

Non-Aligned have authorized Peru to take action on behalf of the non-aligned leading toward the international monetary conference. The draft economic declaration mandates Peru to organize a consultative conference in Lima Nov. 12-14 of experts from developing countries to exchange information on debt negotiations to permit a greater harmony of action by debtors. "Creditors have all the information, but we debtors lack it and they deal with us one by one," explained Osvaldo de Rivera, chairman of the Non-Aligned economic commission. De Rivera informed the press that one purpose of the Lima meeting would be to create a temporary secretariat which would function as an amplified version of the Cartagena Consensus of Ibero-American nations.

The Zimbabwe Economic Declaration states categorically that the debt burden is unbearable to the underdeveloped countries, and recognizes that some countries cannot pay the debt under current conditions. A Cuban amendment calling for debt repudiation was rejected by the economic commission, but several amendments from Peru were incorporated into the document. These include a statement of clear support to Peru's decision to limit debt service and for the right of all countries to decide their economic policies freely and limit their payments to a percentage of their export earnings if necessary.

"This is an unprecedented event," said Peruvian Finance Minister Allan Wagner. Highly critical of the IMF, the document also calls for actions against any financial, commercial, or any other kind of coercion which might be taken against a country which made sovereign decisions on its economy and debt service.

The bold intervention of Peru's Alan García, acting in the tradition of Indira Gandhi, has thus managed to stave off the Non-Aligned's complete moral and political bankruptcy. Moscow has been exposed for attempted to drown the movement in bilge over regional conflicts. Further, Moscow's reasons in seeking to destroy the Non-Aligned are no different than those of its Western partners: No underdeveloping country is to be permitted to win full national sovereignty and economic independence and industrialization. Moscow's aims and the behavior of its stooges is coherent with its negotiated pact with the United States to deny underdeveloped countries nuclear power.

The United States has also been handed a lesson. With an \$18 trillion debt, the United States is in no position to accuse underdeveloped nations of "economic mismanagement." To the extent that the United States supports the International Monetary Fund and the continuation of genocidal austerity on the underdeveloped countries, it is aiding a process that is delivering the underdeveloped sector to Soviet hegemony. Acting on the basis of the true principles of the Non-Aligned, Alan García's leadership at the summit has bought crucial time for both the Non-Aligned and the United States to take decisive action for a new monetary system.

Surprising Revelations

Panama fires salvo

by Gretchen Small

A 306-page report issued in August by the government of Panama, "16 Years of Struggle Against Drug Traffic," reports an untold story, the history of the Panamanian Defense Forces' war against the narcotics empire, as it has escalated over the years under the personal command of the man who today heads that Force, Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. "16 Years of Struggle" was issued in defense of General Noriega, against an international campaign of slander, innuendo, and rumor launched by Panama's opposition forces and the U.S. State Department.

The campaign painted Noriega as "the protector of 'the Panamanian Connection'" of narcotics and crime, a double-agent of Cuba and the American CIA, and the head of the "military mafia." The authors of that slander have presented no proof, claiming only that U.S. intelligence has "classified evidence" to back up the charges. "16 Years of Struggle" is Panama's answer. On orders of President Eric Delvalle, the Panamanian government has made public declassified U.S. and Panamanian documents on Panama's war on drugs, and provided statistics, background reports, and a history of Panama's intervention into the international debate on narcotics, to demonstrate not only Panama's successes in the war on drugs, but also that Panama has actively collaborated with the United States in that war.

The issue is not just to defend Panama's record on drugs, however. Panama's counter-attack has dropped several political bombshells into the worldwide battle to build a unified anti-drug command.

The Panamanian government names the British Crown as the original sponsor of international narcotics traffic, specifying the role of the Crown's British East India Company and its allies in the "great families of New England," in imposing—by force—"massive addiction to narcotics" upon the colonial world. Narcotics were pushed "officially by the British Empire with the conviction that it was possible to attack the life and health of a backward nation without affecting the empire itself," Panama's government report states.

The Liberal Establishment's media screamed that U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was "crazy" and "paranoid," when LaRouche's associates in *EIR* documented

in war on drugs

that history in its bestseller, *Dope, Inc.* Now the Panamanian government has also stated publicly that well-known but little-mentioned history—just as the news breaks in Europe that a “cocaine pipeline” into Britain’s Royal Palace run by the Queen of England’s sister, Princess Margaret, has been uncovered.

