Fortunately, the new Congress and the new Clinton are certain not to legalize drugs. Unfortunately, it is less clear whether they will recognize the nasty new stain of intractability that drugs have added to crime, health costs and welfare dependency, and go on to tap the potential of research, prevention and treatment to save billions of dollars and millions of lives.

If a mainstream disease like diabetes or cancer affected as many individuals and families as drug and alcohol abuse and addiction do, this nation would mount an effort on the scale of the Manhattan Project to deal with it.●

AMERICA'S GOLD-STAR MOM: ROSE

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I am asking that a column written by Steve Neal, in tribute to the mother of our colleague, EDWARD KENNEDY, be placed into the RECORD.

It is a great tribute to Mrs. Kennedy.

I did not have the privilege of knowing her well, but I wish I had.

In addition to what is said in the Steve Neal column, I believe it is not an exaggeration to say that no mother has contributed as much to the Nation in our 206 year history as Rose Kennedy.

Her life was a story of tragedy and triumph and a brilliant spirit, despite all the tragedies. The remarkable contributions that TED KENNEDY makes to this body and to the Nation are one of many tributes to Rose Kennedy.

At this point, I ask that the Steven Neal column be printed in the RECORD.

The column follows:

[From the Sun-Times, Jan. 24, 1995]

AMERICA'S GOLD-STAR MOM: ROSE

(By Steve Neal)

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy had style. She spoke on her son's behalf at a Veterans of Foreign Wars hall in Brighton. Mass. It was John F. Kennedy's first campaign. He was running for Congress in 1946. Mrs. Kennedy, who had lost her eldest son Joseph in World War II and had nearly lost another, didn't talk about her family's tragedy. She dazzled the crowd with her wit. As the daughter of a former Boston mayor, Rose Kennedy was a political natural. When she finished her talk at the VFW hall. Mrs. Kennedy got a rousing ovation. Then she introduced the young JFK.

Dave Powers, JFK's war buddy, recalled that Kennedy was ''slightly over-whelmed that his mother could talk that well to an audience.'' As Mrs. Kennedy made her exit, her son stopped her and said, ''Mother, they really love you.''

So did the world.

Rose Elizabeth Fitzgerald Kennedy, who died Sunday at 104, was America's gold-star mother and one of the more extraordinary women of the 20th century. She taught JFK how to give a political speech and how to work a crowd. He couldn't have had a better teacher.

Three of her sons were elected to the U.S. Senate and her son John won the presidency of the United States. She took pride in their accomplishments.

''As Jack's mother, I am confident that Jack will win because his father says so, and through the years I have seen his predictions and judgments vindicated almost without exception,'' Mrs. Kennedy wrote in her diary in June, 1960. ''And so, I believe it. He also says, and has said all along, that if Jack gets the nomination he can beat Nixon.''

Mrs. Kennedy had a long memory. ''We are all furious at Governor [Pat] Brown of California and Governor [David] Lawrence of Pennsylvania because they will not come out for Jack now. Their support would clinch the nomination for him. Joe has worked on Lawrence all winter but he still can't believe a Catholic can be elected.''

Mrs. Kennedy wrote of JFK's first debate: ''I watched Jack last night on the debate, praying through every sentence, as I had prayed during the day. He looked more assured than Nixon and looked better physically. Jack seemed to have the initiative and once or twice rose to inspiring heights of oratory.'' But she noted that he could improve: ''People think that Jack speaks too fast. I agree and have already told him.''

Four of her children had tragic deaths. She said that the wounds of those tragedies never healed. But her courage and faith kept her going. ''One of the best ways to assuage grief is to find a way to turn some part of the loss to a positive, affirmative use for the benefit of other people,'' Mrs. Kennedy wrote in her memoirs. ''I do believe that God blesses us for that and the burden is lightened.''●

ANGUISH IN RWANDA

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, recently, the Washington Post had an interesting editorial titled, ''Anguish in Rwanda.''

