

National News

AIDS victim awarded damages for 'slander'

A county circuit court Portland, Oregon has awarded damages to a man with AIDS who works in abortion clinic, because an anti-abortion activist informed women going to the clinic of his condition. The court judged the warnings to be "slander."

Anti-abortion activist Priscilla Martin was sued for \$175,000 for slander and another \$175,000 for causing distress to a homosexual abortion clinic counselor when she told clinic patients to "be careful" because the counselor, Timothy Shuck, had AIDS.

Shuck announced on television two years earlier that he had the killer disease, and admitted in the Multnomah County Circuit Court that he draws blood and hugs and kisses women who are getting abortions at the Lovejoy Surgicenter, where he is employed.

But the court concluded that if defendant Martin could not prove Shuck was infectious, then she was guilty of slander!

Her attorney called the verdict a "signal to the public not to warn possible victims of exposure to a fatal infection."

Study admits twice as many AIDS victims

A new statistical analysis of official data on the number of AIDS cases in the United States has arrived at the conclusion that there are at least twice as many Americans infected with AIDS as the official government figures, and that there are many more heterosexuals infected as well.

The New York-based Hudson Institute, which conducted the study, says that the number of AIDS cases is at least double the figures cited by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, the government center for monitoring disease and its spread.

According to the study, the infection rate among heterosexuals may be three times higher than the government's figures.

A spokesman said that the institute's study was based on "realistic" assumptions not used by the Centers for Disease Control, and indicated that 3 million Americans are probably infected. The CDC says that only 1.4 million are infected.

The study used the basic CDC figures, according to the spokesman, but subjected them to more sophisticated statistical analysis.

That would tend to indicate that the figures are probably much higher still, since the CDC's definition of AIDS, which was also adopted by the Hudson Institute, is overly restrictive, and designed to undercount AIDS cases to minimize public alarm.

Old 'Team B' figures praise George Bush

Richard Pipes and Seymour Weiss, leading strategic analysts specializing in the Soviet bloc, wrote a commentary for the Sunday, Aug. 21 *Washington Post* praising George Bush for his "great civic courage" in backing the intelligence finding that challenged the concept of mutually assured destruction (MAD).

Both writers were members of the Central Intelligence Agency's "Team B," which came up with that finding in 1976.

While Director of Central Intelligence from 1975-76, Bush backed the creation of Team B, whose analysis concluded that the Soviet order of battle includes the option of first use of nuclear weapons, and the belief that a nuclear war was "winnable." Mutually Assured Destruction was thus deemed a useless and dangerous doctrine for governing the West's strategic posture.

Team B's findings created major controversy, for the first time calling into question the Establishment's institutional commitment to MAD.

In their *Post* commentary, Pipes and Weiss quote Vadim Zagladin, the deputy director of the Soviet Central Committee's

International Department, in a 1988 statement, presumably referring to the Brezhnev era, "Rejecting nuclear war and struggling to prevent it, we, nevertheless, proceeded from the possibility of winning victory in it."

National Guard mad at flap over Quayle

A spokesman for the Association of the U.S. Army told *EIR* on Aug. 21 that National Guard members are outraged at the attacks on Sen. Dan Quayle for his decision to serve in the Guard.

In 1969-70, the spokesman said, the U.S. Army wanted to call up the Guard for service in Vietnam, and almost everyone in the Guard expected to go to war at a moment's notice.

However, Democratic President Lyndon Johnson decided that this was too much of a political hot potato. That was the only reason Dan Quayle's unit was not on a call-up list.

The spokesman added that if the disparaging of Guard service continues, it may become difficult to recruit and maintain in-depth reserves.

Tuning debate comes to the United States

The Sunday, Aug. 21 edition of the Newark, New Jersey *Star Ledger* carried a full-page article on the debate over standard pitch initiated by the Schiller Institute.

The article was prompted by the endorsement of lowering standard pitch from A = 440 vibrations per second to A = 432 by leading singers, instrumentalists, and ticket-holders of the New Jersey State Opera. The article emphasized the importance of the soprano and tenor's natural registral shift at an F-sharp, as one "physical fact" arguing for the tuning.

The issue goes back to an April confer-

ence in Milan, Italy, where the Schiller Institute, headed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, lined up leading music celebrities to endorse a petition to reduce orchestral tuning to the "scientifically determined" value of $A = 432$ ($C = 256$). Legislation to this effect will be introduced in the Italian parliament this month.

