

19 Face Arraignment for B-W Action

by Keith Griffith

Nineteen signers of the AIDS Action Pledge will appear in a San Mateo county courtroom on March 1, 1988, for arraignment before a judge of the Municipal Court. The pledge signers are charged with trespassing (section 602 of the Penal Code) on the property of Burroughs-Wellcome during the protest action on January 25 in Burlingame. The nineteen face a maximum penalty of \$500.00 and six months in jail. The three women and fifteen of the men were arrested by Burlingame police when they took to the roof of the western distribution center for Burroughs-Wellcome. Another pledge signer was arrested on the ground as he attempted to divert police attention from those protesters climbing a ladder to the roof of the building. Several others were unable to scale the ladder before it was hauled away by police.

Taking the rooftop of Burroughs-Wellcome proved to be a highlight of two days of seemingly flawless and well-choreographed protest, the first

major action called by AAP. The action got off to a rousing start when the affinity group "Ripe Fruit" got on the rooftop of the building just as about 130 protesters began arriving on the scene. Most of those protesters were completing a 15 mile march they had begun in San Francisco on January 24 (see related story). Police in riot gear seemed caught off guard as they came out of the Burroughs-Wellcome building, only to find that the gay freedom flag was being waved and two banners, reading "Burroughs-UnWellcome" and "End AIDS Profiteering" were being displayed above the crowd from the rooftop. Once the five members of Ripe Fruit were arrested, two other affinity groups, "Radical Faeries" and "Fruit and Fibre" began quietly planning to also take the rooftop.

It only took a few minutes for a truck to drive up to the building, for a ladder to be put in place, and thirteen protesters to reach the roof, once again waving banners and the gay freedom flag. Once all the rooftop protesters were arrested, they were driven a short distance away from the

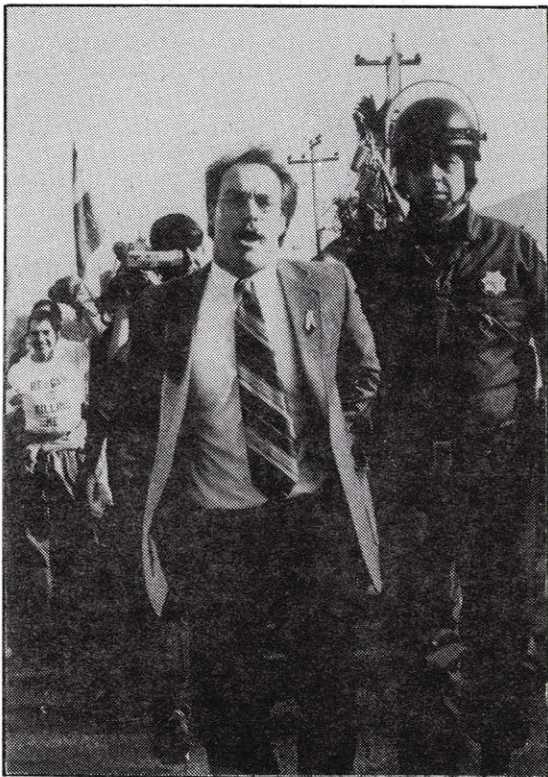


Rick Geharter

Michelle Roland was one of three women who protested on the roof. Here, she is handcuffed and led to the jail limousine while her supporters cheer.

action and formally charged with trespassing. Two vans took the nineteen protesters to the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City.

The three women were released within an hour of being sent to the women's facility in Redwood City. "Surprisingly, the women were treated with respect and even shown support by officers at the jail," stated Michelle Rolland, one of the women arrested. "The officers who booked us answered our questions about women and AIDS in the jail. And when we asked what would happen to us when we came back the next time, we were told that after they gave us a medal, they'd probably keep us for a couple more hours!"



Jane Cutler/Worker's World

Fresh Fruit member Hank Wilson, smartly dressed for a successful day of No Business As Usual, is arrested and lead away. Fresh Fruit was the original affinity group that took the AZT protest to the roof.

