

## National News

---

### New Jersey high court rules for euthanasia

The euthanasia policy for which Nazi doctors were hung at Nuremberg was once again sanctioned by the American court system on Jan. 18, when the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that all life-sustaining medical treatment, including *food*, can be withheld from terminally ill patients.

The 6-1 decision came in the case of Clare Conroy, an elderly New Jersey nursing-home patient. Two years ago, her nephew sought to have her feeding tubes removed. Members of the right-to-life movement secured a stay of execution, so to speak, but she died a few weeks later of pneumonia. An Appellate Court had ruled last year that it would have been tantamount to murder to stop feeding her.

The decision applies "only" to New Jersey's 44,000 nursing-home patients.

---

### Mob bankers join attack against Reagan

New Jersey's top organized-crime frontmen have teamed up with the Roman Catholic archbishop of Newark, Peter Gerety, in a campaign to popularize the recently released U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter. The document, issued Nov. 12, is a corporatist attack on technological development, material progress, and defense spending. According to its drafters, the letter was intended to serve as a rallying point for attacks on the Reagan administration and to help create an anti-growth Green movement in the United States.

Msgr. John Petillo, chancellor of Seton Hall College in New Jersey, has organized a discussion group of top bankers and other businessmen to work out methods of implementing the pastoral. Among them is Robert Ferguson, chairman of First National State Bank Corp.—the bank that stole funds from Lyndon LaRouche's 1984 presidential campaign effort. Ferguson's bank finances organized crime's casino gambling operations

in Atlantic City. Also prominent in the "discussion group" is Robert Brennan, president of First Jersey Securities—another New Jersey "go-go" bank.

Archbishop Gerety has a long record of running cover for the seamier side of New Jersey life. In 1980, the New Jersey Conference of Catholic Bishops, which he heads, engineered the defeat of a bill in the state assembly which would have stopped a State Board of Education mandate for a "sex education" program in the public schools. The "sex-ed" curriculum was revealed to advocate homosexuality and prostitution as "alternative lifestyles."

Gerety is planning a series of hearings on the new pastoral letter.

---

### Les Aspin to use SDI to kill MX missile

Congressman Les Aspin (D-Wisc.), the new head of the House Armed Services Committee, has come up with a scheme for torpedoing both the MX missile program and the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) in one fell swoop.

Speaking before the Carnegie Foundation in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 16, he hailed the SDI as a better "bargaining chip" for arms-control negotiations than the MX, and declared that the shift from offensive to defensive systems now makes the MX program unnecessary. "Isn't the threat to build defensive systems around our missiles . . . a more rational threat—and, therefore, a better bargaining chip—than the threat to build MX and thereby put to risk our missiles?" he asked. Attacking the Pentagon for refusing to consider scrapping the SDI even if the Soviets agreed to cut down on offensive systems, Aspin added: "Isn't a defense-offense exchange with the Soviets a good deal?"

Aspin warned that "Congress is not likely to vote the administration's way on all these issues just because arms talks are going on."

Aspin is an Oxford-trained former aide to 1960s U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and to Wisconsin Sen. William Proxmire, a defense-budget-cutting fanatic.

---

---

### JDL terrorists: 'We want LaRouche dead'

A dozen terrorists from the Jewish Defense League (JDL) staged a rally on Jan. 13 in front of the New York offices of Campaigner Publications, to issue a public death threat against Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. The demonstrators chanted, "Who do we want? LaRouche! How do we want him? Dead!" New York City police deterred the demonstrators from entering the Campaigner offices. Campaigner publishes *EIR* and other publications associated with LaRouche.

The JDL is an asset of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), itself an arm of the international drug lobby. The threats coincided with the Fourth International Conference of the Schiller Institute in Richmond, Virginia, at which LaRouche was a featured speaker. The conference and subsequent Schiller Institute-sponsored demonstration in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 15 were targets of intensive harassment from ADL-drug lobby channels in the period building up to the JDL death threat.

---

### Goldwater rejects defense spending freeze

Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), who one month ago was demanding cuts in defense programs like the MX missile to reduce the budget deficit, has reversed his position and is now insisting that any freeze in the budget for defense "could seriously damage the national security of the United States and compromise our ability to provide program management stability in the Pentagon."

