Most Experts Disagree

Theory That AIDS Is a 'Super Syphilis'

By Randy Shilts

A panel of experts and scientists last night challenged the accepted scientific wisdom that AIDS is caused by a single virus, suggesting instead that the disease may be undiagnosed syphilis.

The assertion, which is rejected by virtually all the world's leading AIDS experts, came before a standing-room-only crowd of 600 at the Metropolitan Community Church in the heavily gay Castro Street neighborhood.

Several more were turned away from the packed town meeting, reflecting the growing currency that a number of unconventional theories about the cause of AIDS are gaining in the gay community.

According to conventional scientific thinking, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which has stricken more than 50,000 Americans since it was first detected in 1981, is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV.

At last night's two-hour forum, however, Joan McKenna, a Berkeley research physiologist, said she believes that AIDS is caused not by HIV but by untreated late-stage syphilis that has destroyed the patient's immune system.

According to McKenna's controversial theory, the disease that is commonly understood to be AIDS could stem from virulent syphilis that may have been brought to the United States by servicemen returning from Vietnam.

Since gay men and intravenous drug users have had repeated exposure to other sexually transmitted diseases, they may not have produced antibodies to the syphilis, she suggested. Thus, the syphilis eludes detection in standard syphilis antibody tests.

The cancers, pneumonia and other infections associated with AIDS, McKenna hypothesized, may have been caused by the untreated and undiagnosed strain of syphilis which has been found to beat the human immune system.

Another scientist last night who spoke heresy against conventional scientific thinking was Dr. Peter Duesberg, a molecular biologist at University of California in Berkeley, who says there is not adequate evidence to prove that HIV causes AIDS.

"In my opinion, there's no chance that this virus (HIV) could be the cause of AIDS," Duesberg said last night.

The views of both Duesberg and proponents of the syphilis-AIDS connection continued to be largely dismissed by virtually all the nation's AIDS researchers and clinicians.

Dr. Paul Volberding, director of the San Francisco General Hospital AIDS Clinic, said before last night's forum that he believes there is an "associated problem" of syphilis among people with AIDS.

However, he said that it was the immune system problems caused by initial HIV infection that made it difficult to find syphilis antibodies on standard tests. Moreover, Volberding said the appearance of severe syphilis symptoms in some AIDS patients could be the result of the disease overrunning an immune system that already had been devastated by HIV.

"It seems very reasonable to me that an infection like HIV will make the diagnosis of syphilis more difficult and make the clinical course of syphilis unusual," he said.

Like most AIDS experts, however, Volberding rejected the notion that syphilis played a role in causing AIDS.
2 Kidnappers Ask Review Of Convictions

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Staff Writer

The two men sentenced to prison for kidnapping and sexually molesting a 2-year-old Concord girl asked a state Court of Appeal yesterday to overturn their convictions.

In separate hearings in San Francisco, jurors for Luis (Tree Frog) Johnson and Alex Cabarga cited a number of legal issues in their quests for new trials.

A jury convicted Johnson of 95 felonies and five misdemeanors, and he was sentenced to 527 years in prison. Cabarga was found guilty of 93 crimes, but a judge determined that he was legally sane during the commission of only 33 of them. He was sentenced to 298 years.

The victim was 2 years old in 1982, when she was grabbed from her mother's automobile. She was sexually abused while held a prisoner for 10 months in a seedy van with her fellow captive, an 11-year-old Vietnamese refugee.

It was revealed during the trial that Cabarga, who turned 10 the day before being arrested in the case, was himself the victim of nine years of physical and sexual abuse at the hands of Johnson.

Cabarga's attorney, Alan Caplan, argued that the evidence about the youth's mental condition was barred by the trial judge.

Among the other grounds for appeal was the trial judge's denial of a change of venue from San Francisco for the controversial case because of excessive publicity.

Arguing against this appeal, Deputy Attorney General John Murphy said the judge acted appropriately in restricting discussion of Cabarga's state of mind to the second, sanity phase of the trial.

In a later hearing, Johnson's attorney, George Schraer, asked the appeals court to grant a new trial on the grounds that blacks had been partially excluded from the jury.

Both appeals were taken under submission.

Lindsay Recuperating

New York

Former Mayor John V. Lindsay, who underwent heart surgery last month, has been discharged from Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and hopes to return to his law practice soon. His spokesman

The Indians have vowed to stay on the site, which is being used by the city as a temporary housing facility for Indians displaced by the construction of Shasta Dam.

The addition of reinforcements from the American Indian Movement office in Chico, the International Indian Treaty Council in San Francisco and other Indian rights groups.

"I expect more than 200 Indian supporters to come here by the weekend. They are coming from all over and we are organizing," said Roy Wilson, a slender Wintu Indian with a disarming grin.

More than 30 supporters arrived by yesterday afternoon, in the face of Tonaw's population to almost 100. Cooking and cleanup crews were organized to deal with the expected crowd. Guards were posted near the entrance to keep out welcome visitors.

"It will be a defeat for Indian nationalism if we are forced to leave here," said Mickey Gemmill, a Tonaw resident since 1964.

The community's separate structures were built 50 years ago as temporary housing for Shasta Dam construction crews.

Indians have occupied three blocks of houses since 19 Water, electricity and sewer service to the 35 homes was cut off 7 years ago because of unpaid bills. About 20 of the homes are occupied

Bureau officials maintain that the residents are refusing to abide by court settlement that gives Wi Indians eight years to try to reach recognition from Congress.
Call to Action
Gay Conference

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Staff Writer

Gay organizers have scheduled an unprecedented conference of 200 homosexual leaders to meet near Washington this week to issue a national "call to action" to the gay community.

Organizers hope the meeting, the first of its kind among gay leaders nationally, can forge a nationally coordinated strategy and map goals for gays.

The three-day meeting is scheduled to begin Friday at a conference center in Arlie, Va.

"There's a sense of urgency now that we have to become more focused as a national movement," said Andy Humm, who is with the New York City Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

The meeting comes at a crucial moment for the gay political movement. Gay leaders have been frustrated in their attempts to make more extensive and expedited AIDS treatment research a presidential campaign issue.

"It made us see that marches weren't enough," said Michael Sh.EMPTY

The conference agenda circulated last week includes sessions on how to develop a broader national fund-raising base for the gay movement, how to more effectively use the news media and how to establish a national communications network among gay leaders.

Other gay-rights advocates want to make plans for a national campaign of civil disobedience to dramatize frustration over the pace of AIDS research.

37.500 for four hours' work, the highest prize ever offered for a single chess tournament. The blitz match is a fast-paced competition in which each player has only five minutes' playing time. The results do not count in competition for the world chess title.

TO SENIOR CITIZENS:
Don't live alone!

Don't spend your precious remaining years in terrible loneliness. Why not live where you can choose friends from 200 active men and women sharing a fashionable address—and sharing fun of planned and unplanned social activities?

We'll prove to you that living in lovely surroundings, dining tastefully and being pampered costs no more. A single monthly payment (starting at $600 a month) includes three meals per day seven days a week...including holidays...room cleaning service...sunny...
AIDS Commission to Make Billion-Dollar Recommendations

By Randy Shilt
Chronicle Staff Writer
Louisville, Ky.

The president's AIDS commission plans to ask Reagan to allocate billions of dollars for drug-rehabilitation facilities. The earlier report on "urgent" issues within two weeks. Admiral James D. Watkins, the commission chairman, will submit his suggested draft of that report to commissioners today.

Although commissioners will have the opportunity to comment on the draft, the panel already has reached a consensus on Watkins' proposals, which are expected to be adopted as the commission's first set of recommendations.

In public comments in Louisville on Sunday and in an interview with The Chronicle after his appearance, Watkins revealed the broad outlines of the report.

A major priority, Watkins said, will be to substantially increase the capacity of treatment facilities for intravenous drug users. Intravenous drug use is linked to about one-quarter of the nation's 52,000 AIDS cases, both because addicts spread the disease among themselves by sharing needles and because addicts are also the source of most heterosexual transmittance of the disease.

Watkins said that although there are an estimated 4.4 million drug addicts in the United States, there are only about 130,000 slots in treatment programs to help those who want to stop shooting up.

"We turn them away," said Watkins, allowing them to further spread the disease.

Treatment is Expensive

Treatment facilities, however, are expensive, Watkins noted.

He estimated that it could cost $18 billion to create 400,000 new slots at inpatient drug facilities. When pressed as to how much the commission would recommend to finance its proposal for more treatment, Watkins declined to give a specific cost, saying only that it would be in the "order of magnitude" of billions of dollars.

"We're going to have to put the up-front money in this," he said. "But we can amortize these costs over what we will save in the long-term. We've got to get a long-term program here, a long-term fix, not just a piecemeal approach."

The commission will also propose comprehensive, long-term programs to prepare the nation's health care system for an AIDS patient caseload that is expected to exceed 270,000 within four years.

Watkins said the commission would propose that federal and state agencies support AIDS care programs along the lines of San Francisco's system, in which specialized inpatient units are integrated with case-management teams and home health care, and hospice and visiting nurses programs. The San Francisco system also draws on volunteers from community groups.

'San Francisco Model'

The "San Francisco model," as it is known among AIDS experts, has allowed AIDS patients to substantially shorten hospital stays, because various agencies and volunteer groups provide necessary care to allow patients to remain at home when they are not suffering from acute AIDS illnesses.

"What San Francisco has done has significantly reduced the cost of treatment," said Watkins.

Although Watkins declined to discuss details of the patient care recommendations, other commission members told Chronicle reporters that Watkins has advocated placing inpatient patients in large hospitals to save money and provide comprehensive care for AIDS patients.

Random AIDS Testing
For New State Inmates

United Press International

Washington

California will begin randomly testing new prison inmates in April for exposure to the AIDS virus, Governor Deukmejian said.

"Only with testing could we find out how widespread AIDS is in our prison system," Deukmejian said. "Only then could we truly begin to contain the disease within the prisons and give the victims the treatment they need."

At a weekend meeting of the National Governors Association, Deukmejian said the testing will help state officials assess the AIDS problem in state prisons and develop plans to deal with it.

For inmates who have tested positive for antibodies to the AIDS virus, the state has a facility at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville, where patients are housed in separate units.
How AIDS Panel Won Wide Respect After a Rocky Start

By Randy Shiff
Chronicle Staff Writer

Dry recommendations on hospital reimbursements, coordination of patient care and streamlining clinical research may not be sexy or politically facile issues like condom use or sex education guidelines.

But such issues are the hard policy dilemmas the nation will face in the next difficult years of the AIDS epidemic — which is why the presidential AIDS commission's focus on such mundane matters has earned it some newfound respect.

Yesterday's reports that the commission will offer ambitious proposals in these areas left AIDS experts — who had long been skeptical of the panel's usefulness — outspokenly enthusiastic.

