

Drug Boss**No Guarantee on Mistaken Raids****Washington**

The departing chief of the federal anti-drug agency yesterday blamed two mistaken narcotics raids on improper supervision and said there is no way the government can guarantee it won't happen again.

Myles J. Ambrose, head of the now-defunct Office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement (now part of the Drug Enforcement Administration), told a news conference:

"I don't know how I can

tell you that some knucklehead wouldn't go off half-cocked in the future and for anybody to tell you that, he'd have to be a knucklehead himself."

Ambrose spoke in response to questions about the mistaken raids conducted by agents under his office's supervision on two families in Collinsville, Ill.

WRONG

The agents broke into two homes, which turned out to be the wrong addresses, and terrorized the occupants. It has never been officially



AP Wirephoto

MYLES J. AMBROSE
Agency head retires

stated whether there were any correct targets that night, or if there were, whether drugs were found there.

Ambrose said "one of the areas we have to be most concerned about is supervision" of the agents involved in investigations.

He said federal drug officials are reminding agents to observe the legal safeguards protecting individual rights and are reviewing the adequacy of training. But, he said, it would be impossible to assure that no agent would ever violate the rules again.

'MINIMAL'

"The instances in which agents have operated illegally is minimal," he said.

Ambrose reported that agents under his office's supervision have executed 97 no-knock searches with warrants and in 70 of those cases recovered narcotics.

He said 27 no-knock raids did not yield drug caches, but claimed there was no reason to believe the persons raided had no involvement in drug trafficking.

The agency has received no complaints as a result of those raids, he said.

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