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WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409; (818) 780-3951
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THE BASIC TEXT: ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD

On Monday, February 6, 1989, the one millionth copy of the Basic Text of Narcotics Anonymous was distributed. This important milestone is an event befitting a prolonged celebration. However, as we are a spiritual program based on principles rather than personalities, the recipient of the millionth copy was not noted and shall remain anonymous.

Many of us found in the pages of this Text our identification, hope, and a road to recovery. As you attend meetings during the weeks ahead, share with others about this important event. All of us can take heart in the strength that our experience has been shared with so many. We are not alone and "that tired old lie is dead, `once an addict always an addict'." We do recover.

It would be pleasant to report that all one million copies are being used by recovering addicts active today in N.A. However, that is probably not the case. Many have relapsed and some have died. Still others have gone on to seek recovery in other ways. We know however, that those who took the time to read the pages of the Text while they had it, held in their hands the open door to recovery.

We can report that hundreds of thousand of addicts are finding recovery today in N.A. meetings in over 45 different countries and using at least 16 different languages. Unfortunately, this means that N.A. does not exist in over 100 countries, and more than fifty major languages and scores of dialects are still without the message of recovery that we enjoy in English.

We know the therapeutic value of one addict helping another is without parallel, as that has been the key to the success we have against our disease. But unless the message we have to share is shared in the language an addict speaks, the message does not get through. We must take this opportunity to renew our efforts to make the Narcotics Anonymous message of recovery available to a growing number addicts world wide.

In an effort to do just that and to enable thousands of addicts to participate in the commemoration of the one millionth copy of the text, a special commemorative edition of the Basic Text is being prepared.

The commemorative edition will consist of only 5,000 copies. They were set aside from the first printing of the Fifth Edition in December 1988. The cover will be a medium grey with silver lettering and the page edges will also have silver gilding. A grey ribbon will be sewn into the binding. A commemorative page will display a note recognizing the one millionth copy, and describing the anticipated use of funds from the special edition sale. All copies will be numbered.

The Board of Directors, in deciding to authorize this commemorative printing, set the price for each copy at thirty-five dollars ($35.00 U.S.). No discounts will be applied. All income that is generated above the production cost and the regular income from the hard cover text sales price will be accounted for separately and used only for translation and printing of translated material into languages other than English. The WSO will provide a detailed report on these funds until they are exhausted.

It is anticipated that approximately $115,000 will be generated from this effort. These funds will be used for completing translations, necessary proofreading, typesetting, and printing work, along with expense for meetings with N.A. translation committees, and an office worker to coordinate the increased level of translation activity.In order to give every interested N.A. member equal opportunity to obtain a commemorative copy, orders will not be accepted prior to April 1, 1988. Orders must be accompanied by check or money order, and the purchaser's name and address. Only two copies will be