

National News

U.S. Supreme Court to hear euthanasia appeals

The nation's highest court agreed on Oct. 1 to review two recent federal court rulings that struck down as "unconstitutional," several New York and Washington state laws that prohibit anyone, including physicians, from aiding or causing the suicide of another. The lower court rulings claimed that the U.S. Constitution protects the legal right of patients to receive a physician's lethal help in a "suicide," an act better known as euthanasia, a Nazi practice which was punishable by death at the post-war Nuremberg Tribunals.

The two cases at issue are *Compassion in Dying v. the State of Washington*, which was heard by the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, and *Quill v. Vacco*, which was decided by the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals.

Club of Life analysts have noted that the Circuit Court decisions in favor of euthanasia, are the lawful extensions of the Supreme Court's own anti-life rulings. The Supreme Court also has often punted on such issues, by declaring them to be questions of states' rights.

The two cases will be heard in January 1997.

María Elena Milton gets labor's endorsement

Charles R. Huggins, Secretary-Treasurer of the Arizona State AFL-CIO, announced, at a press conference Sept. 25, at the office of the Central Arizona Labor Council, that the Arizona State AFL-CIO has endorsed the Democratic candidate for Congress in the 4th Congressional District, María Elena Milton. He was accompanied at the podium by William T. ("Ted") Murphree, the president of the Central Arizona Labor Council. Huggins said that a major reason for the endorsement was the record of her opponent,

Rep. John Shadegg (R). Shadegg does not represent working families, but represents the interests of his rich friends, Huggins said.

He then introduced Milton, who gave a statement to reporters, stressing her commitment to defeat "Congressman Valujet" Shadegg, and the entire Gingrichite Contract on Americans.

"We're going to mobilize a great crusade, in the 4th Congressional District, to destroy this Contract on Americans," Milton said. "We're going to have Republicans, Democrats, and Independents in this crusade. Senior citizens, and those who would like to be able to retire. People who care about their children. People who care about their parents and grandparents.

"Because people know I'm telling the truth, when I say: Medical cuts are murder. Cutting Social Security income, for many seniors just barely making it, will kill."

The Milton for Congress Campaign has now issued a 24-page pamphlet, documenting the crimes of Shadegg, and outlining LaRouche's program for a return to industrial society. It will circulate in more than 200,000 copies before the election.

The Milton-Shadegg race is nationally significant, in that the incumbent is the head of Gingrich's corrupt political action committee, GOPAC.

Drug legalizers lead Dole economic team

According to the Sept. 26 *Washington Times*, Republican Presidential candidate Bob Dole has set up a 22-member committee to advise him on economics. Chairing the committee is former Secretary of State George Shultz. Also serving on it, are Milton Friedman and Nobel Prize-winner Gary Becker, the latter heading the task force on "economic growth."

So much for Dole's "anti-drug" rhetoric! Shultz came out of the closet as a champion of drug legalization in 1989, when he told the Drug Policy Foundation, the leading legalization lobby in the country, now bankrolled by speculator George Soros, that he

would serve as the Foundation's "point man" for organizing in government layers for narcotics legalization.

Friedman never bothered to enter the closet; he has campaigned for legalization of all drugs for 30-40 years. In his view, as he announced on the Phil Donahue show back in 1980, it were better that "heroin were readily available everywhere."

Becker is a member of the fascist Mont Pelerin Society, and also endorses a "free market" in drugs.

The drug legalization policies of such "conservatives," combined with the available proof that Vice President George Bush acted as a drug kingpin in the Contra cocaine-running operations, make the Dole campaign's grandstanding on the issue of illegal narcotics, a very dangerous tactic for the Republicans, especially in light of the LaRouche movement's mobilization to bring Bush's responsibility for the upsurge in drugs and crime in the 1980s to public attention.

New York City unions attack workfare policy

James Butler, president of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 420 in New York City, which represents over 10,000 municipal hospital workers, told the press on Sept. 27 that there are more than 600 workfare recipients who have taken over formerly union jobs in his jurisdiction alone. He denounced workfare as "union-busting" and "slave labor"—recalling what LaRouche's movement had done 20 years ago to try to stop it.

Butler said workfare recipients, who get paid only their pittance of a workfare check, are taking over all job titles which usually come under AFSCME, including house-keeping, dietary, nursing, laundry, and elevator operator.

He and other union leaders are beginning to organize for legal and political measures to fight the situation, with 5,000 new workfare recipients being added to the city's

workforce every month.

