

National News

Press panics over California AIDS fight

Media attacks are gearing up against the California ballot referendum submitted by the group known as Prevent Aids Now In California (PANIC). The group filed 720,000 signatures on Oct. 28, on behalf of a resolution that would apply traditional public health measures to curb the spread of the AIDS epidemic.

A similar referendum in 1986 was defeated, thanks to a multimillion-dollar scare campaign by the liberal media, homosexual activist groups, the Hollywood sex lobby (starring Liz Taylor), and corrupt officials of both Democratic and Republican parties and the California Medical Association.

One year later, PANIC organizers, who completed their petitioning drive well ahead of schedule, are confident that the referendum will succeed.

On Oct. 2, the *Los Angeles Daily News* ran an editorial entitled "Fight Panic With Reason," which suggests that the way to defeat the PANIC proposal is to pass the legislative package proposed by GOP State Senator John Doolittle, during the January 1988 legislative session.

"The most objectionable feature of the initiative," the editorial proclaims, "is that it would subject AIDS carriers to quarantine and isolation, even though there is no evidence that AIDS can be spread by casual contact. . . ."

"The re-entry of the LaRouche organization into the AIDS issue could also have unfortunate consequences for more temperate measures to curb the spread of the AIDS virus, which destroys the body's immune system. . . ."

"If the LaRouche initiative qualifies for the ballot, those who have opposed Doolittle's measures in the past might want to rethink their position. Leaders of PANIC predict victory for their initiative, saying Californians are more concerned about the spread of AIDS now than they were in 1986. There [sic] might be true; if so, the best way for

the Legislature to undercut and defeat the PANIC proposal is to enact more reasonable legislation along the lines of the Doolittle bills."

Politicians troop to Russia for trade meet

Illinois Gov. James Thompson (R) and Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad (R) are among those planning to go to the Soviet Union for a meeting of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council Dec. 7-9.

Dwayne Andreas, head of the Archer Daniels Midland Co. and the council's U.S. chairman, will also be there, and according to UPI's report, Governor Thompson is making the trip at Andreas's urging.

Andreas is one of the kingpins of the international food and grain cartel, from his position at the head of ADM, which dominates the world's soybean trade. A frequent visitor to Moscow, he is seen as the "heir apparent" to Armand Hammer, the KGB's favorite American billionaire.

Governor Thompson's trip will include a series of meetings with leaders in the Soviet Union. David Fields, an aide to the governor, told UPI that the trip will be "a good door-opener," since the Soviet Union buys large amounts of grain from the United States.

Theologians promote the Gnostic Gospels

A group of 125 so-called scholars, operating as "the Jesus Seminar" and sponsored by the Westar Institute of Sonoma, California, is tearing up the New Testament, in favor of the Gnostic Gospels.

According to an article by the Religious News Service, published in the *Washington Post* on Oct. 31, the group met at the Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota, in October. The "schol-

ars" are "working their way through the four Gospels," with the goal of grading the sayings attributed to Jesus Christ, according to probable accuracy. As a benchmark, they are using the so-called Gospel of Thomas—the most infamous of the Gnostic Gospels, allegedly discovered at Nag Hamadi, Egypt in 1945, and presented to the world by the cultish C.G. Jung Foundation.

The article reports: "Some scholars believe the Gospel of Thomas to be the earliest existing collection of such sayings, a belief demonstrated when the examination of Jesus' parables here indicated the preference of some scholars for the accounts in the Thomas document over those in the traditional Gospels.

"The work of the seminar . . . will result in the publication in 1989 of a color-coded edition of the five Gospels, with different colors indicating the degree to which the group believes the Jesus quotes are historically accurate."

Already, the group has decided that Jesus did not say, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son. . . ." (John 3:16).

The gnostic heresy rejects the core of Christian doctrine: the conception that Jesus is God made man. In a recent widely circulated gnostic tract, *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, the Gnostic Gospels are touted as a font of the tradition of the apostles of the "bloodline," as opposed to the "apostles of the message"—like Saints Peter and Paul.

Justice Department claims new victim

Based on unsubstantiated evidence supplied by the Soviet Union, a 65-year-old widower who emigrated to the United States from the Ukraine was ordered deported by Baltimore Judge John F. Gossart. The case was brought by the U.S. Justice Department, whose Office of Special Investigations (OSI) is known for its zealous collaboration with Soviet authorities against alleged Nazi war criminals.

The DOJ based its prosecution on 45-

Briefly

year-old documents furnished by the Russians.

