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# National News

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## New call for open Democratic convention

John Droney, the Connecticut state Democratic chairman, called for an open national Democratic Party convention during a meeting of the Democratic National Committee recently in Los Angeles, Newhouse News Service reported.

"The primary process we've gone through in the last 20 years has been demonstrably unsuccessful in picking winning candidates," said John Droney, the Connecticut state Democratic chairman. "We lost five of the last six elections because the people who rose to the surface were acceptable to the activist left but unelectable in the rest of the country. I'd like to see a candidate who can win rather than one who is politically correct to the people who dominate the nominating process."

The Newhouse article focused on the problems posed for the Democratic Party by a long primary fight. "Our backs are against the wall. The illusion that we are the majority party is shattered, and we can't afford the luxury of squabbling among ourselves or we'll be wiped out," said California Democratic Chairman Phil Angelides.

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## Judge tells IRS to give over LaRouche records

Federal Judge Harold Greene effectively told the IRS Sept. 27 that Lyndon LaRouche has a right to records he requested, even if his request didn't go to the correct IRS office, in LaRouche's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) case against the IRS. The case seeks both records concerning the tax case frame-up against him, as well as all records which show that the IRS revealed confidential information to NBC during 1984. The suit was filed last summer after the IRS ignored requests for information.

The government attorney argued that "the IRS is not withholding any records from LaRouche, from the offices he sent his request to. If LaRouche wanted records from the Richmond, Virginia office or the

New York office, then he has to file his request there. He can't write to the IRS Commissioner at headquarters in Washington to get those records." Judge Greene responded, "You're not telling me that the Commissioner doesn't have jurisdiction or supervision over the Richmond or New York offices?"

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## Scientists open war on animal rights terrorists

The American Council on Science and Health "took the gloves off" in the current "animal rights" debate, calling for a lobby in defense of human beings and an unmasking of the danger that animal rights advocates represent, in a press conference in New York Sept. 25. "The dolphins, the louseworts, the wetlands all have their lobbies; human beings must have their lobby," said Dr. Elizabeth M. Whelan, president of the council.

The group released a new report, "Laboratory Animal Testing: An Essential Component of Biomedical Research," which documents how medical breakthroughs for both humans and animals have depended on animal research. They also called on Congress to make break-ins and vandalism of research facilities a federal crime.

Dr. Michael DeBakey, renowned heart surgeon and chancellor of the Baylor College of Medicine in Texas, advocated that the medical and research community take a leadership role in educating legislators and the public about the need for animal testing. "As a human being and physician I cannot conceive of telling parents that their sick child will die because we cannot use all the tools at our disposal," DeBakey said. "How will they feel about a society that legislates the rights of animals above those of humans."

Present were several eminent doctors and research scientists as well as three leukemia patients from Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, one now in his 30s, whose longevity was the result of chemotherapy animal research 25 years ago. Dr. Steven Sternberg, an attending pathologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital said, "I find autopsies painful on dogs and turn my head

away, but I couldn't turn my head on the children."

Dr. Robert J. White, professor of neurosurgery at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland and an expert in trauma care for the brain and spinal cord, emphasized that experimentation on dogs and cats has helped unravel the physiological and biochemical problems of brain swelling which, during surgery, can cause the body to cease functioning. He emphasized that you "find solutions in animals to human problems." His new field of research using cats and dogs applies low temperature and reduced metabolism to inhibit brain swelling.

In response to a question, Dr. White estimated that due to the efforts of animal rights fanatics, in the last year 100,000 Americans have seen their quality of life reduced and life extension limited. In addition, 10,000 to 20,000 died unnecessarily from stroke, trauma, heart disease, and cancer, he said.

Other physicians raised the problem of reaching high school students through curriculum reform to reverse the "green-washing" of the animal rights movement. A proposed pilot curriculum would have a non-environmentalist emphasis and would expose students to the leading research in biology such as bio-engineering. They expressed their fear that children today are not going into science because of the animal rights propaganda. "We fear that we will not have the Louis Pasteurs and Marie Curies in the next generation," said Dr. Clifford Barger of Harvard Medical School.

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## FDA bill 'creating a police state'

Proposed legislation which would give the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) vast new police and prosecutorial powers was denounced in the lead editorial of the Sept. 27 *Richmond Times Dispatch*, in Virginia.

Entitled "Creating a Police State," the editorial attacked H.R. 2597, sponsored by Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.). Under the provisions of the bill, the FDA would be given the power to conduct warrantless searches, electronic surveillance, and to act

## Briefly

● **U.S. AID** to Israel has been at least \$77 billion since 1967, or "\$16,500 for each Israeli citizen—when adjusted for inflation," the Sept. 23 *New York Times* reported. Once other "seldom noticed assistance" is added in, it "may actually be larger than that."