It speaks of the need for the United Nations to have a few troops, to give some stability to a nation that is teetering on the edge of instability. Perhaps even that is a too favorable description of the situation.

I introduced legislation in the last session, which I will be reintroducing this session, to authorize the United States to have up to 3,000 troops that would be available to the United Nations for their efforts, subject to the approval of the President of the United States. We should call on other nations to do the same.

The great threat to U.S. security and the security of other nations today is instability. By having a small force, a group of volunteers from within our Armed Forces available, we could do much to provide stability in places like Rwanda.

I ask that the Post editorial be printed in the RECORD.

The editorial follows:

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 25, 1995]

ANGUISH IN RWANDA

To protect a million-plus Rwandan refugees in Zaire, the United Nations appealed to 60 nations for peace-keepers. All 60 said no. The secretary general then asked for a few dozen U.N. officers to support soldiers from Zaire. Again the answer was no. Falling back, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali now simply asks the Security Council to make available some Zairian troops assisted by civilian refugee officials. The prospects are uncertain.

In the camps there is no uncertainty, only desperation. The Hutus who perpetrated genocide in Rwanda last spring lost to the Tutsi-minority rebels and then carried many of their people, with their supporting community structures, into exile in Zaire. The international relief agencies found these structures essential to funnel in quick aid. But that gave new power and coin to the old Hutu hierarchy, including war criminals, who steal the aid and keep refugees from going home. A moral dilemma has split the agencies: Stay and sustain a regime of killers, or leave and let suffering refugees suffer more. This is the context in which the United Nations seeks to build an alternative security structure.

Last year's television pictures of the genocide publicized the need for emergency supplies, and many responded. But the humanitarian needs of the camps merge into an obscure zone of political struggle, and many lose interest. Dozens of countries were ready to send material aid. None is ready to expose its soldiers to risk for the Hutus. Nor is the problem confined to Rwanda. Its descent to a hollowed-out chaos where it can no longer order its own affairs is typical of the ethnic and national disputes that now disfigure world politics. Expect more in humanitarian crises, the CIA warned last month, and less in international relief.

So many things remain to be done. Right at the top ought to be the establishment of a standby humanitarian food-and-police service, run out of the Security Council, where the United States has a veto, so that when the next quaking call comes, the secretary general does not have to run around begging 60 distracted countries to help in vain.●

GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, a few weeks ago, Senator FRANK MURKOWSKI and I had the chance to visit Vietnam. And shortly after we got back, I read the column by Tom Friedman in the New York Times about Vietnam, which makes so much sense.

We are now inching toward full diplomatic relations that should have occurred years ago. Sixteen years ago I had lunch with the Vietnamese delegation at the United Nations and urged full diplomatic recognition at that time. We should do it now—the sooner, the better.

I ask that the Tom Friedman column be printed in the RECORD.

The column follows:

[From the New York Times, Jan. 18, 1995]

GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

HANOI, VIETNAM.—In 1966, at the height of the Vietnam War, Senator George Aiken became famous for suggesting that we simply declare victory and bring American troops home. That victory was phony, but 29 years later we truly have one in Vietnam, if winning is measured by a Vietnam that is economically, politically and strategically pro-Western. Yet despite that victory, Washington is reluctant to open full diplomatic relations with Hanoi and consolidate its tentative move into America's orbit. It's time. It's time we started relating to Vietnam as a country, not a conflict. It's time that we declare victory and go back to Vietnam to reap it.

President Bush should have been the one to open relations. He knew it was the right thing to do, and he had the credibility with veterans' groups to do it. But he didn't. (Wouldn't be prudent.) President Clinton, despite his problems with Vietnam vets, has inched closer to Hanoi, by lifting economic sanctions last year and agreeing to a low-level liaison office this year. For months the State Department has been quietly recommending full normalization, but after the midterm Republican rout the White House said ''Forget it.'' (Wouldn't be prudent.) That is America's loss.