The sixteen men spent about six and a half hours incarcerated, approximately half that time behind bars. Two people with AIDS among the protesters, Terry Sutton and Branch Hastings, were denied use of their medication, ironically AZT, in spite of numerous requests and protests to the officers. Terry was at one point placed in solitary confinement and three other protesters were separated following a loud chant demanding the AZT. "I did not march 15 miles to Burroughs-Wellcome, only to have access to my prescription drugs denied to me by yet another bureaucracy," Terry angrily charged the county police who refused him his AZT, the only federally-approved AIDS drug. Terry and Branch were handed their medication only after being released, a good 90 minutes after they were supposed to take the drug.

The protest will continue in a much different setting when the 19 arrestees appear before a judge. Larry Cohen, an AAP member and attorney, stresses how important it will be for people to turn out and show support during the arraignment. "Having people turn out to pack the courtroom can play a critical role in the dynamics of the court. All of those who face possible trials or sentencing need to feel that there is support for them from the community." Arraignment is on Tuesday morning, March 1, in Municipal Court, Northern Judicial District, 1050 Mission Road, South San Francisco, at 9 a.m. Those who want to attend and need a ride should call 821-9087. □

Nonviolence and the Pledge

Discussion of nonviolence and specifically nonviolent guidelines for AAP will be the topic of two meetings organized by the Internal Education Committee. The meetings, open to all pledge-signers will occur on two consecutive Sunday afternoons, February 28 and March 6, at the Clarion Restaurant, 2118 Mission near 17th Street. Both meetings begin promptly at 4 p.m. and persons are encouraged to plan on attending both discussions. From out of these meetings pledge-signers will formulate proposed nonviolent guidelines that will be presented to and voted upon by AAP membership. There are currently no such guidelines for AAP actions, although temporary one's were adopted for the recent Burroughs-Wellcome protest. □

In Search of Scapegoats: Mandatory AIDS Testing Law Alert

by Carol Leigh

Mandatory testing for exposure to HIV could become law in the state of California unless a significant and successful lobbying effort is undertaken immediately in the California Senate. On January 25, the Assembly voted 65-8 to approve such measures and sent the bill to the Senate. A similar bill won overwhelming support last year in the Senate. Governor Deukmejian is likely to sign into law any bill that reaches his desk involving punitive measures for the spread of AIDS. The bill, AB 2319, establishes mandatory testing for prostitutes and johns upon conviction, and stipulates that felony charges be brought against any person who is arrested a second time for prostitution when their health status is HIV-positive.

The passage of AB 2319 into law would set many dangerous precedents. Prostitutes would become the first group of Californians required by state law to be tested for HIV exposure. All previous attempts to force-test gay men, pregnant women, heterosexuals seeking marriage licenses, and persons in state prisons and mental institutions have failed. There is other legislation pending that may mandate testing of all prisoners. The new law, if passed as is, would make even safe activities such as "hand jobs" illegal when performed by HIV-positive prostitutes. It would be the first time the state of California would create punitive measures for HIV-positives who engage in any sexual activity. The new law would subject prostitutes to felony charges and possibly long periods of incarceration if convicted a second time after testing HIV-positive. In comparison, the penalty for prostitution is currently a misdemeanor in the state of California. The combined impact of the bill further restricts the rights of women to have control over their own bodies. While the law would apply to prostitutes and their clients, the statistical data indicates that clients are rarely convicted.

Prostitutes are being targeted first because they have long been the most vulnerable population when it comes to scapegoating, according to advocates for the rights of prostitutes. Those who

have worked on this issue for a long time have frequently confronted politicians who privately support the cause yet hesitate to publicly back prostitutes as being entitled to rights. This situation is only exacerbated by AIDS as politicians look for an easy target, prostitutes being among the easiest to scapegoat because of their status as "sexual outlaws." Gay men and lesbians need to be concerned about AB 2319 too. The general population tends to think of them as "sexual outlaws" along with prostitutes. The passage of this bill would pave the way for other mandatory testing laws that could include homosexuals. Grouped and scapegoated as the cause of AIDS, would laws criminalizing gay people and creating "quarantine camps" for prostitutes and gay people be far away?