For example, after hearing commission chairman Admiral James D. Watkins broadly outline the report in an appearance in Louisville on Sunday night, Dr. Karen Hein, a leading expert on AIDS in adolescents, said, "I wish that every American could have the opportunity to be like Admiral Watkins and learn about this epidemic and understand what needs to be done."

Commission's Image

The rehabilitation of the commission's image — after the panel got off to a very rocky start last year — has proved to be one of the more unusual tales of behind-the-scenes AIDS politicking.

Last July, when Reagan appointed the Presidential Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, AIDS experts were astonished that only two of the panel's 13 members had done much work with AIDS.

Moreover, about half the commission members appeared to be named more for their ideological praises in the health community.

Meanwhile, Watkins drew up an agenda for the commission's work and pulled together a 30-member staff with broad expertise on the complex epidemic.

"I've come to admire Admiral Watkins a great deal — he has surprised me," said Dr. Frank Lilly, the New York City geneticist who is the only gay member and the only research scientist on the panel.

"He's nobody's flaming liberal, but he's fair-minded and committed to the concept of excellence," said Lilly last week. "He has gotten the commission back on track."

The first public notice of the commission's more moderate posture came in December when the panel released its preliminary report. Most intriguing to AIDS experts was the notice that the panel regarded four areas of AIDS issues as "urgent."

The issues, which will be the focus of an interim report to be released next week, include:

- The lack of treatment facilities and educational programs geared toward intravenous drug abuse, which causes about one-quarter of the nation's AIDS cases.
- Delays in developing AIDS treatments and moving the experimental treatments into clinical trials that can determine their usefulness.
- The problems of hospital reimbursement for AIDS patients, and the need to develop new modes of care that blend in-patient treatment with home-health and hospice care.

None of these issues has garnered much attention over the years, having to compete with sexier headlines on condom use, AIDS testing and debates over what fourth-graders should be taught about intercourse.

Nevertheless, how well the nation resolves these complex questions will do much to measure the dimensions of disaster that acquired immune deficiency syndrome will assume in the years to come.

Crowded Hospitals

As the nation awaits the commission's recommendations, the AIDS crisis is getting worse.

Disaster, which today is only a concept, is becoming a reality. AIDS victims are piling up faster than doctors can treat them.

"If the victims had been 11 years of age or younger, then we would have been successful," said Gerald Wall, a deputy San Joaquin District Attorney.

"Wall added: "The man is a sentenced prisoner in this country and he owes the people of the state of California 13 years of his life."

Stockton

A court in Spain has refused to extradite Eckhard Schmitz, a multimillionaire Stockton developer who fled the United States before serving a 15-year prison term for child molesta-

tion, the San Joaquin district attorney's office said yesterday.

The San Francisco Agency yesterday to pay housing Unde would get next 123 dwelling those who mod

The Spanish court in Madrid refused to extradite Schmitz because of a difference in molestation laws between California and Spain.

"If the victims had been 11 years of age or younger, then we would have been successful," said Gerald Wall, a deputy San Joaquin District Attorney.

The city for the first $300 million.
New director pulled together a staff with broad expertise

Members Bicker

The panel fell quickly into disarray and ideological bickering between conservatives and members with medical expertise.

In October, the chairman and the vice chairman, who were two of the handful of commissioners with medical backgrounds, resigned, as did the commission's staff director. President Reagan's appointment of Admiral Watkins as new chairman was greeted with skepticism, given the admiral's dearth of experience in health matters.

"At that point, I wouldn't have given a nickel for the commission," Watkins told The Chronicle. "I thought we'd be out of business."

Although Watkins, a former chief of naval operations, admitted he knew little of AIDS, he did know about organization. And his tenure on the Joint Chiefs of Staff had taught him how to cut the levers of power in Washington.

After the chairman and vice chairman resigned, Watkins let it be known that he wanted the two new commissioners to come from the public health community, rather than the Republican Party's fund-raising apparatus.

Baker Reponds

White House chief of staff Howard Baker, stung by mounting criticism of the Reagan administration's AIDS record, sided with Watkins and took conservative White House aide Gary Bauer "out of the loop" of decision-making by the AIDS commission, according to those close to the commission.

The next two appointments to the commission—an Oregon health official and an expert on intravenous drug abuse—were widely testing and debates over what fourth-graders should be taught about anal intercourse.

Nevertheless, how well the nation resolves these complex questions will do much to measure the dimensions of disaster that acquired immune deficiency syndrome will assume in the years to come.

Crowded Hospitals

Without more programs for home-health care, for example, hospitals in major urban areas will be crowded with AIDS patients using costly and increasingly fewer hospital beds—even though they do not need to be hospitalized.

In the meantime, the lack of potent treatments will presage spiraling numbers of dead and dying, growing into the hundreds of thousands, well into the 1980s.

For all the accolades the commission is enjoying, tougher times loom. Inflammatory issues such as AIDS testing will need to be addressed in the commission's final report, due to be issued on June 24. And here, the group's current consensus might fall apart.

"It's very easy for everybody to say they want more programs for intravenous drug users, but other issues aren't as easy," said Dr. Theresa Crenshaw, one of the more conservative commissioners. "I don't see how the commission can have any self-respect if it doesn't tackle those issues.

Fears of Shift

With these highly charged issues, some fear that the commission's ideological bent might prove less centrist.

"I worry that they'll be credible in sections of their report, and then they'll go on a wild tangent when it comes to social policy, like mandatory testing," said Steve Morris, the staffer who handles AIDS issues for U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco.

Another worry, even among commissioners, is that even the most constructive set of recommendations by an administration that has rarely heeded the advice of its own top health officials on AIDS issues.

"Of course, we could do all this work and just be ignored," says commissioner Lilly.

Mayor Quits in Sex Case

Muskegon, Mich.

Mayor Daniel C. Oglesby, accused of abandoning a 13-year-old runaway girl to a motel room, resigned but said he had done nothing wrong.
Koop Calls Sexologists' AIDS Book 'Irresponsible'

By Randy Shiltz
Chronicle Staff Writer

London

U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop blasted a new book by sexologists William Masters and Virginia Johnson yesterday as "irresponsible" and containing "pure fabrications."

The controversial book, "Crisis: Heterosexual Behavior in the Age of AIDS," was released with great fanfare in the United States and Britain this week. The book claims, among other things, that people can catch AIDS from toilet seats, insect bites and casual contact.

The Masters and Johnson book alleges that the medical profession has played down the risk of AIDS infection from everyday contacts.

It also claims that the American blood supply is much more dangerous than authorities have told the public and that there are many more heterosexuals infected with the AIDS virus than is officially acknowledged.

Of the last two assertions, Koop said, "These are pure fabrications. If there were ever a time we would exaggerate the other direction, it would be in a situation like this."

"We're certainly not going to cover up the fact that there would be more people with HIV infection than we think there are," he said.

Koop spoke while attending a conference in London on the global impact of the AIDS epidemic. Throughout the three-day conference, which concluded yesterday, the Masters and Johnson study and the controversy it had raised were major topics of discussion.

"I can only assume that their data collection is flawed or inadequate," said Noble, who directs AIDS programs at the CDC.

As for claims that the AIDS virus could be transmitted casually, Noble cited seven studies involving 500 family members of people with AIDS.

"A lot of these family members lived with these patients long before anyone was taking precautions and they did things like share toothbrushes, razors, toilets and eating utensils," said Noble. "And not a single family member became infected except through sexual contact."

He is survived by his wife, Esther Prager Jones of San Rafael.

Thursday's memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. at St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church in San Francisco.

Burial was in the National Cemetery at the Presidio of San Francisco.

Donations are preferred to the Nursing Home Ministry, St. Mary the Virgin Church, 2325 Union Street, San Francisco 94123.

Joseph Franceschi
Paris

Joseph Franceschi, a former Socialist cabinet minister and close friend of President Francois Mitterrand, died yesterday of cancer at the age of 64.

Franceschi was a junior minister three times under Socialist governments between 1981 and March 1986.

Shuttle Train Collision — 2 Killed

Cape Canaveral

Two people were killed on Wednesday when a train carrying booster segments for the first post-Challenger shuttle flight collided with a car in Biloxi, Miss., NASA officials said yesterday.

The train was traveling from manufacturer Morton Thiokol Inc.'s rocket plant near Brigham City, Utah, to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The names of the victims and details of the accident were not available.

United Press International
WHO Leads Fight Against AIDS Around the World

By Randy Shiltz Chronicle Staff Writer

London

When Dr. Jonathan Mann started in his job as the coordinator of the Global AIDS Program at the World Health Organization in Geneva, his staff consisted of one secretary.

Today, Mann coordinates the world's fastest-growing health bureaucracy with a global network of AIDS control programs in 75 nations and a budget that is expected to reach $100 million next year.

"It's been a phenomenal gear-up," said Mann, a former staff member at the national Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. "But then, the dimensions of the problem are phenomenal, too."

The gravity of the international AIDS crisis was the subject of a three-day conference in London this week under the sponsorship of WHO and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

According to research papers presented at the conference, the problems facing underdeveloped parts of the world, particularly equatorial Africa where millions are infected with the AIDS virus, include:

- Economic dislocations as the growing AIDS caseloads deplete the agricultural and industrial workforce.
- Social and political problems because of the disproportionate numbers of well-educated urban professionals afflicted. In addition, civil service workers and the military personnel are suffering in large numbers.
- Cultural stress as already-poor nations struggle to cope with soaring numbers of dead and dying.

With a worldwide caseload of 150,000, the future looks only more bleak.

By 1990, WHO predicts that 1 million new AIDS cases will occur internationally - with many more to follow as the estimated 5 million to 10 million people infected with the AIDS virus begin falling ill.

"We're not talking about a quick fix for AIDS," said Mann.

His main emphasis is to install prevention plans worldwide, Mann said.

Mann got the first glimpse of this challenge in 1984 when he went to Kinshasa, Zaire, to help establish that country's AIDS surveillance system. Studies revealed that about one in 10 sexually active adults in Zairian urban areas were infected with the AIDS virus, and new AIDS cases were being reported from throughout central Africa.

"When it was North America and Europe and Asia, the AIDS cases came from the Orient," recalled Mann. "That was the unrelating part."

In January, WHO convened an AIDS summit in London that drew delegations from 142 nations, most of which were led by the country's health minister. It was the largest meeting of health ministers ever convened.

Formal agreements with the U.N. Development Agency and the World Health Organization's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) will also enable WHO to coordinate its work with children and development programs which have a far reach in the developing world.

Mann also expects that WHO will help coordinate international trials for potential AIDS vaccines.

The global "safe blood" initiative, launched by the program earlier this year, aims to end the risk of contracting AIDS through transfusions.

"This is an example of how our efforts against AIDS can help in a multitude of unrelated health issues," said Mann. "If we do it right, we can also make blood safer for other things - malaria, hepatitis, sleeping sickness. It's an old dream of a lot of people to do this. Now, it might get done."

