

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: LAGomez (LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-JAN-1998 11:40:00.00

SUBJECT: fwd: McVeigh Update

TO: Daniel C. Montoya (Daniel C. Montoya@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
UPDATE

Original Text

From: "SLDN1" <SLDN1@aol.com>, on 1/22/98 11:36 AM:

To:

Below is SLDN's press release on the latest regarding Sr. Chief McVeigh.

We

are still urging everyone to write/call/fax the administration in support

of

reversing McVeigh's discharge. Letters of support continue to pour in.

Keep

up the good work. See our coverage of the McVeigh case on our web site at

<http://www.sldn.org> and McVeigh's site at

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/9241/>

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Evidence Mounts Against Military's Efforts to Discharge Naval Officer

America Online and Author of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue'

## Question Military's Actions

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 /PRNewswire/ -- As attorneys for Chief Petty Officer Timothy R. McVeigh continue to fight military discharge proceedings against him, their efforts got a boost today as America Online and the author of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy openly criticized the military's handling of the situation. Meanwhile, after hearing oral arguments today from McVeigh's attorneys and those for the government, Judge Stanley Sporkin of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has until midnight Friday to issue his ruling on whether to grant a further delay of McVeigh's discharge.

McVeigh, the subject of military discharge proceedings because he used the word "gay" to describe his marital status on his America Online user profile, is seeking a temporary restraining order or longer-term preliminary injunction in order to remain in the Navy pending a further review of the case.

McVeigh's honorable discharge, scheduled to take effect last Thursday, January

15, was initially delayed for six days after his attorneys filed a last-minute lawsuit against the government. The suit, which is pending, claims that the Navy unlawfully obtained information about McVeigh from America Online without a warrant or court order as required by the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), and breached the limits on investigations under the Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy.

In a statement released earlier today, America Online admitted error as a result of its internal investigation into the McVeigh incident. "Our member services representative did confirm information presented to him by the Navy.

This clearly should not have happened and we regret it." The company is instituting additional measures to bolster privacy policies and procedures.

AOL also delivered a blistering attack on the Navy's tactics used to obtain information about McVeigh: "The Navy deliberately ignored both Federal law and well-established procedures for handling government inquiries about AOL members," the company's statement said. "The Navy investigator who telephoned

AOL did not identify himself properly and did not reveal the true purpose of his call." The company has sent letters of protest to the Navy and the

Department of Defense insisting they "use proper legal procedure in the future."

Another serious blow to the government's efforts emerged today when the author of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy, professor Charles Moskos of Northwestern University, issued a highly critical declaration on the McVeigh controversy. "I have reviewed the facts of the McVeigh case and in my opinion, if the Navy violated the Electronic Communications Privacy Act by seeking confidential information from an online service provider illegally, the case against McVeigh should be dropped," Moskos stated. "It should be axiomatic that the Navy must abide by the law in conducting its investigations under the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue' policy."

C. Dixon Osburn, Co-Executive Director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, said after the federal court hearing today, "Senior Chief McVeigh has served our country with distinction for 17 years fighting to uphold the laws of the land. He stands to lose everything including his pension because the Navy broke two laws: the Electronic Communications Privacy Act and 'Don't

Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue.' We look forward to Judge Sporkin's ruling  
and  
hope that the court will right this terrible wrong."

McVeigh, who traveled from his base in Hawaii to attend the proceedings,  
says  
he holds no animosity toward the Navy and looks forward to continuing his  
service in the military.

SOURCE Servicemembers Legal Defense Network

o===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====  
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)  
id <01ISOCZGYNQ800C96E@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for montoya\_dc@al.eop.gov; Thu,  
22 Jan 1998 11:47:37 -0500 (EST)

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by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879) id <01ISOCZCCJSG005NUD@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for  
montoya\_dc@al.eop.gov; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 11:47:30 -0500 (EST)

Received: from ches02.efaches.navfac.navy.mil ([138.145.175.3])  
by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-7 #6879)  
with SMTP id <01ISOCYN69ZE002DY7@STORM.EOP.GOV> for montoya\_dc@al.eop.gov;  
Thu, 22 Jan 1998 11:46:57 -0500 (EST)

Received: by ches02.efaches.navfac.navy.mil with VINES-ISMTTP; Thu,  
22 Jan 1998 11:46:26 -0500 (EST)

X-Incognito-SN: 410

From: LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil, "Letitia A Gomez"@STORM.eop.gov

Errors-to: LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil

X-Priority: 3 (Normal)

X-Incognito-Version: 4.11.23

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CREATOR: owner-edupage ( owner-edupage@listserv.oit.unc.edu@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-JAN-1998 20:16:00.00

SUBJECT: Edupage, 22 January 1998

TO: Lisa A. Gaisford ( Lisa A. Gaisford@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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## ALSO

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(Washington Post 21 Jan 98)

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(Wall Street Journal 22 Jan 98)

Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu) and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). Telephone: 770-590-1017

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Change, change, change.

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22 Jan 1998 19:50:00 -0500 (EST)

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GAISFORD\_L@a1.eop.gov; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 19:49:58 -0500 (EST)

Received: from listserv.oit.unc.edu ([152.2.25.17])  
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by listserv.oit.unc.edu with SMTP id <223224-23067>; Thu,  
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<222372-23069>; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 19:17:01 -0500

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<educom@educom.unc.edu>; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 19:18:08 -0500 (EST)

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X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.1 (32)

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CREATION DATE/TIME:22-JAN-1998 20:16:00.00

SUBJECT: Edupage, 22 January 1998

TO: Lewis W. Oleinick ( Lewis W. Oleinick@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter N. Weiss ( Peter N. Weiss@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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22 Jan 1998 19:28:31 -0500  
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X-Sender: Edupage Editors <educom@listserv.oit.unc.edu>  
X-Sender: gehl@pop.mindspring.com  
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.1 (32)  
X-Filter: mailagent [version 3.0 PL54] for educom@listserv.oit.unc.edu  
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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: ktuerff ( ktuerff@4env.com@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-JAN-1998 17:03:00.00

SUBJECT: action

TO: Daniel C. Montoya ( Daniel C. Montoya@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

FYI--

I sent a response, but see other Kevin's email below, which is pretty

damn good I must say. (added advantage of dating an attorney)

KT

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my outrage at the  
pending discharge of Senior Chief Timothy R.  
McVeigh, despite evidence that the Navy  
potentially violated both the Electronic  
Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) and the  
"Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy.

My first concern is that the Department of  
Navy and Department of Defense violated  
ECPA by obtaining McVeigh's subscriber  
information from America Online without a  
warrant, subpoena or McVeigh's consent.  
That is a violation of U.S. law.

My second concern is that McVeigh's command initiated an inquiry against McVeigh based only on a suspicion that the AOL profile was his, thus compelling the Navy to confirm McVeigh's identity through AOL. The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy specifically states that suspicions are not credible information to start an inquiry.

You yourself stated in announcing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" that the policy would provide "a decent regard to the legitimate privacy and associational rights of all service members." Former Secretary of Defense, Les Aspin, said that service members would have to work hard to get on the radar screen under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue." Those promises have failed in this case.

As Commander-in-Chief, you retain discretion to stop the discharge and avoid potentially embarrassing litigation. I urge you to consider the legal and ethical ramifications of this case, and to act immediately to halt the discharge.===== ATTACHMENT 1

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22 Jan 1998 16:58:54 -0500 (EST)

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by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMD.F V5.0-4 #6879) id <01ISONUBQMHS00QKSD@PMD.F.EOP.GOV> for  
Daniel\_C.\_Montoya@oa.eop.gov; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 16:58:49 -0500 (EST)

Received: from ns.planettexas.com ([207.18.38.2])

by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMD.F V5.1-7 #6879)

with ESMTP id <01ISONU57QG40000LV@STORM.EOP.GOV> for

Daniel\_C.\_Montoya@oa.eop.gov; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 16:58:41 -0500 (EST)

Received: (from mail@localhost) by ns.planettexas.com (8.8.7/8.8.7)

id QAA10465 for <Daniel\_C.\_Montoya@oa.eop.gov>; Thu,

22 Jan 1998 16:12:00 +0000 (GMT)

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East Coast Edition for Thursday, January 22, 1998

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U.S. Front Page Stories

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\*\*\* Clinton engulfed in mushrooming sex scandal

\*\*\* Unabomber trial ends with a plea deal

\*\*\* Microsoft, Justice Dept. reach partial settlement

\*\*\* Clinton tells Arafat 'sense of urgency' needed

\*\*\* Much of developed world wrestles with abortion

\*\*\* U.S. sees AIDS rise among older Americans

Crime and Catastrophe

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- \*\*\* Packers to meet Chiefs Aug. 2 at Tokyo in American Bowl
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- \*\*\* Study finds possible predictor of prostate cancer
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- \*\*\* 'Naughtygate,' 'All the President's Women' - British press
- \*\*\* Vote set to rename airport after Ronald Reagan
- \*\*\* Vatican archives reveal Bible was once banned book
- \*\*\* Caffeine finds big market in Singapore

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## U.S. Front Page Stories

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- \*\*\* Clinton engulfed in mushrooming sex scandal

President Clinton struggled to defuse a political crisis on Thursday from an explosive sex scandal allegedly involving Clinton and a former White House intern less than half his age. The allegations that Clinton carried on an extramarital affair with Monica Lewinsky, 24, and tried to cover it up by asking her to lie under oath, brought his long-rumored predilection for sexual dalliance out of the distant Arkansas past and into the White House. The man investigating the

allegations, Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr, said Thursday the probe would proceed promptly and vowed to get to the truth. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086437-af4>

Clinton lawyer tries to quell damaging sex scandal, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7084949-02d>

Prosecutor vows to move fast in Clinton scandal, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086887-611>

Vernon Jordan denies wrongdoing in Clinton scandal, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088413-0a7>

\*\*\* Unabomber trial ends with a plea deal

Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski will plead guilty to charges he waged a deadly 17-year campaign of terror in exchange for a sentence of life in prison without possibility of parole, Justice Department officials said Thursday. The plea deal came moments before opening statements were set to begin in a Sacramento, Calif., federal district court. Judge Garland Burrell called jury members into court at 10 a.m. PT and released them about 15 minutes later, asking them to come to court again Friday. Kaczynski waged an "anti-technology" bombing campaign that killed three people and injured or maimed 29. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088307-5ef>

\*\*\* Microsoft, Justice Dept. reach partial settlement

Microsoft Corp. and the Justice Department announced a partial antitrust settlement Thursday under which personal computer makers

that license Microsoft's Windows 95 operating system can delete the icon for its Internet Explorer browser. The surprise announcement was made by attorneys for both sides at a previously scheduled hearing on the case before U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson.

Assistant Attorney General Joel Klein described the settlement as a "victory for consumers." He said it showed that technology companies would not be "snuffed out by Microsoft's exercise of monopoly power."

See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087704-a61>

\*\*\* Clinton tells Arafat 'sense of urgency' needed

President Clinton, wounded by a sex scandal, met Palestinian

President Yasser Arafat Thursday and said he believed there was now a "sense of urgency" toward restarting the Middle East peace process.

