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REMARKS

BY

C. EVERETT KOOP, M.D., Sc.D.

SURGEON GENERAL

OF THE

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PRESENTED AT THE CLOSING SESSION OF

THE SURGEON GENERAL'S WORKSHOP ON DRUNK DRIVING

DECEMBER 16, 1988

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OPENING COMMENTS

EVERYTHING THAT IS PRESENTED AT THIS FINAL SESSION IS TO BE CONSIDERED AS A PRELIMINARY REPORT. THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS MEETING WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 15, 1989\* TO ALLOW INTERESTED PARTIES TO PRESENT IN WRITING THEIR POINTS OF VIEW TO ME AND THE VARIOUS EXPERT PANEL CHAIRPERSONS.

THIS PRIVILEGE IS, OF COURSE, EXTENDED TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS AS WELL.

NO FINAL REPORT OF THIS WORKSHOP WILL BE SENT TO THE PUBLISHER BEFORE FEBRUARY 28, 1989.

IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT YOU PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT GET A PRE-PUBLICATION DRAFT UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE.

YOU WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE LATER THIS AFTERNOON OF HEARING FROM DIANE STEED, ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT), AND LORAN ARCHER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND

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\*DATE LATER REVISED TO JANUARY 31, 1989 FOR SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS.

ALCOHOLISM (NIAAA), WHO IS SPEAKING FOR ENOCH GORDIS, DIRECTOR, NIAAA, AND FREDERICK GOODWIN, ADMINISTRATOR, ALCOHOL, DRUG ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (ADAMHA). THEY WILL SPEAK FROM THEIR SPECIFIC POSITIONS OF EXPERTISE. I WILL THEN RESPOND TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEVERAL PANELS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN COVERED BY THEM.

AFTER THAT, I WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF HOW SO MANY PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS MOUNTED AN EFFORT TO KEEP THIS WORKSHOP FROM HAPPENING.

AS MR. BUSH WOULD SAY "STAY TUNED." I'LL BE BACK SHORTLY.

AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, PRINTED COPIES OF THE BACKGROUND PAPERS, SIGNIFICANT ADDENDA, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN BOOKLET FORM.

IT HAS BEEN MY CUSTOM TO KEEP THE PARTICIPANTS AND OTHER INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS APPRISED OF INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN AND OTHER ACTIVITIES 6 MONTHS AND 1 YEAR AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE BOOKLET.

ON SELECTED SUBJECTS IN FORMER WORKSHOPS, ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS  
HAVE ALSO BEEN PROVIDED TO PARTICIPANTS.

I CAN PERSONALLY OVERSEE THE FIRST SUCH REPORT AND WILL BE SURE  
THAT THE OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE  
SUPPORT TO MY SUCCESSOR IN THIS REGARD.

[ BREAK FOR COMMENTS BY OTHER PRESENTERS AND PRESENTATION OF  
RECOMMENDATIONS BY EXPERT PANEL CHAIRPERSONS ]

CLOSING COMMENTS

I'M CERTAIN THERE ARE NO REASONABLE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT DRUNK DRIVING SHOULD BE TOLERATED. YET PEOPLE SHY AWAY FROM ANY DISCUSSION DEEPER THAN "ISN'T IT TERRIBLE." LEADERSHIP IS HARD TO COME BY BECAUSE IT IS A LONELY POSITION. ALTHOUGH THIS WORKSHOP HAD THE ENTHUSIASTIC REPRESENTATION OF FIVE CABINET DEPARTMENTS IN PLANNING, ONLY ONE CABINET SECRETARY - DR. OTIS BOWEN - APPEARED AT THIS MEETING.

IT IS NEVER AN EASY ASSIGNMENT TO RESPOND TO WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS BECAUSE THE TIME IS SHORT, THE NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS GREAT, AND THE SURGEON GENERAL HAS NEITHER BUDGET NOR POWER - SAVE THE POWER OF MORAL SUASION.

I AM PLEASED THAT JEFF MILLER\* AND LORAN ARCHER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RESPOND TO YOUR DELIBERATIONS AND, BELIEVE ME, I AM GRATEFUL TO THEM. THEY HAVE INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH US AND YOU HAVE HEARD WHAT A RESOURCE THEY ARE FOR YOU.

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\*JEFFREY MILLER, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, SUBSTITUTING FOR DIANE STEED.

I FIND MYSELF IN THE CLEAN-UP POSITION AND SINCE THE OTHER RESPONDENTS AND I HAVE ALREADY CONFERRED, I WILL TRY NOT TO BE REPETITIOUS. I SHOULD ADD THESE PAGES ARE WRITTEN IN MY OWN ILLEGIBLE HANDWRITING AND SERVE ONLY TO REMIND ME OF WHAT I THOUGHT DURING THE NIGHT BETWEEN CAT NAPS AND THEN LATER THIS MORNING. SO BEAR WITH ME IF I STUMBLE!