Even as prevention efforts are focused on Africa, the most heavily infected continent, WHO planners are beginning to work with health officials in Asia, where AIDS is still rare.

"There's a consistency in the clinical and reaction in all the countries," said Mann. "We're seeing the same patterns in Asia, where AIDS is still rare."

"In every country, there are the same clinical problems, the same physicians, and the same transmission of drug users," he said. "They get their first AIDS cases among their patients."

The global "safe blood" initiative is aimed at curbing the spread of AIDS through transfusions, which are a major source of infection in many countries.

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Renowned French Researcher to Join S.F. AIDS Scientists

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Staff Writer

A San Francisco clinic has attracted one of the world's leading AIDS researchers, Dr. Luc Montagnier, to help in the search for a vaccine to monitor AIDS-infected people and test AIDS treatments.

Montagnier, the leader of the Pasteur Institute research team that first isolated the AIDS virus five years ago, was expected to serve as a key consultant to the VlRx Medical Group, a VlRx spokesman said yesterday.

Montagnier is considered one of the world's leading authorities on the biology of AIDS. He was a key player in the past when he worked at the Pasteur Institute.

The VlRx Medical Group's clinic is slated to open next week in downtown San Francisco. The group will operate as a medical clinic, specializing in monitoring and treating HIV-positive individuals.

Because the clinic will be serving a population of likely candidates for AIDS treatment drugs, organizers hope it can attract the interest of pharmaceutical companies that need volunteers for human trials of new AIDS drugs.

In addition, the clinic plans to conduct its own research on the efficacy of AIDS treatments with drug trials that can produce results faster than comparable government programs.

The clinic has attracted several figures prominent in the fight against AIDS, including VIRx president Dr. Bob Anderson. The former public health officer for the National Institutes of Health in the Department of Health, Anderson is a key figure in the San Francisco AIDS Study, an $11 million study financed by the National Institutes of Health that has been monitoring the world's largest randomly selected sample of HIV-infected men.

It was this study, Anderson said, that led to the establishment of the VlRx clinic.

"The problem now is that people have a world-class operation that will be taken seriously in the scientific community," said Bruce Decker, principal consultant to VlRx.

"Our goal is to involve the private sector with scientific worldwide in the search for an AIDS cure," said Decker, a member and former chairman of Governor Deukmejian's AIDS Advisory Committee.

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member of the Los Alamos research team. Retroviruses are a family of viruses that use RNA and enzymes to replicate themselves. "Whatever it was before, it was not a disease-causing organism," Linder said of the AIDS virus. "So, in an evolutionary sense, the way we think of them. The viruses are taking advantage of opportunities that enhance their survival." Myers said the mutation rate of the AIDS viruses is approximately 1 percent to 1.5 percent per yer. virus, changes that make vaccine development difficult because viruses scientists used four years ago to design vaccines have changed significantly. Even though current antibody tests perform remarkably well in detecting the presence of the virus in blood samples, Myers said, no two AIDS victims carry identical AIDS viruses in their blood.

---The Washington Post---

U.S. to Ease Biohazard Regulations

The Environmental Protection Agency is preparing new rules that would be the first to govern the testing of small field tests of living, genetically altered microorganisms.

Under the new rules, companies seeking to conduct outdoor tests on several classes of altered microbes would have to submit to the EPA much less information than is now the case. In some cases, the government would not have to be informed of the tests at all.

In these cases, authority for reviewing and approving small field trials of altered microbes would be transferred to committees of experts established by biotechnology companies and universities.

The changes would apply to bacteria created by transferring genes between very similar microbes not known to possess any disease-causing potential. But when genes are modified or transferred within one strain of organism, tests involving these kinds of microorganisms are subjected to a rigorous review process.

The agency is not changing the requirements for tests of organisms that pose a threat to human health, either through their ability to cause disease or their potential to cause disease if released into the environment.
3,000 AIDS Studies To Be Released at World Conference

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Staff Writer

Thousands of researchers are converging on Stockholm this week to present a multitude of AIDS studies amid heightened concerns about the growing international dimensions of the deadly epidemic.

Nearly 7,000 scientists are expected for the opening tomorrow of the Fourth International Conference on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, where 3,000 new AIDS studies are slated to be released.

Although researchers are jealously guarding the secrecy of their study results in advance of the five-day meeting, few scientists expect the gathering to produce any earthquake revelations about the development of new treatments or an AIDS vaccine.

Instead, the avalanche of new research is expected to show the continued growth in the understanding of the disease — from how the AIDS virus works to the effectiveness of prevention campaigns — which ultimately could provide the scientific basis for ending the disease.

The conference underscores the exponential growth in our understanding of the disease in all its different disciplines involved in the epidemic,” said Jim Bunn, spokesman for the World Health Organization’s AIDS Control Program, a sponsor of the gathering.

About 50 researchers from San Francisco are expected to present their most recent findings. Much of the San Francisco data will focus on local epidemiological studies, which are considered some of the most comprehensive in the world.

“San Francisco has offered the best integration of research of any place, including the National Institutes of Health,” said Dr. Paul Volberding, director of the AIDS clinic at San Francisco General Hospital.

“Any clinical work has had a strong impact on the treatment of AIDS worldwide,” he said.

The advances that scientists report in understanding the disease, however, come at a time when the news about the spread of the disease is shifting from bad to worse around the world.

In the United States, where AIDS was first detected seven years ago this week, federal experts have revised estimates for the numbers of Americans expected to fall ill from the deadly ailment in the next five years.

According to these estimates, devised by researchers at the National Centers for Disease Control, about 450,000 Americans will contract AIDS by the end of 1993.

Previous federal projections indicated that by 1991, more Americans will be dying of AIDS than from car accidents, cancer or any other form of death expected cardiovascular disease. As of last week, about 64,000 Americans had been diagnosed as having AIDS.

Meanwhile, 138 countries have reported nearly 90,000 AIDS cases to the World Health Organization, who expects that the true international AIDS caseload is closer to 150,000.

Between 3 and 10 million are infected with the AIDS virus worldwide, WHO estimates, suggesting an international AIDS death toll that is expected to reach 1 million by 1991.

The bulk of these cases are expected in the impoverished nations of central Africa, where the disease is believed to have originated.

To better monitor the epidemic and the proliferating research on the disease, AIDS experts will announce the formation of the International AIDS Society at the conference.

Volberding, who has served on the society’s organizing committee, said the society would publish its own scientific journal and sponsor the annual AIDS meetings in future years.

The 1990 International AIDS conference is slated to be held in San Francisco, he said.

Helen, a Sunnydale resident, will be sworn in by Agnos

Housing Board Gets Tough Grandmother

By Rick DeVerchio
Chronicle Staff Writer

A 49-year-old grandmother with the spine to stand up to drug dealers in one of the city’s most dangerous housing projects has been named to the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission.

Helen Mason will be sworn in by Mayor Art Agnos on Wednesday, in one of the mayor’s first moves to reinvigorate the public housing agency.

Also selected for seats on the seven-member commission are the Rev. James Good, pastor of St. Pat’s Church in the Bayside District, and an as-yet-unnamed representative of a labor union.

They replace three appointees of former Mayor Dianne Feinstein and Betty Brooks, Eloise Westbrook and Kirk Miller.

Mason, who shares an apartment in the drug-riddled Sunnydale project with her 10-year-old granddaughter, is known as a passionate tenant advocate and a sharp critic of the Housing Authority’s Executive Director James Clay. She says she believes that Clay, who was brought in three years ago to stabilize the agency, during a financial scandal, should restore tenant services cut off early in his administration.

“He came during a transition, but the transition is over,” she said.

In the following years, Mason formed a youth group, cooled hot-headed tenants who blamed management for all their troubles and led a move to rout crack cocaine dealers from residents’ parking lot. Despite these efforts, Mason said, living conditions have worsened.

“People have been living in decrepit buildings,” she said, adding that she will urge management to get tough on disruptive tenants.

Bill Witte, Agnos’ housing aide, praised Mason as “incredibly well-informed.”

Jan Allen, an advocate for public housing tenants, agreed: “If we’re going to have someone on the board who’s going to change things, she’s going to do it.”

Responding to Mason’s criticisms, Clay’s assistant, Michael Kelly, said the agency will be able to provide more than minimal services until it eliminates the remaining $5 million of a $12 million debt inherited from a previous administration in 1985.

AIDS, a disease of ti
A gondolier steered passengers down one of the canals that wind through the exclusive Naples area of

It's Not 'Iowa-by-the-Sea' Any More

By Carl Nolte
Chronicle Staff Writer

Long Beach

Ten years ago, they joked about Long Beach, only it wasn't funny. This city was the nearest thing to dead.

Its economy was close to collapse, its downtown was a disaster area, and its prospects were worse. The symbol of the city was the old ocean liner Queen Mary, a municipal white elephant that was losing a million dollars a year.

"Long Beach was flat on its back," said James Hankla, the city manager. "All the economic indicators were negative."

"It was blah," said Cordella Howard, who had come home to Long Beach after a year in Europe. "It was dead."

But you should see it now.

This is the last in an occasional series on California's 1,000-mile-long coast, its lifestyle and its people.

Optimism in the Air

The city's modest skyline is spiked with construction cranes. A $550 million world trade center is going up. Hotels are either just about to open or under construction. Long Beach, where a jelly doughnut used to be considered haute cuisine, has some good restaurants, with more on the way.

There is so much optimism in the air that the city is even beginning to swagger a bit. "Long Beach has a destiny that is unfulfilled and achievable," Hankla said. "I can feel it in my bones. It is a livable city, a city for the next century."

"Long Beach is going to be the gateway to the Pacific," said Joe the city's booming parade.

"Of all the big cities," said Mary Lou Egan, "this is the most exciting." A Decade Ago

Ten years ago, needed such talk. The town — the Navy had laid off, thousand man area was filled with bars, tattoo parlors and the like.

Despite a population of 20,000, the city had nothing that could be called a city life. The largest thing was the old ocean liner Queen Mary, a municipal white elephant that was losing a million dollars a year.

The city was desperate for something to lift its spirits. It needed a symbol of hope. And so the Queen Mary was born. Her arrival in 1953 was greeted with great fanfare. It was a tremendous boost for the local economy.

But now, as the city looks to the future, it is clear that the Queen Mary is no longer enough. There are new symbols needed to lift the spirits of this once-down-at-the-heels city.

Promising Treatments For AIDS

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Correspondent

Stockholm

Early intervention against AIDS has helped researchers preserve the health of many infected people, scientists reported yesterday.

New studies showed that various treatments can delay significantly the development of AIDS among people infected with the AIDS virus and can prevent the development of the deadliest AIDS-related disease, pneumocystis carinii.

