

P406

EMBASSY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF THE BAHAMAS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20037

THE AMBASSADOR

EMB/300/4

30 April, 1987

Con. William Lehman  
2347 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman,

I am aware that the recent certification of The Bahamas by the President under the procedures of P.L.99-570, the Omnibus Anti-Drug Act of 1986, drew criticism from some quarters of the House of Representatives.

I believe that Members of Congress who opposed the certification of The Bahamas are not fully aware of the tremendous efforts being expended by the government and people of The Bahamas to wage a war, with grossly inadequate resources, against a well-equipped and financed international cartel of narcotic criminals.

The drug problem experienced in The Bahamas is not of our own making. Drugs are not produced or refined in The Bahamas. Drug abuse was virtually unknown in The Bahamas before unprincipled traffickers in drugs from North and South America introduced the nefarious substances to our archipelago as they sought to transport their illegal cargoes from source countries in the South to consumer markets in the North.

The Chain of Bahamian islands, largely unprotected and unpopulated, presented an ideal opportunity to criminal traffickers as they lie directly between source and consumer markets.

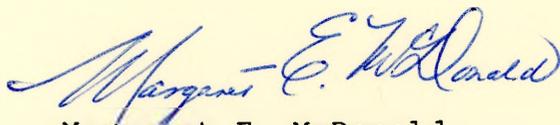
The Bahamas Government has for more than a decade now, attempted to address the massive drug problem unleashed on its unsuspecting populace. Its resources have been stretched beyond its capacity in this regard. New success against the traffickers will only be won if the United States of America continues and expands its cooperative efforts with The Bahamas in the war against illegal drugs.

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The Bahamas Government hopes that the honourable members of the U.S. House of Representatives will give their full support to the joint efforts of our two countries on the drug front.

In this regard, I am enclosing for your information, an Outline of actions taken in The Bahamas both unilaterally and bilaterally with the United States, to wage war on drugs. I would be pleased to discuss these matters with you should you feel that this would prove useful.

Sincerely



Margaret E. McDonald  
Ambassador

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