Two days after meeting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu,

Clinton sat down in the Oval Office with Arafat hoping to convince

him to be realistic about the extent of a further Israeli withdrawal

from occupied territories. Palestinians have called for a 30%

pull-back from the West Bank, far more than Israel plans. The talks

have been stalled for more than a year. Israel is angry over Arafat's

failure to stop attacks on civilians by Muslim militants, and

Palestinians accuse Israelis of reneging on past promises. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086115-45b>

U.S. wants 10% Israeli withdrawal-PLO, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088041-120>

\*\*\* Much of developed world wrestles with abortion

Most of the world's women live in countries where abortion is legal, but this is still an issue that sparks controversy even decades after the courts have ruled. About 61% of the global population lives in the 54 countries that have laws authorizing abortion on broad social and economic grounds; the other 39% are in the 97 countries that generally forbid abortion, according to the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy in New York. The U.S. Supreme Court recognized a constitutional right to abortion on Jan. 22, 1973, but the matter is still the subject of heated debate. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7084209-1c1>

### \*\*\* U.S. sees AIDS rise among older Americans

AIDS cases have risen more rapidly among people over 50 than among younger adults, federal health officials said Thursday. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the number of new AIDS cases among people aged 50 and above rose 22% between 1991 and 1996, compared with a 9% increase in cases among people aged 13 to 49. The CDC said the increase was fueled by a rise in AIDS cases linked to heterosexual contact and the use of injected drugs. AIDS cases among people over 50 which occurred because of homosexual contact remained stable during the same period. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088069-9c7>

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**\*\*\* Armored guard admits to \$18.8 mln Florida heist**

An armored car guard who pulled one of history's biggest cash heists pleaded guilty in federal court Thursday in a deal that could spare him the death sentence for life in prison. Philip Noel Johnson, 34, stole \$18.8 million from Loomis Fargo & Co. March 29, 1997, holding two fellow guards at gunpoint and fleeing with a van full of cash. Officials said he had planned the theft for years. Johnson left most of the cash in a mini-warehouse in North Carolina while he made his way to Mexico where he kept a low profile, living in a boarding house for several months. U.S. agents arrested Johnson Aug. 30 in Brownsville, Texas. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086807-ca5>

**\*\*\* Texans split on Karla Faye Tucker execution - poll**

Texans are split on whether condemned killer Karla Faye Tucker should be executed despite their generally strong support for the death penalty, a poll published Thursday showed. The Dallas Morning News said a survey of 512 adults found that while 75% favor capital punishment, only 45% believe Tucker should be put to death. Tucker, 38, is set to become the first woman executed in Texas in 135 years when she is put to death by lethal injection on Feb. 3. She was sentenced to death in the 1983 pickax murders of two people during a burglary in Houston. She has since become religious and attracted

support from groups on the political left and right. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087873-9cf>

### \*\*\* Train car derails in Boeing assembly plant

A train car derailed inside a Boeing Co. airplane assembly plant

Thursday, causing minor damage to some Boeing 737 parts, a company spokeswoman said Thursday. The accident occurred at 7:30 a.m. PT on private Boeing track inside the Renton, Wash., assembly plant when a partly completed 737 fuselage on one car shifted and bumped into a second car, knocking it off the track, spokeswoman Yvonne Leach said.

The cause of the accident was not known. The 737 assembly plant has been the site of some of Boeing's worst production problems in recent months as the company attempts to increase its monthly assembly rate.

See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087215-358>

### \*\*\* British trainer mauled by tiger improving

British animal trainer Richard Chipperfield, attacked by a tiger two weeks ago, has been removed from a ventilator and is breathing on his own, Florida hospital officials said Thursday. Chipperfield, 24, suffered serious injuries when the 350-pound Bengal tiger bit his head on Jan. 7 while they were posing for publicity photos for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. His brother and fellow trainer, Graham Chipperfield, killed the tiger with a shotgun after the attack. The brothers had been performing with a dozen tigers for the circus, which was in St. Petersburg, Fla., that week. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086465-5df>

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## The U.S. Political Scene

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\*\*\* Clinton ability to function could suffer in scandal

President Clinton's ability to govern in the face of the latest scandal to hit him could be compromised at best and utterly destroyed at worst, political scientists said Thursday. Clinton has lived with constant scandal since early 1992, before he was even elected to the White House. Apart from repeated allegations of sexual infidelity, he has weathered a financial probe of the Whitewater property development in Arkansas, investigations of influence peddling in the White House travel office, an inquiry into the misuse of FBI files and an exhaustive investigation of his campaign fund raising practices. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087013-058>

Weakened Clinton could tempt adversaries, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7082027-6de>

Gingrich urges restraint in Clinton scandal, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087444-bb1>

\*\*\* Mary Bono to run for House seat of late husband

Mary Bono, the widow of late Congressman Sonny Bono, announced

Thursday she intended to run for his seat in the House of Representatives. Bono said she would make a formal announcement on Feb. 2 and would hold news conferences after that. Sonny Bono, 62, died in a skiing accident early this month in Nevada. Bono said she had decided to run in the April 7 special election to fill her late husband's seat because it was what he would have wanted her to do. She said many people, including local Republican Party members and members of Congress, had urged her to consider running for the seat.

For part 2, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086905-1aa>

### \*\*\* U.S. says Castro must change for policy shift

Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat said Thursday there will be no reduction in U.S. sanctions against Cuba unless there is a major change in policy by Cuban President Fidel Castro. Eizenstat said that U.S. sanctions have been in place for decades and added that, "I do not see that policy changing absent some major change in Castro's policy." Speaking after a speech to the Bankers' Association for Foreign Trade, Eizenstat said that the U.S. embargo is being enforced in a way that permits humanitarian relief. Pope John Paul's visit to Cuba this week has cast the spotlight on the U.S. trade embargo against the Caribbean island. For part 2, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085832-66d>

### \*\*\* Canada pushes U.S. for stricter air quality rules

Canada, which receives a large share of U.S. air pollution, will press the United States to further tighten its air quality rules, Canadian Environment Minister Christine Stewart said Thursday. Stewart, on her first official U.S. visit, said she would meet with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner later Thursday to urge America to tighten its controls on emissions of smog-producing ozone, air particle pollutants and sulfur dioxide. Stewart said she hoped to have a draft of an air quality agreement by December. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085540-ec5>

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### The Courts

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\*\*\* Arbitration ordered on lawyers fees in Fla. smoking case

The judge overseeing Florida's \$11.3 billion tobacco settlement ordered arbitration Thursday on the touchy question of fees for lawyers who represented the state government. Circuit Judge Harold Cohen ordered the state government, America's top cigarette makers and the private lawyers who represented Florida in the case settled last August to hammer out a fees deal within 30 days, lawyers said. Robert Montgomery and other private attorneys who pressed Florida's claim for tobacco-industry compensation for treating sick smokers say they are entitled to 25% of the settlement, or fees approaching \$3 billion. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088221-cdc>

**\*\*\* Winfrey trial gets lesson in cattle feeding**

Talk show hostess Oprah Winfrey got a lesson Thursday in how to make cattle feed as testimony began in a lawsuit charging her with driving down livestock prices by bad-mouthing hamburgers. Winfrey scribbled notes and conferred with her lawyers while witness Mike Engler mixed a batch of feed in the courtroom to show that it posed no danger to consumers. A group of Texas cattlemen say they lost \$10 million because a 1996 Winfrey show on mad cow disease misled and frightened consumers. Cattle futures prices fell more than 10% the day after the show aired. The trial is the biggest test of "veggie libel" laws. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086677-8fc>

**\*\*\* Fla. man with HIV needs sex 'yes' in writing**

A Florida judge has ordered a man infected with the virus that causes AIDS to get written consent from partners before engaging in sex, court officials said Thursday. They said Orange County Judge Deb Blechman in Orlando, Fla., sentenced Jerrime Day, 20, to one year's probation Wednesday for having sex with an under-age woman. The judge made it a condition that Day get written consent from any future sex partners and file the consent forms with his probation officer. Day, 20, a former male stripper, appeared on television talk shows in 1996 to discuss the active sex life he pursued after finding that he had HIV. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085763-188>

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## U.S. Business and Financial News

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### \*\*\* AT&T to cut up to 15,000 jobs, sources say

AT&T Corp. is planning to cut at least 15,000 jobs and reorganize as it gears up to compete in local telephone and Internet service and other new businesses, sources familiar with the plans said Thursday. The changes, expected to be announced at a meeting with industry analysts Monday, will lay the groundwork as AT&T seeks to defend its turf in long-distance telecommunications while also venturing into what are expected to be lucrative lines of business. AT&T officials declined to comment. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086056-ab7>

### \*\*\* Asian worries weigh on Dow

Stocks finished the day lower Thursday, hammered by uncertainty about the Asian crisis and its implications for future earnings of U.S. corporations, as well as speculation on possible consequences for Wall Street of the latest misconduct allegations against President Clinton. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 63.52 points at 7,730.88. On the New York Stock Exchange declines led advances 1,797 to 1,090 as 646 million shares changed hands. Broader markets also traded lower, with the Nasdaq Composite down 11.38 to 1,576.54 and

the S&P 500 index off 7.74 to 963.04. The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond dropped 24/32, raising the yield to 5.86%.

**\*\*\* McDonald's 4Q results below estimates**

McDonald's fourth-quarter results slightly lower than Wall Street estimates McDonalds reported fourth quarter earnings per share of 59 cents vs. 58 cents last year, on revenues of \$2.95 billion versus \$2.82 billion in 1996. Analysts' mean estimates were for 60 cents, according to First Call. Full year EPS were \$2.35 vs. \$2.21 last year. 1996 year figures include charges for change in accounting of \$16 million and a special charge of \$72 million for the 4Q and the year. 1996 fourth quarter includes a \$50 million tax benefit. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085336-6df>

**\*\*\* Housing starts decline 0.8% for first slip in 4 months**

U.S. housing starts fell in December for the first time in four months, ending what otherwise was a strong year for the construction industry. Starts fell 0.8% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.52 million units in December, the Commerce Department reported Thursday. The government also lowered its tally for November starts to an increase of 0.3% from the previously reported 0.8% rise. December's rate was in line with analysts' predictions of a 1.51 million unit annual rate. (WSJ)

**\*\*\* Sears earnings decline 5.5% amid credit-card woes**

Sears reported fourth quarter earnings per share of \$1.37 versus \$1.44 last year, on revenues of \$13.14 billion versus \$12.04 billion in 1996. Analysts' mean estimates were for \$1.34 per share, according to First Call, a stock research firm. Full year earnings per share were \$3.03 versus \$3.18 last year. Quarterly results were adversely impacted by an increase in the provision for uncollectible accounts, reflecting the continuing trend of increased delinquencies and charge-offs. Domestic gross margin as a percentage of merchandise and service sales in the fourth quarter of 1997 remained flat with the comparable 1996 period, at 27.9%. (PR Newswire) See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7082858-341>

### \*\*\* Mattel beats Hasbro to NBA deal

Mattel Inc beat out rival Hasbro Inc.to sign an exclusive licensing deal with the National Basketball Association, the Wall Street Journal reported. Citing company and NBA officials, the newspaper said the agreement gives Mattel world-wide rights to all NBA-themed toys and games and is expected to generate more than \$300 million during the next five years. It also further expands the toy maker's emphasis on boys' toys, the newspaper said in its electronic edition. Both sides are expected to announce the deal Thursday, the newspaper said. Currently, Hasbro has the NBA license.

