

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 384

Approved June 26, 1980

WHEREAS, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran produced over 1,500 metric tons of opium last year, more than double the amount just three years ago, and

WHEREAS, Approximately 1,000 of those tons will be sold on the international market, including the United States, and

WHEREAS, The political turmoil in those three countries has severely limited the ability of their governments to respond to the problems, and

WHEREAS, Heroin addiction in Rhode Island has increased in the past year and the purity of heroin on Rhode Island's streets has reportedly increased, and

WHEREAS, United States Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti predicts that Providence and other Northeast urban centers face a flood of cheap, potent heroin and a resultant increase in heroin addiction, and

WHEREAS, Heroin addiction is one of the most destructive problems ever encountered in the United States, creating street crime, moral decay and death,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence urges the federal government to take all possible steps to end this horror, including increased funding for drug prevention and drug addiction programs, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Federal Government increase the activities of the Drug Enforcement Administration so as to stop the flow of heroin into the United States, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Attorney General Civiletti, President Carter and all members of the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation.

Councilman Snowden (By Request)

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUN 19 1980

READ AND PASSED

Ralph L. ... PRES.
Joan M. ... CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

Vincent ...

JUN 26 1980

July 2, 1980

President Jimmy Carter
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President,

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution Number 384, transmitted to the City Council by Councilman Kenneth E. Snowden, having been approved by His Honor the Mayor, the same being self explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Rose M. Mendonca,
City Clerk.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
Washington, D.C. 20537

JUL 22 1980

Ms. Rose M. Mendonca
City Clerk
Department of the City Clerk
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Ms. Mendonca:

Your recent letter to the President of the United States was referred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Your letter transmitted a copy of Resolution No. 384 which states in part "Be it further resolved, that the Federal Government increase the activities of the Drug Enforcement Administration so as to stop the flow of heroin into the United States..."

DEA shares your concern regarding the impending threat of increased trafficking of Southwest Asian heroin into the United States. For the first time in more than 3½ years, the heroin purity indicator has moved upward indicating an increase in the overall availability of heroin in the United States.

Throughout 1979, Western Europe served as a "sponge," absorbing the increased production of Southwest Asian heroin production. Despite sincere attempts by the European Government to control this problem, the situation has continued to worsen. It is feared that the European market will soon be saturated, leading to increased trafficking of Southwest Asian heroin into the United States.

Given the magnitude of these possible developments, the question then becomes, "What plans are there for coping with this new presence and accelerating problem?" Unfortunately, there are no easy answers.



The United States Government has developed initiatives to attack the Southwest Asian heroin problem. The Administration is making the Southwest Asian heroin effort a high priority and is coordinating efforts of the Departments of Justice, State, Treasury, Defense, and Health and Human Services.

On February 28, 1980, President Carter and Attorney General Civiletti hosted approximately 120 law enforcement officials including all State Attorneys General and several police chiefs and prosecutors. At this meeting, a 5-point program addressing the threat of Southwest Asian heroin was discussed with these enforcement officials and their cooperation and participation were encouraged.

DEA has established the Special Action Office/Southwest Asian heroin. SAO/SWA, as this office is known, was established to meet the imposing threat of renewed heroin production, transshipment, and trafficking in and from Europe, the Middle East, and parts of Southwest Asia's opium producing countries. SAO/SWA will address this serious situation on both the European and North American continents in a coordinated and directed high-priority enforcement effort.

DEA will continue to place a high priority on intelligence and enforcement activities - internationally and domestically - and is fully committed to reducing the availability of Southwest Asian heroin in the United States. The total efforts of all concerned U.S. and European elements, however, can only be fully effective if these efforts, along with those of Pakistani and Afghan officials, result in increased narcotics control at the source.

I hope the above information will be of value to you.

Sincerely,



Peter B. Bensinger
Administrator

EDWARD P. BEARD
2d DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT EDUCATION

CHAIRMAN:
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR STANDARDS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2735

DISTRICT OFFICE:
307 POST OFFICE ANNEX
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02901
(401) 528-4861

August 20, 1980

Mrs. Rose Mendonca
City Clerk
Providence City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mrs. Mendonca:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter I received from Mr. Peter B. Bensinger, Administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration relative to the City Council Resolution 384.

I trust the members of the Council will find it responsive to their concerns.

Sincerely,



Edward P. Beard
Member of Congress

EPB:JDR/mp
Enclosure

JUL 29 1980

The Honorable
Edward P. Beard
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Beard:

This is in response to your recent letter to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which forwarded a letter from your constituent Ms. Rose M. Mendonca of the Providence, Rhode Island City Council. In her letter, Ms. Mendonca transmitted a copy of Resolution No. 384 which states in part "Be it further resolved that the Federal Government increase the activities of the Drug Enforcement Administration so as to stop the flow of heroin into the United States..."

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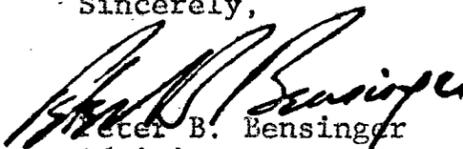
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I trust the above information will be of value to you in responding to Ms. Mendonca. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,


Peter B. Bensinger
Administrator