National News

N.Y. judge orders baby's murder

Luis and Carlotta Alvarado of New York were denied their right to keep their monthold baby alive by state Supreme Court Judge Helen E. Freedman who ruled Oct. 17 that a New York City-run hospital, Elmhurst General, has the right to murder an allegedly "brain dead" child by removing him from a respirator despite his parents' opposition.

If brain activity is not obvious, the patient is called dead. Yet there have been patients with no perceptible brain activity for months, and in the case of young children, for years, who have recovered. Hospitals are increasingly in a rush to diagnose brain-damaged patients as "brain dead" with no tests taken, so they can stop costly treatment. Insurance companies refuse to pay for care of those designated as "brain dead."

Evidence and studies were presented in the original court hearing that proved that truly brain dead individuals, that is, their brain is destroyed, cannot exist for more than a few days—even while hooked to a respirator. The body begins to break down and decompose. In the case of baby Luis, the child has gained weight and grown significantly. The judge chose instead to back the 1987 N.Y. Department of Health regulation that defines death as the "irreversible cessation of brain function," which allows the hospital to turn off the respirator.

Attorneys for the Alvarado family have filed a motion to appeal the decision.

'White witch' guilty of ritual murder

Sandra Colleen Capps, an admitted "white witch" from Sacramento, California, plead guilty on Sept. 15 in the ritual murder of her boyfriend, Joseph Bradberry, 22.

Bradberry was murdered by Capps and four men, all members of the coven which Capps led. Capps had given the men LSD prior to the ritual murder, after which the men watched a horror film and played "Dungeons and Dragons." Bradberry was taken to a Sacramento River levee where he was handcuffed, repeatedly stabbed, and then drowned. She had asked for, and received from Bradberry a vial of his blood shortly before his murder, to be used in rituals intended to bring Bradberry back from the dead.

The case gives the lie to the efforts of various "white witch" networks, most prominently Wicca, to convince law enforcement and the public that they had nothing to do with crimes associated with Satanism and so-called "black magic."

Crooked judges are commonplace

Judges lie in writing their opinions, Northwestern University Law Professor Anthony D'Amato charged in a recent lecture in Manhattan.

Professor D'Amato said that judges frequently fudge facts and get away with it. Lawyers "feel that their work is subject to the whim of judges who will play God with the facts of a case, inventing them to make the case come out the way the judges desire." While making a general point, D'Amato's remarks were triggered by a ruling by the federal appeals court for the Seventh Circuit in Chicago.

Law schools also teach a disdain for the truth, D'Amato added. "Professors will not accept a student who says that the party should simply lose. Instead, they encourage students to come up with any argument at all, however contrived, to win for the client. We encourage glibness, we penalize honesty; we applaud fabrication, we discourage sensitivity of justice."

Galileo launched on Jupiter mission

The Galileo spacecraft attached to its twostage booster was deployed from the Space Shuttle orbiter Atlantis on Oct. 18 following a perfect lift-off of the Shuttle earlier that afternoon from the Kennedy Space Center.

Attempts of three anti-nuclear groups to stop the shuttle launch, because Galileo is powered by two plutonium-powered batteries, fizzled. Turning down the request for a temporary restraining order for the launch, and an appeal, the presiding judge stated that it was in "the interest of the nation" to continue with the space science program.

Galileo was deployed from Atlantis on the shuttle's fifth orbit of the Earth, and the Atlantis crew gave the spacecraft a sendoff, stating that it is now "on its way to another world."

After swinging around Venus, Galileo will make two swings around the Earth to gain the energy it needs to arrive at Jupiter in 1995, There it will begin a 22-month series of dazzling close encounters with Jupiter's moons, and drop a probe into the Jovian atmosphere.

Marcinko beats Alexandria 'railroad'

Former U.S. Navy special unit commander Richard Marcinko was acquitted of charges brought by U.S. Attorney Henry R. Hudson and Assistant U.S. Attorney John J. Klein as part of their "Ill Wind" attack on the military, the Oct. 22 Washington Post reported.

A jury in the courtroom of Federal Judge Albert Bryan, who railroaded the conviction of Lyndon LaRouche, acquitted Marcinko after two days deliberation on one charge of conflict of interest, and failed to reach a verdict on two other charges. Government prosecutors said they had not yet decided whether to retry Marcinko on the two charges.

Co-defendant Charles M. Byers, an Arizona arms manufacturer, was convicted on charges of conspiracy and conflict of interest for building a \$113,000 kickback into a contract to supply specially designed grenades to a special operations unit commanded by Marcinko.

Commander Marcinko went public with his story by speaking at a Human Rights Tribunal conference in February 1989, offering his support in the fight against political prosecutions.