In related recent cases, Austrian President Kurt Waldheim was banned from entering the United States, and naturalized U.S. citizen Karl Linnas was sent to his death in Soviet-occupied Estonia, on the basis of "evidence" supplied by Soviet or East bloc sources.

In his ruling, Judge Gossart claimed that George Theodorovich had been a member of the Ukrainian police, and had "had knowledge" that the police had assisted the Nazis in transporting Jews to concentration camps. Theodorovich testified that he had actually helped smuggle black market foodstuffs to Jewish children hiding in a monastery, and that he quit the Ukrainian police force.

The case will be appealed. Theodorovich has asked to be deported to Argentina should he lose the appeal. If he is denied entry there, Judge Gossart ordered he be deported to the Soviet Union.

NDPC and government sign preliminary accord

Warren Hamerman, the chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), released a statement on Nov. 4, announcing that a "preliminary accord" had been reached with the U.S. government on payment of a \$70,000 civil contempt fine which originated from alleged noncompliance with a 1984 Boston grand jury.

"We have successfully completed 'phase one' of defending the NDPC from an outrageous and unconstitutional effort by the federal government to shut down the First Amendment-protected political action committee of the LaRouche movement," he said.

In September, the federal government seized the NDPC's bank account and sought to enjoin the group from any day-to-day political activity, while threatening to jail Hamerman for contempt of court, in violation of his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination.

The current agreement specifies that the government recognizes that the NDPC and its employees retain their constitutional right to press various arguments regarding their Fifth Amendment privileges.

The NDPC's lawyers are now focusing their attention on the "outrageous and draconian \$5 million second civil contempt fine which is now on appeal," Hamerman said.

Bishops name new head of Catholic Rural Life

Archbishop John Roach of St. Paul-Minneapolis, president of the U.S. bishops' National Catholic Rural Life Conference, announced at the end of October that Joseph K. Fitzgerald has been named the executive director of the NCRLC.

Catholic Rural Life is linked to Prairie Fire and other radical farm groups, and has become a vehicle for anti-technology, back-to-nature organizing among the nation's increasingly bankrupt and desperate farmers. The Benedictine Order is most active in this regard. Using the concept of "stewardship of nature," they reject the injunction of Genesis, that Man be fruitful, multiply, and subdue the Earth. Instead, they advocate cutbacks in farm production, and a "40 acres and a mule" approach to rural life.

Fitzgerald is a member of the bishops' Task Force on Food and Farm Policy and was Rural Life director for three years for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky. He received a bachelor's degree in humanities from the Benedictine St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota and is now there working on a master's degree.

Fitzgerald told the *Catholic Bulletin*, the newspaper of the St. Paul-Minneapolis Archdiocese, "The Church will become all the more involved in advocacy of legislation regarding rural life." He said that his upbringing in a farm family in central Iowa and his theology studies at St. John's University give him "a wonderful combination of background in rural life and the theological perspective of the Church."

● **A REPUBLICAN** memorandum argues that the GOP should exploit public fears about AIDS to help their party in the 1988 elections, but criticizes California Rep. William Dannemeyer, one of the few elected officials who has taken a stand for action against AIDS. "Someone like Dannemeyer is a live grenade on this issue and far too emotional to do any good," the memo states.

● **THE RIGHT-TO-DIE** mafia is lobbying for passage of the Washington, D.C., Health Care Decisions Act, which allows families and friends to bypass the courts when seeking to "terminate" incompetent patients. The city will force guardians of patients unable to make medical care decisions themselves to seek court approval to kill the patient by ending life-sustaining care.

● **DR. O'DEAN P. JUDD** has been named the new chief scientist for SDI research into space-based antimissile defenses, the Pentagon announced on Oct. 30. Judd, a physicist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, replaces Dr. Gerold Yonas, who resigned 14 months ago. He is a specialist in microwave and laser technology.

● **SENATOR KENNEDY'S** enthusiasm for overthrowing Panamanian Gen. Manuel Noriega may stem from an affair with Susan Christa Davis, the daughter of U.S. Ambassador to Panama Arthur Davis, wrote columnist Baltazar Renan Aizpurua in the daily *La República* on Nov. 2. Kennedy has reportedly been a frequent visitor to the Panamanian resorts of San Blas and Contadora, where he was always accompanied by Susan Davis and former Panamanian Ambassador to the United States Gabriel Lewis Galindo.

● **MICHAEL DUKAKIS**, the Democratic presidential hopeful, said in a speech in Oklahoma City on Nov. 5 that he opposes the SDI, the MX, and Midgetman missile systems, and the proposed construction of two new Navy aircraft carriers.