

National News

GOP candidates favor mandatory AIDS tests

Four Republican presidential contenders said they favored mandatory AIDS testing for certain categories of people, in remarks to a conference of House Republicans in New York on March 27. The issue was raised by Rep. William Dannemeyer (Calif.), a supporter of mandatory tests for all U.S. residents. "It's a political issue now," the congressman said.

According to a report in the *New York Post* on March 28, Vice-President George Bush said he favors mandatory testing "for some groups"—notably prison inmates—and that he might also favor testing for couples seeking marriage licenses, but said he didn't think it appropriate to make a federal law.

Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.) said couples seeking marriage licenses "definitely should be tested." AIDS "is an epidemic. It should be treated like any other communicable disease," he said.

Former Delaware governor Pierre du Pont said the disease "is not a civil rights issue. It's a medical problem with serious emotional and moral overtones." But he stopped short of endorsing mandatory testing or other public health measures.

Former defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld asked rhetorically whether "clean needles for addicts [is] really the solution for AIDS." He said it was "much more than a public health problem. . . . Values do have consequences."

LaRouche Democrats run first New Hampshire ad

On March 27, the first of a series of paid political advertisements for the LaRouche Democratic Campaign appeared in the New Hampshire press. The ad, headlined "I Support LaRouche for the Presidency" and signed by 200 citizens of the state, was pub-

lished in the *Foster Daily Democrat*.

The advertisement underlines LaRouche's views on three critical issues facing the nation in the 1988 presidential election campaign. First, with respect to the AIDS crisis, LaRouche demands "the application of traditional public health measures, including population screening and quarantine, to halt the spread of the virus."

Second, addressing economic policy, the candidate calls for the "reorganization of world debt" and "the creation of a New World Economic Order. In the LaRouche recovery, citizens can expect to see "exports of high-technology capital goods . . . and other great projects of infrastructure around the world" to end the "unemployment and poverty at home and abroad."

Third, the campaign stresses the necessity for building the Strategic Defense Initiative, and strengthening "our NATO alliance with Europe and our alliances with Japan, South Korea, and other Pacific powers," as well as waging a war against drugs and terrorism.

Aide to N.Y.'s Abrams indicted as tax cheater

Assistant New York State Attorney General Albert Posner was arraigned March 30 on felony charges stemming from a used-car operation he ran on the side. A spokesman said that Posner is accused of cheating on the sales taxes he owed from the business, and was also conducting some of his auto sales work while on state time.

Posner, who earns \$67,000 a year as principal attorney for the office's real property bureau, faces up to four years in prison and a \$5,000 fine if convicted. He was arraigned in Albany Police Court on charges that included offering a false instrument filing, failing to pay sales tax, and falsifying business records. He entered no plea and was released without bail after requesting time to secure an attorney. Abrams said it was not illegal for employees to operate private businesses so long as they report them and they pose no conflict with official du-

ties, according to a report in the *New York Times* published March 31.

Abrams has gained national notoriety since he ordered the arrest of 15 political associates of Lyndon LaRouche on March 17, on charges of "securities violations" which legal analysts describe as extraordinarily flimsy. As *EIR* detailed in its March 27 issue, Abrams's employees include such unsavory types as: 1) official spokesman Nathan Riley, a "gay rights" activist who is on record in a 1986 interview vowing to "indict these guys" in revenge for LaRouche's political victories; 2) Ethan Geto, campaign manager for Abrams's 1986 election campaign, an organizer of the 1984 Gays for Mondale extravaganza at Madison Square Garden, and a funder of the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA); and 3) Frank Fiormanti, a member of the board of the pro-dope National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML).

High Frontier group seeks to wreck SDI

A coalition of organizations and congressmen brought together by Gen. Danny Graham's "High Frontier" has announced a campaign to lobby for an "immediate deployment timetable" for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Graham's approach would sabotage the Reagan administration's goal of a multi-layered population defense using new technologies like the x-ray laser and particle beam weapons, shifting the program instead toward off-the-shelf "kinetic" technologies, which could be easily countered by the Soviets.

At a March 23 press conference on Capitol Hill, spokesmen from the Heritage Foundation, High Frontier, and the Reserve Officers' Association (ROA) presented their demands that the SDI program mandate deployment of currently existing technologies before 1995. This is the first time that the ROA has involved itself openly in this type of political activity.