

total number to over 700. Additionally, Drug Courts are now expanding internationally, underscoring their value around the world.

I am especially glad to hear that some of our Drug Courts' best practices are now being tailored to the needs and values of native communities, which for many years have suffered disproportionately from the scourge of substance abuse. The kinds of programs offered by Drug Courts could play a vital role in breaking the "Iron Triangle" of substance abuse, gangs and crime that trap far too many of our Nation's Native Americans and others in a cycle of poverty and hopelessness.

Next week—from June 1st and 3rd, 2000—the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) will host the 6th Annual NADCP Drug Court Training Conference entitled "Expanding the Vision: The New Drug Court Pioneers." in San Francisco, California. The NADCP expects that this year's drug court conference will be the largest ever, with over 3,000 drug court professionals slated to attend.

This year, six individuals will receive the 2000 NADCP New Pioneers Award. I congratulate and thank each of these six outstanding people. I especially want to recognize an award recipient from my home state of Colorado, the Denver District Attorney, William Ritter, Jr.

The Denver Drug Court is the first—ever drug court system which now handles 75 percent of all drug cases filed in the city and county of Denver. All offenders, with the exception of illegal aliens, those arrested with a companion non-drug felony case or who have two or more prior felony convictions, are handled in this court. Most individuals are assessed within 24 hours of arrest. The pre-trial case managers monitor offenders on bond, while they await entry into the program. Over 8,000 participants have entered the program since it began operations on July 1, 1994.

As the Chairman of the Treasury and General Government Subcommittee, which funds the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), I took the opportunity to visit the Denver Drug Court with ONDCP Director Barry McCaffrey. We met with the Drug Court professionals and observed their judicial procedures. We also saw first-hand how the court's programs have a direct impact on drug-abusing offenders. I believe the Denver Drug Court serves as a role model for the next generation of Drug Court practitioners.

Drug Courts continue to revolutionize the criminal justice system. The strategy behind Drug Courts departs from traditional criminal justice practice by placing non-violent drug abusing offenders into intensive court supervised drug treatment programs instead of prison. Drug Courts aim to reduce drug abuse and crime by employing tools like comprehensive judi-

cial monitoring, drug testing, supervision, treatment, rehabilitative services, as well as other sanctions and incentives for drug offenders.

Statistics show us that Drug Courts work. More than 70 percent of Drug Court clients have successfully completed the program or remain as active participants. Drug Courts are also cost-effective. They help convert many drug-using offenders into productive members of society. This is clearly preferable to lengthy or repeated incarceration, which traditionally has yielded few gains for those struggling with drugs or our Nation as a whole. Drug Courts are proving to be an effective tool in our fight against both drug abuse and other drug-related crime.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing those Drug Court professionals who are improving their communities by dedicating themselves to this worthwhile concept and expanding the vision for the next generation of practitioners.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry treaties, nominations, and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

THE AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 108

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)) (the "Act"), I transmit herewith the Agreement Between the United States of America and the Republic of Chile on Social Security, which consists of two separate instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement. The Agreement was signed at Santiago on February 16, 2000.

The United States-Chilean Agreement is similar in objective to the social security agreements already in force between the United States and Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland,

Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation, and to help prevent the loss of benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries. The United States-Chilean Agreement contains all provisions mandated by section 233 and other provisions that I deem appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4) of the Act.

I also transmit for the information of the Congress a report prepared by the Social Security Administration explaining the key points of the Agreement, along with a paragraph-by-paragraph explanation of the provisions of the principal agreement and the related administrative arrangement. Annexed to this report is the report required by section 233(c)(1) of the Social Security Act, a report on the effect of the Agreement on income and expenditures of the U.S. Social Security program and the number of individuals affected by the Agreement. The Department of State and the Social Security Administration have recommended the Agreement and related documents to me.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 22, 2000.

THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON SOCIAL SECURITY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 109

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)) (the "Act"), I transmit herewith the Agreement Between the United States of America and the Republic of Korea on Social Security, which consists of two separate instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement. The Agreement was signed at Washington on March 13, 2000.

The United States-Korean Agreement is similar in objective to the social security agreements already in force with Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation and to