

use of space," including for anti-satellite capabilities, and "would like to sit down with the Soviets and work out a ban on weapons in space" as one of his top priorities as president. In explaining this position, the aide reported that Glenn believes "there is a bigger danger posed to peace by the proliferation of nuclear weapons in Third World countries than by the Soviet Union," and rather irately contended that Glenn is "the real Mr. Star Wars" because "he realizes that space is not the place for weapons" whereas Reagan—"the false Mr. Star Wars"—"wants to put weapons all over space."

Glenn's support of the nuclear freeze and his opposition to a beam defense for the country are features of a strategic outlook that would make the United States a virtual hostage to the Soviet Union. Glenn hysterically denies that the Soviet Union is committed to a nuclear war-winning doctrine, and insists that what the United States and its NATO allies must emphasize is conventional rather than strategic forces. In a major statement on military policy issued by the Harriman-controlled Center for National Policy last spring, Glenn detailed some of his other major military proposals, which included:

- Scrambling the MX missile in favor of a small, mobile missile, a proposal also favored by Henry Kissinger.

- Reducing U.S. troop levels in Europe—which would make Western Europe more vulnerable to Soviet encroachments.

- Replacing the Joint Chiefs of Staff system with one modeled on the British. In Glenn's view, this measure would greatly reduce the influence of the military services over both military policy and military procurement, and would enable the central military staff to make "hard program choices."

- Building up the U.S.'s conventional deterrent. Significantly, Glenn motivates this proposal by stressing that the United States may have to fight a series of wars with Third World countries: "Third World threats to American interests are secondary when compared to the Soviet menace," Glenn noted in his Center for National Policy piece, but "they are neither negligible nor ignorable. If we concentrate too much on the Soviets in our weapons and in our deployment of forces, we may run limited but still substantial risks in conflicts that have little to do with the U.S./Soviet rivalry."

Glenn's statements put him squarely in the camp of those policy circles which see U.S. military capabilities as primarily an instrument for debt-collection in Third World countries rather than for defending the nation against its avowed enemies. But it all fits with the genocidal consequences of his "non-proliferation" profile: The biggest proponents of a U.S. military meddling in the developing sector are men like former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and the population-control fanatics in the State Department, who can see no faster way to curb population growth among what they consider to be "inferior" races.

*Part II of this candidate profile will deal with Glenn's strategic and economic policies and his recent activities in Ibero-America.*

## 'Auschwitz' bill passes

by Marianna Wertz

The California legislature cast a final vote on Sept. 15, passing Senate Bill 762, which extends the "durable powers of attorney" to health care provisions. The Senate vote, on concurrence with the assembly's amendments, was 28 to 3; the assembly's vote was 71 to 0. The bill has been denounced by pro-life, minority, trade union, and religious leaders from around the world as "Nazi euthanasia" legislation. SB 762 will become state law unless it is vetoed, as its opponents have urged, by Republican Gov. George Deukmejian within 12 days.

SB 762 grants the power to "pull the plug" of a patient to any designated friend or relative, through authorization as an "attorney in fact." As the bill itself states, it would "authorize the attorney in fact to make health care decisions for the principal before or after the death of the principal, including those which would dispose of the body or parts thereof. . . ." In fact, the only medical procedures excluded are commitment of the patient to a mental institution, psychosurgery, shock treatment, sterilization, and abortion.

The California bill was prompted by the well-publicized murder indictment of two California physicians who disconnected the life support systems of Clarence Herbert, a comatose patient at a Kaiser-Permanente HMO in Harbor City. Convinced by the physicians that her husband was "hopelessly ill," Mrs. Herbert consented to the removal of all life support systems. When Mr. Herbert continued to breathe on his own, the doctors also removed his feeding tubes. He died six days later; dehydration was listed as a major cause of death.

A municipal court judge dismissed the murder charges brought by the Los Angeles District Attorney against the two doctors in early 1982, but Superior Court Judge Robert Wenke reversed the decision. The physicians' appeal of their indictment for murder and conspiracy to commit murder is now pending in the second division of the California Appellate Court.

The bill's sponsor is Sen. Barry Keene (D-Vallejo), whose district includes Ukiah, former home town of euthanasia advocate and cult leader Jim Jones. Keene was also the sponsor of the nation's first "death with dignity" bill, California's 1976 Natural Death Act.