This scapegoating became all the more apparent to many observers when the Assembly voted on AB 2319 during a complicated power struggle in Sacramento. Previous attempts to have similar legislation voted upon had been stalled in committee when Speaker Willie Brown (D-S.F.) wielded his power to stop such punitive bills. On January 25, the Speaker actually assisted in passage of AB 2319, according to news accounts in the mainstream media. While the Speaker did vote against the bill when it came to the floor of the Assembly, he apparently orchestrated or allowed others to present the bill that might become law.

Prompted by Speaker Willie Brown's role in securing passage of the mandatory testing bill, activists descended upon his San Francisco office on January 28. Members from COYOTE, NOW, the Women's AIDS Network, the ARC/AIDS Vigil, and AIDS Action Pledge met for an hour with Brandy Moore, an aide to the Speaker. Moore agreed to arrange a meeting between Brown and the activists, and assured those in attendance that the Speaker would assist them in finding ways to water down the bill that will soon be in the Senate for a vote. Moore also promised that the speaker would issue an open letter denouncing mandatory testing of all persons and emphasizing his

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The AIDS Action Pledge

We believe that the AIDS crisis calls for a broad movement actively engaged in ending the epidemic. We recognize that the AIDS crisis disproportionately affects Men and Women of Color and any strategies to fight the crisis must incorporate this perspective. We stand in solidarity with all people threatened by the AIDS crisis so that no one is abandoned. Therefore, we join together **to demand:**

1. **Massive funding to end the AIDS epidemic**, made available from local, state and federal governments for research, care, education, anonymous testing programs and any and all treatments;
2. **A federally-funded education program** which is comprehensive and sex positive, and which promotes safer sex, addiction recovery and I.V. hygiene;
3. **Centrally coordinated research** for AIDS prevention, treatments, cures and vaccines;
4. **A free, nationalized health care system** guaranteeing equal access, regardless of ability to pay;
5. **Public Accountability**, especially to affected communities, regarding any AIDS-related research, funding and programs to be controlled by the communities affected by AIDS;
6. **A worldwide, culturally-sensitive funding program** focused on ending the AIDS epidemic. The program would be initiated and financed by the United States, in cooperation with international health organizations. The U.S. would encourage the financial participation of other developed nations, with implementation controlled by the recipient nations.

We further join together **to oppose:**

1. **Quarantine or mandatory testing for HIV exposure**, or any coercive, involuntary or routine measures instituted against any population or individual anywhere;
2. **Discriminatory measures instituted by public or private organizations** against any groups or individuals with AIDS or ARC, or who test positive for HIV exposure. We also oppose any measures against any groups or individuals suspected of HIV-positive status or targeted for discrimination, such as: People of Color, Gay men, women, bisexuals, I.V. drug users, prostitutes, prisoners, mental health patients, hemophiliacs, undocumented workers and immigrants, children and youth, or others;
3. **All laws that contribute to the spread of AIDS or discrimination by invading our right to privacy**, such as laws against sodomy and prostitution;
4. **Spending cuts in any social service or health programs** in order to create or increase funding to fight AIDS. Funding must be taken primarily from the military budget;

5. **The use of inflammatory, isolating language** which promotes medical misinformation, fear and discrimination, such as "AIDS virus," "AIDS test," "AIDS carriers," "AIDS blood," or "AIDS victim."

I PLEDGE to join with others in fighting for all our lives and liberties during the AIDS crisis. I pledge to participate in forms of protest such as educating, organizing, lobbying, marching and picketing.

☐ **I ALSO PLEDGE** to engage, as conscience leads me, in non-violent direct action, including civil disobedience.

OR

☐ **I ALSO PLEDGE** to demonstrate, as conscience leads me, my support for those who engage in non-violent direct action, including civil disobedience.

Signature_____

Print Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Home Telephone_____ Work Telephone_____

Affiliations_____

Have you had non-violence training?_____

Can you receive mail that has the word "AIDS" in the return address?_____

YES! I want to help stop AIDS.

☐ I would like to volunteer to work on the AIDS Action Pledge.

