

# National News

## Abortion counselor is excommunicated

The Vatican has excommunicated the executive director of Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island, saying that her work has "resulted in the sinful termination of human life." The church ousted Mary Ann Sorrentino in June 1985, but the move was not made public until Jan. 22, the 13th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion. The announcement was made by a priest on Providence TV.

Reverend John Randall called Sorrentino "public enemy No. 1 of all babies being killed in the womb in Rhode Island."

Sorrentino criticized the Church for "persecuting me for my personal beliefs. I don't see that I represent anything that Ted Kennedy hasn't represented, that Geraldine Ferraro hasn't represented."

Pio Laghi, the Papal Nuncio to the United States, affirmed the excommunication in a letter stating: "It is not the bishop of the diocese who has excommunicated you, but rather you are excommunicated by reason of the universal law of the Church. It is incomprehensible that you cannot perceive that you are an accomplice, when you direct an agency" doing thousands of abortions.

## Researchers score CDC for AIDS cover-up

The *New England Journal of Medicine* will shortly publish a study claiming that 1,750,000 Americans have tested "seropositive" for AIDS, and that the number is increasing by 1,000 per day, a European expert on AIDS told *EIR* on Jan. 20. He said that the facts of this report were recently circulated privately at a conference on AIDS in Martinique.

"All the major European and American researchers on AIDS," he said, "who are not directly working for the World Health Or-

ganization or the Atlanta Centers for Disease Control, asserted that the WHO and CDC are covering up, greatly, the full extent of AIDS in Africa."

He said that these European and American researchers "are reluctant to let their names be known publicly, for fear of tremendous political pressure on them." This pressure is linked to "Soviet political activities in Africa," and there "is a growing struggle between the U.S. and Soviets over the matter of AIDS in Africa."

## Kissinger protégé to run NSC operations?

"The hand of the long-departed Henry Kissinger is expected to be seen again on the National Security Council staff, with a key appointment that will also boost the authority of Secretary of State George Shultz," syndicated columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak reported on Jan. 25.

Peter Rodman, the Kissinger protégé who is currently director of policy planning at the State Department, has been mooted to run NSC operations, replacing Vice Adm. John Poindexter, who has now taken Robert McFarlane's job as NSC director.

Rodman is Shultz's top speechwriter, and is described by Evans and Novak as "the strongest pro-Israel influence on the secretary inside the State Dept., [who] has advocated tough U.S. retaliation against Palestinian terror."

## Heritage Foundation calls for defense cuts

The Heritage Foundation is calling for cuts in the defense budget of \$13.3 billion, as part of the budget recommendations for FY 1987 which it issued on Jan. 22. The Washington, D.C.-based foundation purports to be "conservative" and has considerable influence upon the Reagan administration; yet

this is by no means the first time that its policy recommendations have dovetailed with those of the Soviet KGB and the British Fabian Society.

The Heritage plan, authored by British Fabian Stuart Butler, also recommends that the federal government sell off 3,030 federal agencies to private investors. Some of the agencies auctioned off would be the Federal Housing Administration and Amtrak's northeast corridor service.

The Heritage Plan would also eliminate 25 federal programs, including bilingual education, rural housing, the Job Corps, energy assistance to the poor, the Export-Import Bank, non-nuclear energy R&D, the Rural Electrification Administration, NASA civilian aeronautical research, urban development grants, and the Economic Development Administration.

A copy of the plan was given to Office of Management and Budget chief Jim Miller in November 1985.

## Rabbi hits witchhunt by Boston bluebloods

Rabbi Gerald Kaplan of Brooklyn, N.Y., of the Human Rights Commission of the Schiller Institute's Commission to Investigate Crimes Against Humanity, declared on Jan. 17 that the current Boston grand jury investigation of individuals and companies associated with presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche is "a complete travesty of justice."

Under orders from Boston elite families like that of U.S. Attorney William Weld, the grand jury had demanded that Caucus Distributors, Inc. (CDI) confiscate from political consultants in the company's employ, index cards containing the names of contributors, and turn them over to the grand jury.

In the hearing which Rabbi Kaplan observed on Jan. 17, Judge A. David Mazzone granted the motion of Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Small for additional contempt-of-court fines against CDI, for failure to produce all the cards. CDI maintains that the

cards are the personal property of its political consultants, some of whom have refused to hand over cards in the belief that contributors will be subjected to harassment and intimidation.

