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## **U.S. House Of Representatives Links Foreign Aid To Anti-drug Efforts**

*by John Neagle*

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On May 25, the House of Representatives sent to the Senate a \$14.3 billion foreign aid bill for FY 1989 that prohibits fund disbursement if the recipient nation or its armed forces are involved in drug trafficking. The final amounts of earmarked funds for countries cooperating with US anti-drug programs would be determined on the basis of their "performance" in the drug war during the previous year. The same measure would also prohibit disbursement of funds to a designated country if the latter is involved in bribery, tax evasion or price-fixing. The legislation passed last week marked the first time the House has acted on such a measure since 1981. For about seven years, Congress has funded foreign economic and military aid transfers through resolutions to continue earlier levels of funding. The new bill would provide \$5 billion in military aid, and \$3.3 billion in economic assistance for various countries. The remainder was earmarked for international organizations, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations. On May 18 House banking subcommittee members said they are not likely to support additional US funds for a proposed World Bank general capital increase. The president has requested \$70 million from Congress for the current fiscal year as the first US installment to the capital increase. Many House members have indicated they will vote for the capital increase only if it is linked to the creation of an international debt facility.

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