The issue has implications for policy. Identifying narcotics as an instrument of colonial *warfare*, is critical to developing an adequate counter-strategy against narcotics, too often treated as a “sociological” problem, without historical roots or purpose. The very existence of humanity today is threatened by the results of that policy, “16 Years of Struggle” argues. The narcotics trade, in the words of General Noriega, has become the “fifth horseman of the Apocalypse,” reaching the level of “genocide,” against its special target, youth. New “geopolitical factors” have now entered the drug trade, threatening the future of Western society as it is known today.

Panama’s report is urgent reading by those agencies and personnel responsible for national security within the U.S. government. Precisely as the Reagan administration prepared to build a military alliance within the Americas against narcotics, factions within the administration tried to blow apart one of the best working relationships in the war on drugs already established on the continent, the coordination of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and Coast Guard with Panama’s Defense Forces.

The report provides conclusive evidence that Noriega’s enemies are in the drug-mob. Several questions must then be answered in Washington. Which agencies and personnel began the campaign of slander against Noriega? Through what channels was that policy made hegemonic in the administration? U.S. State Department officials have made no secret that Noriega and the government of Panama are on their hit-list for overthrow. But factions within the military and intelligence community have also pushed the campaign.

Such questions are no “Panamanian matter.” Tracing back the “get Noriega” campaign to its authors, will provide U.S. officials “red dye” identification of dope-trade assets infiltrated within the U.S. national security apparatus.

As a transportation, banking, and communications crossroads for the Americas, the drug mob targeted Panama as a transshipment and coordination center. Until 1968, when Col. Omar Torrijos, with the aid of Noriega, established a new political system in the country, Panama’s politics and economy were in the hands of local representatives of the international oligarchic families, who have used Panama as a general “free-trade” facility center since the days of Teddy Roosevelt. Although 80% of Panama’s economy remains under the control of foreign interests today, with the Torrijos coup, the oligarchy’s political freedom of action became increasingly limited.

Panama’s Defense Forces established an anti-drug program in 1970, under the command of Lt.-Colonel Noriega, then head of Intelligence for the National Guard. The policy underpinnings of the anti-drug unit created by Noriega, are outlined in a 1973 speech by Noriega, excerpted in the *Documentation* following this article. Fighting for a multinational strategy against the drug threat, Noriega has repeatedly proposed that Panama’s historic role as a crossroads be turned to different advantage, by establishing an operational center for intelligence, detection, strategy, tactical operations, and logistic support for the war on drugs.

The statistics of drug capture demonstrate the effects of the policy, in the territory under control of Panama’s Forces. (U.S. authorities are still responsible for policing transit through the Canal Zone.) From 1970-1980, Panama’s Forces captured and destroyed 293 kilograms of cocaine and 2.215 metric tons of marijuana, and deported 201 drug-traffickers, including 46 fugitives from U.S. justice.

With the onset of the Cocaine Boom of the 1980s, Panama’s anti-drug war escalated. From 1980 through the first seven months of this year, approximately 1.5 metric tons of pure cocaine have been seized by Panama’s Defense Forces, while eradication campaigns, including fumigation, were launched against attempts to establish domestic marijuana production; 1.4 metric tons of marijuana transshipped through Panama were captured; and 232 drug-traffickers were deported, including 41 fugitives wanted in the U.S. Since 1984, chemicals used in the processing of cocaine have been seized, as Panama cooperated in a multi-nation effort to shut off the European/U.S.-South American chemical pipeline.

Cooperation with U.S. authorities has been extensive. In 1980, the Defense Forces established procedures which authorized U.S. Coast Guard Service vessels to board, search, and make arrests, in international waters, on boats of Panamanian registry suspected of involvement in drug-trafficking. That authority is critical, since Panama’s liberal ship-registry laws, existing since the 1920s, had made Panama a center of ship-registry.

The Defense Forces “have always maintained a close relation of mutual understanding, respect, cooperation and confidence” with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

(DEA) office in Panama, "16 Years" reports. In addition to the coordinated seizure of chemicals, the leading success of Panama's multi-nation approach to the war on drugs, was the 1984 arrest of Colombian cocaine chiefs, Jorge Luis Ochoa and Gilberto Rodríguez Orejuela. Information supplied by Panama's Defense Forces to the DEA, led to their arrest in Spain, in a coordinated operation by the DEA and Spanish authorities.