☐ Enclosed is my donation of ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$_____

Please make checks payable to The AIDS Action Pledge. Mail your pledge to:

The AIDS Action Pledge, Box 146693, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Thank You!

The March on Burroughs-Wellcome was successful in every sense of the word. Pledge members did an incredible job of organizing the two days of protest. It is to our credit as a new organization that we were able to effectively bring together so many people and organizations to work to achieve our common goals. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize as many of those people and organizations who worked with AAP as possible. Thanks to all of you and we look forward to numerous other opportunities to work together.

The Freedom Song Network
The Staff of the Ambassador Hotel
Silence=Death Collective
ARC/AIDS Vigil
Darla Rector and the Pledge of Resistance
Richard Uhsmann
Will Russell
Committee in Solidarity with the People of
El Salvador
Phillip Whetnall
Shred of Dignity (Skaters Union)
Tom Terrell
The Rainbow Deaf Club
Federal Lesbians and Gays
Martin Delaney and Project Inform

Mandatory AIDS Testing

concern that prostitutes not be scapegoated.

Meanwhile, AIDS activists are preparing to fight a whole new assault on civil rights if AB 2319 becomes law. This latest assault comes at a time when many AIDS organizations and activists have focused more on securing treatments for people and less on preserving civil rights. It is a decision that will cause intensive debate as more punitive legislation becomes law in the state of California. □
Carol Leigh, aka Scarlot Harlot, is a founding member of AAP. She is active in COYOTE and is herself a working prostitute.

The Action Committee of AAP is currently preparing a response to this latest attack on our civil rights. Anyone interested in organizing the pledge response should attend an Action Committee meeting. Call 821-9087 for details.

Hank Plante and KPIX AIDS Lifeline
Ellen Schaffer and Community Health Coalition
Dr. Tom Peters, Assistant Director of S.F. Dept.
of Public Health
Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention
Tede Matthews and Modern Times Bookstore
Collective
Women Against Imperialism
Mobilization Against AIDS
Workers World Party
National Gay Rights Advocates
The Love That Dares Bookstore
Bill Paul
Prairie Fire Organizing Committee
T.J. Anthony and Feminist Mens Alliance
Tim Kingston and *Coming Up!*
National Lawyers Guild
Father Paul Rossi and Saint Roberts Catholic
Church of San Bruno
Danny Williams
Legal Support Team: Melanie Carver, Esq., John
Crew, Esq., Riva Enteen, Larry Cohn
Non-Compliance Project
Nancy Schimmel

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The AIDS Action Call

Box 146693
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 584-7891, 673-2328

EditorsKeith Griffith & Jean-Jacques Zenger
Typesetting.....Phyllis Dantzler
Design & ProductionJean-Jacques Zenger

The AIDS Action Call newsletter is a publication of the AIDS Action Pledge of San Francisco.

The inclusion of names and images in this newsletter means that most of these people are healthy, but that some have ARC or AIDS.

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On The Cover

Fruit 'N Fibre captures the BW roof and escalates the protest at the profiteers.

Thank You!

Bill Folk
Hank Tavera
San Francisco Police Department
Tom Nolan, San Mateo County Supervisor
Roberta Achtenburg
Ed Wyre
Penn Garvin
Freedom Socialist Party—Radical Women
Service Employees International Union—
Local 535
Archie Wilson
Veritable Vegetables
Deluxe Bar
Trax Bar
Sophia Corleone
Medical Support Team: Daniel Parker,
Jerry Mitchell, Denny Smith, Elaine Swinyer,
Brigett, Cathy Labriola, Tom Edwards,
Alan Meelhaus, Pat Hendricks, Allen Harris
Pat Norman
Tim Taylor and *The San Francisco Sentinel*
Pat Warner-Cohn
Mark Cloutier
Other Avenues Community Store
Geoffrey Moses
ACT-UP Los Angeles
AIDS Daycare Center
AIDS Mastery Workshop
Marin AIDS Support Network
Stud Bar
Holey Bagels
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club
All People's Congress
Kimos Bar
Black and White Men Together—AIDS Task Force
Sistah Boom
Real Food Company
John James
Black Coalition on AIDS
Lisa Rudman and Testing the Limits Collective
Castro Cheesery
Hank Wilson
Womens Liberation Front
Stonewall Gay Democratic Club
The California AIDS Federation
Paul Boneburg
Revolutionary Workers League
Blazing Redheads

19 Face Arraignment for B-W Action

Let's Pack the Courtroom March 1!