I WILL BRIEFLY MENTION EACH PANEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND THEN PROCEED TO MORE GENERAL REMARKS THAT COVER ALL THE PANELS. SINCE THE SUBJECT OF MANY OF THE PANELS ARE CROSSCUTTING, GENERIC REMARKS COVERING ALL PANELS SEEM APPROPRIATE. AND OBVIOUSLY I WILL PROPERLY REFER RECOMMENDATIONS WITH A NARROW FOCUS TO APPROPRIATE AGENCIES.

#### PRICING AND AVAILABILITY

MR. ARCHER HAS COVERED MUCH OF THIS AND I WILL HAVE SOME FINAL REMARKS THAT COVER ALL THE PANELS.

I SHOULD SAY WHEN RECOMMENDATIONS ARE SENT, ALL WILL BE SENT BECAUSE OF THE OVERLAPS AND CROSSCUTTING OF SOME ISSUES AND PANELS.

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

I AM REMINDED OF THE FIRST, AND AT TIMES FALTERING, STEPS TAKEN 25 YEARS AGO IN REFERENCE TO TOBACCO ADVERTISING. I'M NOT BEING CRITICAL; THAT'S A COMPLIMENT.

IN REFERENCE TO THE RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS YOU HAVE ALREADY HEARD FROM MR. ARCHER, I WILL DISCUSS THEM WITH MR. ARCHER AND DR. GORDIS OF NIAAA, AND WITH DR. FRED GOODWIN, ADMINISTRATOR OF ADAMHA, AS WELL AS GETTING THEM EXPOSURE IN APPROPRIATE MEDIA CATERING TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

I WILL PRESENT THE PANEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO DR. JAMES MASON, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC), FOR A CRITIQUE FOR FEASIBILITY ON THE PART OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND REQUEST THAT HE REPORT ON CURRENT AND FUTURE PLANS OF THE CDC THAT MAY ADDRESS SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. I WILL ALSO ASK FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE CDC IN WIDE DISSEMINATION OF THE PANEL'S FINDINGS.

I WILL REPORT TO THE PARTICIPANTS BY A MECHANISM PREVIOUSLY NOTED.

EDUCATION

THIS ENDEAVOR IS PROBABLY WHERE I CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVE AND I PLEDGE MYSELF TO THIS EFFORT BOTH NOW AS YOUR SURGEON GENERAL AND WHEN I LEAVE THIS OFFICE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT

I WILL SEEK APPROPRIATE COUNSEL REGARDING THE BROAD DISSEMINATION OF YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THOSE AGENCIES MOST LIKELY TO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY AND/OR THE ABILITY TO ACT.

I WELCOME THE SUGGESTIONS AND ADVICE OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THESE TWO PANELS.



TRANSPORTATION

I WON'T ADD TO JEFF MILLER'S PRESENTATION.

INJURY CONTROL AND TREATMENT

I WILL UNDERTAKE TO DELIVER TO ORGANIZED MEDICINE BY APPROPRIATE MEANS - PERSONAL AND BY TRANSMITTAL - YOUR CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. I WILL BE CONTACTING THESE ORGANIZATIONS EARLY ON:

- o AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION - ESPECIALLY THE STUDENT SECTOR
- o NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION - FOR SOME OF THE ETHNIC CONSIDERATIONS
- o AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
- o AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
- o AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE
- o AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
- o AMERICAN TRAUMA SOCIETY

AND OTHERS THAT WILL COME TO MIND OR BE SUGGESTED BY YOU.

YOUTH AND OTHER SPECIAL POPULATIONS

EVERYTHING I SAID ABOUT THE PREVIOUS TWO PANELS APPLIES HERE BUT APPROPRIATE CONTACT WILL BE MADE WITH:

- o NATIONAL PTA
- o NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION
- o THE VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
- o AND THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

MY WORK WITH THESE GROUPS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS REGARDING AIDS GIVES ME EASY ACCESS AND READY CREDIBILITY.

BUT ALSO: BOY SCOUTS, GIRL SCOUTS, CAMP FIRE GIRLS, 4-H CLUBS, AND OTHERS.

CITIZEN ADVOCACY

I NOTE THE CROSSCUTTING NATURE OF THE CONCERNS OF THIS PANEL.

I WILL CONVENE A GROUP (AND WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PANEL) TO CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION OF THE 501-

C3 TYPE TO ACT AS AN UMBRELLA FOR A COALITION TO BE SUPPORTED BY DUES - TO SET ITS OWN AGENDA.

