

National News

N.J. official proposes general testing for AIDS

In a change of policy, New Jersey Health Commissioner Frances J. Dunston announced in mid-November that the state is urging *all* residents who are sexually active be tested for the AIDS virus. Those testing positive for HIV must be reported by name and address within 24 hours to a confidential state registry.

"Heterosexual transmission is increasing and it's not related to the customary risk behaviors," Dunston said at a news conference. "Sexual activity in and of itself puts an individual at risk for HIV infection."

Dunston said that "heterosexual contact cases of HIV are the single fastest-growing category of new cases now being reported in New Jersey. This fact . . . has convinced us that we must intensify the state's HIV testing." Dunston said that 19% of the 4,100 cases testing positive reported since Jan. 1 were caused by heterosexual contact.

In October, the New Jersey Department of Health adopted regulations which require physicians to report the name and address of anyone who tests positive for HIV to a confidential registry in the department.

FBI informant charged in four murders

Robert Foley, a convicted murderer who was released from the custody of Ohio state police earlier this year on the recommendation of the FBI, has subsequently been charged in the slayings of four people found buried in a septic tank, and is suspected in the killings of others, including a state trooper, according to a Nov. 20 UPI wire.

The four bodies were found last week on the property of David E. Gross. Gross claims that Gross was killed by three men who also killed a state trooper in 1988. The trooper was found several miles from Foley's house, shot with his own gun.

Police said Robert Foley has a long history of violent behavior, dating back to his first murder convictions in Harlan County,

Kentucky in 1977. He has been convicted of one murder, charged in six more, and is a suspect in two unsolved cases. Last August, he was charged in the deaths of two brothers, Harry and Rodney Vaughn. According to the record, he killed the pair and terrorized witnesses into disposing of the bodies in a nearby creek and cleaning up the blood in his home.

Kentucky FBI agent Ron Poole told a judge in February that Foley was an FBI informant and that he should remain free on theft charges in Batavia, Ohio in order to help the FBI. The judge complied with Poole's request.

New exposé targets Bush 'secret government'

The National Program Office (NPO), a part of the "secret government" capability of the Reagan-Bush administration, skirted the U.S. Constitution when it established a line of succession to the presidency to assure the continuity of government (COG) in the event of a devastating nuclear attack, according to an exposé aired on Cable News Network Nov. 17.

Augmenting details about COG previously revealed in *EIR*, CNN reported that the NPO was created by the Reagan administration in 1982 and that it operated under the office of the vice president, then occupied by George Bush. NPO coordinated its activities with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), CIA, and the Defense and State departments. CNN highlighted the fact that Oliver North was one of the figures involved in setting up the capability. (Buster Horton, jury foreman in the LaRouche judicial railroad, was a top figure in the COG apparatus.)

Besides Bush's access to a capability that is not subject to oversight, the program listed the non-constitutionally mandated successors to the presidency—called the "Presidential Successor Support System" or "PS3." Among those on the expanded list, according to CNN, were former CIA director Richard Helms, former U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, former Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker (R-Tenn.), former Defense Secretary James Schlesing-

er, and former Attorney General Richard Thornburgh. According to one expert quoted by CNN, this apparatus "violates the very Constitution it's designed to protect."

Cult Awareness Network set up fundraising con

The Cult Awareness Network (CAN) set up an anti-cult hoax to con people out of their money, according to a man who claims to have participated in the scam, the Nov. 19 *Los Angeles Times* reported.

"A man who called a news conference Monday in Los Angeles on the 13th anniversary of the Jonestown massacre told reporters that he had falsely claimed to be a survivor of the Guyana tragedy in order to raise 'hundreds of thousands of dollars' for the Cult Awareness Network in Chicago," the paper reported.

"Gary Scarff said that network personnel encouraged him to tell untrue stories about surviving the bloodbath that claimed 914 lives in order to finance their cult deprogramming work."

CAN official Cynthia Kissler denied the charge but confirmed that Scarff had been affiliated with CAN and was thrown out of the organization when CAN personnel began to "doubt" his "wild" stories. Kissler accused Scarff of being supported by the Church of Scientology. He has denied the charge.

'Gleaners network' set up in eastern U.S.

To supplement donations of food to the poor, the Society of St. Andrew has set up a "gleaners' network" consisting of 1,100 volunteers who pick over the fields after the harvest to gather whatever the farmers have missed, the Nov. 18 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported. The gleaners' network was set up in Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina.

During September, volunteers gathered 160,000 pounds of produce over a three-week period which was donated to soup

kitchens, food banks, shelters, and charity groups. There are so many new people showing up at food distributions points that donated food cannot meet the demand. The same situation prevails nationally and throughout Canada. The resort to gleanng the fields has been adopted by church charity groups in Minnesota and other Midwestern farm belt states.