After founding SEAL Team 6, Marcinko went on to create (OP-06D), the code designation for a highly secretive Navy unit whose job was to test the readiness of Navy facilities around the world. Marcinko's job was to evaluate the ability of security at Navy facilities to withstand a *spetsnaz* attack. It is known that Marcinko was highly successful in proving that security systems and facilities were not at the level of readiness which would repulse a *spetsnaz* assault.

Bakker sentenced to 45 years in prison

Television evangelist Jim Bakker was sentenced to 45 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine by federal Judge Robert Potter on Oct. 24, for his jury conviction for living a lavish lifestyle and overbooking hotel rooms at his religious theme park, Heritage U.S.A.

Bakker received the especially harsh sentence because he allegedly showed no remorse for his actions. Judge Potter, said he was convinced the Bakker would go out and continue his pattern of fundraising activity, and therefore rejected bond pending appeal, ordering Bakker to be taken immediately to prison. According to television news accounts, Judge Potter also described a demonstration of Bakker supporters outside the courtroom as evidence that they "would do anything" for Bakker, and therefore Bakker had to be immediately imprisoned.

Land-based ICBMs called obsolete

The U.S. land-based ICBM force is no longer a consideration for Soviet military planners because it is no longer a significant military threat to the Soviet Union, according to the assessment of new studies on the vulnerability of the U.S. ICBM force to a Soviet first strike cited by the October issue of *Air Force Magazine*.

One study cited concludes that no more

than 5% of U.S. ICBMs can now survive a full-scale Soviet attack.

Rep. Les Aspin (D-Wisc.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, has issued a report with the title, "Strategic 'Surprise Attack' Thinkable." Aspin, often allied with pro-Soviet liberals, admits, "The central reality is that we have never had a problem coming up with technical solutions to the ICBM vulnerability problem. The real problem has been coming up with solutions that are politically acceptable."

Farrakhan says FBI out to get him

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan called a press conference in Washington on Oct. 23, to announce that the Bush administration and the FBI are engaged in an effort to split his movement, kill him or indict him as a "racketeer," and launch a genocidal attack on black Americans. He alleged that the War on Drugs is a pretext for these agencies to condition the population to the idea that all blacks are drug addicts, and de-sensitize them to future military operations in U.S. cities. His usual racialist rhetoric and defense of Qaddafi punctuated his speech.

His more precise charges identified the 40-year campaign of the FBI to intimidate and harass the Muslim movement in the United States. He said that "the FBI engineered the split in the Nation of Islam . . . engineered the assassination of Malcolm X . . . engineered the assassination of Martin Luther King . . . has harassed the Nation of Islam financially in the courts . . and is planning to indict me as a racketeer."

Farrakhan held a rally attended by 12,000-plus people in Washington the night before his press conference, and the local media played up the non-presence of Jesse Jackson and Mayor Marion Barry. The rally was highlighted by the presentation of an anti-drug award voted on by the D.C. City Council to Farrakhan. The vote on the proposed award has polarized politics on the council, acording to the media, and is being seen as part of a gambit by Farrakhan to place his chips on the table in the upcoming D.C. mayoral race.

Briefly

- 'DISMANTLE HUD to pay for the war on drugs," argued the Wall Street Journal in the lead editorial Oct. 19. The Department of Housing and Urban Development "created slums and invited corruption," and "is probably beyond reform," the Journal said.
- THE WASHINGTON State Supreme Court denied the right to organize on Oct. 19, ruling that the National Democratic Policy Committee, representing the Lyndon La-Rouche wing of the Democratic Party does not have the right to sell literature, subscriptions, or solicit donations inside shopping centers.
- WILLIAM WELD, the former U.S. Attorney who prosecuted Lyndon LaRouche, told the Boston Globe on Oct. 22 that followers of LaRouche "may have been right" when they accused him of being a "dope runner." "The Weld family had clipper ships in the 1840s, Weld acknowledges, 'and opium was not an unknown cargo at that time,' "the Globe reported.
- EARTH FIRST! terrorists destroyed a utility company bridge in Montana and an electric substation in Canada recently, as part of a pattern where Earth First! terrorists are switching from "spiking" trees, to other more dangerous acts of "ecotage."
- LAURIE CABOT, appointed "official witch of Massachusetts" by Gov. Michael Dukakis, has written a new book entitled Power of the Witch: The Earth, The Moon and The Magical Path to Enlightenment which "defends and illustrates Witchcraft as a way of life."
- ALEISTER CROWLEY'S Satanic Ordo Templi Orientis was raided by California police officers on Sept. 29 who arrested 13 people for drug-related crimes and seized items described as hashish pipes, dried opium poppies, and LSD.