Shortly thereafter, Panamanian authorities shut down the First Interamericas Bank, headquartered in Panama City, when it was found to be owned by Rodríguez Orejuela.

Breaking up the Kissinger connection

In a *White Paper* on the Panama Destabilization issued in June 1986, *EIR* reported that U.S. circles behind the "get-Noriega" campaign were promoting the interests of the former Commander of the National Guard, General Rubén Darío Paredes, as a counter to General Noriega. Paredes, now retired, was presented throughout the 1980s as the key "U.S. asset" in Panama by the Liberal Establishment. Former U.S. ambassador to Panama, Ambler Moss, a protégé of drug legalization-promotor Sol Linowitz, called Paredes one of the Panamanians "best disposed to the U.S." In 1983, Henry Kissinger personally stepped forward, to promote Paredes as the future head of state of Panama.

EIR's White Paper detailed Paredes's connections to the drug trade and terrorism, as they were known to us then. Panama's government report, "16 Years of Struggle," presents new evidence that Kissinger's friends in Panama attempted in 1984 to establish Panama as a new cocaine-processing center and headquarters for the Colombian cocaine czars. The plot was defeated by Noriega—the man some Washington circles are trying to drive from power.

The Colombian mafia set into motion the plan to seize control of Panama, at the point Colombia launched an all-out war against drug-trafficking, "16 Years" reports. Panama, close to transshipment points, was picked as a site for a new, giant, cocaine laboratory, to replace mafia facilities shut down by Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, and the ensuing military battle after his death in 1984. The mob "planned to gain clear transit of cocaine through Panama; to use Panamanian banking facilities for their transactions; and finally, to establish a big laboratory in Darien, Panama's most unpopulated jungle province," the report explains.

Colombia's cocaine kingpins, the Ochoa family, began throwing their money around Panama, and "made contact with authorities with political aspirations, and presented them with costly pace horses, and other presents." Three Panamanians offered themselves as the protectors of the mafia plan: the businessmen, Gabriel Méndez, Olmedo Méndez, and Ricardo Tribaldos (the latter a relative of the drug mafia's editor of *La Prensa*, Roberto Eisenmann), and Lt.-Col. Julián Melo Borbua, then Executive Secretary of the Defense Forces' General Command.

General Paredes, the protector of Lt.-Colonel Melo, was one of those who received pace horses from the Ochoas for the plot, "through a rich Panamanian cattle man, who is a member of the political opposition." Melo was given \$4 million by the Ochoa mob, to carry out a coup against Panama's Government and military command, a plot which was to include the assassination of General Noriega.

Defeated by the combined intelligence and operations of Panama's Defense Forces, the Colombian military, and the U.S. DEA, the dope mob instead moved its major facilities to Peru and Bolivia in 1984, where, until Alan García came to power in Peru in July 1985, government authorities provided no resistance to the mob's efforts. In Panama, Melo was dishonorably discharged from the Defense Forces, so that he could be tried by civilian authorities.

Documentation

Drug traffic: crime against humanity

The following are excerpts from the Introduction of "Panama: 16 years of struggle against drug traffic."

. . . The government of Panama shares the opinion that drug trafficking is one of the worst crimes against humanity, comparable with nuclear bombing of innocent people. Both phenomena are examples of the most criminal form of genocide. The addiction to drugs exists because there is drug trafficking, hence the necessity to combat this terrible scourge at the source.

In spite of the proven fact that the government of Panama acts in efficient cooperation with the responsible authorities of the United States of America, unfounded accusations against Panamanian officials appear sporadically. These accusations are designed to incriminate said officials with illicit activities related to the drug traffic. The circumstances and timing of these accusations, as well as the manner in which they have been made public, have given the great majority of the Panamanian people good reason to react with a feeling of founded suspicion over the probable political intentions.

Facing this curious situation, the government of the Republic of Panama considered it opportune to elaborate this extensive documented summary, directed principally to the conscience and reason of the responsible leaders of the great North American nation. The purpose is to demonstrate through an almost chronological sequence of facts and events, that the government of Panama ranks among the forerunners in

the fight against drug trafficking in all its shapes and forms.