Arraignment is March 1, 9 a.m. in Municipal Court, Northern Judicial District, 1050 Mission Road, South San Francisco. Call 821-9087 if you need a ride or have room in your car. Congratulations to these pledge signers who will appear in court March 1:

Terry Beswick
Camo Bortman
Dan Carmell
Arthur Evans
Ray Fidler
William Gersten
Keith Griffith
Don Harris
Branch Hastings
Michael Kensinger
Deborah Lafferty
Rohn Maggio
Phillip Morgan
Michelle Rolland
Eric Slade
Terry Sutton
Lynn Taylor
Hank Wilson
Jean-Jacques Zenger

Hot 'n Hunky
I-Beam Club
Inner Sunset Community Store
Rainbow Grocery
Goat Hill Pizza
Marcellos Pizza
National March Civil Disobedience Committee
Congresswoman Barbara Boxer
Lavender Left (Los Angeles)
101 Carl

ACT NOW Update

by Terry Beswick

The AIDS Coalition To Network, Organize and Win (ACT NOW) will swing into full gear this month to organize the nation's AIDS activists for "Spring AIDS Actions '88." The nine days of actions, April 29-May 7, will focus on the following issues:

April 29, Friday: AIDS And Homophobia
April 30, Saturday: PWA's: Care and Uncaring
May 1, Sunday: AIDS in the Ghetto, Barrio and Reservation
May 2, Monday: AIDS on Campus
May 3, Tuesday: AIDS Behind Bars
May 4, Wednesday: Women and the AIDS Crisis
May 5, Thursday: AIDS: A World-wide Crisis
May 6, Friday: AIDS: Testing and Treatment
May 7, Saturday: A National Day of Protest: Stop AIDS, ACT NOW!

The Spring AIDS Action Week will catapult AIDS into the forefront of national awareness as the presidential campaigns move into full gear. Demonstrations will be creative, colorful and non-violent. Civil disobedience will serve to express the sincerity of our outrage, the urgency of our need and the exhaustion of all other means of attaining justice for people with AIDS.

As envisioned at our national conference during the March on Washington, the Actions will happen in many communities throughout the country and will culminate in one unified demonstration on May 7, when all the issues addressed on the previous eight days will be addressed. Locally, the AIDS Action Pledge and the ARC/AIDS Vigil are participating in the Spring AIDS Actions and have representatives on ACT NOW's steering committee. State-wide there are ACT UP organizations in L.A. and San Diego and the Stonewall Democratic Club in Los Angeles is organizing the March on Sacramento on Saturday, May 7. Call the AAP for details, or ACT NOW at (415) 647-7972.

By mid-February, ACT NOW will have a computer communications network in place for instantaneous transmission of news releases, issues updates, position papers and on-line conferencing.

Pledge Joins Vigil Protest

by Jean-Jacques Zenger

The AIDS Action Pledge will join the continuing protest at the ARC/AIDS Vigil on Tuesday, March 22nd. The Pledge general membership agreed on February 11th to join the daily protests and arrests at the Vigil. Although full protest plans are still in the making, Pledge members are committed to being chained and arrested on that date. A preliminary discussion has just begun on how to make the protest more theatrical and effective on March 22nd.

The ARC/AIDS Vigil has been protesting for over two years at the front entrance of the Old Federal Building on United Nations Plaza in San Francisco. The Vigil is a continuing protest of the federal government's monolithic inaction to the AIDS crisis. Vigil members had been chaining themselves to the doors of the building and sleeping on mattresses there too. Federal response to the protest has been zero or obstructive until recently. Federal marshals cut protesters' chains and removed the mattresses in early December 1987. Vigil and community response has been to intensify the protest. Almost daily at noon, protesters have chained themselves to the doors of the building, which has offices of the Federal Department of Health & Human Services. Marshals (federal guards) soon cut off the chains, arrest protesters, take them to jail, cite and release them. So far, the arrested protesters have filled court calendars, and their charges have been dropped or they have paid \$25 fines.

