

# National News

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## 'Gay rights' fund to target congressmen

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, a homosexuals' fundraising organization, plans to give \$250,000 to candidates favoring the "civil rights" of AIDS victims, and to mount a drive to unseat politicians who favor public health measures to deal with the threat of an AIDS epidemic, such as California Reps. William Dannemeyer (R) and Robert Dornan (R).

Among those to be aided by the HRCF are Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-Conn.) and the following Democratic congressmen: Henry Waxman (Calif.), Ted Weiss (N.Y.), and William Natcher (Ky.).

Dannemeyer has introduced legislation mandating public health measures to curb the spread of AIDS. Dannemeyer has dropped out of the race for U.S. Senate due to fundraising problems that he says are unrelated to his AIDS stance, but his opponents, including "gay-basher" Ed Davis, dispute this. A Davis spokesman said: "You can't win a campaign based on fear . . . of AIDS."

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## Meese denies role in Graham appointment

Attorney-General Edwin Meese denied having played any role in the appointment of NASA Acting Director William Graham, who is under heavy criticism for incompetence in his handling of the Space Shuttle program.

During an appearance at National Press Club on Feb. 25, Meese was asked: "It is widely rumored in NASA circles that you are the political godfather of acting NASA Director Graham. Yet James Beggs, the indicted NASA director, said he would resign only if Graham, whom he considers unqualified, didn't get the job. Now the question is, would you please comment on Graham's qualifications for the NASA post? Do you believe he should remain on the job, and have you discussed the subject with the White House?"

Meese replied: "First of all, I had nothing to do with any of the people being appointed to or being suggested for those jobs, either Mr. Beggs or Mr. Graham. I have had nothing to do with any—any contact whatsoever with the White House with regard to Mr. Graham, so I would be totally unable to answer the question other than to say that it is not something in which I have been involved."

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## Ferraro's son busted for cocaine deals

John Zaccaro, Jr., son of 1984 Democratic vice-presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro, was arrested Feb. 22 on charges of possession of cocaine with intent to sell. The bust came in Middlebury, Vermont where he attends school. Students at the college call John Jr. "The Pharmacist," and say he returned to campus an established dealer after taking a year off from school, ostensibly to campaign for Gerry. The campus comment on Zaccaro's arrest: "My Mom likes Pepsi, but I like Coke."

Scandal is no stranger to the Zaccaro-Ferraro household. During the presidential campaign, it was revealed that hubby John's "real estate business" included management of slum properties and the warehouse of the largest distributor of child pornography on the East Coast.

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## U.S. extradites alleged Nazi criminal

The U.S. Supreme Court refused on Feb. 24 to block the extradition to Israel of John Demjanjuk, a retired Cleveland auto worker targeted by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) as a Nazi war criminal. Demjanjuk is the first U.S. citizen to be extradited for war crimes, and will go on public trial in Israel—the first person to do so since Adolf Eichmann's trial 25 years ago.

Demjanjuk is accused of being a guard and gas chamber operator at Treblinka, Poland, where 900,000 Jews were executed

during World War II.

Intelligence analysts believe that the OSI's case is based on fraudulent evidence, supplied by tainted sources in the Soviet Union and Israel. The intent of the extradition is to rev up psychosis in Israel, around the memory of the Holocaust, thereby feeding the political power play of Ariel Sharon.

The Office of Special Investigations is notorious for its politically motivated "anti-Nazi" witchhunts, based on "information" provided by KGB sources.

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## Administration reports on anti-drug efforts

The U.S. State Department released its annual report on the narcotics trade on Feb. 21. It criticizes Mexico and Bolivia, while praising the anti-drug efforts of Peru and Colombia.

In Mexico, the report says, the "combined efforts" of expanded drug production and corruption among anti-drug officials, has led to a "lack of results." Bolivia, the State Department claims, has not taken sufficient steps and remains a major producer of cocaine, in "unacceptably high" amounts. The report does not mention the aversive effect on Bolivia's anti-drug fight of economic pressures on former President Hernán Siles Zuazo, from the side of the State Department and the International Monetary Fund.

Colombia is praised in the report for its eradication efforts, especially the use of herbicides which was implemented in 1985. The study also applauds Peru's determination to overcome the problems it confronts in the war on drugs.

U.S. policy in 1986 is to emphasize "unification of international efforts," the State Department concludes.