In order to better appreciate the position occupied by Panama in the war against the drug traffic, a sincere effort should be made to understand very well the geography, geopolitics, and strategic aspects of the evolution of the isthmus of Panama. . . .

Owing to its special geographic location, Panama has historically been the crossroads of the Americas. During the Spanish colonial era, the isthmus of Panama was known as "the route to silver" and from 1848, when gold was discovered in California, it was called "the route to gold." During the various periods of its history, as was the case in 1501, Panama has been the victim of the most varied forms of piracy and plundering, such as the famous fairs of Portobelo, which awakened the greed of pirates who converted that part of the isthmus of Panama into an ambush area. During a more recent period, criminal international merchants have tried to use the isthmus of Panama as a transit route for drugs produced in various South American countries, and for drugs coming from Europe via South America, on its way to the great consumer market of the United States of America.

Generally, the drugs are not distributed within the Panamanian territory, they simply pass through by air or maritime transport. For this specific reason, the Panamanian authorities have the capacity to intervene solely when the drugs are disembarked, which happens in relatively few cases at our international airports, or the maritime ports of Cristobal and Balboa. It should be kept in mind that these two sea ports were reverted to the sovereignty of Panama as recently as 1978. These ports were formerly under the jurisdiction of the United States as part of the Canal Zone.

Nevertheless, it is obvious that Panama constitutes a target for the illicit drug traffic and because of this, Panama is fully aware that the effective struggle against the traffic of and addiction to drugs cannot be limited to unilateral action of one state within its own frontiers, it must be a multilateral campaign by all nations of the world. . . .

It is the permanent policy of Panama, within the firmness and vigor of this war against drugs and the addiction to drugs, that the international community must act with a new purpose, namely with respect for human dignity. We must remember that, historically, massive addiction to drugs was promoted, and imposed by force, by Great Britain, through the introduction into China from India of the cultivation and use of opium. That sale of opium was simply and plainly international drug traffic on a monopolistic basis. It was done officially by the British Empire with the conviction that it was possible to assault the life and health of a backward nation without affecting the empire itself. But today it is a problem that concerns the whole world. It is an issue of such gravity, that it should never be utilized for immoral purposes, but used as a rationale to force a universal mobilization of all institutions and organizations for the vigilance and eventual eradication of the drug traffic and the use of illegal drugs. . . .

It is not the purpose of this brief introduction to enter into a detailed summary of all the efforts and joint actions by the governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Panama, or by the respective authorities directly responsible for fighting the illegal drug traffic. Nevertheless, since this is a matter to which the principal Panamanian authorities have pledged their dedication and offered their supreme efforts, presented below is a brief summary, through which, in a clear and objective manner, the highly positive results that come from tight and permanent cooperation against the criminal drug traffic, can be appreciated.

'The fifth horseman'

Speaking before the International Conference on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna, Austria in October 1973, Lt. Col. Manuel A. Noriega, then head of the National Guard's G-2, outlined his view of the philosophy and doctrine required in the battle against narcotics. Excerpts follow.

. . . Intoxication is a form of collective and individual suicide, that in our time has acquired an increasingly catastrophic character. . . . Humanity has had a painful existence over the millennia. Hunger, plagues, wars, have decimated cities and natural disasters have plunged whole civilizations into the deep. . . . But never have we seen disasters like those that confront us in our times. . . .

As hunger, the plague, war, and death are the first four horsemen, drugs could well be the fifth horseman of the apocalypse foretold by the prophet. The characteristics of this tragedy produced by the use and abuse of drugs are its universality and its recent fabulous increase. . . . Today, no area in the world is immune to the damage done by the abuse of drugs. Such is the universality of the problem. The fact that the users tend to get younger by the day, demonstrates the nature of the problem.

The third horseman of the apocalypse, on his gallop over the known old world, spread the plague from the steppes of Mongolia to the resting place of the caravans of the noisy metropolis. . . . The devastation caused by the black plague surpasses the limits of imagination. The fields are destroyed, nothing is planted, and nothing is reaped. . . . Crisis and misery are conducive to plundering, beggarmdom, crime, and prostitution. . . . Between 1250 and 1346, humanity saw the greatest scourge it has suffered before the last two world wars. After these quarrels and the Vietnam War, which was a backlash of the last world war, humanity has started to suffer the scourge of drugs.

