

# National News

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## Public Health Service reports cocaine deaths

The U.S. Department of Public Health Service published a study on July 10 showing a 14.5% rise in hospital emergency admissions this year as a result of cocaine use and spelling out the ways in which cocaine kills.

Dr. Donald Ian Macdonald, administrator of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, said that cocaine can kill by stroke, heart attack, cardiac arrest, or stimulation of the nervous system followed by respiratory collapse.

Macdonald debunked the myth that "strength of will or character can prevent addiction." Warning that the drug can kill even a first-time user, he expressed special concern about "crack," the new form of cocaine now common in the United States that can prove addictive even after a single use. The fact that 471 more users were admitted to emergency rooms during the first quarter of 1986 than 1985 was attributed by Macdonald to "a lot of people falling off the cliff because they are more years into their habit."

There were 185 reported cocaine-related deaths in 1981, in a sample of 25 urban areas. In 1984, the cocaine-related deaths stood at 580. Cocaine use is estimated to have increased 10-20% a year for the last four years.

From 20 to 24 million Americans have tried the drug at least once, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

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## AMA supports civil rights of AIDS virus

The American Medical Association has filed an *amicus curiae* brief arguing that employers should not have the right to fire employees who have AIDS.

The brief—written by AMA lawyer Ben Heineman, Jr., a protégé of Joseph Cali-

fano, a Democratic Party policymaker and euthanasia proponent—was filed in a case the Supreme Court has agreed to hear in the fall, involving a Florida teacher who was fired because she has tuberculosis. The case is expected to have major impact on treatment of AIDS cases.

The brief objects to a recent Justice Department ruling that employers could fire workers with AIDS, terming it "incorrect as a matter of law. . . . Although one effect of a handicap may be that it poses a risk of harm to others, employers should not . . . be allowed to discriminate irrationally against a handicapped individual based on a fear of such risk."

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## Dope, Inc.'s Weld named to Justice Dept. post

William Weld, the U.S. Attorney from Boston, was formally nominated by President Ronald Reagan on July 15 to become Assistant U.S. Attorney General in charge of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. He will face confirmation hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee and a vote by the full Senate.

Informed sources report that Weld's appointment was the result of pressure from Donald Regan, the former chief executive officer of Merrill Lynch securities, and now White House chief of staff. Weld's family connection to the Crédit Suisse financial empire and Regan's ties to Merrill Lynch place the two in the middle of the money-laundering route for the heroin mob known as the "Pizza Connection."

For two years, Weld has been overseeing an expensive and unsuccessful Boston grand-jury investigation of organizations identified with Lyndon LaRouche.

When Weld's nomination was announced during the White House press briefing on July 15, *EIR* correspondent Nicholas F. Benton asked about the contradiction between President Reagan's anti-drug effort and the nomination of Weld, "who has been highly criticized for giving the drug-money laundering Bank of Boston only a slap on

the wrist and has been linked to drug money laundering interests himself." White House spokesman Albert Brashear replied that he was not aware of these charges, and did not know if the President knew of them, or had ever met Weld.

In February 1985, the Bank of Boston plead guilty to a felony charge of knowing and willful failure to file cash transaction reports involving \$1.2 billion of international transactions with nine foreign banks over a period of four years. Officials from the Treasury Department stated they believed this to be drug money. For this, Weld negotiated a plea bargain which fined Bank of Boston a mere \$500,000.

The largest of the criminal transactions went to three Swiss banks, among them Crédit Suisse of Zurich, the Weld family bank whose subsidiary, White Weld Securities, dominates the Eurobond market, a major haven of investment of "hot money" from the narcotics trade.

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## Arizona governor attacks Mexico-bashing

Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt (D) accused national and local officials on July 15 of "inciting violence" against illegal aliens and of trying to "bring down the Mexican government."

In an impassioned speech to members of the National Council of La Raza, one of America's largest Hispanic organizations, Babbitt also called on New York banks to cut Mexico's debt-service obligation immediately.

He singled out Harold Ezell, western region commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) for sharp criticism. "This guy named Ezell, who is a public official, said when anyone finds an undocumented alien they should 'skin 'em and fry 'em.' This is inciting violence and is unacceptable." Babbitt accused Senator Helms of "embarking on a course of bringing down the Mexican government with innuendo and slander."