# California legislature

## **'Doctors would become hangmen'**

Opposition to SB 762 has been mobilized by the Club of Life, the international pro-life organization whose Sept. 16 conference on "Medical Science and the Fight Against Genocide" featured Sandra Bardenilla, the nursing supervisor at Kaiser-Permanente who first brought Clarence Herbert's case to public attention. California Club of Life spokeswoman Evelyn Lantz submitted testimony in opposition to the bill in hearings in the Judiciary and Ways and Means Committees in the State Assembly in August. Appearing as the only vocal opposition at that time, she said:

"Those legislators who believe they are acting out of compassion in supporting this bill should look a little more closely. This bill could be named 'The Accelerated Inheritance Act of 1983.' It seeks to legitimize a petty, greedy scheme where relatives can pull the plug on their loved one before expensive hospital costs eat up the entire few thousand dollars inheritance. Insurance companies have also been big promoters of the 'right to die' legislation. They expect to save a lot of money. Is this the kind of 'enlightened' outlook you wish to support?"

Mrs. Lantz also pointed to the testimony of Dr. Leo Alexander, a high-ranking American physician at the Nuremberg trials of the Nazi war crimes, which included euthanasia. Dr. Alexander testified that "systematic murder by the Nazi doctors began with small beginnings in the euthanasia movement."

The same points of attack were taken by Dr. Frank J. Higgins, president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Los Angeles and Southern California, in motivating passage of a resolution opposing the bill in early September. Dr. Higgins told the representatives of hundreds of black Baptist churches, "The insurance companies are trying to save money by pulling peoples' plugs." The resolution passed the conference Sept. 12. It states in part:

"Whereas, the first step into the nightmare of Nazi genocide was the subjection to euthanasia of those chronically ill persons whose lives were discarded as 'not worthy to be lived'; and

"Whereas, the medical profession is under increasing pressure to cut costs by eliminating the treatment of the critically ill, especially those who are indigent; and

"Whereas, our commitment under the U.S. constitution and the Judeo-Christian tradition to preserve life justifies a crash program comparable in magnitude to the Apollo space project to solve the chronic diseases including cancer and heart disease. . . ." It resolves to call on Governor Deukmejian to veto SB 762.

Telegrams to Governor Deukmejian have been pouring in from Europe as well. A very important message was sent by Dr. Hoppe, first president of the Marburger Bund, a physicians' association in West Germany: "As a practicing physician and a president of a large German doctors' association, I heard with deep concern about the impending passage of the 'Euthanasia' Bill SB 762. I urge you strongly to refrain from signing this bill, should it be passed, as it would degrade doctors to hangmen and patients to 'useless eaters.' Your veto of this bill would be a great service to humanity."

## **Fight in right-to-life ranks**

The "official" right-to-life lobby in California initially opposed SB 762 as "suicide by proxy." That opposition, by the Pro-Life Council, was withdrawn before the Assembly voted under counterorganizing pressure from Ken Mitzner, an official of the Jewish Life Issues Committee. Mitzner argued for what might be called "preventive genocide": such legislation will pass anyway, so the right-to-life position should be to support the best possible amended version.

Following heated arguments with Club of Life spokesmen and assembly opponents of the bill, the Pro-Life Council's legislative consultant submitted a statement in opposition to the bill. Cited in the Pro-Life Council's paper are two important points:

1) The bill's Section 2438 grants "health care providers immunity from criminal prosecution, civil liability and professional disciplinary action while operating within the provisions of this bill. . . . This section therefore becomes a blanket immunity."

2) The Pro-Life Council charges that while insurance companies and health care providers may not condition admission to a hospital or insurance on a requirement that a patient execute a durable power of attorney, the legislation in no way excludes the lowering of fees or costs to a signer of a power of attorney.

Opposition to SB 762 has been focusing on the only remaining point of attack: the veto by Governor Deukmejian. The Club of Life issued 100,000 flyers throughout California, titled "SB 762 is One Step to Auschwitz." Mailgrams are being sent from hundreds of community leaders throughout the state with the message that "SB 762 is nothing less than enabling legislation for the systematic murder of those whom society finds too expensive to keep alive." One of the signers on this mailgram is George Valencia, Civil Rights chairman of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) in California, who told his supporters "They might as well get out the ovens. That's what this bill is all about."