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\*\*\* Clinton proposes Arafat-Netanyahu talks, PLO says

President Clinton proposed in talks with Yasser Arafat Thursday that the Palestinian leader meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to try to end a peacemaking crisis, the PLO said. "I don't accept what Netanyahu is offering but I can't accept what you are demanding," senior PLO negotiator Saeb Erekat quoted Clinton as telling Arafat at their White House meeting. Speaking from Washington, Erekat said Clinton had proposed an Arafat-Netanyahu meeting to try to narrow differences but no date had been set. The PLO and Israel are deadlocked over the scope and timing of further Israeli troop withdrawals in the West Bank under their interim peace deals. Netanyahu's White House talks ended Tuesday without any breakthrough. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087566-48a>

\*\*\* Pope attacks Cuban schools at first Mass

Pope John Paul II lost no time Thursday in attacking Cuba's relaxed attitudes to abortion and teenage sex while also sharply criticizing the communist island's vaunted state education system. The pontiff, who arrived Wednesday for a landmark five-day visit, flew 180 miles east of Havana Thursday to celebrate an outdoor Mass in the central city of Santa Clara. A crowd of about 50,000 gathered before an altar in the shape of a thatched hut, waving Cuban flags and cheering when

the frail 77-year-old pontiff arrived in his popemobile. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087414-025>

Pope outsells Che in Cuba, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086664-0b2>

Horses, bikes bring Cubans to see Pope, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086273-c3f>

\*\*\* Horror abounds, Algerians told strife 'not over yet'

Parents watched helplessly as four toddlers had their arms and legs cut off and their throats slashed before the adults were also killed in one of the latest Algerian massacres, a newspaper reported Thursday. Newspapers were again dominated by accounts of the horrifying and unending carnage and conflicting assessments of how the authorities were coping with the crisis. Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia insisted that the Islamic fundamentalist "terrorists" were beaten, but more attacks were likely as long as they could hope for support from "networks" allegedly working with impunity in Europe. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087467-967>

\*\*\* N. Irish peace process faces new setback

Northern Ireland's struggling peace process faced new disruption Thursday after police said guerrillas linked to a pro-British Protestant party had killed three Roman Catholics in recent weeks. Police reported a new shooting in Belfast, the latest in a series

which has claimed eight lives in a month of tension across the British-ruled province. One person was injured and taken to a hospital. There were demands for the expulsion of the Ulster Democratic Party from peace talks after police said its military arm, the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters, was involved in recent violence. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087948-422>

\*\*\* U.S. NATO troops arrest 'Serb Adolf,' warn suspects

U.S. troops serving with NATO arrested a former Bosnian Serb prison camp commander wanted for genocide thursday - the third such detention of suspected war criminals in Bosnia. Goran Jelusic, who dubbed himself the "Serb Adolf" and bragged to the media about the number of Muslims he had butchered during the 1992-95 Bosnia war, was arrested early Thursday outside his home in the eastern town of Bijeljina. It was the first time U.S. troops had led an arrest operation in Bosnia in what Defense Secretary William Cohen called a warning to the two most wanted indicted war criminals, Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and former military commander Ratko Mladic, that they faced the same fate. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087038-760>

Net closes on Karadzic, Serb hardliners, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087263-189>

\*\*\* Russia says awaiting UN okay on Iraq flights

Russia said Thursday it was still waiting for United Nations approval to have its aircraft join U.S. jets in surveillance missions over Iraq. Foreign Ministry spokesman Valery Nesterushkin said Russia's military was ready to carry out the job but it had not received a decision on the mission. Earlier Thursday, Interfax news agency quoted unnamed diplomatic and military sources in Moscow as saying that Russian planes could join U.S. aircraft in February or March. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7082064-83b>

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### The World Political Scene

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#### \*\*\* UN works to improve oil-for-food deal for Iraqis

U.N. officials in Baghdad have submitted proposals to improve support for sanctions-hit Iraqis and speed up food and medicine under Iraq's oil-for-food accord, a U.N. spokesman said Thursday. The proposals were made this week in a report sent to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who has said current oil sales of \$2 billion every six months do not provide enough money to meet Iraqi needs after seven years of sanctions imposed over Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said the report gave "very concrete, detailed proposals" for projects to rehabilitate Iraqi schools, revive the agricultural sector, and improve the mainly starchy food distributed to Iraqis to include animal protein. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085667-a2e>

### \*\*\* Support builds for UN talks on nuclear disarmament

In a bid to break a year-long logjam, states including Japan and Canada backed a South African proposal thursday for the Conference on Disarmament to set up a committee to at least talk about nuclear disarmament. Mexico, Ireland, Belgium and Chile also took the floor at the United Nations-backed talks to welcome Pretoria's proposal, arguing it offered a reasonable middle ground for dialogue. But diplomats said the five known nuclear powers - Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States - would have great difficulty in accepting the compromise at the 61-member talks. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7083006-503>

### \*\*\* Russia to help Belarus into European fold

Russia promised Thursday to press European partners to take a more sympathetic view of its authoritarian Slavic neighbor, Belarus. Belarus, under President Alexander Lukashenko, and rump Yugoslavia were the only countries excluded from last October's Council of Europe summit. Lukashenko has also fallen foul of Washington for his intolerance of opposition. Itar-Tass news agency quoted President Boris Yeltsin as saying during Kremlin talks with Lukashenko that he and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had already started trying to convince foreign leaders during meetings that Belarus should not be isolated. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7080462-ba3>

### \*\*\* Russia clamps down on arms-linked exports

The Russian government is to tighten control over the export of goods and services which could be used to develop weapons of mass destruction, a government spokesman said Thursday. The official said the move resulted from a telephone conversation Saturday between U.S.

Vice President Al Gore and Russian Prime Minister Viktor

Chernomyrdin. Gore's spokesman had said the two leaders agreed to intensify efforts to stop Iran developing ballistic missiles. U.S.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright reported progress Monday in persuading Russia to end what the U.S. charges is cooperation with Iran's missile program. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087336-728>

### \*\*\* Deposed Cambodian prince expresses hope

Cambodia's deposed co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh said Thursday he was hopeful Thailand and others in the region will soon be able to bring Cambodia's rivals together to end the conflict in the country.

Ranariddh, toppled by his junior co-premier and coalition partner, Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, in a bloody July coup, also said he was confident the international community would continue to put pressure on Hun Sen to allow the prince back to take part in a planned election in July. "We are close to the solution," Ranariddh said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7078575-429>

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## World Business and Financial News

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### \*\*\* Asian-Pacific markets fall on worries about rupiah

Share prices were lower in key Asian-Pacific markets Thursday as investors continued to focus on the weakening Indonesian rupiah. Hong Kong's key index fell 3.9%, hurt by the worsening situation in Indonesia and widespread concerns over the health of the local brokerage industry. Tokyo's Nikkei fell 1.7%, hurt by the overnight drop on Wall Street and profit-taking. Profit-taking also hit South Korea, knocking the index down 4.5%. The peso's retreat and profit-taking sent Manila's market down 2.7%. Indonesian shares fell 4.8% on continued selling pressure almost across the board, driven by the early fall of telecommunication shares as the rupiah tumbled to a low of 14,550 to a U.S. dollar. The rupiah's fall to a fresh low again Thursday continued to dent market enthusiasm on the Stock Exchange of Singapore, causing shares to fall 3.2%. Malaysian shares dropped 2.6% as investors reacted to a downturn on other Asian markets by selling down local shares. (WSJ)

### \*\*\* Weak Wall Street, dollar lead stocks prices lower

Share prices closed mostly lower Thursday across the major markets of Europe, tracking a weak opening on Wall Street and a softer dollar.

Around midday in New York, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 45.58 to 7748.82. Meanwhile, the dollar was trading at 127.35 yen, 1.8065 Deutsche marks and 1.6493 pounds. Shares in Britain, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland lost ground on the U.S. declines, while Italian shares bucked the trend and posted gains for the session. Spanish shares rose to their fifth consecutive record. Elsewhere, South African industrial shares edged lower, while gold shares strode higher, reveling in spot gold's advance toward \$295 an ounce. (WSJ)

### \*\*\* Airbus Industrie appoints new CEO

The European airline consortium Airbus Industrie Thursday officially named France's Noel Forgeard as its new managing director and chief executive to replace the retiring Jean Pierson. Forgeard, currently a senior executive at the defense and media conglomerate Lagardere SCA and head of its Matra unit, will take office April 1. The selection had been expected. Airbus transforms itself from a consortium into a single company on Jan. 1, 1999. The consortium partners are Aerospatiale of France, Daimler-Benz Aerospace of Germany, British Aerospace and Construcciones Aeronauticas of Spain. (USA Today)

### \*\*\* Deficit threatens Thailand's IMF pledge

The Finance Ministry reported Thursday that the Thai government had a budget deficit of \$700 million in the last three months of 1997. The deficit threatens government pledges to the International Monetary

Fund to record a budget surplus equal to 1% of gross domestic product in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30. The surplus is required under the terms of the IMF-led \$17.2 billion rescue program for Thailand reached in August after the government's flotation of its currency, the baht, triggered an economic meltdown. (USA Today)

### \*\*\* Angry investors seek help in Hong Kong

Hundreds of angry investors marched Thursday to the offices of Hong Kong leader Tung Chee-hwa to demand help in recovering money lost when a Hong Kong finance house failed, Hong Kong radio said. Led by politicians from Hong Kong's Democratic Party, the nearly 300 investors said the brokerage C.A. Pacific Finance was heartless and misled them about their investments with the firm. Tung accepted a petition from the investors and said that while the government would try to help, it would not bail out investors, the radio said. (USA Today)

### \*\*\* S. Korea urged to keep strong military

Defense Secretary William Cohen urged cash-strapped South Korea Thursday to maintain a strong military budget lest it send "a wrong signal" of weakness to communist North Korea. Cohen said any reduction in South Korea's defense budget or its support for U.S. troops based here could be viewed by North Korea as a sign of weakness and tempt it to test the strength of allied forces along their highly fortified border. South Korea's 600,000-strong military

normally eats up 20% of its budget, and the nation's defense planners are struggling to find ways to economize. (USA Today)

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## Sports

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### \*\*\* Kansas' LaFrentz probable for Saturday's game

Raef LaFrentz, the leading scorer and rebounder for third-ranked Kansas, is listed as probable for Saturday's game against Texas Tech after missing nine games due to a broken right hand. LaFrentz was originally expected to miss six to eight weeks after suffering a broken bone midway between the knuckle and the tip of the right index finger on Dec. 26. Kansas has gone 7-2, including a 5-1 record in Big 12 play, without the star forward. The Jayhawks are 21-3 overall and are coming off a 74-73 upset loss at the hands of Missouri. LaFrentz, who spurned the NBA draft after earning All-America honors and Big 12 Conference Player of the Year as a junior, was averaging team highs with 21.2 points and 11.4 rebounds before suffering the injury.

### \*\*\* NFL owners to ratify \$17.6 bln television contract

NFL owners will meet Thursday to ratify the league's eight-year television contracts worth a staggering \$17.6 billion. CBS paid \$500 million a year to wrest the AFC package away from NBC. The Fox Network, which took the NFC games from CBS four years ago, paid \$550

million a year to retain rights to the NFC. ABC paid \$550 million a year to keep Monday Night Football and ESPN purchased the Sunday Night package for \$600 million per year. The NFL's previous four-year television contracts were worth a total of \$4.4 billion. The new television deal will likely bump the salary cap at least \$6 million per team in 1998.

