

8:29 AM

Rec'd 27 Aug 02

TO: David Chu
FROM: Donald Rumsfeld
DATE: August 8, 2002
SUBJECT:

Please look into this business about pilots using amphetamines. I don't think that is a good idea. What's going on?

YHO

Thanks.

DHR/azn
080902.02

Please respond by: 8/25/02

8 Aug 02

U14910-02

11-L-0559/OSD/11220



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

INFO MEMO

SEP 6 2002

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: *William Winkenwerder, Jr.*
William Winkenwerder, Jr. MD, ASD (Health Affairs)

SUBJECT: Operational Use of Dextroamphetamine in Aviators

- You directed that we "look into this business about pilots using amphetamines." (TAB A)
- Dextroamphetamine, known as "go pills," has been used by military aviators since World War II to counter the effects of fatigue during combat operations. It is only used if alternatives such as adjusting sleep patterns, in-flight naps or exercise are either unsuccessful or not an option. There have been no reported safety incidents involving aircrew members' use of "go pills."
- The wing commander, or deployed commander equivalent, in consultation with the senior flight surgeon, determines if the use of Dextroamphetamine is medically warranted. The authorization for its use is time and/or mission specific.
- Countering pilot fatigue is an "off label" use of Dextroamphetamine; informed consent is necessary from the crew member. Commanders may not order its use. There is no penalty, punishment, loss of benefits, or adverse action of any kind for those who decline the use of stimulants. Ground testing prior to combat use and rigorous accountability measures must also be in place.
- Military medical research laboratories are currently studying alternative drugs to effectively combat pilot fatigue, including Modafinil, a Food and Drug Administration approved medication used to treat narcolepsy.

440

20 Sep 02

COORDINATION: TAB B

Prepared by: COL John Powers, C&PP, (b)(6) PCDOCS# 40336, 40197

U14912-02

11-L-0559/OSD/11221

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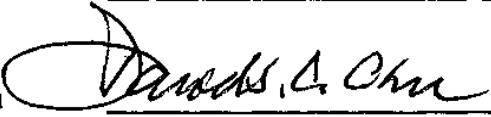
Please respond by: 8/25/02

U14910-02

11-L-0559/OSD/11222

Operational Use of Dextroamphetamines in Aviators

COORDINATION

PD, C&PP	CAPT Jack Smith	<u>JWS</u> 28 Aug, 2002
C of S, HA	Ms. Diana Tabler	<u>has seen 9/6/02</u>
PDASD, HA	Mr. Ed Wyatt	_____
USD, P&R	Dr. David S.C. Chu	<u></u> 18 Sep 02