Goldwater spoke after a Jan. 11 meeting with Senate Republican leaders who were advocating the defense freeze. Cuts at this time, he said, would send "a wrong and dangerous signal to our NATO allies and our adversaries." Noting that the allies have fulfilled their commitment to a 3% defense increase, "despite the fact that they are faced

with more difficult domestic economic problems than the United States," Goldwater asserted that "a funding freeze on defense would seriously threaten that allied effort."

The senator added that substantial reductions in procurement and R&D programs "would result in the very weapons program inefficiencies and waste which both the Pentagon and Congress have sought to eliminate."

## 'Private' U.S.-Soviet talks in high gear

Senator Gary Hart (D-Colo.) went to the Soviet Union in mid-January for meetings with top-level Soviet officials. He held a private session at the Kremlin with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, the first such meeting with an American politician since the Jan. 7-8 U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva. According to Hart, "Gromyko repeatedly stated Soviet opposition to expanding the arms race into space," and warned that U.S. adherence to the "Star Wars" policy could jeopardize U.S.-Soviet arms talks on all levels.

The day before Hart's arrival, 10 congressmen from the House Foreign Affairs Committee, led by California Rep. Tom Lantos, met with delegates from the Supreme Soviet, officials from the U.S. and Canada Institute, and officials from the foreign trade ministry.

Meanwhile, the Soviets dispatched a team to tour the United States, led by space program director Roald Sagdeev. They held private meetings with leading U.S. proponents of a "New Yalta" division of the world into new spheres of influence—including Richard Gardner, Helmut Sonnenfeldt, and Brent Skowcroft—at the United Nations Association offices in New York, following Sagdeev's appearance at a meeting sponsored by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Washington, D.C. Both meetings focused heavily on "the militarization of space." The Soviet team also went to the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, California, and was hosted by the Los Angeles World Affairs Council on Jan. 21.

## Gen. Gorman to resign from Panama command

General Paul Gorman, head of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, will resign from his post in several months to take up a career in "farming," announced a Pentagon spokesman on Jan. 10.

Since assuming his present post in May 1983, Gorman has functioned as the key on-the-ground implementer of Henry Kissinger's scenario for continuing the turmoil in Central America as a pretext to withdraw U.S. troops from Western Europe. Last year, Gorman created an international furor when he charged that Mexico was a threat to U.S. national security because it was "corrupt" and politically "unstable." Then-presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche demanded Gorman's immediate resignation.

## Marijuana is U.S.A.'s second largest crop

The National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) issued a report Jan. 18 claiming that the United States had produced a record marijuana crop, worth \$16.6 billion. The report claims that marijuana was the second largest cash crop in the entire U.S. last year, falling behind the \$20 billion corn crop and ahead of the \$11.9 billion soybean crop.

The top five states, in terms of dollar volume of marijuana production, are California, Hawaii, Oregon, Kentucky, and North Carolina, according to the report.

NORML also states that marijuana was one of the top three cash crops in 22 states, and the top crop in 10 states, including Alabama, California, Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. NORML Executive Director Kevin Zeese said that 1984 marked the first time that more than half of the marijuana consumed in the United States was domestically produced.

## Briefly

● **ANTI-TECHNOLOGY** moles in the U.S. government are trying to sabotage the scientific foundations of beam-weapon research by cutting the inertial confinement fusion (ICF) program by more than 55%, informed sources report. The fiscal 1986 laser-fusion budget has been cut back from \$154 to \$70 million. Laser fusion research facilities are crucial for the development of the most advanced types of beam weapons.

● **THE WHITE HOUSE** 'Palace Guard' is running into big trouble: Deputy Chief of Staff Richard Darman will be transferred to the Treasury Department, along with his former boss, James Baker III. Baker, Darman, and Michael Deaver were responsible for keeping the President in the dark about key policy issues during 1984.

● **JESSE JACKSON** declared at a rally in Pittsburgh Jan. 18 that Africans do not need high-technology development. "My wife just returned from Ethiopia," he said. "Africa doesn't need railroads. They only need trucks to unload the food; they need blankets and tents. We have 280,000 bridges to rebuild in *this* country."

● **DONALD HODEL** has been nominated by President Reagan to succeed William Clark as secretary of the interior. Hodel, who has been serving as energy secretary, is a consistent opponent of the environmentalists who argue that the United States should cut energy consumption and become a post-industrial society. Hodel has called them "a small, arrogant faction which is dedicated to bringing our society to a halt." At the Department of Energy, Hodel fought to save the Clinch River breeder reactor, although Congress ultimately killed off the project. Before joining the Reagan administration, Hodel headed the Bonneville Power Administration in Utah.