

Memorandum



Subject Purposes of Upcoming Trip	Date October 4, 1982
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To The Attorney General

From John Roberts *RR*

The upcoming trip to Tokyo, Hong Kong, Macao, Thailand, Pakistan, Rome and Paris is primarily concerned with narcotics trafficking and refugees. The Department is pursuing a wide range of initiatives in these areas domestically (new narcotics law enforcement initiative; immigration legislation) and the trip will permit you to develop and implement an international strategy to complement our domestic efforts in both areas.

The stop in Japan is actually focused on issues other than narcotics and refugees. The major purpose in Japan is to dispel Japanese concerns that the recent commercial theft prosecutions against Japanese companies represent a foreign policy tool directed against Japan. It is important that you indicate to Japanese government and commercial representatives that there is no concerted effort against Japan and that the cases arose in the normal course of law enforcement investigations. In the drug area we will be trying to convince the Japanese to undertake a larger role in assisting Asian countries more directly involved with the problem, such as Thailand and Pakistan. Japanese organized crime (the Yakuza) is a growing problem, and the trip will provide an opportunity to discuss joint Japanese-American efforts against organized crime. Finally, there are several thousand Southeast Asian refugees in Japanese camps, and it will be important to discuss resettlement obligations. The Japanese also want to discuss how the Simpson-Mazzoli legislation will affect Japanese tourists and business travellers to the United States.

In Hong Kong your purpose will be to encourage efforts to end the colony's role as a financial center for drug traffic. The colony is a leading area for money laundering. Asset seizure legislation is being considered that would cripple this activity, and your trip will provide an opportunity to promote such efforts and to discuss our own experience with asset seizure. On the refugee side, Hong Kong just recently adopted a new, deterrent policy toward refugees, and it will be important to assess the impact of this new approach.

Thailand is the core of the trip. On the narcotics front, the Thai government has recently taken an aggressive stance against the warlords in the north who control opium cultivation and trafficking, and our purpose will be to applaud and encourage continuation of this new initiative. You will also visit a crop substitution project and promote that activity. Thailand has indicated reluctance to continue to accept and hold refugees from Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos as resettlement abroad becomes more difficult, and the trip will provide an opportunity to assess their somewhat dramatic threats and communicate our position.

Heroin trafficking and use have skyrocketed in Pakistan, and your trip will serve to focus the attention of the Pakistanis on these problems. You will also have an opportunity to observe the unique difficulties of controlling heroin traffic in the Northwest Frontier areas. Pakistan has taken in millions of Afghan refugees, and it is important to recognize their contributions and determine if problems now surfacing portend any change in their position.

Italy has become a major heroin distribution center with the demise of the French connection, so it is a logical last stop on the trip. The visit will also permit discussions with Italian officials on ways to combat organized crime, which accounts for much of the heroin traffic into the United States.

Paris has been added to the trip at the express request of the State Department. According to State, a visit by you at this time will help solidify an incipient French resolve to go after the growing number of terrorists who operate in France.

cc: Ken Starr
Tom DeCair
✓ Hank Habicht