**\*\*\* Packers to meet Chiefs Aug. 2 at Tokyo in American Bowl**

The Green Bay Packers, who will defend their Super Bowl title Sunday in San Diego against the Denver Broncos, will meet the Kansas City Chiefs in a preseason game Aug. 2 at Tokyo. The Packers have never played a game outside of North America, but faced the Buffalo Bills in Toronto before the start of the 1997 season in their only international game. The game, to be played at the Tokyo Dome, will mark the Chiefs' fourth game in the American Bowl series in nine years and their second visit to Tokyo. Kansas City played the Minnesota Vikings there on Aug. 6, 1994. The Chiefs played the Los Angeles Rams in Berlin on Aug. 11, 1990 in the first American Bowl and met the Dallas Cowboys in Monterrey, Mexico on Aug. 5, 1996 in their other appearance in the exhibition classic series. They are 1-2 in American Bowl games.

**\*\*\* Hochuli named referee of Super Bowl XXXII**

Referee Ed Hochuli was named Thursday to head the seven-man crew of officials selected to work Super Bowl XXXII on Sunday. The game

officials chosen to work each Super Bowl are the top-rated officials at their respective positions during that season. Hochuli, completing his eighth season as an NFL game official, will referee his first Super Bowl. He served as the alternate referee a year ago for Super Bowl XXXI at New Orleans and has worked six previous playoff games. Dick Hantak, who was the referee for Super Bowls XVII and XXVII, and Ed Coukart will serve as the alternate officials. The umpire for Super Bowl XXXII will be 10-year veteran Jim Quirk and the head linesman is John Schleyer.

### \*\*\* Royals sign Rapp to minor-league contract

Right-hander Pat Rapp signed a minor-league contract with the Kansas City Royals Thursday with an invitation to the club's major-league spring training camp. Rapp split time last season between the Florida Marlins and San Francisco Giants and posted a 5-8 record and a 4.83 ERA in 25 starts. He was traded on July 18 for a pair of minor leaguers. The 30-year-old Rapp has a career mark of 38-47 and a 4.31 ERA in 123 starts and had his finest season in 1995 for the Marlins, when he was 14-7 with a 3.44 ERA. Rapp, who was selected by Florida from the Giants in the first round of the 1992 Expansion Draft, will compete for a spot in the Kansas City starting rotation that includes Kevin Appier, Jose Rosado and Tim Lincecum and 1997 rookies Glendon Rusch and Jim Pittsley.

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### \*\*\* Study finds possible predictor of prostate cancer

Checking levels of a single hormone in the blood may predict which men are most at risk of prostate cancer, researchers said Thursday.

"If this data is confirmed it's comparable to the link between cholesterol and heart disease," said Dr. Michael Pollak, McGill University professor of medicine and oncology, who led the study. The study, published in the journal Science, found that men with levels of insulin growth factor-I in the top 25% are 4.5 times more likely to develop prostate cancer than men with lower levels of IGF-I. Men with high levels should get frequent prostate-specific antigen tests, which check for cancerous tumors in the prostate, Pollak said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085192-e1b>

### \*\*\* HK fears 111 infected in 'mad cow' scare

Hong Kong officials said Thursday that a medical test might have infected 111 hospital patients with Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, the human equivalent of "mad cow" disease, and that seven of the patients had since died. But Doctor Ko Wing-man, said it was not yet clear if CJD had killed the seven. He said it would have been "almost impossible" for CJD to have caused the deaths because the incubation period lasts a number of years. Ko said two lots of chemicals suspected of being contaminated with a protein that could cause CJD had been used on 111 patients in six public hospitals in Hong Kong

from July to December last year with heart and lung diseases. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7084103-555>

### \*\*\* Ethnic origin linked to Parkinson's, study finds

Ethnic origin and where someone lives may affect who gets Parkinson's disease, researchers said Thursday. Blacks who live in the country may be at higher risk, while rural Hispanics have a lower risk, they wrote in the journal *Neurology*. Whites who liked to garden raised their risk, while gardening blacks, surprisingly, had a lower risk.

"Both genetic and environmental risk factors have been implicated in the etiology of Parkinson's disease," Dr. Karen Marder of Columbia University in New York, said. Earlier research has linked Parkinson's with rural living, exposure to pesticides and possibly bad well water. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7079278-788>

### \*\*\* More than half of Belgian AIDS patients dead - study

More than half of the people in Belgium who have been diagnosed as suffering from AIDS since the outbreak began in the mid-1980s have died, according to a study published on Thursday. The study, published by Belgium's health ministry, said that up to the end of 1996 a total of 2,286 people had been diagnosed as having clinical Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome symptoms, including 121 people aged less than 15 years. Of these, 1,376 had died and 619 were still alive. The whereabouts of the other 291 was not known. The rate of

diagnosis during 1996 was 13 new cases a month, with the incidence appearing to have stabilized since 1992, the study said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7080189-ec5>

### \*\*\* Ringing in the ears all in the brain, study finds

The maddening ringing in the ears that plagues millions starts out in the brain, not the ears, researchers said Thursday. They said their findings, reported in the journal *Neurology*, could lead to a way to treat tinnitus, which affects 50 million Americans. The researchers used positron emission tomography scans to examine the brains of four tinnitus patients and six "controls" who had normal hearing. "People with severe tinnitus ... often suffer depression, anxiety, sleep disruption, and other symptoms that have a major impact on their quality of life," the neurologist who led the study, said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7079222-112>

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## Technology

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### \*\*\* Netscape to begin giving away browsers

Netscape Communications Corp, moving to shore up its share of the Internet software market, said Thursday it will begin giving away its Navigator browser with "no strings attached." The company also said it will make the programming code of its products - which are usually

jealously guarded by software companies - available on the Internet so that independent programmers can modify and improve the software.

In the past year, Netscape, the pioneer of Internet software, had been losing market share to rival Microsoft Corp and its free product Internet Explorer. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085533-83f>

**\*\*\* AOL accuses Navy of tricking it to get data**

Internet service provider America Online accused the U.S. Navy of duping it into disclosing data on a subscriber now at the center of a wide-reaching privacy lawsuit. AOL said the Navy "deliberately ignored both federal law and well-established procedures for handling government inquiries" and used trickery instead in the case of Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh. McVeigh, 36, is suing the Navy and the Defense Department for allegedly unlawfully obtaining confidential subscriber data without a court order. He is not related to the convicted Oklahoma City bomber of the same name. On Jan. 5, the Navy ordered McVeigh's discharge for allegedly violating the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which bars U.S. military personnel from declaring themselves to be homosexual. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7076021-334>

**\*\*\* InfoBeat covers Olympics for free**

InfoBeat Inc., the largest e-mail publisher on the Internet, announced Thursday free coverage of this year's 1998 Nagano Winter

Olympic Games via e-mail. InfoBeat has a fast-growing subscriber base of 2.3 million subscriptions. From figure skating to alpine events, InfoBeat, which provided popular event coverage during the 1996 Summer Olympics, offers e-mail users complete customized coverage of the specific Olympic events they want to follow. InfoBeat's pre-Olympic coverage, starting Jan. 22, and InfoBeat's Olympic Game coverage, available Feb. 7-22, can be accessed by visiting <http://www.infobeat.com>.

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#### Human Interest

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\*\*\* 'Naughtygate,' 'All the President's Women' - British press

British newspapers had a field day Thursday with the charge of sexual impropriety against President Clinton, calling it "Naughtygate" and "All the President's Women." The tabloid Daily Star proclaimed the advent of "Naughtygate" while the Mirror declared: "Kiss and Tell Girls Line Up." Heavyweight newspapers showed no less interest, publishing photographs of "All the President's Women" and mapping out a path to impeachment if the accusations proved true. Clinton has denied accusations that he had a sexual relationship with a 21-year-old White House intern and that he later pressed her to deny the affair under oath. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085600-88b>

### \*\*\* Vote set to rename airport after Ronald Reagan

A bill to rename Washington's National Airport after former President Ronald Reagan will come up for a vote in the Senate in the first week of February, the legislation's sponsor said Wednesday. Senator Paul Coverdale, R-Ga., said he had been informed of the schedule in a letter from Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott. "I agree that naming the newly-renovated National Airport after President Reagan would be a fitting tribute to such a great American leader," Lott wrote. A similar bill has been proposed in the House. Supporters of the name change hope to pass the legislation by Reagan's 87th birthday, Feb. 6. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7071006-e53>

### \*\*\* Vatican archives reveal Bible was once banned book

The Vatican permitted scrutiny of one of the most notorious periods in Roman Catholic Church history Thursday, opening up the archives of the department once known as the Inquisition and showing that even the Bible was once blacklisted. Scholars now will be able to study cases such as that of the astronomer Galileo, condemned by the Inquisition for claiming the earth revolved round the sun, and Giordano Bruno, a monk burnt for heresy in 1600. Vatican officials say the secret files, dating between 1542 and 1902, will yield few juicy secrets - the Church officially rehabilitated Galileo in 1992, for example. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085522-c13>

### \*\*\* Caffeine finds big market in Singapore

People in the Singapore, one of Asia's smallest countries, drink an average of more than 500 cups of coffee a year while those in China, the world's most populous country, get by with just one, a report said. Singapore's 3.6 million people are the heaviest coffee drinkers in Asia, Leon Perera, senior consultant of AMI Trade Research, told the Asia International Coffee Conference. They average 508 cups of coffee a year, followed by Japan's 357 cups. In the Philippines, the average is 165 cups. Yet China's 1.2 billion people, who are big tea drinkers, sip an average of 1.2 cups, Perera said.

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22 Jan 1998 17:01:01 -0500 (EST)

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reich\_b@a1.eop.gov; Thu, 22 Jan 1998 17:00:58 -0500 (EST)

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22 Jan 1998 17:00:25 -0500 (EST)

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X-TestFile: merc-news1-text-reich\_b@a1.eop.gov

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SUBJECT: News - Morning Edition @ 01/23/98

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U.S. Front Page Stories

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\*\*\* White House weighing response to growing sex scandal

\*\*\* Kaczynski pleads guilty, will receive life term

\*\*\* Microsoft averts possible defeat with settlement

\*\*\* U.S. judge approves Texas tobacco settlement

\*\*\* Abortion foes march; Gore seeks common ground

\*\*\* U.S. wants 10% Israeli pullback, PLO says

Crime and Catastrophe

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- \*\*\* Armored guard admits to \$18.8 mln Florida heist
  - \*\*\* Texans split on Karla Faye Tucker execution - poll
  - \*\*\* FBI to help Guatemalan authorities in rape case
  - \*\*\* U.S. to deport Saudi dissident linked to bombing
  - \*\*\* U.S. businessman shot and wounded in Mexico robbery
  - \*\*\* 4 ex-executives indicted for Medicaid fraud

#### The U.S. Political Scene

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- \*\*\* Congressional reaction muted in Clinton scandal
- \*\*\* Clinton scandal revisits impeachment issues
- \*\*\* Panetta's political hopes hurt by Clinton scandal
- \*\*\* Helms threatens to stall nuclear weapons treaty
- \*\*\* Officials say not pressured on Indian casino
- \*\*\* Update: Mary Bono to run for late husband's House seat