● **HUGH LIEDTKE**, who was an initiating partner with George Bush in Zapata Oil in the 1950s, may be placed under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission over sale of 21% of his holdings in Pennzoil just two weeks before the company announced the postponement of restructuring, which sent the stock tumbling 8%.

● **A PETITION** for an appeal for Anita Gallagher, Paul Gallagher, and Laurence Hecht was filed Sept. 20 to the Virginia State Court of Appeals. It set forward 12 major grounds for appeal of their convictions for "securities fraud" in political fundraising, which are one result of the witchhunt by the "Get LaRouche" task force and Virginia Attorney General Mary Sue Terry.

● **'SUN DAY 1992,'** is being launched by more than 100 groups, a press release from Ralph Nader's Public Citizen group announced Sept. 24. The Sun Day group states that its goal is minimally to get a 10% reduction in U.S. energy consumption by 2010.

● **THE LUTHERAN** School of Theology at Chicago has declared itself a "Green Zone," *The Lutheran*, the magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has reported.

● **AMELIA ROBINSON**, representing the Schiller Institute and Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, addressed a rally of 1,000 in Washington, D.C. Sept. 25, held to demand U.S. action against the atrocities of the "Greater Serbians" in Croatia. The veteran of the 1965 Selma voting rights battle said, "Now I am working for all the people of the world to have justice, and to live in freedom."

as prosecutor, judge, and jury with no appeals allowed, the paper reported.

### Illinois governor signs euthanasia law

Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar signed a "right to die" law on Sept. 26, whereby patients may now be murdered by the withdrawal of food and fluids. Edgar called the measure "cautious, compassionate, and rational."

The new law creates a ranked list of categories of relatives and friends designated to decide when eliminate food, fluids, or medical support. Persons to be killed may include the "comatose," "terminally ill," or those "unable to decide for themselves."

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, the euthanasia law was supported by the Illinois State Medical Society, the Illinois Hospital Association, the Chicago Bar Association, and the Catholic Conference of Illinois—led by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin.

State Rep. Thomas McCracken (R-Downers Grove) attacked the concept of "terminal illness": "I don't deny that there is suffering, but frankly, to create a presumption of death and not life is not a fair way to address this issue. This will have a profound effect on what's in store for us in the future."

### Georgia kills victim of Rehnquist Court

Warren McCleskey was executed by the State of Georgia Sept. 25 after the U.S. Supreme Court denied a stay of execution by a 6-3 vote. Led by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, the Court has used the McCleskey case to limit *habeas corpus* petitions. The Court denied the petition despite new evidence that McCleskey's conviction was based on evidence illegally obtained.

Retiring Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall, dissenting, charged, "In refusing to grant a stay to fully review McCleskey's claims, the Court values expediency over human life. Repeatedly denying Warren McCleskey his constitutional rights is unac-

ceptable. Executing him is inexcusable."

Two jurors, who originally voted for the death penalty for McCleskey, now say they would not have condemned him if they had known that one of the principal witnesses against McCleskey was a police informant who was offered a lighter sentence in exchange for testimony. For years, prosecutors lied that they had not sent the informant into McCleskey's cell to elicit incriminating statements. In 1987, a federal judge ruled that the prosecutors had deployed the informant and vacated the sentence. Last April, the Supreme Court said McCleskey should still die because it was an "abuse of the writ" to bring such new evidence to light by filing a second *habeas corpus* petition.

In 1987, the Supreme Court ruled in McCleskey's case that the death penalty was constitutional, despite the fact that killers of white people are statistically much more likely to be executed than killers of black people.

### Navy faults commander for attack on Iraqis

The U.S. Navy has handed out a "letter of caution" to Cmdr. Dennis Morral, the skipper of the guided missile frigate *Nicholas*, for carrying out attacks against Iraqi troops who were trying to surrender. It is the first public instance of the U.S. military censuring a commander for conduct during the war against Iraq.

Morral ordered a missile attack against an Iraqi position on an oil platform off the Kuwaiti coast, despite the fact that crew members had seen the Iraqi soldiers waving a white cloth just before the attack. Five Iraqis were killed and three wounded in the attack. Morral was found to have used "extremely poor judgment," but the Navy review panel concluded that he had not violated any international law or Navy regulations.

According to the Sept. 29 *New York Times*, some senior Navy officials are upset that Morral did not receive more severe punishment, fearing that it will be taken as a "do as you wish" signal from the Navy brass in future conflicts.