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Who'll Fight the Drug Pushers? One of the most bitter bureaucratic fights in Washington lately has been over the overlapping jurisdiction of agencies involved in the war against drug smugglers. The Reagan administration so far has resisted suggestions that the troubled Drug Enforcement Administration be stripped of its duties.

As early as the transition period, Reagan intimates were being briefed on the failures of the anti-drug program. William J. Casey, now CIA director, was given a particularly gloomy appraisal of DEA in an eyes-only transition document.

"The Drug Enforcement Administration is generally recognized as a failure," the paper stated. "Its basic approach — to stop drugs at the source — has not worked and cannot work."

The analysts recommended instead a six-point program that would, they claimed, save the government \$200 million a year, and be more effective against the narcotics traffickers. The suggestions included giving back to the Customs Service responsibility for anti-smuggling efforts employing the Internal Revenue Service to attack illicit drug profits through the tax laws and using diplomatic pressure on nations that produce drugs or are transit points in the international traffic.

Dozens of narcotics experts have reportedly been urging the administration to abolish the DEA and return its functions to the FBI, CIA, IRS and Customs. But high-level Justice Department officials inform me that there are no firm plans even to shake up the beleaguered drug agency.