

National News

Conservatives want to drop ABM Treaty

Senate conservatives are planning to submit legislation calling on President Reagan to withdraw from the 1972 ABM Treaty if he finds the pact has jeopardized national security, the *Washington Times* reported Sept. 22.

The conservative senators thus intend to supersede the Nunn-Levin amendment to the defense authorization bill for FY88, which would force the administration to abide by the so-called "narrow" interpretation of the treaty.

A draft of the conservatives' amendment states, "It is the sense of the Senate that the Soviet strategic and defensive build-ups have placed the supreme interests of the United States in jeopardy. And the Senate requests that the President report to the Senate on an urgent basis whether the United States should withdraw."

Couples to be tested for AIDS in Illinois

Illinois Gov. James Thompson signed legislation Sept. 21 mandating AIDS testing for couples seeking marriage licenses, court-ordered quarantine of AIDS victims who are deemed to pose a risk to society, and voluntary tracing of an AIDS victim's sexual partners.

The legislation also provides for mandatory testing of people convicted of sex or drug crimes and strict confidentiality of AIDS test results in most circumstances.

Thompson vetoed a bill that would have required AIDS-infected health care workers to notify employers they carry the disease, saying: "It seems to me if we start down that road, next year it will be all food-care workers, and then it would be all office workers that handle papers that somebody else handles." He also vetoed bills requiring mandatory contact tracing and testing of inmates in state prisons.

State Rep. Penny Pullen (a member of President Reagan's AIDS task force), said she would fight for mandatory testing of prison inmates and would attempt to strengthen the other measures. A liberal state senator predicted that Pullen's "extreme" measures would not find much support.

In March 1986, two "LaRouche Democrats" won victories in statewide-office primaries, in part on the basis of a high-profile campaign for public health measures against AIDS, stressing the "economic co-factors" that contribute to the disease's spread.

New revelations in 'Irangate' coming

A new round of stories on Irangate will hit several press outlets by early October, a press source has told *EIR*. The release soon of a new book on the Iran-Contra affair by Watergate journalist Bob Woodward will be followed by the new press revelations, the source stated.

The source also pointed to the beginning of the trial of Lyndon LaRouche and his associates in Boston, in which the defense will be raising basically the same issue: illegal domestic and foreign operations by government agencies.

One such revelation, first appearing in *EIR*, on the fraudulent use of "national security investigations" to harass opponents of the Contra policy, has already made it into the press. The case of Jack Terrell was the subject of a *Washington Post* article Sept. 22.

Terrell, a former Contra mercenary turned anti-Contra activist, was subjected to an FBI-NSC investigation which claimed he had threatened the life of the President. Justifying the action, an FBI official told the *Post* that the operation was necessary because of a "very real, legitimate threat," and had "absolutely nothing to do" with Terrell's opposition to the Contras.

The investigation was triggered by FBI Deputy Director Oliver "Buck" Revell, who induced Oliver North to draft a memo establishing the investigation-harassment of Terrell.

Responding to the FBI claims against him, Terrell reported, "What leaps out from the memo . . . is that you've got Project Democracy functioning as a domestic surveillance operation." Project Democracy is the covert arm of the National Endowment for Democracy, created and funded by Congress and the State Department in 1982, ostensibly to promote democracy abroad.

Hakim loses appeal to Swiss authorities

The investigation of the Iran-Contra affair by Independent Counsel Lawrence Walsh received another boost with the report that key Irangate figure Albert Hakim, one of the financial bagmen in Lt. Col. Oliver North's operations, has now lost his appeal to prevent the Swiss government from handing over crucial Iran-Contra documents to Walsh's office.

A source in Berne reports that, as a result of the Swiss authorities' rejection of Hakim's appeal, 8,000 pages of documents will be flown over to the United States, to be pored over by Walsh's investigative team.

In mid-September, Walsh's office had received a shipment of about 3,000 pages of documents from Swiss financial institutions used by Hakim for Iran-Contra funds diversion, but Hakim's appeal had blocked further Swiss cooperation until now.

First Lady reacts to charges of 'meddling'

Nancy Reagan has reacted strongly to charges that she is meddling in presidential affairs and unduly influencing her husband, President Reagan, on such vital strategic matters as arms control.

Both domestic and foreign press hostile to the recent INF "agreement in principle" between the White House and the Kremlin, placed part of the blame for it on Nancy Reagan's influence. Media have charged that