The gleanng tradition goes back to pre-biblical times, and until recently, was more typical of Third World countries and the Soviet Union, where food is constantly in short supply.

Michigan moves to revoke Kevorkian license

The 12-member Michigan Board of Medicine voted unanimously Nov. 20 to suspend the medical license of pathologist Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who is using his "suicide machine" to help "patients" people kill themselves. After accusing Kevorkian of several violations of the state's public health code, Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelly asked the medical board to start the suspension process. The request came after the deaths of three women. The Attorney General's request will be heard Dec. 19 in Lansing.

When Kevorkian used his "suicide machine" to kill an Oregon woman in 1990, a Michigan judge dismissed the case because the state has no specific law against assisting suicide. Another Michigan court permanently enjoined him from "conducting any acts to help a patient commit suicide regardless of the modality employed." Ignoring this, Kevorkian killed another two women in Michigan in October.

Kelly, who called all of these deaths suicides, said: "Regardless of his motives, Dr. Kevorkian's actions appear to be beyond the law. They must be addressed by proper authority. Under our system, people are not allowed to take the law in their own hands."

In June 1990, the Club of Life petitioned the Michigan Board of Medicine, the governor, and the Oakland County prosecutor, calling for the suspension of Kevorkian's license.

Michigan assistance cuts reminiscent of Nazis

The cutting of general assistance money in Michigan was called by the state's director of social services, Gerald Miller, "a really interesting social experiment." Beginning in October, according to the Nov. 21 *Washington Post*, 90,000 people in the state lost their sole source of income. By classifying these poor as "employable," Miller said, the state will "save" \$240 million. "I want to find out where these people will go," he said. "I'm baffled, we expected a major [homeless] problem, and we haven't seen it yet."

According to officials in Washington, D.C., Michigan's cuts are "the most significant wholesale elimination of a program anywhere in the country" and represent a model for the nation.

One study of a group of 64 people renting apartments in downtown Grand Rapids, who had been cut from assistance benefits, showed that only 10 had been able to find jobs. One of the people who had been cut off said, "A lot of people are worried they'll be put out. Here, it is the dead of winter."

The Michigan State Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal to reinstate an assistance program for 83,000 people, the Nov. 24 *New York Times* reported. The program averaged \$144 per month plus food stamps. There are now seven states without general assistance programs: including Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia, in addition to Michigan.

In the past year, the *Washington Times* reported, states have been saving money by cutting welfare:

California saved \$5 billion by cutting Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefits by \$30, and cutting cost of living escalators for all categories of aid.

Connecticut saved \$51 million by changing eligibility rules and another \$24 million by eliminating cost-of-living escalators.

Illinois saved \$27 million by reducing assistance from 12 to 9 months.

Maryland saved \$27 million by rolling back amounts to 1989 levels and not covering hospital costs for welfare patients.

Briefly

● **THE JEWISH** Defense League assassinated Rabbi Meir Kahane, defense attorney William Kunstler charged in his opening arguments in the trial of El Sayyid Nosair, the man accused of killing JDL leader Kahane. Kunstler portrayed Nosair as a moderate who met with Kahane because he believed Kahane was softening his anti-Arab position.

● **THE MARIJUANA** harvest in Maine has doubled in the past year, according to state narcotics agents. The *Maine Times* reported that a spokesman for the state agency "stopped short of endorsing the enterprise as an antidote to recession."

● **A POLITICAL** cartoon in the Nov. 20 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* in Virginia showed George "Nero" Bush in a Roman toga with a laurel wreath on his head, playing a violin while a fire rages in the background. The fire is labeled "Recession."

● **MASSACHUSETTS** will become the first state to allow betting by phone. People who play the state lottery can phone a 900 number, for which they will be charged \$1 for the bet plus 95¢ for the call. To "safeguard" against children placing bets, the computer that answers the phone tells callers that children aren't allowed to gamble.

● **DEREK HUMPHRY**, the founder of the Hemlock Society, told the Nov. 15 *Minneapolis Star Tribune* that he intends to place an initiative for euthanasia on the California ballot. He blamed the defeat of his Nazi initiative in Washington State on tactical errors.

● **MIDDLE EAST** Watch, chaired by Gary Sick, has published "Needless Deaths in the Gulf War," which includes confirmation by Pentagon officials that the Iraqi electrical system was targeted; not to achieve a "concrete and direct military advantage," but to demoralize the population. This violates the Geneva Conventions, which require that belligerents distinguish between military targets and civilians.