Babbitt added, in reference to his possible run for the Democratic presidential nomination, that he was "standing very near the water and looking in."

## New York Dems to demand 'loyalty oath'

The organized crime networks entwined around New York Gov. Mario Cuomo and Sen. Patrick Moynihan have launched a bid to use the near-forgotten Wilson-Pakula law to challenge "party loyalty" of Democratic candidates for public office. The move is aimed at excluding from the ballot candidates supporting Lyndon LaRouche.

The law has not been applied since 1950, but William Cunningham, Governor Cuomo's executive director of the State Democratic Committee, said, "We're going ahead with it."

In a related development, the petitions submitted by New York LaRouche Democrats Webster Tarpley, Judah Philip Rubinstein, and Fernando Oliver (candidates for U.S. Senate, governor, and lieutenant governor, respectively) were challenged in Albany in mid-July. The challengers are Robert Wagner, Jr., linked to the National Man-Boy Love Association (Nambla), and Ed Kayatt, convicted felon and publisher of *Our Town* newspaper, the New York East Side anti-LaRouche slander sheet whose attorney was the recently disbarred Roy Cohn.

## Mexicans attacked on Arizona border

The Arizona branch head of the Civilian Materiel Assistance (CMA), J. R. Hagan, said on July 7 that the group plans to continue and escalate their "patrolling" of the border. The CMA was immediately followed by the fascist Ku Klux Klan leader Bill Alberts of Modesto, California, who threatened, "If the government can't keep the

Mexicans out, we can."

On July 5, a group from the CMA organization held a group of Mexican citizens at gun-point for two hours, three miles north of the Mexican border in Arizona, until the Border Patrol appeared, and the Mexicans were allowed to return to Mexico.

The CMA was founded three years ago by four members who dropped out of the KKK. It is known to be deeply involved with supporting the Nicaraguan Contras, and is currently known to be supplying the drug-running contras with well-trained American mercenaries. In 1985, the group reportedly gave the Contras \$4 million.

Thomas Posey, national leader of CMA, attended the September 1985 World Anti-Communist League (WACL) conference in Dallas, Texas. Other guests included several Contra leaders and members of the Mexican paramilitary and Hitler-loving Tecos group. Posey's CMA provided "security" for the WACL conference.

## Helms defends Chilean dictatorship

On July 12, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) a press conference in Santiago, Chile defending both the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet regimen and the "free enterprise" of the Chilean economy.

According to Helms: "I assured President Pinochet that major media in the U.S. have a tendency to be very unfair to anti-communist governments. . . . I have never seen a socialist government which the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post* did not like. I am ashamed of the major media in my country."

"The United State must understand that Chile is one of the three countries in the hemisphere that is resisting communism. . . . Chile is a stable country which has no corruption, and I admire Chileans because they believe in free enterprise.

Helms also criticized the State Department for placing pressure on Chile to restore democracy.

## Briefly

● **KEVIN ZEESE**, national director of the National Association for Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)

Bolivia drug crackdown, and charged that the reports of drug abuse in the United States are "highly exaggerated." Zeese claims that the U.S. operation in Bolivia "sets a dangerous precedent for the U.S. military invading foreign countries." The extent of drug use in the United States has been "greatly exaggerated," he said, as has been "the courage of cocaine deaths. . . ."

● **CARDINAL BERNARDIN**, archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, says he supports a city ordinance that would protect the rights of homosexuals, provided this does not imply that he supports homosexual activity. The Church's concern, he says, provides "no place for discrimination and prejudice against a person because of sexual orientation."

● **THE UNITED STATES** conducted the largest ever underground nuclear test in Nevada on July 17. The test is thought to be linked to research for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

● **U.S. AMBASSADOR** to Moscow Arthur Hartman has protested to the editors of two Soviet newspapers over articles alleging that AIDS was engineered as part of a U.S. biological warfare program. In letters dated June 25 to *Literaturnaya Gazeta* and *Sovietskaya Rossiya*, Hartman said the charges are "as reprehensible as they are false. . . . I can only conclude that they represent nothing more than a blatant and repugnant attempt to sow hatred and fear of Americans among the Soviet population, and to abuse a medical tragedy. . . . for base propaganda purposes."