Every consumer of heroin or other "hard" drugs is a potential delinquent. He steals, falsifies, prostitutes himself, and kills. . . . It is a proven fact that drug addicts take part in the growing violence within our society. Urban terrorism,

the hijacking of airplanes, the attacks against innocent persons under the shelter of internal or international political disputes, carried out under the influence of, or motivated by, stimulants and drugs, are as deadly and dangerous as automatic guns.

The gallop of this fifth horseman is not slow as was the era of the plague on the immense steppes. The drug addict travels in rapid turbo jets. It is a scientifically proven fact that those using drugs are always trying to attract others, especially minors. The consumers of illicit intoxicating drugs are traffickers or criminal inducers. Every drug addict is a burden to his family and to society. None is a producer in any honest paid activity. The propaganda spread by drug addicts who call themselves artists, that drugs stimulate their creative capacity, is proven false by the fact that no important work of art has been produced by a drug addict. . . .

The social damage caused by a drug addict is evident. The philosophy that claims that "what I put into my body is my own business," is refuted by the fact that all penal codes condemn this type of suicide, which slowly but inexorably kills its victim. It has been demonstrated that the so-called "hard" drugs, like LSD, heroin, and cocaine, are genetically harmful to humans. All those who use these drugs have to be bold, sick, or ignorant, given the extraordinary risks involved. There is no other rational way to explain this phenomenon. The principal toxic effect from the use of drugs is the permanent damage to the brain. . . .

Finally, apart from the damage to the consumer, the drug is an element of corruption and an incentive to crime. The enormous profit derived from the illicit drug traffic is used to corrupt the authorities, including those in charge of the fight against this criminal activity. . . .

We are facing, at present, a grave crisis in our institutions, our customs, in living together, and in the human existence. . . . We [in Panama] are actors participating in a process of deep transformation of reality in our country. We want to supersede our present situation of injustice and dependency through integration and development. The general well-being, the objective of social justice, can only be achieved by increasing production with the creative efforts of the collective.

We have not elaborated a political theory. We are working on a national popular experience. Our struggle has made us arrive at three convictions: Political existence has to be built as the projection of a more profound dimension of intellectual life. Without knowledge, there cannot be capability. There are no unsolvable problems, only incapable people. State and law are not aims, they are but simple tasks or occupations of the human vocation for culture, liberty, and justice. We in Panama have created a new state along these essential lines. Our third conviction is the existence of absolute values, superior and prior to the law of historical contingencies. We believe in a universal morality, capable of influencing a universal peace. For man to live in dignity, peace is needed. There is no peace without the partnership of authority

and justice. The law must respond to ethics, internal or international politics to morality, and governing to prudence.

We are confronting the challenge of a universal problem that gravely affects our human identity. . . .

In our battle, no country or institution dedicated to the best, be it church, school, civic organization, or communication media can isolate or declare themselves neutral. Isolation is no immunization and neutrality can be complicity with crime. Ideological conceptions and forms of government are temporary because they can be perfected. On the other hand, in the human being, and in humanity, notwithstanding its succession in time and space, it is something permanent. Our struggle is in defense of life of man and the destiny of humanity. . . .

. . . Because of the fabulous illicit profits and the modalities of present communication, and the drug trade has the characteristics of a great multinational corporation that utilizes all the resources offered by corruption, which are infinite. We shall now refer to drugs and their history. . . .

. . . Before the 18th century the vice of smoking opium was practically unknown in China. In the decade of 1830, opium became the nucleus of exports, carried by the Portuguese through Macao and by the British. . . . The British East India Company held the monopoly of this poisonous commerce. The Chinese Emperor tried to end this criminal traffic in view of the effect of the drug on the morale of his people. Then started the "Opium War." British hypocrisy explained that they did not declare the war because of the opium trade, that it was because of the isolation of the Emperor in denying the receipt of the ambassadors of His British Majesty.

The British Royal Navy bombarded the Chinese coast and forced the Chinese to sign the "Treaty of Nanking" in August of 1842, aboard a British warship. The principal clauses of the treaty established the opening of five ports, Canton, Amoy, Fuchow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, for residence of English merchants; extraterritorial areas for consular agents; the concession of Hong Kong to Great Britain; and China's compensation to the British for the confiscated opium. Steam navigation increased the drug traffic. . . .