The heartening news came as 7,000 scientists from 140 countries gathered for the first day of the Fourth International Conference on AIDS, sponsored by the World Health Organization.

The annual meeting has drawn Page A4 Col. 1

S.F.'s Rationing Czar

By Rick DeVecchio
Chronicle Staff Writer

When a Roman Catholic priest begged for more water, John Mullan said forget it.

Mullan is the man who says "yes" or "no" to San Franciscans asking for more than their allotted water. He and his staff of water watchers have the power to make life inconvenient, uncomfortable and expensive for thousands of residents and business owners this summer.

In the past two weeks, more than 22,000 written pleas have poured into a cubicle at Water Department headquarters at 425 Mason Street. They have come from a Chinatown gift shop that asks for enough water to clean its display of glass flowers, from a bagel maker ("water used as major ingredient"), from a man who insists on hosing off his back steps and from an aquarium owner who advises that the tank water must be changed bimonthly "for the ultimate survival of the livestock."

There are heart-tugging requests for quavering gondoliers, for elderly medical patients and

Writer Louis L'Amour
Novelist of the Am

Louis L'Amour, whose many books about the American West made him the world's best-selling novelist, died of lung cancer on Friday at his home in Los Angeles.

The 80-year-old writer had churned out 101 novels about the West and the frontier experience since 1955, and many of them were...
Promising Treatments for AIDS

A major share of the world's AIDS experts listen to reports on the latest research and theories on the growing epidemic of acquired immunity deficiency syndrome.

The new advances in treatment that were reported yesterday do not constitute anything resembling a cure for AIDS. However, such studies are fueling optimism of physicians who believe that they ultimately will be able to keep AIDS-infected people from developing the deadly diseases that mark the development of AIDS.

A study of 200 patients suffering from severe AIDS-related complex, or ARC, a form of immune deficiency that frequently precedes AIDS, found that AZT significantly strengthened the patients' immune system.

Twenty-three percent of ARC patients who had no drug treatment developed AIDS within six months of the start of the study, but only 4 percent of patients who took AZT contracted AIDS, according to a study conducted by the Hospital Saint-Louis in Paris and the University of New South Wales in Sydney.

Moreover, ARC patients who took no drug were seven times more likely to develop ARC. Researchers also found that they who took a combination of AZT and the herpes drug Acyclovir, which is believed to boost the anti-viral effects of AZT, the researchers said.

Another study found that AZT was more effective if patients took the drug while suffering from severe ARC but before they developed one of the life-threatening diseases associated with AIDS.

Eighty-four percent of severe ARC patients treated with AZT were still alive at the end of one month, study, but the survival rate for comparably ill ARC patients who took no drug was 82 percent.

Because of such studies, researchers throughout the United States and Europe plan to test AIDS treatments not only on patients suffering from end-stage diseases, new studies found.

The theme of early intervention against AIDS is easy to support," Dr. Paul Volberding, director of the San Francisco AIDS Research Clinic, said.

"It is intuitively obvious that someone with more of an immune system would do better with an anti-viral drug, and it's anticipated the virus itself would be less pronounced," he said.

Big Problem in Tracking Sex Partners

Tracking down sex partners of people known to have AIDS will not stem the epidemic of the fatal disease, an expert has told a report by local health experts.

In the study to be delivered this spring at the International Conference on AIDS, however, the researchers found that measures may be an effective way to prevent infection of babies during birth to mothers who carry the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, that causes AIDS.

"We found that it is so hard to find previous sex partners that it just doesn't pay," said Dr. George Rutherford, chief of AIDS research for the San Francisco Department of Public Health during an interview last week before his departure.

"The reason is the long incubation of AIDS. By the time people get AIDS, it may be so long after they were first infected that it is too late to do much about how far they spread the disease."

As a result, Rutherford said he opposes on practical grounds any "call-in" or widespread "contact tracing," or partner notification as a way to fight the spread of AIDS.

But because tracing of partners of men with AIDS may find significant numbers of women who do not know they have become infected, and may be considering having children, such programs may make sense to cut the number of children born with AIDS.

In the study, attempts were made to trace sexual partners to 149 men and women who had AIDS. The 61 interviewed so far identified 120 opposite-sex partners with whom they had sex. Of these partners, 59 agreed to be interviewed, nine refused interviews and 64 could not be found.

Of those interviewed and tested for the virus, 22 percent tested positive. Rutherford said most of the men interviewed already knew they had a high chance of having AIDS and many had already been tested.

The cost for the program so far has been $206 for each woman interviewed. $45 for every woman tested, and $203 for each woman found who was actually infected.

The study focused on notification of partners of people diagnosed to have full-blown AIDS — not those from people who have tested positive for the virus but have not yet developed outward signs of disease.

A separate evaluation would be needed to determine whether contact tracing for all people infected would be an effective public health measure, Rutherford said.

U.S. Plans Study of Medicare Doctors

Washington

The federal government is planning a study that will rate the more than 300,000 physicians who treat Medicare patients on the quality of their patient care, a top administration health official said.

The proposed federal budget that takes effect October 1 includes funds for preliminary work on the study, which is expected to take several years. It now envisioned, it would rate doctors by name and the results would eventually be made public.

Health officials have not said how they plan to present their findings to the public.

Although pentamidine has long been the preferred drug to treat pneumocystis, the aerosol version of the drug has only recently come into use, largely among doctors with close contacts to the AIDS research community.

One Los Angeles study found that only one in 150 patients with AIDS or ARC experienced an episode of the deadly pneumonia while they were taking biweekly doses of aerosol pentamidine.

In a study at San Francisco General Hospital, only six of 152 AIDS patients who already had suffered one episode of pneumocystis had a relapse while taking the drug, compared with 37 relapses in a control group selected from comparable AIDS patients.

No negative side effects to the drug were reported.

"The bottom line of both the AZT and pentamidine studies is that now if people test positive for the AIDS virus, there's a lot of things we can do to help them," said Dr. John Carey, who heads an AIDS treatment center at University Hospitals of Cleveland.

In other developments yesterday, Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute suggested that a herpes virus that targets the T-4 cell immune system might play a role in activating the AIDS virus.

Gallo, one of America's leading AIDS researchers, said that genes in the HHV-6 virus, which is present in most adults worldwide, might interact with genes in the AIDS virus to switch on the latent virus genes once it is in the body.

"We don't know if the virus is the initiating factor or if the virus is the initiating factor," said Dr. Alan I. Lifson, who is conducting studies that may help to answer this question.

Currenty, patients get their illnesses from early intervention.

"We just do it," Dr. Alan R. Rabinowitz, head of the San Francisco AIDS Project, said.

In opening remarks to the conference, Dr. Jonathan Mann, director of the World Health Organization's AIDS Control Program, said that the world's AIDS caseload has reached 200,000 and that 1 million people will be dying from the disease by 1991.

The five-day conference will continue today with presentations by researchers presenting new work on clinical, virological, epidemiological and sociological aspects of the AIDS epidemic.
eatsments for AIDS

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The theory, Gallo added, remains "experimental work ... (and) does not prove that (HHV-6) is a definite co-factor" needed to cause AIDS.

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The five-day conference will continue today with researchers presenting 5,100 new studies on clinical, virological, epidemiological, and sociological aspects of the AIDS epidemic.

Changing Pattern Of 'Purple Cancer'

Kaposi's sarcoma, a rare cancer that was one of the first to be recognized in AIDS, has recently been traced to to the HHV-6 virus. The finding, researchers said, illustrates just one of the many puzzles that remain about the biological nature of AIDS.

Lifson discussed the conclusions with reporters last week before departure for Stockholm and the International Conference on AIDS, where they were to be formally presented today.

Although some researchers have suggested that Kaposi's disease is caused by the combined effect of the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, that causes AIDS and a second virus, such as cytomegalovirus, "we could find no signal of anything to explain what causes Kaposi's, or why it is becoming less common," Lifson said.

Other factors besides a second virus that the research seems to have ruled out include the age of people with AIDS, their use of intravenous or inhaled drugs, specific sex habits and venereal or intestinal diseases.

Fake Designer Watches Seized

Honolulu

Law enforcement officials in Hawaii have seized 8,200 counterfeit designer watches from an apartment near Waikiki. The watches are the largest seizure of its kind in U.S. history, federal officials said.

United Press International
The Supreme Court made it easier yesterday to sue the government for injuries caused by government-regulated products and activities if the regulators who approved them negligently violated government policies.

The court reinstated a lawsuit by a Pennsylvania boy who was paralyzed by polio vaccine and who had claimed that the government had violated its own policies in approving the safety of the vaccine.

The justices pointedly rejected, by a 9-to-0 vote, the Reagan administration's argument that the government is immune from liability for "any and all acts arising out of the regulatory programs of federal agencies."

The decision could open the door somewhat wider to lawsuits against the government for irregularities in approving the safety or healthfulness not only of vaccines but also of drugs, pharmaceuticals, airplanes, other products, health conditions in mines, nuclear facilities and other workplaces, and a range of other regulated activities.

The court ruled that the government's "responsible entity" is the department or agency that has the "final approval authority" over the product or activity involved.

Washington

Robert B. Gannison
Chronicle Sacramento Bureau

Sacramento

Following growing pressure from motorcycleists, Governor Deukmejian yesterday vetoed a bill that would have required bikers to wear protective helmets.

"If I were to ride a motorcycle," Deukmejian said in his veto message, "I would certainly wear a helmet because it provides an additional margin of safety to all riders."

There was concern, however, about the need to mandate all motorcycle riders and passengers to wear helmets in all conditions on all highways or be in violation of state law.

Assemblyman Richard Floyd, D-Gardena, whose bill was vetoed, declared, "The governor is the one guy who doesn't have to wear a helmet. The governor is the hardest-headed s.o.b. we've ever seen in this building. His head is hard as rock and solid."

In April, Deukmejian told reporters that he favored the concept of Floyd's bill and suggested that if it reached his desk without significant amendments, he would sign it. The bill was given only one minor amendment, correcting the spelling of a co-author's name.

Legislation to make helmets mandatory for all motorcycle riders has been introduced in the California legislature for two decades. Floyd's bill was the first ever to get out of its first committee, much less make it to the governor's desk. Floyd said he will reintroduce the bill next year.

But the governor's press office yesterday reported that Deukmejian had been besieged by hundreds of letters and phone calls from both supporters and opponents of Floyd's bill, with the opponents outnumbering the backers.

Opponents included motorcycle organizations and businesses with names like Chet's Unique Tire and Flat Cat Productions. The bill was supported by medical organizations, trauma centers, hospitals and many local governments.

The bill would have required that as of January 1, all motorcycleists and their passengers wear approved crash helmets.

Deukmejian yesterday signed without comment a bill that will require riders of all-terrain vehicles to wear protective helmets while traveling on public highways.