#### The Courts

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- \*\*\* Appeals court hears arguments on Oklahoma bombing
- \*\*\* Arbitration ordered on lawyers fees in Fla. smoking case
- \*\*\* Winfrey trial gets lesson in cattle feeding
- \*\*\* Fla. man with HIV needs sex 'yes' in writing

## World Front Page Stories

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- \*\*\* Clinton and Arafat wrap up Middle East talks
- \*\*\* Pope meets Castro after attacking communism
- \*\*\* Horror abounds, Algerians told strife 'not over yet'
- \*\*\* Man wounded in new Belfast shooting
- \*\*\* U.S. NATO troops arrest 'Serb Adolf,' warn suspects
- \*\*\* UN arms chief reports on failure of Baghdad talks

## The World Political Scene

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- \*\*\* China, Russia make bid to close nuke file on Iraq
- \*\*\* UN works to improve oil-for-food deal for Iraqis
- \*\*\* Support builds for UN talks on nuclear disarmament
- \*\*\* Russia to help Belarus into European fold
- \*\*\* Russia clamps down on arms-linked exports
- \*\*\* Colombian kids nominated for Nobel peace prize

## The Americas

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- \*\*\* American jailed as guerrilla in Peru appeals to OAS
- \*\*\* Honduras removes mines along border with Nicaragua
- \*\*\* Indians say they suffer in all of Mexico
- \*\*\* Colombia admits rise in illicit drug cultivation

\*\*\* Alaska, Canadians settle over blockaded ferry

\*\*\* Inferno after Mexican gas tanker crashes

## Europe and Russia

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\*\*\* French jobless invade Jospin's Socialist Party HQ

\*\*\* Snowstorms cause havoc in east Europe

\*\*\* Russian mafia cash in Switzerland tops \$40 bln

\*\*\* New Russian air chief ordered KAL 007 shot down

\*\*\* Yeltsin praises 4-way talks as model for CIS

\*\*\* Italy's Bossi found guilty for attack on rightists

## Africa

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\*\*\* Kibaki challenges Moi's Kenyan election win

\*\*\* Zambian minister denies ordering Kaunda's shooting

\*\*\* Zimbabwe police say 3 died in food riots

\*\*\* Zimbabwe to consult donors on land seizure scheme

\*\*\* Democratic Congo soldiers riot over pay

\*\*\* S. Africa's Botha arrives for hearing

## India and the Middle East

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\*\*\* Israeli hawks welcome Netanyahu back from U.S.

- \*\*\* Turk gov't, Islamists postpone talks
- \*\*\* Thousands attend Iran liberal opposition gathering
- \*\*\* No end in sight to feud over Jewish conversion
- \*\*\* Israeli fighter planes raid south Lebanon
- \*\*\* Abducted German, Chinese released in Yemen

## The Far East

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- \*\*\* Cambodia's Hun Sen rules out talks with Ranariddh
- \*\*\* Bougainville rebels and PNG seal full ceasefire
- \*\*\* HK appeals for help with 'mad cow' scare
- \*\*\* Envoy says UN to help resolve Myanmar concerns
- \*\*\* Japan sports outcry over 2nd student gang rape
- \*\*\* Big Mac on campus causes sizzling row in Malaysia

## Science and Medicine

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- \*\*\* Study finds possible predictor of prostate cancer
- \*\*\* More evidence aspirin helps prevent heart attack
- \*\*\* Ethnic origin linked to Parkinson's, study finds
- \*\*\* U.S. space shuttle Endeavour heads for Mir
- \*\*\* UK doctors, charities call for more HIV testing
- \*\*\* Study may explain how estrogens cause cancer

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- \*\*\* Netscape to begin giving away browsers
  - \*\*\* AOL accuses Navy of tricking it to get data
  - \*\*\* AT&T to cut up to 15,000 jobs, sources say
  - \*\*\* InfoBeat covers Olympics for free
  - \*\*\* Microsoft, Justice Dept. reach partial settlement

## The Environment

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- \*\*\* Canada pushes U.S. for stricter air quality rules
- \*\*\* U.S. proposes moratorium on national forest roads
- \*\*\* U.S. to open nuclear dump in N.M. in May
- \*\*\* Australians find wallaby the world forgot
- \*\*\* Panama Canal ready for nuclear waste ship transit
- \*\*\* Greenpeace blocks BP exploration vessel in Belfast

## Human Interest

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- \*\*\* 'Naughtygate,' 'All the President's Women' - British press
- \*\*\* Florida family of 25 live in 2-bedroom house
- \*\*\* Update: Vatican archives reveal Bible was once 'banned'
- \*\*\* Bosnian mine victims take on England soccer heroes
- \*\*\* Germans shoplift every 3rd condom they use
- \*\*\* Rabanne outfit raises Maori ire in New Zealand

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## U.S. Front Page Stories

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### \*\*\* White House weighing response to growing sex scandal

Faced with an spiraling sex scandal, the White House is weighing the possibility of a news conference or other forum which President Clinton might use to clear the air before his State of the Union speech Tuesday, officials said. White House spokesman Mike McCurry promised Clinton would have "a lot of answers ... at the appropriate time." Clinton and his associates spent most of Thursday continuing to deny allegations the president had an affair with a then 21-year-old White House intern, gave her gifts and then told her to lie about it. Vice President Al Gore said he believed Clinton's denial and expected the president to cooperate fully with the independent counsel probe by Kenneth Starr. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097677-4db>

Lawrence widow outraged at report of Clinton affair, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090397-784>

Ex White House secretary no stranger to scandal, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090313-8c1>

Sex scandal figure played role in 1972 Nixon campaign, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094824-b4d>

U.S. markets fall on White House scandal fears, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090527-9c0>

To some, Clinton sex scandal has whiff of Watergate, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7091123-a36>

\*\*\* Kaczynski pleads guilty, will receive life term

Theodore Kaczynski accepted life in prison without the possibility of parole Thursday in exchange for avoiding the death penalty and then admitted he had plotted 17 years of deadly bomb attacks. Speaking firmly and without remorse, the 55-year-old former math professor ended his trial before it began. "How do you plead?" federal Judge Garland Burrell asked Kaczynski after the court was read a list of the Unabomber's 16 attacks. "Guilty, your honor," Kaczynski said. Burrell then set official sentencing for May 15. Under a last-minute deal, Kaczynski admitted to 13 separate counts stemming from 2 deadly bomb attacks in Sacramento and 1 in New Jersey. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094088-b9a>

Kaczynski's sinister sparkle shines to the end, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7095187-ebf>

Reno says Kaczynski will never bomb again, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7093273-532>

\*\*\* Microsoft averts possible defeat with settlement

Microsoft Corp.'s agreement Thursday to settle part of an antitrust case averts a potentially damaging courtroom defeat for the software giant and may point the way toward a resolution of the broader conflict. But the two sides remain far apart on the underlying issue of whether Microsoft is using improper business practices to expand its position in the crucial Internet browser marketplace, analysts said. Microsoft likely will continue to gain ground on rival Netscape Communications Corp., which has been badly hurt in the Internet browser market it once dominated. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090155-fe9>

### \*\*\* U.S. judge approves Texas tobacco settlement

A federal judge approved a record \$15.3 billion settlement in the state of Texas' Medicaid lawsuit against the tobacco industry Thursday. The pact, which calls for cigarette makers to give Texas \$1.25 billion up front and the rest in annual payments over the next 25 years, was the largest settlement in the history of U.S. litigation. Lawyers for the state and the tobacco industry signed the agreement last week just as the lawsuit was scheduled to go to trial, but it was not official until U.S. District Judge David Folsom filed an order to accept it on Thursday. For part 2, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090410-7ce>

### \*\*\* Abortion foes march; Gore seeks common ground

Thousands of abortion opponents marched through Washington Thursday,

the 25th anniversary of a pivotal court ruling, as Vice-President Al Gore urged abortion rights advocates to find common ground on the issue. Carrying white wooden crosses and signs reading "Bill, do you feel their pain?" and red posters with white scissors and the legend "Stop partial birth abortion," the abortion protesters gathered within sight of the White House and marched through the streets to the Supreme Court. The event, known as the March for Life, has become an annual commemoration of the 1973 Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade which recognized abortion as a constitutionally protected right. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088691-8f8>

\*\*\* U.S. wants 10% Israeli pullback, PLO says

President Clinton told Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Thursday he wanted Israel to withdraw from at least 10% of the West Bank as part of a deal to revive Middle East peace talks, a Palestinian spokesman said. Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat quoted Clinton, who met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier in the week, as telling Arafat: "I want a credible and significant (Israeli) redeployment. I want two digits." Clinton is trying to put together an accord whereby Israel would withdraw from some West Bank land and the Palestinians would step up security cooperation, as a prelude to talks on the permanent status of Palestinian self-rule areas. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089297-7e4>  
Excerpt from Arafat letter on Palestinian charter, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089469-1a4>

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## Crime and Catastrophe

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### \*\*\* Armored guard admits to \$18.8 mln Florida heist

An armored car guard who pulled one of history's biggest cash heists pleaded guilty in federal court Thursday in a deal that could spare him the death sentence for life in prison. Philip Noel Johnson, 34, stole \$18.8 million from Loomis Fargo & Co. March 29, 1997, holding two fellow guards at gunpoint and fleeing with a van full of cash. Officials said he had planned the theft for years. Johnson left most of the cash in a mini-warehouse in North Carolina while he made his way to Mexico where he kept a low profile, living in a boarding house for several months. U.S. agents arrested Johnson Aug. 30 in Brownsville, Texas. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086807-ca5>

### \*\*\* Texans split on Karla Faye Tucker execution - poll

Texans are split on whether condemned killer Karla Faye Tucker should be executed despite their generally strong support for the death penalty, a poll published Thursday showed. The Dallas Morning News said a survey of 512 adults found that while 75% favor capital punishment, only 45% believe Tucker should be put to death. Tucker, 38, is set to become the first woman executed in Texas in 135 years when she is put to death by lethal injection on Feb. 3. She was

sentenced to death in the 1983 pickax murders of two people during a burglary in Houston. She has since become religious and attracted support from groups on the political left and right. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087873-9cf>

### \*\*\* FBI to help Guatemalan authorities in rape case

The FBI is helping Guatemalan authorities in their inquiry into the rape of 5 U.S. college students in Guatemala last week, the State Department said Thursday. An official said the assistance would "most likely take the form of some forensic evidence support, either on the ground there or evidence could be transported to a different location." Guatemalan police have arrested 5 men in connection with last Friday's rape of 5 women, aged 18-20, from St. Mary's College in Md. An armed gang of 7 men hijacked a rented bus carrying 13 students and faculty members, robbing them and raping the 5 women, on a major highway in southern Guatemala. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7091923-abc>

### \*\*\* U.S. to deport Saudi dissident linked to bombing

A Saudi dissident who has been linked to the 1996 deadly Khobar Towers truck bombing in Saudi Arabia has been ordered deported from the United States, the Justice Department said Thursday. A department spokeswoman said the suspect, Hani al-Sayegh, was notified of the decision, but that he would not be deported immediately. She said a decision still must be made on which country he will be sent to. She

said the deportation decision was made by the regional director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service under a special exclusion process on the grounds that Sayegh posed a security threat as a suspected terrorist. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089705-af6>