Rabbi Kaplan declared: "There is no question in my mind, that Caucus Distributors has been taking a terrible beating, in many ways, from people who seek to destroy its philosophy." The American rights of freedom of speech, thought, and "dignity, for the individual" were "not seen in this trial.

"But CDI has been crucified for many months, in a hearing that seems like there is no ending. And it is the policy, or the philosophy, of the opposition, to destroy CDI through constant abuse through legal tactics, which has been costing them a tremendous amount of money."

Rabbi Kaplan is a youth adviser to Temple Hillel in Brooklyn, and a spiritual leader of the Learners Worship Service. He was one of 10 rabbis invited to the White House to celebrate the signing of the Camp David treaty in 1978.

## Dannemeyer's position on AIDS clarified

Representative William Dannemeyer's (R-Calif.) position on the treatment that should be accorded AIDS victims, one of the subjects of a Los Angeles AIDS poll treated in *National News* in our Jan. 17, 1986 issue, is in fact that quarantines should not be implemented, since they are impractical. He has introduced legislation for other public-health measures to curb the spread of the disease.

Due to an error in editing, an entirely different proposal, made by Harvard University professor Dr. Vernon Mark, to consign AIDS victims who insist on continuing promiscuous sexual activities to an abandoned leper colony off the coast of New England, was mistakenly attributed to Representative Dannemeyer.

Unlike Representative Dannemeyer, the EIR Biological Holocaust Task Force does advocate quarantine for AIDS victims as a

necessary public-health measure, but regards proposals such as that made by Dr. Mark as deliberate efforts to provoke hysteria and obscure the serious public-health issues involved.

## FEC holds hearing on LaRouche Campaign

James Schoener, attorney for The LaRouche Campaign, on Jan. 22 blasted the finding of the Federal Election Commission's audit division and office of general counsel, that TLC should repay the Treasury \$54,607. TLC was the committee for LaRouche's 1984 bid for the Democratic presidential nomination.

The office of General Counsel Charles Steele has advised the commissioners that LaRouche must *pay the government* for campaigning which he did after June 7, the date at which he was declared ineligible for further matching funds. Speaking before a hearing of the full Commission, Schoener argued that this demand constitutes a "tax" on the candidate's political activity.

Once LaRouche had failed to receive the necessary 10% in two consecutive primaries, he chose to continue to campaign at his own expense, and did not request any further matching funds for the new debts incurred.

The lawyer pointed out that campaign activities after the date of ineligibility were not financed by federal funds at all. He demonstrated that all federal monies LaRouche received after June 7, were used to retire debts incurred prior to that date. "LaRouche was, by your own definitions, no longer a publicly financed candidate," he declared.

Most devastating to the position adopted by the general counsel's office, was Schoener's discussion of the legislative history of the FECA, which raised the issue of a candidate's right to continue to campaign. He reported the statement of Senator Taft during the past debates on the formation of the Commission: "There is nothing in this amendment which would prevent a man from continuing to be a candidate."

## Briefly

● **PRESIDENT REAGAN'S** Council on Economic Advisers has warned that the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration restriction bill will have adverse effects on the U.S. economy. The report contends that "restrictions on immigration, like restrictions on trade, are costly" to employers and to the economy as a whole.

● **HOWARD PHILLIPS**, chairman of the Conservative Caucus, filed a formal complaint with the FEC on Jan. 23, charging that George Bush, the Republican National Committee, and Bush's Political Action Committee plan to illegally finance a poll testing out the vice-president's 1988 presidential prospects.

● **JOSEPH KENNEDY II**, announcing his candidacy for the congressional seat being vacated by Tip O'Neill, made a plea for deep defense cuts. "Our sense of our prosperity is in part our illusion," said Kennedy. "We have mortgaged our future" to Pentagon spending.

● **AN ADL "Study Mission"** went to Israel in mid-January, meeting "with all our top people," at the home of Israel director of the Anti-Defamation League Harry Wall, *Jerusalem Post* gossip columnist Mark Segal reported Jan. 17. Included in the U.S. delegation were "the publisher of the highly influential *New Republic* magazine," Martin Peretz; Thomas Tish of the "prominent New York family"; and Sen. Albert Gore, Jr. (D-Tenn.).

● **MARIO CUOMO**, Democratic governor of New York State, is coyly suggesting he might be forced to run for the U.S. presidency, to avenge the honor of Italo-Americans. He told reporters on Jan. 19: "If anything could make me change my mind about running for the presidency, it's people talking about 'an Italian can't do it, a Catholic can't do it.'"