When AIDS Is Most Likely To Be Passed to Others

By Randy Shilts
Chronicle Staff Writer

The virus becomes more virulent the longer a person has been infected

Stockholm

Scientists presented new studies yesterday suggesting that people infected with the AIDS virus eventually reach a period of "dynamic infectivity" when the odds peak that they can transmit the virus sexually.

The research on the spread of AIDS among heterosexuals in Africa, Europe and the United States also suggests that the stage of greatest risk of AIDS virus transmission occurs as a person's immune system begins the final decline toward AIDS.

The findings on the heterosexual transmission of the virus that causes AIDS—human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV—emerged at the second day of the Fourth International Conference on AIDS, where 2,000 AIDS experts from around the world have gathered to share the latest research on the epidemic.

The study found that only about 1 percent of the women were infected through heterosexual sex in each of the first three years after the hemophiliacs' exposure to the AIDS virus. By the sixth or seventh year, however, about 10 percent of sexual partners of hemophiliacs be...
New Studies on AIDS Transmission

Dr. James Goedert of the National Cancer Institute said 45 percent of men with both lowered T-4 cell counts and p24 antigen had infected their sex partners, whereas just 4 percent of HIV-infected men with normal T-4 lymphocyte levels and p24 antigen had infected their partners.

The question is important because commonly used screening tests detect antibodies to the AIDS virus rather than to the virus itself. People who carried the virus but did not develop antibodies for years could erroneously be declared free of infection.

But Dr. Steven M. Wolinsky of Northwestern University Medical School, a co-author of the report, stressed that the study involved too few patients to indicate how much time usually passes between infection with the virus and development of antibodies. "What we need to do is to expand our study and look on a larger scale," he said.

In what may be an indirect confirmation that the virus becomes more virulent the longer a person has been infected, a Zambian study found that HIV-infected women were far more likely to have had sexual contact with men with AIDS or AIDS-related complex than with men who were HIV-infected but had not yet developed AIDS.

A study of German heterosexuals also found dramatically higher HIV infection rates among women who had sex with men showing T-4 lymphocyte counts that fell below 400, the point at which mild AIDS-related infections often begin.

Dr. Robert Redfield, who has made similar observations in his research at the Walter Reed Medical Institute of Research, said the drop in T-4 cells and the presence of p24 antigen seem to mark a period of "dynamic infectivity" that follows the many years of apparent HIV latency in an infected person.

Meanwhile, a Belgian study also gave evidence to the notion that AIDS can be more easily transmitted from men to women than from women to men.

Although 53 percent of female sexual partners of HIV-infected men contracted the virus from sexual relations, only 13 percent of HIV-infected women transmitted the virus to male sexual partners, said Dr. Marie Laga of the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Brussels.

Serious.

39,000 More AIDS Cases in U.S. in '88

Stockholm

About 39,000 Americans will be diagnosed with acquired immune deficiency syndrome this year and this caseload will reach 365,000 by 1992, health officials reported yesterday.

Dr. James Curran, director of the Atlanta-based National Centers for Disease Control's AIDS Program, said the increase will take the nation's AIDS caseload to about 89,000 by the end of December.

An additional 49,000 Americans will be diagnosed in 1989, followed by the diagnoses of 60,000 more in 1990. In 1992, Curran said, 80,000 more cases are anticipated.

Altogether, the CDC estimates that between 1 million and 1.5 million Americans are infected with the AIDS virus. This is the same figure statisticians projected in 1983.

The grim predictions for the number of AIDS cases by 1992 emerged just last week in a high-level conference of officials from the U.S. Public Health Service in Charlottesville, Va.

At that conference, it was disclosed that the incidence of AIDS was 9 percent above CDC projections made at a similar conference two years ago.

Sporty.
Serious.

A study of German heterosexuals also found dramatically higher HIV infection rates among women who had sex with men showing T-4 lymphocyte counts that fell below 500, the point at which mild-AIDS-related infections often begin.

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In the United States, about 2.9 percent of the nation's 65,000 AIDS cases can be traced to heterosexual sex, Dr. James Curran of the national Centers for Disease Control said yesterday.

Most of the cases were contracted by women who had sex with male intravenous drug users, largely in the impoverished inner cities of the Northeast.

Curran said that although federal experts do not anticipate any "explosion" of heterosexual AIDS throughout the country, the problem gradually will increase, particularly among those who have sex with drug addicts. Drug users currently constitute the largest pool of HIV-infected heterosexuals in the United States.

European researchers similarly reported that as the numbers of HIV-infected drug addicts grow on that continent, heterosexual AIDS is emerging as an increasing problem.

Another study presented yesterday found that some men carrying the AIDS virus had been infected more than a year before their bodies produced antibodies in response.

The researchers, including Dr. John Sninsky of Cetus Corp. in Emeryville, Calif., and Dr. Einar네s in Norway, found that HIV-seropositive men can develop antibodies only after a delay of a year or more. In homosexual men, the delay is usually less than a year.

The study was published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The researchers said that the finding "strengthens the belief that AIDS can be transmitted naturally from man to man through heterosexual relations" and suggests that "AIDS-related infections may occur naturally through heterosexual relations in the West.

It also suggests that heterosexual transmission may have occurred naturally in parts of Africa, Europe and Asia, where heterosexual transmission may have played a role in the spread of AIDS from there to the United States.
One of the features of the coro-
tax change, for example, exci-
tes companies with Annual sales
240,000 or less. That includes
farms and small busin-
cpe who have been loyal sup-
er of the Liberal Demo-
nocrats. A fierce Diet debate, and con-
ed back-room negotiations be-
the LDP and the opposi-
e, is certain.

Financial analysts in Tokyo feel
the reforms will add needed
ce to a structure that has de-
ed heavily on income and com-

More Japan News
SEE PAGE A15

$.U.S. MERCHANDISE
TRADE BALANCE

TRADING PARTNERS

JAPAN

BIG INCREASE IN AIDS AMONG DRUG USERS

deficiency, syndrome among add-

Just two years ago, no drug us-
er in Bangkok were found to be
fected with the Human Immu-

From Page 1

JAPAN

SHRINKING TRADE GAP

2124.47, up 25 points.

From Page 1

More AIDS News

will include thousands of children
plagued by AIDS, thousands more
born with the disease, thousands
adults dead and an over-
whelmed medical system.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, director of
the World Health Organization's
AIDS Control Program, said, "This
epidemic curve threatens every
travenous drug-using community
in the world."

In the United States, hetero-

censal intravenous drug users have ac-
counted for 17 percent of AIDS cas-
es in past years, but they accounted
for 24 percent of all new AIDS cases
between December and March, said
Robert Hahn of the national Centers
for Disease Control.

An additional 7 percent of the
nation's AIDS cases are intrave-
nous drug users who are gay
or bisexual.

Part of the increase reflects an
expanded list of the diseases that
qualify a patient for an official CDC
designation as an AIDS patient, said
Hahn.

However, the increase in new
cases reflects the huge num-
bers of addicts that are infected
with HIV, particularly in the impov-
erished inner-city neighborhoods
of the northeast.

This is the future of the AIDS
demic," said Dr. Stephen Johns
of the CDC's Center for Prevention
Services.

Intravenous drug users consti-
tute a majority among all AIDS cases
now reported in New York and New
Jersery. Federal officials say that
between 55 percent and 60 per-
cent of New York City's 250,000 need-
le drug users are infected with
HIV and silently incubating the
disease.

These statistics affect growing
numbers of young women who
have contracted the disease sexual-
lly from drug-using boyfriends,
declared Landesman.

About 15 percent of young
women going to a King's County
Hospital for treatment of pelvic inflam-
matory disease are testing posi-
tive for HIV. Landesman said.

Officials estimate that there are 30,000
HIV-infected women in New York
City alone.

"Many of these young women
have one or two children, and
they're usually in single-parent
homes," said Landesman.

"You can expect 7,000 of them
to get sick and die in the next seven
years or so, and that translates to
between 10,000 and 15,000 kids
who will be left behind," he said.

"Who's going to care for them?"

The women also are hearing
children who will contract AIDS
and die. Landesman said. About one
in 40 babies born in the Bronx,
for example, test positive for HIV anti-
bodies, he said.

The problem is not unique to
King's County Hospital or to New
York City, as inner-city neigh-
borhoods throughout the United
States and Europe are facing spiraling
numbers of AIDS-infected drug
ad\cts.

In Europe, the increase of AIDS
among drug addicts is even more
pronounced, said Dr. Jean-Baptiste
Brunet of the French Ministry of
Health.

Drug users accounted for 10
percent of Europe's AIDS cases two
years ago; they made up 30 percent
of AIDS cases reported between
December of last year and March, Brunet reported.

Drug addicts account for 62
percent of AIDS cases in France and 54
percent of all cases in Spain.

The rapid spread of HIV among
Italian drug addicts has given the
country an extremely high infec-
tion rate.
Big Drop in Imports

Trade Deficit Falls — Lowest Since 1985

By Carl T. Hall
Chronicle Washington Bureau

Washington

The U.S. trade deficit dropped in April to its lowest point in almost three years as American consumers bought fewer imports, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

The dramatically lower deficit came despite a slight dip in exports, a drop that was just enough to help cool inflation fears on Wall Street and send both stock and bond prices soaring.

The Commerce Department said the seasonally adjusted merchandise trade deficit was $9.9 billion in April, down from a revised $11.7 billion in March. It was the first time since August 1983 that the figure had dropped below 12 digits. Most experts had predicted April's deficit would exceed $12 billion.

"The report could not have been any better," said James Solloway, chief economist at Argus Research Corp., a New York investment firm. "Not only did we see another surprising narrowing of the trade deficit, but the way it narrowed was very helpful for the markets."

That was chiefly because U.S. imports in April, at $28.1 billion, were about $2.5 billion less than in March, a sign that economic demand is not growing so rapidly that inflation is likely to shoot up.

Exports were a healthy $36.2 billion in April, that was about $700 million below March, and economists interpreted that, too, as evidence that the U.S. economy is in no imminent danger of overheating.

Market interest rates, which largely are determined by investors' collective assumptions about the inflation outlook, plunged in response. The rate on closely watched 30-year Treasury bonds fell from about 8.3 percent to about 8.05 percent within minutes of yesterday's early-morning release.

Stock prices surged on Wall Street to their highest levels since the October 1987 crash. Buoyed by hopes that lower interest rates would bring healthier corporate profits, the Dow Jones industrial average ended the trading day at

Big FBI Probe Of Military Contracts

Dooms of FBI agents swooped down on the Pentagon and the nation's biggest defense contractors yesterday in the first phase of a planned two-year investigation of fraud in the military.

According to sources familiar with the FBI's investigation, allegations of bribery and corruption in the military procurement process have been widespread.

They said the investigation will also touch on the involvement of unidentified members of Congress and congressional aides and their role in helping companies obtain lucrative military contracts.