The AIDS Action Pledge will join the Vigil noon civil disobedience to add to the protest of the government's inaction on prevention education, research, health care, anti-discrimination laws and discovery of a cure during the AIDS holocaust. To help plan the Pledge action at the Vigil, and to volunteer, call Jim Dennison of the Action Committee at 821-9087. □

If you know anyone nationally who would like to find out about the nearest ACT NOW affiliate, or information on starting a new one, have them call the above number, or write ACT NOW at Box 146694, San Francisco, CA 94114. □

AIDS Action Council

OCTOBER 1987

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BEFORE PRESIDENTIAL AIDS COMMISSION
- Page 2. AIDS IN MINORITIES

ATTACHMENT
MEMBERSHIP PRESIDENTIAL AIDS COMMISSION

729 Eighth Street, S.E. Suite 200 Washington, D.C.
(202) 547 3101

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORT ON AIDS

At the request of Senator Lawton Chiles (D-FL), the General Accounting Office (GAO) has prepared a report reviewing the current federal effort. The GAO obtained the views of over twenty experts from the research and health professional communities, advocacy groups, and state and local health departments in New York, California, Florida, Massachusetts, Illinois and Washington, D.C. on the adequacy of funding levels and the appropriateness of the funding priorities in the Administration's AIDS budget.

In their analysis the GAO concurred with priorities reflected in the current President's budget but suggested that the budget be increased by the following:

- 50 million for methadone treatment to contain the spread of the AIDS virus amongst intravenous drug abusers;
- 65 million for educational campaigns targeted at high risk groups and the general population;
- 250 million for expansion of voluntary counseling and testing centers.

It is important to point out that the GAO is advocating voluntary counseling testing programs to manage the epidemic.

Senator Chiles (D-FLA), Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), took the recommendations of the GAO into account when he convened the Appropriations Subcommittee to discuss AIDS funding.

PRESIDENTIAL AIDS COMMISSION ESTABLISHED

On September 9th, President Reagan established the Presidential AIDS Commission. In drafting the charter of this committee the administration cited that its goal was to investigate the spread of the HIV virus and the resultant Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome in the United States. The charter directs the Commission to advise the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the public health dangers including the medical, legal, ethical, social, and economic impact from the spread of the HIV and resulting illnesses including AIDS, AIDS-Related Complex and other related conditions. In particular, it requests that the Commission evaluate efforts by educational institutions and other public and private entities to provide education and information concerning AIDS; to analyze the efforts currently underway by federal, state and local authorities to combat AIDS; to examine the long term impact of AIDS treatment needs in the health care delivery system; to review

the United States history of dealing with communicable disease epidemics; to evaluate research activities relating to the prevention and treatment of AIDS; to identify future areas of research that might be needed to address the AIDS epidemic; to examine policies for the development and release of drugs and vaccines to combat AIDS; to assess the progression of AIDS among the general population and among specific risk groups; to study legal and ethical issues relating to AIDS; and to review the role of the United States in the international AIDS pandemic.

Dr. Eugene Mayberry, Chairman of the Mayo Foundation, had been designated as Chairman of the Presidential AIDS Commission and Dr. Woodrow Myers, Health Commissioner, Indiana was designated as co-chair. In addition, eleven other members were named to the Presidential AIDS Commission (see attached).

On Wednesday, October 7, in a startling turn of events, Drs. Mayberry and Myers resigned from the Commission. The Commission has been plagued by a number of problems. Critics have sighted its membership for its lack of expertise in AIDS. The Executive Staff Director was fired at the urging of Commission members subsequent to the first meeting. At this point in time the fate of the Commission is undecided. There has been concern that many of the individuals on this Commission believe that mandatory testing programs are an appropriate public health control measure in the management of this epidemic. We will be monitoring all of the meetings and will keep you apprised of all of the Commission meetings in future issues.

