

Mr. DOLE. I think generally since the bell has rung, I will ask only a few more short questions.

Certainly you are not advocating any legalizing of possession of marihuana?

Mr. GIORDANO. Absolutely not.

Mr. DOLE. You are not advocating this morning that we relax the controls or reduce the penalties for possession of marihuana?

Mr. GIORDANO. No, sir.

Mr. DOLE. Do you feel, as you have indicated, that the present law has been a deterrent?

Mr. GIORDANO. Yes, it has.

Mr. DOLE. Do you have any areas where you feel perhaps the law could be improved by either making the penalties more stringent or perhaps, as Mr. Roush commented earlier from the prosecution standpoint, making some provision where you wouldn't tag the person with a felony. Do you have any suggestions in that area?

Mr. GIORDANO. No, I don't have any suggestions. Of course, let me say that the penalties of the law are always continually under review by the Bureau and by the Treasury Department, and in fact as I mentioned the law was modified just last year to make parole available to the marihuana trafficker as they felt maybe he would be more susceptible to rehabilitation than the man involved in the heroin traffic. This is something that we will watch now to see what happens as a result of making parole available, will this be beneficial? So, as to the penalties and the law, we are always reviewing it and looking at it, as has Congress the past 15 years.

Mr. DOLE. Thank you very much.

Mr. ROUSH. Thank you. One question. Do you have reliable information on the extent of marihuana use in this country as compared to its use in other countries where there are no penalties for its possession?

Mr. GIORDANO. I don't think that we would be able to give any figures on that. One of the most difficult things—I may help the committee here—is to assess something like marihuana use. In other words, heroin use you can assess. You can tell when a man is using heroin or any narcotic drug. They go through withdrawal and the doctors can tell. There is as yet no medical test to determine whether or not someone has consumed marihuana, smoked it, or otherwise. Incidentally, at the University of Indiana I believe the two doctors who developed the alcohol test are now working on trying to come up with something to determine if you can tell if somebody has used marihuana. So the figures that you would give on marihuana use are rather innocuous. You could count the number of people that said, "I smoked marihuana." There is no way to tell if somebody just let them take a puff, did they smoke two cigarettes, are they smoking it every day; so this is a problem in trying to come up with figures because the figures wouldn't really tell you anything.

Mr. ROUSH. What quantity of marihuana is used in this country for research purposes such as you are describing and is there any evidence of this being diverted to illegal use?

Mr. GIORDANO. We have the figures. It's usually 10 or 12 pounds that we turn over to the various ones that are making the research. They have to report back to us what they use it for; they have to maintain