See story, Page A12

Shocking Rise In AIDS Among Drug Abusers

By Randy Shilton
Chronicle Staff Writer

Stockholm

AIDS infection among intravenous drug users is exploding, and the rate of new cases is far outstripping all other causes of AIDS in the developed world.

In new data on the spread of the disease among addicts, presented at the Fourth International Conference on AIDS here, experts underscored their concerns that the increasing numbers of AIDS-infected addicts will fuel increases in heterosexual transmission and in the widening tragedy of babies born with the disease.

The increases are staggering, even in parts of the world where the AIDS virus has only recently appeared. New studies of drug users in Bangkok, for example, confirmed health officials' fears about the proliferation of acquired immune

Researchers Find 'Twin'

Associated Press

Washington

A cherished common belief may be in doubt: the assumption that no two snowflakes are alike.

Nancy C. Knight of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., has discovered

what may be the first matching set of snow crystals.

"My first reaction was to say, "That's absolutely impossible," said her husband, Charles Knight, also a researcher at the center.

But there the two crystals were, side by side, in a photograph of a glass slide exposed to a cloud on
More Japan News

SEE PAGE A15

...nonduty taxes, but that they may have limited impact on the growth of the nation's economy.

"My gut feeling is that this bill will not have great impact on the Japanese economy," said economist Kurt Hahn of Hoare-Govett Far East's Tokyo office. "It's not nearly as significant as the U.S. tax reform of two years ago."

Nonetheless, he said, the reforms are essential for creating a more balanced structure than the present one in which 70 percent total government revenues come from income taxes.

"Japan must broaden its tax base or risk fiscal disaster," said Hahn.

The major features of the proposal include cuts of an estimated 24.8 billion in personal income and estate taxes, 24.8 billion in inheritance taxes and 24.8 billion in corporate profit and residence taxes.

Income tax brackets also would be reduced from 12 to six, and the basic tax level would be increased by about 20 percent.

The tax cuts, in combination with elimination of some export taxes, would reduce annual tax revenues by about 72 billion. However, rates will mean an increase in ax revenues of 24.8 billion, leaving net revenue decline of about 10.8 billion.

Japan has no system to track savings and all attempts to introduce one, as a way to curb tax evasion, have failed. The LDP envisions the sales tax as a way to raise more revenue from people who now trade direct taxes.

However, critics of the plan contend that such a tax does not focus on tax offenders and the wealthy, but ends up hurting lower-income people.

Although it faces a rocky future, the LDP package should be much better than the one proposed by Prime Minister Nakasone, which tried to push through the Diet a year ago. That plan, including 8.5 percent sales tax, provoked so much opposition that it had to be abandoned. It undoubtedly had tarnished Nakasone's departure from office earlier than planned.

An earlier tax reform attempt by former Prime Minister Masahisa Ohira in 1976 was also foiled and led to heavy political fallout.

From Page 1

2124.47, up 25 points.

Many analysts said the lower value of the dollar - which tends to make U.S. goods cheaper to foreign buyers and imports more costly to at-home consumers - was the reason behind the fall in the trade deficit.

"The low dollar is causing this," said Cynthia Latta, economist at Data Resources Inc. in Lexington, Mass. "It's taken a long time for the effect to show up, but now it's here."

Part of the effect appears to be a shift to a more balanced trade, no longer so dependent on consumer spending. It was before the dollar began falling in February 1985. Instead, U.S. manufacturers are now pulling more of the load, as improvement in foreign sales supplants import in new plants and equipment.

That bolstered the consensus that the economy will continue expanding, at least for the rest of 1988.

Despite the encouraging signals, the country remains a long way from balancing its books on foreign trade. If monthly deficits for the rest of this year were to match April's mark, the 1988 trade deficit would still be a hefty $100 billion.

Most analysts said it is more likely the deficit will hover above $100 billion for the next few months.

"I wouldn't expect the numbers to stay this good all year," Latta said, predicting that the August deficit will wind up around $120 billion, not much better than the record $155.1 billion set last year.

At BankAmerica Corp., senior economist Frank McCormick was even less optimistic. Calling the April figures "too good to be true," he said $12 billion a month would be "reasonable" for the remainder of the year.

Yesterday's report was the first in three years in which the Commerce Department published seasonally adjusted trade figures. Officials said this should remove some of the "monthly volatility" in the report, which have acquired enormous power to move financial markets when forecasters are blind-sided by unexpected figures.

The new figures showed that imports edged down in April in every major product category.

Automobile imports were $7.3 billion in April, compared with $7.7 billion in March. Other consumer goods fell from $8.2 billion to $7.7 billion, and imports of industrial supplies and materials dropped from $10.5 billion to $10.1 billion.

On the export side of the ledger, the patterns appeared to be less clear-cut, with exports virtually unchanged across the board from March to April.

In the first four months of this year, U.S. exports have been 30 percent higher than in the same of the previous year. Less, reflects about 5 percent rise in the price of exports and a 25 percent gain in volume.

Commerce Undersecretary Robert Ortmier said it appears that the U.S. trade deficit peaked in the second half of 1987, when the monthly excess of imports over exports averaged $154.3 billion.

Country-by-country breakdowns indicate that the assumptions were not seasonally adjusted in yesterday's report, showed little variation from March to April. In the case of Japan, for example, the adjusted trade deficit was $4.4 billion in April, compared with $4.5 million the month before.

That is the single biggest source of the U.S. trade deficit, and tensions between the two economic powers are not expected to ease much as a result of yesterday's report.

Similarly, Susan Simon, political economist in Washington for the brokerage firm Shearson Lehman Hutton, said the progress of major trade legislation in Congress this year will probably be affected. President Reagan vetoed one omnibus bill, but another bill is expected before Congress adjourns in the fall.

"It depends on what the Congress leadership decides to do on the trade deficit," Simon.
Christian Science Case

A Ruling on Religious Freedom

By William Carlsen
Chronicle Staff Writer

The California Supreme Court decided yesterday that a scientific tool which is 100 times as powerful as a man-made weapon can be used to prevent the spread of AIDS in the community.

The court's decision, which overturns a lower court's ruling, clears the way for the use of the tool, called a "Stealth Fighter," to combat the disease.

The Stealth Fighter, which is capable of flying at supersonic speeds and eluding radar, was developed by the Defense Department for use in the event of a nuclear war.

The court's decision is a victory for the state's Department of Health, which had requested the use of the Stealth Fighter to help control the spread of AIDS in the community.

The Department of Health argued that the Stealth Fighter could be used to detect and contain the disease, as well as to prevent its spread to other communities.

The court agreed, saying that the Stealth Fighter could be used to "neutralize" the virus in the community.

"The Stealth Fighter is a powerful weapon," said Justice John Heredia, who wrote the majority opinion. "It is capable of detecting and containing the virus, and it can be used to prevent its spread to other communities.

"We hope that this decision will help to control the spread of AIDS in the community," he said.

The court's decision was met with praise from health officials.

"This is a historic day," said Dr. John Doe, the state's health commissioner. "We have been working on this for years, and now we have the tools to combat the disease.

"This is a victory for all of us," he said.

The Stealth Fighter was developed by a team of scientists and engineers at the Defense Department's Research and Development Laboratory.

The Stealth Fighter is capable of flying at supersonic speeds and eluding radar, making it difficult to be detected.

The court's decision opens the way for the Stealth Fighter to be used in the community, and it is expected that the state will begin using the tool as soon as possible.

"We look forward to seeing the Stealth Fighter in action," said Justice Heredia.

"This is a powerful weapon, and we are confident that it will help to control the spread of AIDS in the community.

"We are proud to be the first state to use this tool," he said.
Bush May Be Better Than Reagan in the

From Page 1

to thank" him for the backing, he
mentioned that the stance might
test the vice president some conser-
vative votes.

"He told me, 'I know I'll lose
some votes, Jim, but it was the right
thing to do,'" Watkins recalled yester-
day. "When I heard those words, I
knew there was hope."

Different Approach

Although continuity may be the
watchword for most issues, the
Reagan-Bush administration's
approach to dealing with the AIDS
epidemic will be quite different, ac-
cording to aides and advisors to the
vice president-elect.

"I think it will be very different
from the Reagan-White House," said
Dr. Burton Lee III, a longtime
Bush advisor who served on Reagan's
AIDS commission. "You're not go-
ing to see that excessive conserva-
tive influence."

"You won't find a White House
that wouldn't even talk about the
disease," said Deborah Steelman, di-
rector of domestic policy for the
Bush campaign, referring to the
five years it took President Reagan
to mention AIDS publicly. "In a
White House administration, the en-
emy will be AIDS — not the victim of
the disease."

Demos Dubious

Congressional Democrats re-
main dubious, noting that the opti-
mistic prognostications are gener-
ally coming from Bush partisans.

"I think it's a catastrophe for
this issue," said Steve Morin, who
handled AIDS issues for Representa-
tive Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco.

"There's no indication that
Bush endorses the concept that
AIDS has got to be dealt with as a
public health emergency. Seven
years into the epidemic, we're look-
ing ahead to four more years with
business as usual," Morin said.

Even those who expect a
change in policy doubt that AIDS
will have dramatically higher visi-
bility in Bush's presidency. If nur-
sing and home health care for AIDS
patients are expanded, for example,
Bush advisers said, it would proba-
bly be included in broader pro-
grams to provide such services to
other groups, such as the chronical-
lly ill and the elderly.

"I think you'll see a quiet work-
ing rather than loud speeches," said
Dr. Colleen Conway-Welch, a mem-
ber of the AIDS commission.

With 77,994 AIDS cases na-
tionally as of election day and as many
as 1,000 new cases being diagnosed
every week, the epidemic's toll is
expected to explode during the first
years of the Bush presidency. By
1992, the federal government es-
imates that 365,000 Americans will
suffer from AIDS, which is then ex-
pected to be the No. 2 killer in the
country after cardiovascular dis-
ee.

C: EVERETT KOOP

Dr. Anthony Fauci, associate
director of the National Institutes
of Health for AIDS, who was named
by Bush in the second presidential
debate as someone he personally
considered a "hero."

Policy Makers

AIDS policy will be shaped by
the still-unknown people who will
serve as secretary of Health and Hu-
man Services and assistant HHS sec-
retary for health. They will run the
Public Health Service umbrella,
which includes the Centers for Dis-
case Control, the Food and Drug
Administration and the National In-
stitutes for Health.

Fauci is considered a leading
contender to be next director of
the National Institutes for Health. Dr.
James Mason, who has close ties to
Senator Orin Hatch, who was
appointed to the Senate Health
Committee, is expected to keep his
job as director of the Centers for
Disease Control. Dr. Frank Young,
who has worked with Bush on fed-
eral deregulation efforts, is also
thought to be secure in his job as

byaudra commissioner,
Dr. Anthony Fauci, who has worked
with Bush on federal deregulation
in the presidential

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"There's no indication that Bush endorses the concept that AIDS has got to be dealt with as a public health emergency. Seven years into the epidemic, we're looking ahead to four more years with business as usual," Morin said.

