abandonment of the attempt to work directly with the denial of the alcoholic on a one-to-one basis.

IDENTIFY THE ILLNESS

Instead, the chaplain needs to work with those persons who surround the alcoholic and have a growing concern about his drinking pattern. It is these persons who have significant and sufficient data regarding the alcoholic's growing harmful alcohol dependency. From these data the chaplain is able to get a clear and realistic picture of the individual's drinking pattern. Having gathered these data and having recognized the presence of alcoholism, the chaplain would then proceed as follows:

GATHER THE CONCERNED PERSONS

These persons are chosen because they (1) exercise influence on the identified chemically dependent person, and (2) they possess the data which can identify the presence of alcoholism. With the formation of this group (two, three or more persons) the chaplain can begin a series of intervention training sessions.

INTERVENTION TRAINING OF THE KEY PERSONS

These sessions have two basic goals:

1. The first goal is evaluate these people in two areas:

   A. Do they know enough about the nature of alcoholism to accept the basic facts that the alcoholic is incapable of recognizing the true nature of the disease and, therefore, is unable to seek help voluntarily? At this point the chaplain would present basic information about the psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual symptoms of the disease. Emphasis would be placed on the sincere self-deceptions that victimize the alcoholic. The chaplain would thoroughly describe the nature and effect of defense systems such as rationalizations, projections, and denials. Included here would be explanations of the concepts of blackouts, repression, and euphoric recall which combine to form massive distortions within the alcoholic's memory system.*

   All of this information assists the concerned persons to realize that the alcoholic is out of touch with the reality and severity of the symptoms of the disease. The alcoholic cannot rather than will not seek help. Help must come from the outside... they must intervene.

   B. Are these people emotionally adequate to be interveners? The chaplain needs to be sensitive to the characteristic immobilizing fear that many interveners feel when they think about confronting the alcoholic with the self-destructive drinking behavior. This fear is described in such typical statements as: