Devroy)

Moving full circle in this election year, President Clinton plans an ambitious upgrading of the White House drug control policy office three years after virtually wiping out that office in order to fulfill a campaign pledge to reduce White House staff.

According to requests submitted yesterday to Congress and sources at the White House, the president is seeking to increase drug policy staffing from 40 to 150 slots, reversing steps he took in 1993 to reduce the office from 146 workers to 25.

In addition, the White House has agreed to requests by its new drug policy chief, retired Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, to move the operation from a relatively distant office near the New Executive Office Building back into the Old Executive Office Building, where it was located under its first and most high-profile director, William J. Bennett. McCaffrey, also at his request, will be a given a slot on the National Security Council, a new power perk, and the job will continue to hold Cabinet rank.

One White House official explained the reversal this way: "The general wants some troops to command, and Clinton wanted the general." But White House aide Rahm Emanuel, who handled the upgrading of the operation, said the new staffing levels and access for McCaffrey signal Clinton's confidence in the former head of the military's Southern Command and his commitment to an expanded fight against drugs.

"This is what he needs to get the president's policy implemented," Emanuel said. "It is what the president believes will help us improve on our record."

While the new staff and spending are likely to consign Clinton's staff-cut efforts to history, it will help him with what may be a more potent political issue: his commitment to drug control at a time when drug use among young people has risen every year he has been in office.

Clinton yesterday sent to Congress a request for \$3.4 million in supplemental spending for the Office of National Drug Control Policy. That request will pay for 80 new jobs, according to the White House submission. In addition, McCaffrey has gotten White House approval to take 30 "detailees" from the Pentagon to his new operation. Detailees are paid by their home agencies, so their cost is not reflected in the White House budget.

The White House also has given McCaffrey the go-ahead to formulate a plan for spending an additional \$250 million this year on the anti-drug effort, much of it reprogrammed Pentagon funds.

In all, the new Clinton drug policy office will have funding for 150 employees, four more than its high point in the Bush administration. It was these workers that Clinton turned to in large measure when he had to make the cuts in White House operations to meet his campaign pledge to shave the staff by 25 percent.

Despite significant misgivings from his own staff and many outsiders, Clinton argued during the campaign that the White House should operate with 25 percent fewer workers than in the Bush era. The pledge was meant to symbolize the president's commitment to make sacrifices himself before he asked other parts of government and the American people to sacrifice in the name of deficit reduction and more efficient government.

On taking office, the Clinton team used some creative accounting to readjust the baseline of what is normally considered White House staff so that fewer cuts would produce the 25 percent goal. But they still had to cut 350 slots from a total of 1,394, and the drug office took by far the biggest hit. White House officials argued that other parts of the government, including the Pentagon and the State Department, could pick up the slack.

White House officials now say they will try to keep the staff level down for the full year to meet the 25 percent reduction, even with the rush of new workers.

And they reject any link between the election year and staffing up anti-drug efforts.

"Our policy has been strong throughout. The president has emphasized anti-drug efforts throughout his administration. It has been an important priority," Barry Toiv, a deputy to White House Chief of Staff Leon E. Panetta, said yesterday. "The president obviously has tremendous respect for General McCaffrey's ability, and the general feels that with additional resources he can do an even better job. The president wants him to have those resources."

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 497. An act to create the National Gambling Impact and Policy Commission.

H.R. 2778. An act to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing services for the peacekeeping effort in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be entitled to certain tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat one, and for other purposes.