Even those who expect a change in policy doubt that AIDS will have dramatically higher visibility in Bush's presidency. Nursing and home health care for AIDS patients is expanded, for example, Bush advisers said. It would probably be included in broader programs to provide such services to other groups, such as the chronically ill and the elderly.

"I think you'll see a quiet working rather than loud speeches," said Dr. Colleen Conway-Welch, a member of the AIDS commission.

With 77,094 AIDS cases nationally as of election day and as many as 100,000 new cases being diagnosed every week, the epidemic's toll is expected to explode during the first years of the Bush presidency. By 1992, the federal government estimates that 365,000 Americans will suffer from AIDS, which is then expected to be the No. 2 killer in the country after cardiovascular disease.

The Reagan Years

For critics of the Reagan administration's AIDS policies, the presidential proclamation declaring October as AIDS Awareness Month was anathema to come to life. Reagan did not sign it until October 28, and the White House press office did not announce the awareness month until November 1 — after it was over.

The administration's AIDS policies were the work of three powerful conservatives who dominated the White House Domestic Policy Council through much of the Reagan years: former Attorney General Edwin Meese, former Education Secretary William Bennett and Ben Nighthorse Campbell, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Researchers seeking AIDS treatments say the Office of Management and Budget has refused to allow the National Institutes of Health to hire sufficient staff members to do the necessary paperwork to speed up drug trials.

Bush adviser Steelman predicted, "You won't have a White House and OMB that will run the whole government. The scientists will have a more direct input into what policies and budgets should be."

Who's In

One indication that this may happen is the people Bush has been talking to about AIDS. He's already met with Surgeon General Koop to discuss AIDS. President Reagan consistently refused to do so.

Along with Koop, those who are expected to carry greater influence on AIDS include:

- Watkins, who became a folk hero in the AIDS research community for his championing of a stronger federal response to the epidemic.
- Lee, a cancer specialist at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, who has known Bush since his days at Andover and Yale. Lee's talks with Barbara Bush helped persuade her — and the president-elect — to endorse nondiscrimination legislation.
- Conway-Welch, dean of the school of nursing at Vanderbilt University and a member of Reagan's AIDS commission. Her husband played a key role in the Bush effort to help the homeless and the elderly.

The administration's AIDS policies were the work of three powerful conservatives who dominated the White House Domestic Policy Council through much of the Reagan years: former Attorney General Edwin Meese, former Education Secretary William Bennett and Ben Nighthorse Campbell, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.
Dr. Anthony Fauci
Bush called him a hero

Dr. Anthony Fauci, associate director of the National Institutes of Health for AIDS, who was named by Bush in the second presidential debate as someone he personally considered a "hero."

Policy Makers

AIDS policy will be shaped by the still-unknown people who will serve as secretary of Health and Human Services and assistant HHS secretary for health. They will run the Public Health Service umbrella, which includes the Centers for Disease Control, the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes for Health.

Fauci is considered a leading contender to be next director of the National Institutes for Health. Dr. James Mason, who has close ties to Senator Orrin Hatch, the ranking Republican on the Senate Health Committee, is expected to keep his job as director of the Centers for Disease Control. Dr. Frank Young, who has worked with Bush on federal deregulation efforts, is also thought to be secure in his job as FDA commissioner. Koo's term as surgeon general does not expire until next November.

However, Bush's first appointment, Vice President-elect Dan Quayle, has one of the most conservative records of any U.S. senator on AIDS issues, having frequently teamed with Senator Jesse Helms to deny federal AIDS funds to any group suspected of "condoning" homosexuality. Last year, Quayle was one of only 21 senators to oppose a $30 million appropriation to finance life-saving AZT treatments for indigent AIDS patients.

"Who will get HHS? Who will get the Office of Policy Development?" asked Lee. "If Bush can be himself, he'll be wonderful. . . . But, these appointments can have a lot of subtle effect."

Curiously, the defeat of a Republican senator on Tuesday may have as great an effect on AIDS legislation as the victory of the Republican presidential candidate.

The senator, Lowell Weicker, R-Conn., has been an active spokesman for AIDS legislation. Few other senators, even among liberal Democrats, have demonstrated comparable concern with the nuts-and-bolts parliamentary process and the Senate's horse-trading necessary to move AIDS legislation. Experts say that without Weicker, the recent extension of financing for AZT for AIDS patients would not have been passed.

But even Morin, the Pelosi aide who called Bush's win a catastrophe, said, "The Reagan White House has been so nutty, there's nowhere to go but up."

Peru Guerrillas Kill 13

Lima

Maoist guerrillas killed 13 peasants and soldiers in a tropical cocaine-producing region of the Andes mountains, police reported yesterday. United Press International

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**A Giant Is Waking**

By Frank Viviano  
*Chronicle Staff Writer*

Jim Gonzalez, a successful businessman, was the son of the Excelsior District, a politically powerful Filipino neighborhood in San Francisco.

One of the most thrilling moments of my life, he told his audience, was being a part of the congressional hearings. He had contributed thousands of dollars to support his career in politics by buying shares in Filipino companies.

Angela Alioto mentioned her father, former Mayor Joseph Alioto, had the first major Filipino appointment to city government. Carol Ruth Silver spoke of organizing Filipino farm workers at Delano in 1966, and Willie Kennedy condemned the lack of top Filipino administrators at City Hall.

What brought these and five other candidates for San Francisco's Board of Supervisors to a meeting, jammed Civic Center auditorium one late September evening was a lunch. They were being treated to a giant -- Asian American political power -- that would soon awaken.

When and if it does, say political observers, the region's nearly 15 million Asian Americans could play a decisive role in elections -- not just in San Francisco, but in cities across the Bay Area's six southern counties.

The scene at the auditorium was a forum sponsored by the Filipino American Democratic Club, one of the state's most prominent organizations involved in a notable resurgence of local Asian American political activity. The number of potential voters in their communities suggests that the prospects are bright.

**Uproar Over Navy Aide's Reported 'Gay Spy' Slur**

By Randy Shiltz  
*National Correspondent*

A Navy security official warned civilian naval employees last month in San Francisco that most Americans areuting homosexuals, according to naval personnel who attended the briefing.

The remarks, which were immediately reprinted by gay leaders, were made by a special agent of the Naval Investigative Service at a November briefing at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. All local civilian naval personnel with security clearances were required to attend, participants said. The briefing session is held every year, designed to warn civilians in sensitive posts of the dangers of espionage.

"Usually the sessions are innocuous enough," said one person who was present. "That's what made these comments so strange."

Several individuals who attended the briefing, but who asked not to be identified, said that the special agent on several occasions referred to homosexual activity as a threat to national security.

**Webster To Stay At CIA**

By Carl T. Hall  
*Chronicle Washington Bureau*

Washington

Putting the final touches on the new economic team, President-elect George Bush yesterday nominated lawyer Carla Hills to be U.S. trade representative, Treasury official Robert Mosbacher to be secretary of commerce and Stanford University Professor Mikhail Gorbachev to be chief economic adviser.

Bush used the occasion to underscore his intention to "take the offense" on reducing the federal budget deficit soon after he is inaugurated next month. But he said, "What that means in terms of form, I'm not quite sure yet."

Both he and Boskin, in a speech delivered just before the appointment was announced, made it clear they have not wavered from their belief that the budget can be balanced without raising taxes.

"Revenue is growing substantially more rapidly than spending," Boskin said at an event at the American Enterprise Institute yesterday. "And if we get spending under control, we can balance the budget by 1993 or 1994."

Bush also announced yesterday that he will keep William Webster as director of the CIA. And he named career diplomat Thomas Pickering, now the U.S. ambassador to Israel, to be U.S. representative before the United Nations.

Earlier yesterday, Bush ate lunch with Representative Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. Rostenkowski has suggested raising the 9.1-cent-a-gallon federal gasoline tax to help trim the deficit, but he said that Bush "didn't change his position at all."

"I mentioned to him that I have been on the record for some time with respect to increasing energy prices. And he said that 'that's interesting.'"

Boskin did not comment specifically on the lunch but said they both want to move this country forward.

Trade policy took center stage yesterday with the selection of Hills, the first woman to be tapped for a top job in the incoming administration. Recent changes in U.S. trade law gave new clout to the U.S.

**Sidewalk Death Ended a Losing Battle With Alcohol**

By Michael McCabe and Thomas G. Kane  
*Chronicle Staff Writers*

Plenty of problems converged on Joseph Emerson Eaton Jr. as he died during the early morning hours Saturday in front of a fast-food restaurant.

Eaton was killed early Saturday after being tossed out of an Carls Jr. restaurant. In San Francisco, they gathered to remember what many said was a "gentle" “funny,” “child-like" days before his prominent New England family was to fly him home to get help. Many expressed outrage and bitterness over the way he died.

There were priests and nuns and gay friends. There were derelicts drinking cheap whiskey who claimed to be good friends with "Jo-

**Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev shield Gorbachev Amid Rumor**

By Larry Liebert  
*Chronicle Washington Bureau Chief*

New York

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev arrived in New York City yesterday, giving no hint of what surprises he plans to spring at a luncheon meeting today with President Reagan and President-elect George Bush.

"We have not arranged any agenda, so either side will be free, openly and frankly, to raise any questions that it wishes," said Gorbachev, as he emphasized the free-wheeling format of the brief semi-official meeting. Some rumors suggested that he might be there to meet with Reagan to discuss the war in Afghanistan.

There were rumors and speculation that the Soviet leader will bring new proposals on issues rang-

**THE CHRONICLE SEASON OF SHARING FUND**

See Page A4
UPROAR OVER REPORTED 'GAY SPIES' SLUR

said the employee. "They were very irresponsible statements."

Lieutenant Joseph Murphy, assistant Navy public affairs officer in San Francisco, said questions about this have been referred to the chief of naval information in Washington, D.C., and no further comment was available yesterday.

These are sensitive matters. We are waiting for D.C.," Murphy said.

Another person who attended the briefing and also expressed fear of losing his security clearance, said, "I found it objectionable to the extreme. To put it bluntly, we're afraid to be ourselves."

At the session were approximately 60 employees from one of the branches of the Navy's organizational support services in San Francisco, participants said.

An employee for the Planning, Engineering and Repair for Combat Support Ships division of the Navy said: "We were shocked. We have all kinds of people here - people from minorities and gays. We want to consider them a problem."

The special agent was not identified.

Leonard Graff, legal director of the San Francisco-based National "There is absolutely no proof to back up the notion that most spies were homosexuals," said Lieut. Rear Adm. William "It's a throwback to the McCarthy era, and I hope we won't see that kind of witch-hunting coming from our local Naval installations."

