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OPENING STATEMENT

BY

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

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Drugs
Guidelines

HEARINGS ON PROJECT MKULTRA
1202 DIRKSEN BLDG.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1977

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is meeting today and is joined by the Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research chaired by Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Senator Richard Schweiker of Pennsylvania. Senator Hathaway and Senator Chafee are members of both Committees. We are to hear testimony from the Director of Central Intelligence, Admiral Stansfield Turner, and from other Agency witnesses on issues concerning new documents supplied to the Committee in the last week on drug testing conducted by the Central Intelligence Agency. It should be made clear from the outset that in general, we are focusing on events that happened over 12 or as long as 25 year ago. It should be emphasized that the programs that are of greatest concern have stopped and that we are reviewing these past events in order to better understand what statutes and other guidelines might be necessary to prevent the recurrence of such abuses in the future. We also need to know and understand what is now being done by the CIA in the field of behavioral research to be certain that no current abuses are occurring.

I want to commend Admiral Turner for his full cooperation with this Committee and with the Subcommittee on Health in recognizing that this issue needed our attention. The CIA has assisted our Committees and staffs in their investigative efforts and in arriving at remedies which will serve the best interests of our country.

The reappearance of reports of the abuses of the Drug Testing Program and reports of other previously unknown drug programs and projects for behavioral control underline the necessity for effective oversight procedures both in the Executive Branch and in the Congress. The Select Committee on Intelligence has

been working very closely with President Carter, Vice President Mondale, and Admiral Turner and his associates in developing basic concepts for statutory guidelines which will govern all activities of the intelligence agencies of the United States. In fact, it is my expectation that the President will soon announce his decisions on how he has decided the intelligence agencies of the United States shall be organized. This Committee will be working closely with the President and Admiral Turner in placing this new structure under the law and to develop effective oversight procedures.

It is clear that effective oversight requires that information must be full and forthcoming. Full and timely information is obviously necessary if the Committee and the public is to be confident that any transgressions can be dealt with quickly and forcefully.

One purpose of this hearing is to give the Committee and the public an understanding of what new information has been discovered that adds to the knowledge already available from previous Church or Kennedy inquiries, and to hear the reasons why these documents were not available to the Church and Kennedy Committees. It is also the purpose of this hearing to address the issues raised by any additional illegal or improper activities that have emerged from the files and to develop remedies to prevent such improper activities from occurring again.

Finally, there is an obligation on the part of both this Committee and the CIA to make every effort to help those individuals or institutions that may have been harmed by any of these improper or illegal activities. I am sure that Admiral Turner will work with this Committee to see that this will be done.