

tense social pressure, as throughout Asia, to have a family.

Recent findings in Thailand reveal 65,000 existing tuberculosis victims in Bangkok alone, and a further 12,500 people who have just contracted the disease. According to the deputy governor of Bangkok, only 8-9,000 of these people have sought treatment at clinics and hospitals. Most of the patients are too poor to afford medical bills, he said. Likewise, there is currently a dengue fever epidemic, transmitted by mosquitoes, raging in Thailand. There are already 18,000 people infected, with the most serious drought the country has had in 10 years. Some officials worry that disease levels could reach those of 1985, when 80,000 people came down with dengue.

### Indonesia under threat

Indonesia—which has recently been subjected to the infamous World Bank loan “conditionalities,” demanding 40% of its export income for debt payment—is also the scene of a growing opposition to the WHO-directed cover-up. Most significantly, the Indonesian Red Cross has demanded the obvious: the testing of all blood donors. The chairman of the International Blood Donors Conference at Jakarta, Dr. Masri Rustan, refused, insisting: “Such examinations would be too expensive for a developing country such as Indonesia. The danger of AIDS has been exaggerated by the mass media. It is just like syphilis at the time when penicilin had not been discovered.”

In 1985, Indonesian Health Minister Swardjono Surjaningrat revealed his ignorance, insisting that because there were no homosexual relationships in his country of 168 million people, AIDS could not enter there! In February 1986, the chairman of the Indonesian Medical Association reported the first carriers. In late June, the *Indonesian Observer* editorialized: “It is time to act. Now.” They demanded, like the Thais, testing for all tourists, and identified the urgency of instituting some sort of isolation policy.

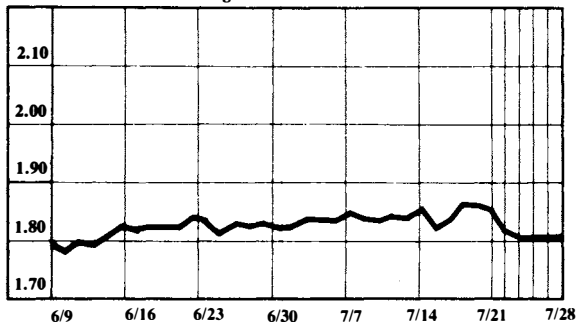
The *Observer* quoted the following comments made by an unnamed Australian doctor, speaking in Bali, Indonesia: “In authoritarian states they would put them in camps, but in democratic countries it will be more difficult. But it has to come, such as in the case of leprosy, if we don’t find a cure or vaccine soon.’ What may be more frightening is that the doctor feels we are not being told the whole truth about the spread of the disease by the experts.”

Finally, the Thai royal family has made public its concern in the form of a call by Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn, a chemist, for intensified research efforts in the domain of genetic engineering to conquer AIDS. Speaking at the same Mahidol University of Dr. Theppanom on the topic of “Genetic Engineering and Scientific Progress,” she emphasized the commitment of scientific research workers, “If we are all scared of laboratory risks, we may end up being inflicted with AIDS and cancer without anyone having researched a way out.”

## Currency Rates

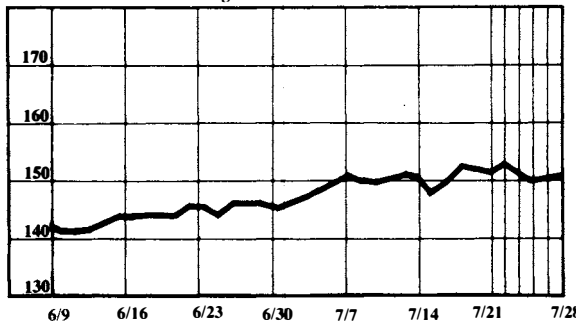
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



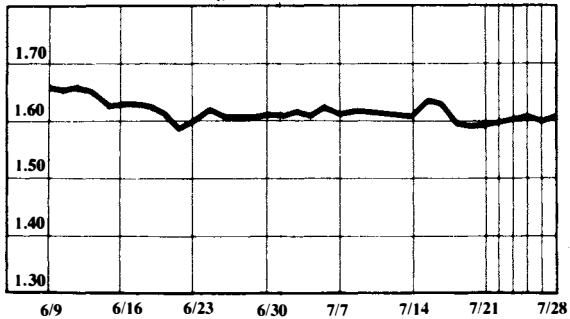
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