"To get singers to agree on the time of day can be a difficult assignment," begins music reviewer and Newhouse chain columnist Michael Redmond in the *Star Ledger* article.

"When singers of the stature of Renata Tebaldi, Luciano Pavarotti, Piero Cappuccilli, Montserrat Caballé, Plácido Domingo, Birgit Nilsson, Bidú Sayão, Carlo Bergonzi, Alfredo Kraus, Peter Schreier, Christa Ludwig, and Kurt Moll, just to name a few, not only agree to agree, but agree to make common cause in a matter of considerable controversy, well, this is news."

He reports, "No one disputes that the register shift occurs at F-sharp according to traditional tuning ($C = 256$, $A = 432$). But when tuning is as high as $A = 440$, the shift arrives prematurely at F or even at E-flat, and singers are forced to sing against the physiology of the voice in order to make the notes. This puts singers at real peril of stripping their vocal gears."

Schiller Institute spokesmen also argue that, since the point of registral shift is the key reason that the great composers chose a certain key in which to compose a piece of music, and is therefore the key to that music's proper performance, the too-high tuning clearly distorts the music.

FBI spied on Supreme Court

The FBI kept a confidential file on the members of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1932 through at least 1985, FBI documents recently released under the Freedom of Information Act show. The FOIA documents were disclosed to a North Carolina journalist.

The initial review of the file shows that the FBI wiretapped or monitored discus-

sions involving Judges William Douglas, Earl Warren, Abe Fortas, and Potter Stewart. In addition, some court employees were used as FBI informants, including the chief of the Supreme Court police.

One pretext for the earlier phase of the operation was alleged communist influence over Supreme Court justices. The FBI's justification for its more recent monitoring is not clear.

Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark claims that he was unaware of the FBI operation.

Spokesmen for the FBI have refused to comment on the file.

California ruling threatens comatose

A California ruling that could kill thousands of coma patients has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

State Deputy Public Defender Michael Pescetta will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review an "unprecedented" euthanasia decision that allows the brother of William Drabick, 44, comatose since an auto accident in 1983, to authorize the removal of his feeding tube.

The April ruling by the California Court of Appeals overturns a Superior Court decision opposing such action.

The new ruling, for the first time in California, would authorize a relative, conservator, or "other persons" to make life and death decisions for a patient without his prior written consent. Conservatorship proceedings are not even required!

Pescetta appealed that decision to the State Supreme Court because the appellate ruling was so broad that it risked the lives of thousands of comatose patients, amounting to "a license for the disposition of lives which are considered by others to be useless and costly."

The State Supreme Court refused to hear the case on July 25. Thus, Pescetta will go to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has never ruled on a "right to die" dispute.

Briefly

● **A POLL** by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union showed that two out of five of its members who voted for Ronald Reagan in 1984 do not intend to vote for George Bush in 1988.

● **PRESIDENT REAGAN**, in a message to the East-West physicists meeting in Erice, Italy, reaffirmed his Strategic Defense Initiative. "Our objective is to see how the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. can jointly aim at a defense that does not represent any threat. . . . As we have explained to the Soviet Union, our objective is that of reducing the risk of nuclear war, by exploring those defense technologies that could, if realized, oppose the threat of nuclear weapons."

● **RICO** (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act statutes are being badly abused by federal prosecutors, who are using them against "corporate directors, accountants, and others whose only link to a racket is the tennis court," complained an Aug. 23 editorial in the *Wall Street Journal*, which demanded that Attorney General Richard Thornburgh press Congress to reform the law.

● **PAT BUCHANAN**, the former White House aide, labeled the liberal media's attack on GOP vice presidential nominee Sen. Dan Quayle "character assassination," during an interview on ABC-TV's "Nightline." Moderator Ted Koppel called Buchanan's views "partisan." He replied, "I may seem more partisan than I am, since the rest of the media are partisans of the Dukakis campaign. . . . The media is out to destroy the Bush-Quayle ticket."

● **STANSFIELD TURNER**, the former CIA director, told a congressional subcommittee that secrecy pledges required of retiring intelligence officers result in a "gross abuse of the constitutional right to free speech." He said such pledges should be limited to 10 years.