### \*\*\* U.S. businessman shot and wounded in Mexico robbery

Attackers shot and wounded a U.S. businessman during a robbery outside his Mexico City home, the latest in a string of violent attacks on U.S. businessmen. Steven Aiello, 33, was shot in the legs Tuesday after he resisted a robbery in the San Angel, police said Thursday. Reports said Aiello, a N.Y. native, was shot 5 times and the robbers emptied his house of its valuables and forced him to withdraw money from a bank. The U.S. Embassy in Mexico confirmed the attack, but said it had no details. Aiello was the 3rd known case in less than 2 months of an attack on a U.S. executive. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090833-448>

### \*\*\* 4 ex-executives indicted for Medicaid fraud

4 former executives of a defunct medical lab were indicted Thursday on federal charges they conspired to defraud the government of more than \$25 million through unnecessary blood tests. "This was a massive conspiracy," said U.S. Attorney for Mass. Donald Stern. The 35-page indictment accuses the executives of now-defunct Damon Clinical Laboratories of conducting thousands of unnecessary blood tests and

drawing extra vials of blood from Medicare patients and veterans in a conspiracy to boost the company's revenues. The indictment charges the quartet conspired to defraud Medicare and the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services over a 6-year period. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090758-d1f>

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## The U.S. Political Scene

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### \*\*\* Congressional reaction muted in Clinton scandal

Faced with a presidential sex scandal that potentially could eclipse everything else on the Congressional agenda, lawmakers' had little to say in public about the tawdry White House controversy Thursday. Congressional staffers from both parties and experts on Congress said it made sense for Clinton's critics to stand back while damaging headlines about alleged adultery and special prosecutors pour out, and for his allies to wait and see what comes next. Clinton was accused of having an affair with a White House intern half his age, and then urging her to lie about it under oath. Clinton denies the allegations. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088839-7ca>

### \*\*\* Clinton scandal revisits impeachment issues

President Clinton's latest political crisis Thursday sent shock waves

through the Capitol where lawmakers referred to the ultimate punishment - impeachment - as "the 'I' word." Never in more than 200 years of U.S. history has a president been removed from office for the "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors" spelled out in the U.S. Constitution as reasons for impeachment. But two came close. In 1974 President Richard Nixon chose to resign in disgrace rather than face impeachment for his role in the cover-up of the break-in at Democratic party headquarters in the Watergate; and President Andrew Johnson was saved by one vote in the Senate in 1868 after the House approved articles of impeachment against him over a dispute on the post-Civil War reconstruction of the South. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089458-cde>

### \*\*\* Panetta's political hopes hurt by Clinton scandal

This was a week of good news, bad news for Leon Panetta, former White House chief of staff who is thought to have come back to California with dreams of re-entering state politics. Any hopes he might have of becoming the next governor received a boost earlier this week when Democratic front-runner Dianne Feinstein said she would not run for the office in 1998. That was Tuesday. Then came Wednesday and the allegations President Clinton had an affair with a former White House intern and had urged her to lie about their relationship under oath. The woman, Monica Lewinsky, worked for Panetta when he was at the White House. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7093198-d30>

Panetta says he unaware of any improper Clinton relationship, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089945-18c>

\*\*\* Helms threatens to stall nuclear weapons treaty

A powerful Republican Senator said Thursday he would stall action on a nuclear weapons test ban treaty until the White House submits a treaty to fight global warming that faces almost certain defeat.

Republican Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also called on the White House to submit to the Senate amendments to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty that face Republican opposition. The White House has said it will delay submitting the global warming treaty, negotiated in Kyoto, Japan, to the Senate until developing countries have agreed to join to reduce their heat-trapping pollution. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7091737-d95>

\*\*\* Officials say not pressured on Indian casino

2 Interior Department officials who played crucial roles in rejecting a proposal for a Wis. Indian casino told a House committee Thursday the decision was based on merit, not improper political pressure. "I was not pressured in any way by anyone to reach a particular recommendation in this matter," said George Skibine, who made the initial recommendation to reject a request by 3 groups of impoverished Chippewa Indians to turn a Hudson, Wis., dog track into a casino. The House Government Reform and Oversight Committee is conducting 4 days of hearings into whether Democratic campaign

contributions from rival tribes were a factor in the project's rejection. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7091049-79d>

\*\*\* Update: Mary Bono to run for late husband's House seat

Mary Bono, widow of the late congressman Sonny Bono, announced Thursday she intended to run for his House seat. Bono, 36, said she had decided to run as a Republican in the April 7 special election to fill her late husband's seat because it was what he would have wanted her to do. Sonny Bono, 62, a Republican, died in a skiing accident Jan. 5 in Nev. Bono described the 2 weeks since her husband's death in South Lake Tahoe, Nev., during a family skiing trip as "the most difficult and trying of my entire life." She said many people, including local Republicans and members of Congress, had urged her to consider running for the 44th Congressional District seat. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090423-2f1>

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## The Courts

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\*\*\* Appeals court hears arguments on Oklahoma bombing

Attorneys for 300 victims of the Oklahoma City bombing said Thursday the firm that allegedly manufactured a key ingredient of the bomb was negligent and a lawsuit against it should be reinstated. In oral

arguments before the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, in Denver, lawyers asked the court to overturn a 1996 ruling by a lower court judge that dismissed a lawsuit against ICI Explosives USA, Inc., a unit of London-based ICI Plc. The judge who dismissed the case said the victims had no legal grounds to claim that ICI Explosives was negligent in connection with the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building that killed 168 people. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089160-705>

### \*\*\* Arbitration ordered on lawyers fees in Fla. smoking case

The judge overseeing Florida's \$11.3 billion tobacco settlement ordered arbitration Thursday on the touchy question of fees for lawyers who represented the state government. Circuit Judge Harold Cohen ordered the state government, America's top cigarette makers and the private lawyers who represented Florida in the case settled last August to hammer out a fees deal within 30 days, lawyers said. Robert Montgomery and other private attorneys who pressed Florida's claim for tobacco-industry compensation for treating sick smokers say they are entitled to 25% of the settlement, or fees approaching \$3 billion. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088221-cdc>

### \*\*\* Winfrey trial gets lesson in cattle feeding

Talk show hostess Oprah Winfrey got a lesson Thursday in how to make cattle feed as testimony began in a lawsuit charging her with driving

down livestock prices by bad-mouthing hamburgers. Winfrey scribbled notes and conferred with her lawyers while witness Mike Engler mixed a batch of feed in the courtroom to show that it posed no danger to consumers. A group of Texas cattlemen say they lost \$10 million because a 1996 Winfrey show on mad cow disease misled and frightened consumers. Cattle futures prices fell more than 10% the day after the show aired. The trial is the biggest test of "veggie libel" laws. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086677-8fc>

\*\*\* Fla. man with HIV needs sex 'yes' in writing

A Florida judge has ordered a man infected with the virus that causes AIDS to get written consent from partners before engaging in sex, court officials said Thursday. They said Orange County Judge Deb Blechman in Orlando, Fla., sentenced Jerrime Day, 20, to one year's probation Wednesday for having sex with an under-age woman. The judge made it a condition that Day get written consent from any future sex partners and file the consent forms with his probation officer. Day, 20, a former male stripper, appeared on television talk shows in 1996 to discuss the active sex life he pursued after finding that he had HIV. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085763-188>

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World Front Page Stories

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\*\*\* Clinton and Arafat wrap up Middle East talks

President Clinton ended a series of meetings with Palestinian and Israeli officials Thursday, having urged them to trade gradual Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank for tougher Palestinian security actions. Clinton held 2 long meetings with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat Thursday, mirroring his sessions with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Tuesday, as he sought to break a 10-month stalemate in the Middle East peace process. The crux of his proposal is for the 2 sides to carry out the withdrawal and the security actions in small, sequential steps to restore trust eroded over the past year by Jewish settlements and Palestinian suicide bombings. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094608-1ba>

Arafat may make quick tour of Holocaust Museum, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094478-cc8>

Palestinians take CIA to see 'free' prisoners, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7091514-49e>

\*\*\* Pope meets Castro after attacking communism

Pope John Paul II went to the hallowed center of Cuba's communist regime Thursday, meeting President Fidel Castro at Havana's Palace of the Revolution just hours after attacking one of his proudest achievements -- the state education system. Castro personally greeted the 77-year-old pontiff, who also criticized communism during an

open-air Mass in Santa Clara earlier in the day. But there was no sign of repercussions from the pope's outspoken statements when he met Castro. The Cuban leader courteously led the pontiff along palace corridors, chatting warmly, before and after their 40-minute meeting.

See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7093398-601>

### \*\*\* Horror abounds, Algerians told strife 'not over yet'

Parents watched helplessly as four toddlers had their arms and legs cut off and their throats slashed before the adults were also killed in one of the latest Algerian massacres, a newspaper reported Thursday. Newspapers were again dominated by accounts of the horrifying and unending carnage and conflicting assessments of how the authorities were coping with the crisis. Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia insisted that the Islamic fundamentalist "terrorists" were beaten, but more attacks were likely as long as they could hope for support from "networks" allegedly working with impunity in Europe.

See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087467-967>

### \*\*\* Man wounded in new Belfast shooting

Peace efforts in Northern Ireland suffered a new blow Thursday when a man was shot and seriously injured in what looked like the latest in a spate of guerrilla attacks. A hospital spokeswoman in Belfast said he had wounds in the shoulder, thigh and groin. Eight men have been

shot to death in the past four weeks and at least one other has been badly wounded in sectarian revenge shootings that have thrown a shaky peace process into crisis. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088945-04a>

\*\*\* U.S. NATO troops arrest 'Serb Adolf,' warn suspects

U.S. troops serving with NATO arrested a former Bosnian Serb prison camp commander wanted for genocide thursday - the third such detention of suspected war criminals in Bosnia. Goran Jelasic, who dubbed himself the "Serb Adolf" and bragged to the media about the number of Muslims he had butchered during the 1992-95 Bosnia war, was arrested early Thursday outside his home in the eastern town of Bijeljina. It was the first time U.S. troops had led an arrest operation in Bosnia in what Defense Secretary William Cohen called a warning to the two most wanted indicted war criminals, Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and former military commander Ratko Mladic, that they faced the same fate. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087038-760>

Net closes on Karadzic, Serb hardliners, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087263-189>

\*\*\* UN arms chief reports on failure of Baghdad talks

UN arms chief Richard Butler briefs the Security Council Friday on his failure to persuade Iraq to allow his inspectors unrestricted access to all suspected weapons sites. The council is expected to

take several days to formulate a reaction. Long-standing divisions among council members surfaced again Thursday during discussion of the latest report by the International Atomic Energy Agency on Iraq's nuclear program. China and Russia made a strong bid for closing Iraq's active nuclear file and for reliance on monitoring of Baghdad's nuclear potential. The U.S. opposed any closing of the nuclear file. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7096386-bel>

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### The World Political Scene

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\*\*\* China, Russia make bid to close nuke file on Iraq

China and Russia made a strong bid to close the nuclear weapons file on Iraq Thursday, believing that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had come up with no new information. France appeared to agree but refused to use the phrase "closing files." Ambassador Alain Dejammet said remaining questions on nuclear weapons could be dealt with in the framework of the United Nations' ongoing monitoring system in Iraq rather than through direct inspections. But U.S. Ambassador Bill Richardson said his interpretation of a briefing to the Security Council from the IAEA Thursday showed "significant gaps, patterns of concealing and insufficient information." See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088026-c92>

### \*\*\* UN works to improve oil-for-food deal for Iraqis

U.N. officials in Baghdad have submitted proposals to improve support for sanctions-hit Iraqis and speed up food and medicine under Iraq's oil-for-food accord, a U.N. spokesman said Thursday. The proposals were made this week in a report sent to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who has said current oil sales of \$2 billion every six months do not provide enough money to meet Iraqi needs after seven years of sanctions imposed over Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said the report gave "very concrete, detailed proposals" for projects to rehabilitate Iraqi schools, revive the agricultural sector, and improve the mainly starchy food distributed to Iraqis to include animal protein. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085667-a2e>

### \*\*\* Support builds for UN talks on nuclear disarmament

In a bid to break a year-long logjam, states including Japan and Canada backed a South African proposal thursday for the Conference on Disarmament to set up a committee to at least talk about nuclear disarmament. Mexico, Ireland, Belgium and Chile also took the floor at the United Nations-backed talks to welcome Pretoria's proposal, arguing it offered a reasonable middle ground for dialogue. But diplomats said the five known nuclear powers - Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States - would have great difficulty in accepting the compromise at the 61-member talks. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7083006-503>

### \*\*\* Russia to help Belarus into European fold

Russia promised Thursday to press European partners to take a more sympathetic view of its authoritarian Slavic neighbor, Belarus.