Driven by the fact that 200,000 welfare recipients will have to be placed in jobs in the next six years in New York under the new federal welfare law, officials from 20 unions and welfare advocacy groups gathered on Sept. 20 to map out a strategy that will include pushing for state legislation mandating that workfare participants have the same wages, benefits, and protections as others doing the same work. The Teamsters local representing Housing Authority workers has formed a second coalition of 30 unions to urge the city to train workfare participants and hire them for permanent unionized jobs.

The move was also prompted by a late-September settlement by the Transit Workers Union, which involved complete capitulation to the Mayor Rudolph Giuliani administration's slave-labor scheme, allowing 5,000 workfare recipients to replace TWU members cleaning the subways, in exchange for a guaranteed job for current TWU members for the life of the contract.

Hustler organizes disruption of convention

On Sept. 29, the morning sessions of the National African American Leadership Summit, being held in St. Louis, Missouri, were violently disrupted by a small group of participants acting under the direction of a Chicago-based, self-styled "street" figure, Al "Jawbone" Sampson. This incident occurred in the setting of a pattern of harassments and attempted outside disruptions directed against the conference, over the preceding several days.

The incident occurred as invited speaker, and 1996 Democratic Presidential primary candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. came to the podium to deliver his scheduled address on economic policy-issues. At the moment LaRouche's address was announced, Sampson conspicuously called together a small group of conference participants. Immediately after their discussion with Sampson, the same persons deployed

to stage the disruption.

Participants noted that Sampson's participation in the conference had been disruptive from the outset. He is well known to members of the Chicago African-American community as an ethically-challenged relic of the 1960s Civil Rights campaigns. As one observer put it, one would not wish to impugn Sampson's professional standing, by accusing him of "sincerity."

The question remains, who was behind the pattern of harassment? Sampson might be able to provide some leads, but is not expected to bring that information forward.

GOP plays games on issue of Whitewater pardons

Congressional Republicans and the anti-Clinton press are continuing to "predict" that President William Clinton is planning to grant pardons to Susan McDougal and other Whitewater defendants. According to press reports, 220 Republicans and three Democrats have now signed a letter to the President, demanding that he forswear granting any pardons in the Whitewater cases.

The furor is simply a way of fuelling anti-Clinton propaganda, without any factual basis. What the President actually said on PBS-TV's Jim Lehrer show on Sept. 23, in response to the question of whether he was planning to pardon Susan McDougal, was:

"I've given no consideration to that. And you know, their cases are still on appeal. And they—I would—my position would be that their cases should be handled like others. They should go through—there's a regular process for that. And I have regular meetings on that, and I review those cases as they come up and after there's an evaluation done by the Justice Department, and that's how I think it should be handled."

The Sept. 30 *New York Post* suggested that President Clinton plans to issue pardons immediately after the November election, and, in the same article, that Whitewater special prosecutor Kenneth Starr will issue a slew of indictments after the elections on Nov. 5.

Briefly

ISN'T IT IRONIC, asks *New York Times* writer Frank Rich, that political consultant Arthur J. Finkelstein, who lives with a male lover, feeds conservative rhetoric to his clients, including Sen. Alfonso D'Amato (R-N.Y.), Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), Sen. Lauch Faircloth (R-N.C.), Sen. Bob Smith (R-N.H.), Sen. Don Nickles (R-Okla.), and Benjamin Netanyahu, the armageddonist Israeli prime minister.

STEELWORKERS, 4,500 strong, struck the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. facilities in West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania on Oct. 1. The company, which is the nation's ninth largest steelmaker, refused to continue negotiating over its final offer. The union said the contract offer demanded "the total elimination of our seniority, craft, and contracting-out protections."

ROLL CALL, a Capitol Hill newspaper, has begun a series of articles on House Speaker Newt Gingrich's (R-Ga.) use of military methods to win and deploy his Republican team. The paper reviews transcripts of taped discussions which Gingrich held with generals at the U.S. Army's Training and Doctrine Command Center at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

GEN. BARRY MCCAFFREY (ret.), President Clinton's White House drug policy adviser, sent a letter expressing "our esteem for the dedication, sacrifice, and bravery of the soldiers of the Colombian Army," to Colombian Army Commander Gen. Harold Bedoya. The Sept. 25 letter was published in the Colombian daily *El Tiempo*.

CITIZEN ACTIVISTS with the LaRouche political movement are addressing city councils around the United States, with a model resolution calling for the investigation of President George Bush as a drug super-kingpin, for his role in running the Contra crack cocaine operations of the 1980s.