History shows that drugs have been used by leaders as a weapon to weaken the people they tried to dominate, to corrupt their authorities and for the illicit enrichment of traffickers who operated legally or illegally. This gun-based diplomacy caused China to be dominated by the soldiers, merchants, and foreign missionaries. The opium traffic produced millions of drug addicts as it weakened the Chinese people. From 1842 to 1848, China imported 233,000 tons of opium. In 1906 the Shanghai Commissions estimated that 15 million Chinese smoked the drug. At the start of the 19th century, North American sailing ships carried Turkish and Persian opium to China. . . .

The opium traffic was a decisive factor in the rapid development of the economy and the expansion of the United States of America in Asia. In 1839, just before the opium

war, Russel & Co., a North American corporation, occupied third place in the importation of this drug from India into China. Great families of New England consolidated their fortunes based on opium. The accumulated profits in this traffic served to finance the construction of the railways that opened the route to the West. . . .

Opium, together with other drugs, constitutes the weapon of a species of genocide in which the victims pay to have themselves killed.

So, as in the past, drugs were used for colonial conquest and imperialistic expansion. Their use was tolerated among the racial minorities because drugs reduce its victims to almost total powerlessness. Heroin extended into the black and Puerto Rican ghettos. The criminal organization that handled and still handles its traffic, started operations as a great corporation. At the end of the seventies (sic), the drug reached the residences of the rich and powerful, whose daughters and sons doped themselves. And in Indochina, the army that was supposed to fight in defense of the democratic ideals and the interests of the Empire, was cut down by drugs.

In gravity, as measured by rooted corruption, opium was followed by cocaine, an alkaloid derived and extracted from the coca plant which grows in Peru, Bolivia and other countries of South America. . . .

In the era of the Spanish conquest, the operator of gold mines who imposed forced labor on the Indians, delivered them rations of coca leaves, instead of food. The population of the ancient Inca Empire which was calculated at 10 million inhabitants was reduced to less than 2 million. In the Potosi mines alone, 150 Indians died every day. Coca was then a state monopoly.

. . . Let us refer now, briefly, to those drugs of chemical origin and the vast range of psychotropic agents known as psychedelics that in a few years converted drug addiction from rare clinic cases into a problem of the masses, with a double purpose: destroy the society they repudiate, and destroy themselves. . . .

The masses doped with LSD and other psychotropics, also have their apostle, Timothy Leary, a North American, who in an interview made by the BBC in 1967 said: "Within the next 15 years our Supreme Court will smoke marijuana. It is inevitable, because the students in our best universities are doing it now."

The psychedelic revolution does not only propose to change society, but also human nature: "We will change the predominant conscience in order to change the world. When the use of drugs is universal, we will change the world."

The followers mobilized by Leary and LSD abandoned their homes and the use of soap, they let their hair and fingernails grow, talked of love and their cult to flowers. The first thing that the apostle offered was unlimited sexual freedom. . . .

The crime consisted in corruption and destroying a generation of pathetically non-cultural individuals who rebelled against culture and the corrupting system of their elders, but

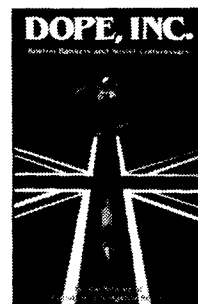
they did not replace it with something morally superior which is the purpose of all constructive revolutions. All revolutions, when positive, entail a moral purpose. The "psychedelic revolution" has only brought suffering to humanity, especially to the youth which should be happy and healthy in order to build a better world.

Youth must rebel against injustice, against tyranny, against what is bad; it must have battle-ready moral strength. But the scientific facts have proven that the role of narcotics has been to tame and destroy our youth. . . .

. . . The routes and means of the international drug traffic are known and however great the power of organized crime, the powers of the states and the people united and mobilized in a joint action of vital defense, can liquidate that universal menace. . . .

For a preventive action we would have to coordinate the task of education with that of vigilance over public spectacles and programming of massive media, such as television and movies because in exalting violence and pornography we are stimulating the use of drugs. . . .

The medical treatment for the recovery of drug addicts is a technical question. . . . The fundamental criterion is that a drug addict is not only a sick person and a passive element in the economy of the country, but also an actively contagious agent and a potential delinquent.



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