Belarus, under President Alexander Lukashenko, and rump Yugoslavia were the only countries excluded from last October's Council of Europe summit. Lukashenko has also fallen foul of Washington for his intolerance of opposition. Itar-Tass news agency quoted President Boris Yeltsin as saying during Kremlin talks with Lukashenko that he and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had already started trying to convince foreign leaders during meetings that Belarus should not be isolated. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7080462-ba3>

### \*\*\* Russia clamps down on arms-linked exports

The Russian government is to tighten control over the export of goods and services which could be used to develop weapons of mass destruction, a government spokesman said Thursday. The official said the move resulted from a telephone conversation Saturday between U.S. Vice President Al Gore and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. Gore's spokesman had said the two leaders agreed to intensify efforts to stop Iran developing ballistic missiles. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright reported progress Monday in persuading Russia to end what the U.S. charges is cooperation with Iran's missile program. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087336-728>

\*\*\* Colombian kids nominated for Nobel peace prize

Nobel peace laureate Jose Ramos Horta nominated about 3 million Colombian children for the 1998 peace prize for their calls for an end to Colombia's long-running civil conflict, U.N. officials said Thursday. Horta, an East Timorese resistance activist, visited Colombia last year and discovered the children's Peace Movement, which is backed by youth groups, the Red Cross, the Boy Scouts, Save the Children and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). Early last year, more than 2.7 million youngsters across Colombia voted in a symbolic peace ballot in which they called on all sides in the 33-year-old internal conflict to respect children's rights to peace, life and justice. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090109-700>

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### The Americas

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\*\*\* American jailed as guerrilla in Peru appeals to OAS

Attorneys for an American woman jailed for life by a secret military Peruvian court submitted an appeal Thursday before the Organization of American States, her father and an attorney said. Lori Berenson, a 28-year-old New Yorker, whose health is failing as she spends 23

hours a day in an ice-cold cell at a high-altitude prison, has said she is innocent but until now has been unable to take her case to a court outside of Peru. In Jan. 1996, a secret "faceless" military court, where judges traditionally wore hoods or sat behind 1-way screens, convicted Berenson as a leader in the Tupac Amaru rebel group's plot to takeover the Peruvian Congress. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7092993-103>

### \*\*\* Honduras removes mines along border with Nicaragua

The Honduran army has removed landmines from a 143-mile stretch along its border with Nicaragua, the government said Thursday. But the army still has a long way to go. Of an estimated 30,000 mines planted in Honduras, this phase of the program, begun in Sept. 1995, removed only 1,862. They are among about 170,000 mines still in the ground in Central America, leftovers from the Cold War-era civil conflicts in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Despite years of peace, peasants and cattle became periodic casualties after stepping on mines, which require a painstaking and time-consuming effort to remove. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094107-ddb>

### \*\*\* Indians say they suffer in all of Mexico

Indians from all over Mexico said Thursday that indigenous people were suffering throughout the country, not just in troubled Chiapas state. Mayan descendants in Chiapas have focused attention on the

violence and poverty there, largely because of the Zapatista pro-Indian guerrilla movement. "But there is marginalization (of Indians), people starving and freezing, in every little corner of Mexico, not just Chiapas," said Adolfo Vargas, a Zacapuaxtla Indian and member of the Supreme Indigenous Council meeting in the capital. The council of tribal leaders goes back about 2000 years and today represents 56 ethnic groups, or about 30 to 40 million people. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089521-af8>

### \*\*\* Colombia admits rise in illicit drug cultivation

Colombia admitted Thursday that the amount of land used to grow plants for illicit drugs increased across the country last year. Defense Minister Gilberto Echeverri, who referred at a news conference to the rising cultivation of opium poppies and coca plants, said the government had no official data on the exact size of the increase. But he said the trend toward increased production of the raw material for heroin and cocaine was clear. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090190-583>

### \*\*\* Alaska, Canadians settle over blockaded ferry

Alaska and Canada have struck an agreement to settle the Canadian \$2.1 million (U.S. \$3 million) lawsuit against fishermen who blockaded a state ferry for 3 days last summer, Gov. Tony Knowles said Thursday. Under the agreement, the state will drop its lawsuit against the British Columbia fishermen, who were protesting what they

claimed was excessive Alaskan interception of Canada-bound salmon, in exchange for a C\$1.3 million Canadian-funded campaign promoting tourism to Alaska and neighboring parts of Canada, Knowles said. It also stipulates fishermen drop their C\$15 million counterclaim against Alaska. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7095096-42b>

### \*\*\* Inferno after Mexican gas tanker crashes

Fire engulfed a dozen cars and several houses Thursday after a natural gas tanker crashed into another truck and blew up on a busy Mexican road, officials said. No casualties were immediately reported after the accident near the town of Calpulapan. "... there are reports of people missing. But so far no bodies have been found," a fire brigade spokeswoman in Texcoco, Mexico state, said. "We shall only know if people died after the fire brigade manages to put out the fire," she said, adding the torched cars were parked and a restaurant into which the tanker crashed was closed at the time. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097405-829>

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### Europe and Russia

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### \*\*\* French jobless invade Jospin's Socialist Party HQ

Angry jobless activists stormed the Paris headquarters of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's Socialist Party Thursday following his refusal to agree to a hefty increase in unemployment benefits. Police in riot gear rushed to the building, close to the National Assembly on the Left Bank of the river Seine, but party officials decided against asking them to eject the intruders. After a four-hour stand-off, the activists left of their own accord, chanting "Down with the Socialist Party!" as they filed out of the elegant building at the end of the latest, high-profile demonstration for more state handouts. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087152-8ea>

### \*\*\* Snowstorms cause havoc in east Europe

Heavy snowstorms have cut power supplies to tens of thousands of people in central and east Europe and caused chaos to road and River Danube traffic, authorities said Thursday. The blizzards knocked out power lines to 100,000 households in Croatia Wednesday and to more than 450 villages across Romania, where meteorologists predicted more snow over the weekend. In Austria, troops were called out to help dig out motorists on snowbound roads near Vienna, where more than 200 cars were stranded overnight, Austrian officials said, although rail and air traffic were not affected. In Romania, however, roads and railroad lines were snarled and River Danube port traffic halted. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086000-c16>

### \*\*\* Russian mafia cash in Switzerland tops \$40 bln

Russian criminal money in Swiss banks has topped \$40 billion and has started to filter into the local economy, Swiss federal prosecutor Carla del Ponte said Thursday. Russian mafia cash is suspected of being behind acquisitions of property including restaurants, stores and boutiques in Switzerland as part of a process of laundering tainted money, del Ponte added. "We are worried by the penetration of our country's economy by dirty Russian money. We have to be extremely careful so it does not become a security threat to the Swiss state," she said at a meeting with journalists in Geneva. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085402-d8e>

\*\*\* New Russian air chief ordered KAL 007 shot down

The newly-appointed head of the Russian air force revealed Thursday that he was the commander who ordered the shooting down of a South Korean airliner in 1983. Gen. Anatoly Kornukov, appointed by President Boris Yeltsin Tuesday, told NTV-TV the memory was "unpleasant" but he still had no doubt the decision, which cost the lives of 269 civilians, was the right one. On Sept. 1, 1983 he was in charge of a division of the Soviet fighter command in the Far East when Korean Airlines Flight KAL 007 bound for Seoul from New York was shot down. He said the jet was "part of an unspecified hostile mission." See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088623-a64>

\*\*\* Yeltsin praises 4-way talks as model for CIS

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, eager to hold the creaking 12-nation Commonwealth of Independent States together, praised talks among four of its leaders Thursday as a model for the entire club. The CIS groups in a loose alliance all former Soviet republics except the three Baltic states but has begun to fray at the edges as each country seeks regional partnerships. "I have a feeling of satisfaction that today's discussion was a serious talk involving serious leaders and not a bazaar," Itar-Tass news agencies reported. "The aim should be for the entire CIS to work like this." He said earlier bilateral talks between Russia and Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko were also exemplary. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7081562-9dc>

\*\*\* Italy's Bossi found guilty for attack on rightists

An Italian judge handed separatist Northern League leader Umberto Bossi a 1-year suspended jail sentence Thursday for urging his supporters at a rally to hunt down voters of the far-right National Alliance party. Judge Adriano Galizzi said Bossi, found guilty of inciting people to break the law, would not have to spend time behind bars but would have to pay damages to National Alliance members who pressed civil charges. Bossi's defense lawyer said he would appeal the verdict. The suspended sentence relates to remarks made by Bossi at a rally near Bergamo in 1995. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090651-492>

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## Africa

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### \*\*\* Kibaki challenges Moi's Kenyan election win

The runner-up in Kenya's December presidential election filed a court petition Thursday demanding the nullification of President Daniel arap Moi's poll victory, court papers showed. Democratic Party leader Mwai Kibaki listed 76 points in his petition, filed before the High Court of Kenya, challenging the validity of the Dec. 29 election. Moi, who has been in power since 1978, was declared winner of the poll with 2.5 million votes, while Kibaki finished with 1.9 million. Kibaki recently came under attack from Moi's hard-core loyalists for threatening to take the president to court. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085755-8d2>

### \*\*\* Zambian minister denies ordering Kaunda's shooting

Zambian Education Minister Godfrey Miyanda denied Thursday that he ordered police to shoot former President Kenneth Kaunda and another opposition leader during a political rally last August. "I played no part in the shooting," Miyanda, who was acting president when Kaunda and Liberal Progressive Front chairman Rodger Chongwe were wounded, told the Lusaka high court. The two politicians sustained head wounds after police used live ammunition to break up an illegal opposition rally in the central town of Kabwe last year. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086813-02d>

\*\*\* Zimbabwe police say 3 died in food riots

Zimbabwean police said Thursday three people had been killed in unprecedented food riots that wracked the capital, Harare, Monday and Tuesday. Chief police spokesman Superintendent Wayne Bvudzijena said one child had been trampled to death, a second run over while fleeing from police and a man had been shot by a shop-owner repelling looters. "Up to now we estimate we are holding about 2,000 people," he said, adding that 378 of the suspected looters were already being prosecuted. He said four policemen had been injured in the riots. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087091-95c>