I WILL PROVIDE FUNDS TO PAY LEGAL FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES TO GET THIS OFF THE GROUND.

I WILL SEEK TO PUT THIS NEW ORGANIZATION IN TOUCH WITH POSSIBLE ONGOING SOURCES OF FUNDING. BELIEVE ME, THIS IS AN EFFECTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE TOOL, JUDGING FROM OUR POST-WORKSHOP EXPERIENCES WITH THE ORGAN PROCUREMENT FOR TRANSPLANTS, CHILD ABUSE, RESOURCE LOCATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, SELF HELP, AND SO ON.

I WILL SEE THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS REACH THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE, BECAUSE WE ALL MUST BE ADVOCATES.

AND NOW FOR SOME COMMENTS THAT APPLY TO ALL PANELS - I WILL:

- o USE MY RELATIONSHIP WITH ORGANIZED MEDICINE TO GIVE THE FINAL PRODUCT OF THIS WORKSHOP THE BROADEST APPLICATIONS.

- SEE THAT A COPY OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT GOES TO EACH SENATOR AND EACH CONGRESSMAN WITH AN APPROPRIATE COVERING LETTER FROM ME.
  
- DO THE SAME FOR THE CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE VARIOUS CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES THAT COULD HAVE A LEGISLATIVE INTEREST IN THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.
  
- PRESENT THESE FINDINGS IN DETAIL AND WITH ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH OFFICERS AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING IN THE SPRING.
  
- SEEK AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY HEALTH OFFICERS IN THE SAME MANNER.
  
- PERSONALLY SIT DOWN WITH THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SOON AND WITH THE NEW SURGEON GENERAL EVENTUALLY AND SOLICIT THEIR PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT BECAUSE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION AND THE NEED FOR ACTION, AND

- o WHEREVER POSSIBLE, I WILL LAY THE BURDEN ON GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PRIVATE AGENCIES, AND ACADEMIA AND SEEK COOPERATION AT EVERY LEVEL.

WHEN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS UNDERWAY, I WILL SEE THAT THE GOVERNORS OF EACH STATE AND TERRITORY RECEIVE THE COMPLETE SET OF DOCUMENTS WITH A COVERING LETTER FROM ME.

NOW FOR A FINAL WORD. STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, THERE ARE A FEW PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THAT WE NOT MEET ON THIS SUBJECT THIS WEEK...OR MAYBE EVER.

I GUESS BY NOW EVERYONE KNOWS OF MY CORRESPONDENCE WITH MR. EDWARD O. FRITTS, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS (THE N.A.B.) INASMUCH AS THE PRESS HAD HIS LETTER TO ME WHEN I RECEIVED MY COPY.

HIS IS A KEY ORGANIZATION, I WON'T DENY THAT. I WANTED HIM AND THE N.A.B. TO BE HERE WITH US. I WANTED EVERYONE TO HEAR THE N.A.B.'s POINT OF VIEW NOT ONLY BECAUSE BROADCASTERS ARE VERY

INFLUENTIAL -- AS WE ALL KNOW -- BUT BECAUSE THEY ALSO HAVE SO MUCH AT STAKE IN THIS ISSUE. HENCE, THEY CERTAINLY HAVE A RIGHT TO BE HERE.

THAT'S WHY I INVITED MR. EDWARD FRITTS. AND THAT'S WHY I ALSO INVITED MR. JOHN O'TOOLE, THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ADVERTISING AGENCIES, (THE "4-A's,") AND MR. DEWITT HELM, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL ADVERTISERS, THE PEOPLE WHO ARE THE CLIENTS OF THE "4-A's."

BUT ALL THREE DECLINED. MR. O'TOOLE AND MR. HELM SUGGESTED THAT OUR WORKSHOP LACKED "GOOD BALANCE." THEY ALSO SAID THEY HAD VERY LITTLE TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSION THAT WOULD NO DOUBT TAKE PLACE HERE. AND EACH PERSON SUGGESTED I CANCEL THE WORKSHOP.

I WAS SORRY TO GET THEIR REPLIES. BUT, IF I MAY SAY SO, I THINK THEIR COMPLAINT AND SUGGESTION ARE QUITE UNFAIR. NOW, IT IS TRUE THAT ONE MESSAGE THAT MIGHT BE HEARD AT THIS WORKSHOP IS THIS ONE; THAT, ALCOHOL CONTRIBUTES TO INJURY AND PREMATURE DEATH.

