

over to North any classified documents that showed his actions were approved by his superiors.

"It presently appears that, at a minimum, substantive charges of cover-up, falsification, and North's alleged receipt of personal benefit derived from his conduct as a government employee can proceed to trial," said Gesell in his order.

"This trial date is six months after indictment," he added. "It must be met."

## California rules AIDS a handicap

The AIDS virus won a major victory in its battle for all civil rights normally accorded only to human beings, when a ruling handed down by a federal court in California July 8 extended the definition of handicapped to include "those who are perceived to be contagious because they carry the AIDS virus."

Lambda Defense Fund Lawyer Mickey Wheatley, who helped represent the virus in the California case, said the decision set a precedent for those who are seropositive for AIDS. "It really does give them significant new protection," said Wheatley, "and sends out a clear signal—that fear of contagion cannot be used to discriminate."

The case involved a "John Doe" who was excluded from an alcohol rehabilitation program when an AIDS test showed him seropositive. In a similar development in New York, the State Department of Health found that Westchester County Medical Center had violated the confidentiality of an AIDS-antibody carrier who was turned down for the job of pharmacist at the center because he had tested positive.

## Reagan urged to charge ABM Treaty violations

At a meeting of the National Security Planning Group on July 6, three of five presidential advisers present, Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, CIA director William Webster, and arms control chief Gen. Wil-

liam Burns, urged President Reagan to accuse the Soviet Union of committing a "material breach" of the 1972 ABM Treaty when it constructed the huge phased-array radar station at Krasnoyarsk in Siberia, the *Baltimore Sun* reported July 11.

"If he accepts the recommendation without qualification," said the *Sun* article, "the stage would be set for the United States to abrogate the treaty, which is the cornerstone of the strategic arms-control relationship between the superpowers."

A second alternative would be for the United States to make a comparable, although not necessarily similar, breach of the treaty.

Although the report does not indicate who the two members of the panel who opposed the move were, only three men in addition to the President comprise the panel: Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, and National Security Adviser Colin Powell.

## Is Bush concealing his CIA past?

George Bush was working as a CIA agent as early as 1960, according to reports appearing in the *Washington Times* and the *New York Daily News* July 11, based on a story published in *The Nation* magazine.

According to Joseph McBride, who authored the article in *The Nation*, an unidentified source "with close connections to the intelligence community" said that Bush "started working for the agency in 1960 or 1961, using his oil business as a cover for clandestine activities."

The source also claimed, "I know he was involved in the Caribbean. I know he was involved in the suppression of things after the Kennedy assassination." An FBI memo from J. Edgar Hoover to the State Department, dated Nov. 29, 1963, contained the statement that Hoover had briefed "Mr. George Bush of the Central Intelligence Agency" on the reaction of Cuban exiles in Miami to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Bush spokesman Stephen Hart denied the report.

## Briefly

● **THE PENTAGON** has lifted a freeze on payments involving nine Navy contracts after a Navy review indicated that none of nine programs were tainted by the scandal. Among the contracts reinstated were those with Litton Industries for the Digital Communications Terminal; with Unisys Corp. and TRW, Inc. for the Anti-Submarine Warfare Operations Center; with Loral, Terracom, and Canadian Commercial Corp for a Digital Wide-Band Transmission System; and with Hughes Aircraft Co. and Raytheon Co.

● **THE SPACE PROGRAM**, "despite the Pentagon's self-proclaimed recovery from a series of disasters in 1986," wrote the July 12 *Wall Street Journal*, "remains anemic next to that of the Soviet Union. The military lacks the rocket launchers and satellites needed to collect intelligence and defend the nation in the next decade."

● **'THE DISTINCTION** between licit and illicit addictive drugs is not arbitrary, as we might be led to believe," wrote pharmacologist Dr. Gabriel Nahas in a *Wall Street Journal* commentary July 11. Only 8% of daily consumers of alcohol consume amounts "damaging to their health and to society," while the comparable figure for marijuana, cocaine, and opiates is "about 50%, 90%, and 95%, respectively."

● **GARY HART** has signed on with the Soviet press agency Novosti as a columnist for its Moscow News syndicate, which distributes material to 800 news outlets including *Pravda*. Hart, the *Washington Times* noted, is the first non-communist Westerner to write for Moscow News, and has already had two columns printed.

● **FORMER DUKAKIS** aide Gerard Indelicato, once a top education adviser to the governor, was sentenced to 2½ years in federal prison for defrauding Massachusetts of \$80,000. Indelicato pleaded guilty April 21 to charges of conspiracy, mail fraud, perjury, and tax evasion.