



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

7 JUL 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR Secretaries of the Military Departments  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers

Consistent with guidance from the President of the United States, it is the policy of the Department of Defense to encourage military members to submit themselves voluntarily for treatment and rehabilitation under the Drug Identification and Treatment Program of the Department of Defense.

Accordingly, evidence developed by, or as a direct or indirect result of urinalyses administered for the purpose of identifying drug users may not be used in any disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or as a basis for supporting, in whole or part, an administrative discharge under other than honorable conditions. Similarly, a military member may not be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or to administrative action leading to a discharge under other than honorable conditions for drug use solely because he has volunteered for treatment under the Drug Identification and Treatment Program of the Department of Defense.

This policy does not exempt military members from disciplinary or other legal consequences resulting from violations of other applicable laws and regulations, including those laws and regulations relating to the sale of drugs or the possession of significant quantities of drugs for sale to others, if the disciplinary action is supported by evidence not attributed to a urinalysis administered for identification of drug abusers and not attributable solely to their volunteering for treatment under the Drug Identification and Treatment Program of the Department of Defense.

This policy is effective immediately and steps should be taken to insure its complete understanding and immediate compliance within the Armed Forces.

*David Patrick*