THAT'S A TROUBLING MESSAGE, TO BE SURE, AND ONE'S INSTINCTS MIGHT WELL BE, FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING, TO "KILL THE MESSENGER" ... IN THIS CASE, DISCREDIT THIS WORKSHOP OR HAVE IT CANCELLED. IF SO, THEN MR. O'TOOLE'S AND MR. HELM'S STRATEGY DIDN'T WORK.

HOWEVER, THE LETTER TO ME FROM MR. FRITTS OF THE N.A.B. WAS A BIT MORE UNSETTLING BECAUSE IT CONTAINED THIS OBSERVATION:

"AT BEST," WROTE MR. FITTS, "THIS WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED TO POLITICIZE THE EMOTIONAL TRAGEDY OF DRUNK DRIVING. AT WORST, IT IS A TOTAL ABUSE OF THE POLICY-SETTING PROCESS."

IN ADDITION TO BEING SURPRISED AT THAT UNFORTUNATE CHOICE OF WORDS, I WAS TAKEN ABACK BY THAT OBSERVATION, SINCE -- OVER THE PAST 7 YEARS -- I HAVE PERSONALLY CONVENED AND CONDUCTED OVER A DOZEN WORKSHOPS, SEVERAL AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT REAGAN, DEALING WITH SUCH DIFFICULT ISSUES AS...

- o ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION
- o DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- o THE NEEDS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES; AND
- o THE ROLE OF THE SELF-HELP MOVEMENT IN PUBLIC HEALTH

AND I'VE CONDUCTED WORKSHOPS ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AND PUBLIC HEALTH... AND ON THE CARE OF CHILDREN WHO ARE BORN WITH AIDS, AND SO ON.

NONE OF THESE WORKSHOPS WAS CALLED TO "POLITICIZE AN EMOTIONAL TRAGEDY" ... AND ALL THESE WORKSHOPS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION.

AS WILL THIS ONE, I AM SURE.

I DON'T WISH TO DWELL ON THE N.A.B.'s CRITICISM BECAUSE IT MAY BE NOTHING MORE THAN AN EARLY AND PREDICTABLE PHASE IN THE INDUSTRY'S LEARNING PROCESS.

THAT'S BEEN THE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM THE BROADCASTING AND THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRIES. WE OBVIOUSLY MUST WAIT FOR THEM TO OFFER SOMETHING MORE HELPFUL.

BUT WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT WILL HAPPEN? IF HISTORY IS ANY GUIDE, THE CHANCES MIGHT BE SLIM.



I HOPE THAT'S NOT THE CASE, BECAUSE THE HISTORY OF SMOKING AND HEALTH IS NOT ENCOURAGING.

I'VE REVIEWED THE WAY THE TOBACCO, BROADCASTING, AND ADVERTISING INDUSTRIES BEHAVED AROUND THE TIME MY PREDECESSOR, THE LATE DR. LUTHER TERRY, RELEASED THE FIRST SMOKING AND HEALTH REPORT 25 YEARS AGO. FROM THAT REVIEW I CAN SEE THAT, EVEN AT THIS EARLY STAGE OF DISCUSSION, THERE ARE ALREADY SIMILARITIES OF BEHAVIOR.

AND THAT'S A SHAME. I THINK WE'D ALL PREFER THAT THESE INDUSTRIES -- AND THEIR CHOSEN LEADERS -- WOULD HEED THE OFT-QUOTED WISDOM OF GEORGE SANTAYANA, WHO WROTE ...

"THOSE WHO CANNOT REMEMBER THE PAST  
ARE CONDEMNED TO REPEAT IT."

I CAN TELL YOU THAT I, FOR ONE, WOULD RATHER NOT REPEAT THE DIFFICULT TIMES WE HAD IN THE PAST. I DO NOT THINK THE CONFRONTATIONS WERE ALWAYS NECESSARY OR FRUITFUL.

BUT SOME ASPECTS OF THE PAST ARE WORTH NOTING AND WORTH EMULATING.

FOR EXAMPLE, 25 YEARS AGO THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF MANY CITIZENS' GROUPS AND A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, EMBARKED UPON A SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM OF RESEARCH INTO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SMOKING AND HEALTH.

AT THE SAME TIME, AND IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY, WE ALSO BEGAN TO LOOK AT THE PUBLIC POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS, AS THEY CAME TO LIGHT.

FROM THAT INFORMATION WE WERE ABLE TO PLAN FOR WAYS TO HELP THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAST OFF THIS HIGH-RISK HEALTH BEHAVIOR: SMOKING. AND THAT MEANT PRINCIPALLY A LONG-RANGE AND UNREMITTING PROGRAM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION. THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED REGARDING THE ISSUE OF SMOKING AND HEALTH. AND CERTAINLY DRINKING AND DRIVING IS HIGH RISK BEHAVIOR AMENABLE TO EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION.

I RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST THAT MR. FITTS, MR. O'TOOLE, AND MR. HELM -- AND THEIR COLLEAGUES -- REVIEW THAT HISTORY AS I DID, BECAUSE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MAY NOW BE -- IN TERMS OF ALCOHOL -- WHERE WE WERE 25 YEARS AGO IN TERMS OF TOBACCO.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE "NATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING" AND THIS WORKSHOP PROVIDES A PUZZLE NOT EASY TO SOLVE.

THAT WE - THE COMMISSION AND THIS WORKSHOP - HAVE THE SAME PRESUMED GOAL SHOULD BE OBVIOUS. THAT WE SHOULD STAND TOGETHER MAKES SENSE.

YET MR. ADDUCI - CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION - CLEVERLY SUGGESTED TO ME IN A LETTER OF NOVEMBER 28, 1988, THAT " YOU MAY BE CONSIDERING THE FOLLOWING ALONG WITH OTHER OPTIONS."

ONE OPTION WAS TO "DISREGARD THE VIEWS AND POSITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS"... ANOTHER WAS TO POSTPONE THIS MEETING AND A THIRD WAS TO "NOTIFY ALL PANELISTS THAT (MY) OFFICE HAD OVERLOOKED OR WAS UNAWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE DOT HAD GIVEN THE NATIONAL COMMISSION A \$100,000 GRANT TO DO A 16-MONTH ASSESSMENT OF ITS INITIATIVES."

AFTER FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE WITH ME AND CONVERSATIONS WITH MY STAFF, IT WAS AGREED THAT MR. ADDUCI AND I WOULD LET NO LIGHT BE SEEN BETWEEN US AS WE STOOD SIDE BY SIDE IN THIS EFFORT TO REDUCE THE CARNAGE ON OUR HIGHWAYS AND STREETS. AND THAT EITHER MR. ADUCCI OR HIS PROGRAM DIRECTOR, DR. GRANT, WOULD SPEAK AT THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION.

THIS SEEMED VERY APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF THE PUBLISHED REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON "YOUTH DRIVING WITHOUT IMPAIRMENT," EXCERPTS OF WHICH BOTH DR. BOWEN AND I READ THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY AT THE PLENARY AND COMMENTED UPON FAVORABLY.

YET WHEN THE CONFIRMATORY LETTER WAS FAXED TO ME ON THE 13TH - THE DAY BEFORE THIS WORKSHOP OPENED - THERE WAS A QUID PRO QUO. IN RETURN FOR THAT SPEECH, WE WOULD NOT RELEASE CONCLUSIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS OF TWO OF OUR PANELS UNTIL THE COMMISSION HAD COMPLETED ITS ASSESSMENT PROJECT - A MINIMUM OF 16 MONTHS FROM WHENEVER THEY START.

I THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO YOU AND, THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION REFUSED TO SPEAK AT THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION.

I THOUGHT THE PROPOSED DELAY - 16 MONTHS - WAS PARTICULARLY INAPPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE NATIONAL BEER WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS, WITH PARTICIPATING LEGAL COUNSEL, IN THE MOST INTENSE DISCUSSIONS WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND TODAY, REQUESTED ONLY A 45-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOLLOWED BY A 30-DAY DELAY BEFORE FINAL PUBLICATION.

AS FOR ME, I INTEND TO IGNORE THOSE WHO WOULD LYNCH OR EXECUTE A FIRST OFFENDER IN DRUNK DRIVING, JUST AS I WOULD IGNORE THOSE WHO SAY THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN PROVEN THAT ALCOHOL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPAIRED DRIVING.

I INTEND TO ASSUME WHAT LEADERSHIP ROLE I MAY BETWEEN THESE TWO EXTREMES AND, AS I HAVE WITH OTHER ISSUES, TRANSMIT WHAT ENERGY, ENTHUSIASM AND CREDIBILITY I HAVE TO THIS WAR AGAINST IMPAIRED DRIVING.

I WILL THINK OF LOTS MORE AND KEEP YOU POSTED.

THANKS TO AMY BARKIN, STEVE MOORE, AND MANY OTHERS WHO HAVE BROUGHT US THIS FAR WITH THE WORKSHOP AND THANK YOU, SUSAN LOCKHART, FOR ALL YOU WILL DO WITH ME AS WE FACE THIS PROBLEM IN THE NEW YEAR.

AND THANK ALL OF YOU FOR COMING. HAVE A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON AND ALL THAT'S GOOD IN THE NEW YEAR.