Meanwhile, U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese told the National Governors' Association on Feb. 25 that the U.S. state and federal anti-drug effort in 1985 was quite successful. But others are not so sure: Rep. William Hughes (D-N.J.) accused the federal government of spending less money to combat drug trafficking than in any recent year. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) attacked the federal government for not pro-

viding enough funds for anti-drug education. He said that stopping the flow of illegal drugs is impossible, and that efforts should instead concentrate on preventing drug abuse, while letting the country drown in dope.

## Pilots' union votes no confidence on safety

The union representing 6,000 United Airlines pilots passed a resolution on Feb. 21 expressing "no confidence" in the management of United Airlines and questioning the airline's safety.

The resolution was announced on Feb. 25 by Roger Hall, chairman of the United Airlines master executive council of the Air Line Pilots' Association. "This unprecedented action was brought about by the pilots' concern over the reduced standards of safety since the airlines were deregulated in 1978," said Hall.

United, the resolution says, "historically a leader in air safety, apparently has now adopted a policy of merely meeting the minimum standards as set by the Federal Aviation Administration regulations." Hall said that United has recently petitioned the FAA to further reduce certain minimum standards. Hall also said the union will start its own concentrated safety program.

"Safety standards should be raised, not lowered. This is an absolute necessity to insure the safety of the traveling public," he stated.

## Defense 'experts' propose more cuts

A group of defense "experts" calling themselves the Committee for National Security is proposing to cut the defense budget by \$200 billion in five years, by eliminating "duplicate or unnecessary weapons systems."

The committee includes Lawrence Korb, former assistant defense secretary during the Reagan administration, and Paul Warnke,

the ultra-liberal foe of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) who served as arms negotiator during the Carter administration. They call on the Pentagon to cancel the following weapons systems: the Advanced Tactical Fighter, JVX Tilt-Rotor Aircraft, the Trident 2 missile, and the Stealth Bomber. The Navy would also have to reduce its carrier battle groups from 15 to 12, and funding for the SDI would have to be reduced to \$2 billion—less even than the current \$2.75 billion.

Dubbed the "Preferred Force" budget, the plan would keep defense spending at FY-86 levels for five years, allowing increases only to keep up with inflation.

## Tuberculosis outbreak in eastern Maryland

Dr. Debra Hanania Freeman, a member of EIR's Biological Holocaust Task Force, presented first-hand evidence of a tuberculosis outbreak in Maryland's Eastern Shore, at a press conference in Washington, D.C. Feb. 21. Dr. Freeman is a public health specialist and a candidate for U.S. Senate in Maryland.

The worst TB outbreak in 30 years has occurred in the Eastern Shore, she said. Twenty percent of the residents of Kent Narrows, a seafood industry town, have tested positive. Three residents have died.

The situation could fast become a new "Belle Glade," Dr. Freeman warned. Belle Glade, Florida, has the highest known per-capita incidence of AIDS in the world, and many of the AIDS patients there do not come from any high-risk groups such as homosexuals, drug addicts, or hemophiliacs. AIDS in Belle Glade is correlated with a high incidence of tuberculosis.

Evidence from Belle Glade of a link between the extreme poverty of the town and other environmental factors, and the disease outbreak, has been suppressed by the Atlanta Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Local health officials, Dr. Freeman said, are terrorized by "the Gramm-Rudman mentality" of the present U.S. administration and the do-nothing attitude of the CDC, and are denying that there is a public health hazard.

## Briefly

● **DEMOCRATIC** governors accused the Reagan administration of submitting "a budget of disinvestment" that "fails to make critical investments in our nation's future." At a conference of the National Governors Association at the end of February, the governors indicated that they wanted the federal government to assume full responsibility for Medicaid, presently shared between Washington and the states.

● **NEW YORK GOV.** Mario Cuomo's aide, Peter Vogel, head of Cuomo's "Gay Task Force" and vice-chairman of Cuomo's AIDS Advisory Council, died of AIDS at the end of February. One of the nation's leading perverts for 15 years, Vogel headed the "National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs" and is credited with persuading the national Democratic Party that "civil rights" means anything goes.

● **ROBERT MCFARLANE**, the former National Security Adviser, will become a counselor at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies, joining former NSC heads Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and James Schlesinger. McFarlane was ousted in December 1985, in a factional fight with White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan. He was reportedly also offered a job at the New York Council on Foreign Relations.

● **HARRY BELAFONTE** is seeking the Democratic nomination for senator from New York—the seat now held by Alfonse D'Amato. Belafonte will find himself running against Webster Tarpley, the National Democratic Policy Committee-endorsed candidate who is a foreign policy adviser to presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. The calypso singer has been brushing up his supposed "black political image" by playing a prominent role in the "anti-apartheid" umbrella group Trans-Africa.