AIDS ACTION COUNCIL DIRECTOR ANN McFARREN PROVIDES TESTIMONY DURING THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL A.I.D.S. COMMISSION

On September 9th, 1987 Ann McFarren, Executive Director of AIDS Action Council, provided testimony to the Presidential AIDS Commission.

Ms. McFarren's testimony was given during a panel which included Dr. Mathilde Krim (Co-chair, AMFAR), Dr. Edward Brant (Chairman, National Leadership Coalition on AIDS), Mr. Stephen Beck (Executive Director, NAPWA), Mr. Paul Kawata (Executive Director, NAN) and Mr. Don Edwards (Director, Minority AIDS Task Force). In her testimony, Ms. McFarren called for expanded information, education and risk reduction programs. (Testimony is available on request) AAC testimony outlined initiatives which included a massive National Education Program on AIDS; support from the political, religious, health and business leaders to join in dissemination of AIDS information, voluntary risk reduction, counseling and testing programs, and, programs to train counselors.

AIDS IN MINORITIES

On August 8th the Centers for Disease Control sponsored a workshop on AIDS in Minority Populations in the United States. This two day seminar discussed many of the issues specific to AIDS in the minority populations in this country. The preliminary report of this meeting endorsed the primary prevention strategy for the transmission of AIDS in the minority communities as information and education of all persons regarding the basic facts about AIDS and the risk of HIV infection. In addition, it cited an effective education/prevention program for minority populations as requiring a partnership between government,

minority organizations and private agencies. Conference participants called for prevention strategies to be targeted to specific populations having particular relevance to HIV infections in minority communities. In addition, they stressed that these materials must be sensitive to cultural and socioeconomic factors unique to these communities.

Many participants felt that there was little depth to this meeting and that many of the recommendations and discussions were superficial. It is expected that a formal report will be submitted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and at that point in time Council staff will review the recommendations and disseminate the information to you.

PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION REPORTS ON A.I.D.S. FUNDING

The Public Health Foundation was recently established by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers. In their first issue of the Public Health Update they have reported that state health agencies are expanding their AIDS activities in an effort to keep pace with the service and education demands of the epidemic. In this report they have cited that 43 million or 67% of the 64.5 million dollars spent on AIDS by the 52 reporting state health agencies came from state appropriations. It came as no surprise to anyone that the states with the highest incidents of AIDS spent the most on AIDS programs. The state health agencies in the ten states with the highest incidents of AIDS spent a total of 50.2 million dollars or 78% of all the state funds on AIDS in FY 1986. The report also cited that New York and California the two leading states in AIDS and AIDS related expenditure, accounted for 55% of all the state health agency expenditure for AIDS.

AIDS ACTION COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PROVIDES TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

On September 21, Ms. Ann McFarren presented testimony on behalf of the AIDS Action Council to the House Health and Environment Subcommittee. The testimony was critical of the current federally supported AIDS education campaign - or lack thereof. Over the past several months, Council staff have been working with the health services of several foreign countries to obtain information and materials about their government funded programs. After obtaining the data, the Council made a video with TV spots used in government sponsored educational programs from Switzerland, Australia, Great Britain, Canada, Uganda, Brazil and France. This video was played for Committee Members to view in order to ascertain the extent of national educational campaigns in other countries.

In closing, the Council's testimony stated that each day we wait before implementing educational programs - additional people will be infected with the virus. Inaction today means that we are signing the death certificates of people who will die in the next decade of the epidemic. (Text available on request)

Presidential Commission on the Human
Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic

Members

William B. Walsh, M.D.
Project HOPE

Adm. James D. Watkins (Ret.)

John Cardinal O'Connor
Archdiocese of New York

Frank Lilly, Ph.D.
Genetics Department
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

John J. Creedon
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

Burton James Lee III, M.D.
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Penny Pullen
Assistant House Minority Leader
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Colleen Conway-Welsh, Ph.D.
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