The controversy over the briefing follows nearly two years of wrangling over the issue of anti-gay discrimination by the U.S. Navy, which has fought a long battle to base the battle- ship Missouri in San Francisco.

Both Mayor Art Agnos and Supervisor Larry Raskin, the supervisors' only openly gay member, strenuously opposed basing of the Missouri in San Francisco, in part because of naval fears that deny security clearances to homosexuals and rules that bar gays from serving in the Navy.

Navy spokesmen, however, insisted they would not deny security clearances to anyone working at the Missouri installation simply because that person was gay.

"The Navy last year agreed to a compromise agreement worked out by the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Dianne Feinstein, saying it would not discriminate against civilian employees the basis of 'sexual orientation.'"

Graff said the security officer's remarks demonstrated that the Navy would not live up to the agree-
The Contra Costa County CA Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve construction of the county’s first shelter for homeless persons. (M) Mr 15 - A, 6:2

Some Homeless would be excluded from the National Guard armory shelters in Contra Costa County CA according to City officials approved by county supervisors. (M) N 8 - A, 3:1

Earthquake relief shelters in Oakland CA schools will close, but will be set up while the city locates low-cost housing for 300 people. (M) N 9 - A, 4:4

Herb Caen comments on various topics, including a local clergy’s complaints that his church is housing homeless people to capacity, while area “elite” churches are empty. (L) N 17 - B, 1:1

Shelter proposals for the immediate and long-term Social Security checks in exchange for substantial care. (M) Mr 24 - A, 2:1

The Contra Costa County CA Board of Supervisors approved the conversion of a Martinez CA church building into a shelter for 54 homeless persons in spite of numerous objections by the Board’s constituents. (M) D 6 - A, 3:0

Unusually cold weather and the loss of low-income housing during the Oct 1989 earthquake have compounded the homeless crisis in San Francisco. Shelters are forced to turn away many people; photo. (L) D Ma 9 - A, 2:1

SHELDON, KEVIN

Kenneth Baker reviews an exhibit by sculptor Peter Shelton at the San Jose Museum of Art; photo. (M) Mr 16 - C, 2:1

SHEN RONG

Shen Rong, the first Chinese student leader to escape from Communist China after the massacre at Tiananmen square, came out of hiding in Newton MA to denounce the Chinese government and vow to fight the regime from overseas. photo. (M) Mr 24 - B, 3:2

SHENKMAN, MARTIN M.

Robert J. Bruss reviews Martin M. Shenkman’s book “The Total Real Estate Tax Planner” (M) Ja 29 - F, 8:3

SHEPHERD, CYBILL

Gene Siskel interviews Cybill Shepherd about her recent divorce and the fall of her three television series; photo. (L) Mr 12 - DAT, 21:1

SHEPHERDS, NANCY

In the early 1990s, income taxes were aimed at the wealthiest 1 percent of the population, with no one earning less than $3,000 ($350,000 today) required to file a 1040 form; photo. (L) Mr 12 - WOR, 17:2

SHIER, BYRON

Calif. legislature Byron Sheier plans to introduce a bill that would institute fines for the clearingcut of older trees. (M) Ja 28 - B, 1:5

SHERBOLD, KEVIN

The case of former felon Kevin Sherbodey, whose resentencing for arms possession has become the pet project of San Francisco celebrities; photo. (L) Mr 24 - B, 3:2

The testimony of former inmate Kevin Sherbodey in the freedom of the press-censorship lawsuit of Danni Martin at the San Francisco Chronicle against the federal prison system; described; illustrated. (M) D 14 - A, 25:1

SHERARD, MIKE

Mike Sherard of Dallas, Ill.-fortified wide receiver, agreed to a three-year contract for $1.325 million with the San Francisco 49ers, during the recent free-agent signing period. (M) Mr 31 - E, 3:1

Although it may take receiver Mike Sherrard and quarterback Kevin Sweeney years to reach their full potential with the San Francisco 49ers, they are convinced that signing as unprotected free agents was better than remaining with the Dallas Cowboys; photo. (L) APr 29 - W, 2:2

Wide receiver Mike Sherrard, who has been sidelined by broken legs since 1987, took part in the San Francisco 49ers’ practice on Oct 25, 1989; photo. (M) O 26 - F, 2:1

SHERRY, NORMAN

Norman Sherry, the writer who has gone to extremes to research his biography of Graham Greene, a famous writer, is profiled; photo. (L) J 5 - B, 3:5

SHEVARDNADZE, EDUARD A

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, began talks in Beijing to set the stage for possibly ending three decades of hostility between China and the Soviet Union; photo. (M) F 2 - A, 2:1

USSR foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in Iran for a rare audience with Ayatollah Khomeini. It is the final leg of a 10-day Soviet trip to boost its influence in the Middle East. (M) F 26 - A, 11:1

Akhikhabor Gorbachev dispatched Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to his native Georgia and closed the area to foreign tourists and reporters after some of the worst nationalist rioting since 1985. (L) Ap 11 - A, 5:3

The negative reaction of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to the German reunification plan of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is described. (M) D 6 - A, 23:2

SHELDON, MACKIE

Mackie Sheldon, the fitness consultant recently contracted by the San Francisco Giants, is profiled; photo. (L) F 25 - D, 3:1

ARTICLES discuss possibility that 1989 could be last dark year in wars on AIDS. (L) Ja 2 - A, 6:1

San Francisco’s AIDS task force drawn largely from civic leaders outside medical and public health professions. (M) Ja 3 - A, 1:6

Randall Shilts column stresses importance of finally appointed czar to U.S. on war on AIDS. (L) Ja 31 - A, 1:4

Randall Shilts column criticizes Pres. Reagan’s AIDS budget cuts. (L) Ja 16 - A, 4:3

Chronicle reporter Randall Shilts, 1989 John P. McGovern Award for Excellence in Science Writing for his coverage of AIDS. (L) Ja 18 - A, 18:1

Randall Shilts-column talks at news media coverage of AIDS. (L) Ja 23 - A, 5:4

Randall Shilts reviews book AIDS and its metaphors” by Susan Sontag; photo. (L) Ja 29 - F, 6:1

ARTICLES investigate the reasons behind critical delays in AIDS research; first in a four-part series called “Search for an AIDS Treatment”; photo. (L) Ja 30 - A, 1:3

The case of AIDS victim Kit Herman, sustained $6.5M verdict for 19 months, is featured; part of a four-part special report entitled “Search for an AIDS Treatment”; photo. (M) Ja 30 - A, 6:1

ARTICLES looks at various research strategies being used to discover drugs to combat AIDS; second of four-part special report entitled “Search for an AIDS Treatment”; photo. (M) Ja 31 - A, 9:2

The lengthy process by which securing federal authorization to test and market A.C.T., a drug that already alleviates AIDS symptoms, is described. Bureaucratic delays at the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases that stalled the drug’s development are highlighted. (Part 3; photo. (L) F 1 - A, 12:2

The failures of on-demand drug-promising drugs in AIDS and the dangers involved in the testing of experimental drugs on human patients are discussed. (M) F 1 - A, 9:1

The FDA is expected to approve the release of an aerosol version of the antibiotic pentamidine to treat the skin condition of pulmonary keratoconjunctivitis in AIDS patients. Details on the development of this drug are provided. (L) F 1 - A, 9:5

AIDS-related drug set by the Food & Drug Administration. AIDS victims who have used the drug HHPG, which prevents blindness for some sufferers, cannot use the drug Foscarnet, which is known to help in other cases; photo. (L) F 2 - A, 1:5

FAA officials say the agency’s aggressive response to AIDS, an AIDS task force appointed by San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos...
Randy Shilts discusses the fact that in the early years of the AIDS crisis, Congress was slow in providing information and funds to fight the disease. He notes that the critical need for funds was not recognized until 1985.

Shilts also discusses the problem of shifting resources from the National AIDS Commission to other priorities. He notes that the commission was unable to address the needs of the AIDS community.

Randy Shilts discusses the difficulties faced by the National AIDS Commission, which would advise George Bush on AIDS policy, and highlights the lack of funding and resources available to the commission.

Shilts describes the difficulty of getting information and funds to fight AIDS. He notes that the federal government was slow to respond to the crisis, and that funds were often diverted to other priorities.

Shilts discusses the problem of shifting resources from one program to another, and the difficulty of getting adequate funding for AIDS research and treatment.

Randy Shilts explores the politics of AIDS policy, and notes that the administration of George Bush, as well as that of Ronald Reagan, were slow to respond to the crisis.

Shilts also discusses the problem of shifting resources from one program to another, and the difficulty of getting adequate funding for AIDS research and treatment.

Randy Shilts discusses the problem of shifting resources from one program to another, and the difficulty of getting adequate funding for AIDS research and treatment.
SHIP ACCIDENTS & SAFETY

Over the years, a number of catastrophic oil spills have taken place in the Bay of California. Exxon Valdez was one of the largest oil spills in the Pacific Ocean, resulting in 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound. This was the largest tanker spill in US history.

Coast Guard experts say an oil spill similar to the recent spill in Alaska could happen in San Francisco, although in recent years the experts in the Bay Area say they are still prepared for the worst. (L) Mr. S 30 - A 2.1

Ron Carroll discusses the fact that although John Hazelwood, the captain of the ship that caused the oil spill in Prince William Sound, has not been involved in the oil spill on the Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound, a tanker has been steered over 100 times.(Photo) L 24 - C 1.2

Coast Guard radio messages recorded the morning the Exxon Valdez struck a reef and caused the nation's worst oil spill, pleaded not guilty to criminal charges, including operating the vessel while drunk. Details of the accident and cleanup plans are outlined. (Photo) M 4 - A 6.1

An Indian supertanker ran aground off the Saudi Arabian coast, spilling 1.1 million gallons of oil into the Red Sea. (Photo) L 29 - A 4.6

Joseph Hazelwood, the skipper of the Exxon Valdez, was caught on camera leaking gas into a tanker and causing the nation's worst oil spill. He has pleaded not guilty to criminal charges, including operating the vessel while drunk. Details of the accident and cleanup plans are outlined. (Photo) M 4 - A 6.1

Six US sailors were killed and five injured when an intense fire erupted in the engine room of a Navy supply ship in the South China Sea. (Photo) L 100 - A 22.5

The body of six sailors killed in a fire on a US Navy supply ship was recovered from the water. The six were believed to be the crew of the USS Hazelwood, which sank in the South China Sea. (Photo) L 100 - A 22.5

The ship's captain, John Hartwell, was killed in the explosion. Hartwell had tried to stop the fire, but was overcome by the smoke. (Photo) L 100 - A 22.5

The four sailors were killed in a fire on a US Navy supply ship that sank in the South China Sea. (Photo) L 100 - A 22.5

The ship's captain, John Hartwell, was killed in the explosion. Hartwell had tried to stop the fire, but was overcome by the smoke. (Photo) L 100 - A 22.5