

# Business Briefs

## AIDS

### Virginia law would test at 5 years old

Republican Delegate Robert K. Cunningham of Springfield has introduced legislation in the Virginia state legislature in Richmond that would require all Virginians over five years of age to be tested for AIDS by July 1989, or risk facing misdemeanor charges.

"We're talking about the greatest good for the greatest number," said Cunningham of his proposal, which has been opposed by a state cabinet secretary and by Democrats in Virginia's House of Delegates. "AIDS is an epidemic," Cunningham spelled out in a letter to House members. "It is essential, without panic, to resort to those measures which will limit its spread and shield the uninfected in order to protect their rights to freedom from fear of fatal infection."

Under Cunningham's bill, all adults would be informed of test results, and a child's test results would be given to the parents. A report of all positive results would be sent to the state Department of Health, which would keep all such information confidential.

Cunningham has also drafted a law making it a felony for an AIDS carrier to transmit the disease knowingly through sex or blood donation.

Human Resources Secretary Eva S. Teig has argued that the budget would probably not contain enough allocated money to pay for the testing required by Cunningham's bill.

## Biological Holocaust

### CDC covers up mosquito spread, too

The Atlanta Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is keeping a low profile on the issue of the spread of the so-called tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) throughout 17 of the eastern United States. Despite the low profile, some CDC sources say "a biological timebomb is ticking."

According to reports from public health experts, what frightens the CDC officials has been the discovery of cases of the dangerous Dengue hemorrhagic fever as far north as Baltimore. There is evidence indicating that this frightening infection is being spread by the tiger mosquito.

The fear is, that beginning next spring, there could be a spread of the tiger mosquito pestilence as far north as Boston, and as far west as the Rocky Mountains, affecting potentially a 35-state area. One source close to CDC is quoted, that if we can not control the spread of the tiger mosquito, "the first Dengue fever epidemic in the United States since 1945" could erupt this summer.

It is reported that the tiger mosquito is an Asian variety also found in Madagascar. It is known to be "a dangerous transmitter of yellow fever, Dengue, and some special forms of encephalitis." It is an efficient transmitter of a nastier form of Dengue native to Cuba, Dengue hemorrhagic.

## Foreign Exchange

### Secret central bank accord on dollar

An unannounced agreement reached between world central banks, in the context of the recent Group of Seven accord on the dollar and the markets, provides for a special dollar-support fund, that is creating "a sea change in the character of American debt and in dollar-support operations," a senior London financial source told *EIR* Jan. 27.

The special fund of \$15 billion is money lent to the U.S. government to support the dollar, in the foreign currencies of Europe and Japan.

"It's the end of the unilateral buy-up of dollars. The Americans are moving in the direction of having their indebtedness in foreign currencies and, in that respect, the United States's debt character becomes identical to that of Mexico and Brazil, which pay their debt in foreign currencies."

A potential test case of this arrangement, is the reported Feb. 2 U.S. Treasury Bond offer of \$27 billion, he noted. "How will foreign central banks buy the bonds? Since no private bank, individual buyer, or pen-

sion fund will buy dollars, foreign central banks will have to buy in a big way. The big question is, is a secret agreement being reached with the U.S. Treasury, to have a fixed exchange rate of foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar, coupled to a U.S. commitment to repay in foreign currencies?" The United States has been unwilling to do this before, he said, "but the crisis of the dollar may force a revision of this attitude."

This expert claimed that recent reports from Tokyo of imminent massive Japanese purchases of long-term U.S. Treasury Bonds, should be seen in that context. The Japanese purchases are intended to "ensure smooth sales of U.S. government securities and restrict increases in long-term interest rates," according to the report of Jiji news service. This policy is "likely to have great influence on Japanese institutional investors . . . who now seem cautious about investing in the United States due to the decline of the dollar," the release continued.

## Foreign Investment

### China to develop its coastal areas

Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang said Jan. 22 that China must attract foreign investment with its low-wage export industries. China should "miss no chance to get its coastal areas engaged in drawing more foreign investment and boosting export-oriented production in a bid to get involved in international exchange and competition," he was quoted in *China Daily* Jan. 23.

Said Zhao, "We should do a good job attracting foreign investment, since our coastal areas boast the advantages of low-paid laborers with high expertise." Another drawing card for China's coastal areas is good infrastructure, he said.

"This development strategy is of significance politically and economically," he continued, calling for top priority emphasis on launching wholly foreign-funded enterprises. Previously, China has given approval to only a very few wholly foreign-owned enterprises.

Zhao said that opportunities to develop