\*\*\* Zimbabwe to consult donors on land seizure scheme

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said Thursday his government would consult farmers and foreign donors on its controversial plans to seize mainly white-owned commercial farms to resettle peasants. In a hint that he may be softening his hardline drive to grab farmland, Mugabe told a national economic consultative forum the government would go for derelict and underused land, "oversized" farms and land belonging to absentee landlords. The government is currently considering appeals from all but 60 of the 1,503 farm owners whose land it earmarked last November for compulsory purchase. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085956-aa2>

### \*\*\* Democratic Congo soldiers riot over pay

Soldiers rioted in two port towns in the Democratic Republic of the Congo Thursday after senior officers embezzled their pay, security sources said. Senior army sources in Kinshasa said military police reinforcements had been flown to the country's main port to the Atlantic at Matadi and the older port of Boma further west. They reported the situation under control. Sources close to the presidency said soldiers began shooting in the air Wednesday evening at a military barracks in Matadi, 185 miles west of the capital, Kinshasa. The protests spread through the town overnight and on Thursday and reached Boma, 40 miles downstream. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087936-fc3>

### \*\*\* S. Africa's Botha arrives for hearing

South Africa's last hardline apartheid president P.W. Botha, 82, arrived at court Friday for a hearing into charges of contempt for his refusal to appear before the country's truth commission. Hundreds of protesters from the ruling African National Congress and a small group of his own followers demonstrated in the street opposite the court, kept apart by razor wire as Botha entered the building. Botha, forced out of office in 1989 after a stroke, was escorted by his fiancée, guest house owner Reinette te Water Naude, as he entered the court. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097651-l ec>

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## India and the Middle East

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\*\*\* Israeli hawks welcome Netanyahu back from U.S.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu received a warm welcome home from Washington Thursday, with hawks saying he had stood firm against U.S. pressure over a West Bank troop pullback. "Finally an Israeli prime minister stood against an American president to explain the difficulties we have in Israel and the things we cannot do," said Uzi Landau, right-wing chairman of parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. About 80 supporters, including some of Netanyahu's ministers and members of his right-wing Likud party, turned out at Ben Gurion airport for his red-carpet return. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087248-d87>

\*\*\* Turk gov't, Islamists postpone talks

Talks on cooperation between Turkey's government and the banned Islam-based Welfare Party have been postponed until the start of February, participants from both sides said Thursday. "After the holiday we will resume where we left off," said Ugur Aksoz, a senior member of Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz's conservative Motherland Party. Welfare, closed last week by the constitutional court, has offered to back the government programs in return for legal changes to prevent future parties being banned and to reduce the impact of

the ruling on leader Necmettin Erbakan. A three-day public holiday begins Jan. 29 for Eid al-Fitr, the end of the holy Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7083915-7e6>

\*\*\* Thousands attend Iran liberal opposition gathering

Thousands of Iranians attended a gathering organized by a liberal Islamist opposition group Thursday, days after a similar meeting was canceled because of an attack by hard-line militants. Residents said about 5,000 people attended a memorial service in Tehran for Mehdi Bazargan, a former prime minister and founder of the liberal Islamist Iran Freedom Movement (IFM), who died in 1995. The crowds packed a mosque and its courtyard to hear speakers, including the controversial reformist Muslim philosopher Abdolkarim Soroush, who praised Bazargan for his commitment to basic liberties. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087732-66a>

\*\*\* No end in sight to feud over Jewish conversion

An Israeli government-appointed committee set up to settle a feud over conversions, which has angered many U.S. Jews, is unlikely to complete its work before a deadline next week, a committee member said Thursday. Failure to agree would open the way to even more heated dispute among Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jews over the current orthodox monopoly on conversions to Judaism in Israel and threaten Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's fragile coalition

government. Religious parties have said they will quit unless an acceptable compromise is reached, robbing Netanyahu of his two seat majority in the Knesset. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085381-8fd>

### \*\*\* Israeli fighter planes raid south Lebanon

Israeli fighter planes launched raids on suspected Hizbollah targets in south Lebanon Thursday shortly after guerrillas wounded an Israeli soldier, Lebanese and pro-Israeli security sources said. The sources said two Israeli planes fired a total of two rockets into Iqlim al-Toufah Hills, a bastion of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah north of Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone. Hours later, two Israeli planes fired two rockets at suspected Hizbollah targets in a nearby area west of Yater. There were no immediate reports of casualties in the raids, which raised to four the number of Israeli air assaults on Lebanon since the start of 1998. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086572-0f8>

### \*\*\* Abducted German, Chinese released in Yemen

A Chinese engineer and a German kidnapped by tribesmen in Yemen in separate incidents were released unharmed Thursday, diplomats and Yemeni officials said. "Horst Koch is at my house now. The police brought him there and his health is fine," German Ambassador Helga Strachwitz said, confirming an earlier report by a Yemeni official. She said Koch, abducted like the Chinese man Tuesday, was in his

forties. A Yemeni security official and a diplomat at China's embassy in Sanaa earlier said the Chinese man, who worked for a Chinese construction firm, was freed unharmed in southern Yemen. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086113-289>

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## The Far East

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### \*\*\* Cambodia's Hun Sen rules out talks with Ranariddh

Cambodian leader Hun Sen ruled out peace talks with the co-prime minister he ousted in July, saying Friday his next meeting with Prince Norodom Ranariddh would be in the prince's prison cell. Hun Sen said he had accepted an invitation to visit Thailand to discuss bilateral relations but dismissed speculation he might meet Ranariddh, who is staying in Bangkok. Hun Sen said he had already declined proposals from King Norodom Sihanouk for reconciliation talks with his former coalition partner and saw no need to meet the prince now. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097912-581>

Cambodia's Hun Sen tries to discredit UN report, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097737-b79>

### \*\*\* Bougainville rebels and PNG seal full ceasefire

An end to the 9-year-old conflict on Papua New Guinea's Bougainville

island came a step closer Friday when rebels agreed on a permanent ceasefire with the government. Leaders of delegations from the island's rebel factions, its local government and the Papua New Guinea government signed the 5-page agreement at New Zealand's Lincoln University, Christchurch, where they had held 5 days of intensive peace talks. "A permanent and irrevocable ceasefire will take effect in Bougainville at 2400 hours on 30 April, 1998," it said. The parties had agreed to extend the current interim truce until that date to allow for consultation over the ceasefire details, it added. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7096663-fe0>

### \*\*\* HK appeals for help with 'mad cow' scare

Hong Kong health chiefs appealed Friday to medical suppliers all over the world to help tackle a "mad cow" related scare in which 111 people may have been given contaminated medical tests. Authorities said Thursday a test for heart and lung ailments might have infected 111 hospital patients with Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), the human equivalent of "mad cow" disease which plunged Britain's cattle industry into chaos 2 years ago. 7 of the patients have since died. Although doctors stressed it was unclear if CJD had actually caused the deaths, the incident could not have come at a worse time. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7095645-792>

### \*\*\* Envoy says UN to help resolve Myanmar concerns

UN special envoy Alvaro De Soto said Friday he had raised a number of the world community's concerns about Myanmar (Burma) with its military leaders and opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi during his visit this week. He also discussed ways UN Secretary General Kofi Annan might be able to assist the government and the people of Myanmar address these concerns, De Soto said. Myanmar's junta has been accused by the local opposition and the West of abusing human rights and curbing democratic movements and the political activities of Aung San Suu Kyi, who leads the main opposition National League for Democracy (NLD) party. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7096523-b8f>

### \*\*\* Japan sports outcry over 2nd student gang rape

Japanese sports has been rocked by a new gang rape involving top university athletes that has led to the resignation of the speed skating coach for the country's Winter Olympic team. Fall out from the scandal set off a feminist outcry and smeared the reputation of Japan's glamorous university athletes who receive the adulation of American college sports stars. In the latest sex attack report, authorities said Thursday night five ice hockey players from Tokyo's Nippon Sport Science University raped a young woman after a party at one students' home last May. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089740-196>

### \*\*\* Big Mac on campus causes sizzling row in Malaysia

A plan to open a McDonald's restaurant on the campus of Malaysia's oldest university has whipped up a fiery debate in the nation's capital. Supporters say McDonald's will offer clean surroundings and fast service at its restaurant near the entrance of Universiti Malaya's Kuala Lumpur campus. Critics charge the school, known as UM, has sold out to commercialism and Western neo-colonialism. The debate was sparked by a letter to a newspaper signed by J.P. Dulles of Tunbridge Wells, a holidaying English academic who once served in Malaysia. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7097865-4c1>

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### Science and Medicine

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#### \*\*\* Study finds possible predictor of prostate cancer

Checking levels of a single hormone in the blood may predict which men are most at risk of prostate cancer, researchers said Thursday.

"If this data is confirmed it's comparable to the link between cholesterol and heart disease," said Dr. Michael Pollak, McGill University professor of medicine and oncology, who led the study. The study, published in the journal Science, found that men with levels of insulin growth factor-I in the top 25% are 4.5 times more likely to develop prostate cancer than men with lower levels of IGF-I. Men with high levels should get frequent prostate-specific antigen tests, which check for cancerous tumors in the prostate, Pollak said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085192-e1b>

**\*\*\* More evidence aspirin helps prevent heart attack**

A new British study published Friday provides more evidence that aspirin helps to prevent heart attacks in men. If there were any lingering doubts about the value of aspirin protecting men from non-fatal heart attacks, the latest research may help to dispel them. The study involved 1,277 high-risk men, aged 45 to 69. The research showed that aspirin prevented 20% of all heart attacks but had no effect on fatal attacks. Anticoagulant Warfarin had a 21% reduction on all and 39% on fatal and the combination had a 35% reduction in both. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088425-479>

**\*\*\* Ethnic origin linked to Parkinson's, study finds**

Ethnic origin and where someone lives may affect who gets Parkinson's disease, researchers said Thursday. Blacks who live in the country may be at higher risk, while rural Hispanics have a lower risk, they wrote in the journal Neurology. Whites who liked to garden raised their risk, while gardening blacks, surprisingly, had a lower risk. "Both genetic and environmental risk factors have been implicated in the etiology of Parkinson's disease," Dr. Karen Marder of Columbia University in New York, said. Earlier research has linked Parkinson's with rural living, exposure to pesticides and possibly bad well water. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7079278-788>

\*\*\* U.S. space shuttle Endeavour heads for Mir

The space shuttle Endeavour lifted off Thursday night carrying NASA's last crew member for Russia's space station Mir. The ship, with 6 Americans and 1 Russian aboard, climbed away from it's Florida launch pad with a ground shaking roar at 9:48 p.m. EST. Trailing a streak of fire and smoke, Endeavour soared across the Atlantic Ocean, lighting up the Florida coastline for miles around. The shuttle made it off the launch pad on time despite earlier forecasts for thick clouds.

Astronaut Andrew Thomas is to take the place of David Wolf, who has lived and worked aboard Mir since Sept. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7094715-638>

U.S. astronaut takes Monty Python to Mir, See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088165-bel>

\*\*\* UK doctors, charities call for more HIV testing

British doctors and AIDS charities urged the government Friday to make HIV testing more available after a study showed a huge jump in the number of mothers in London infected with the virus. Researchers called for urgent action to make routine ante-natal HIV testing available to prevent vertical transmission from mother to child. The plea came after a major study showing a six-fold increase between 1988 and 1996 in the number of London mothers infected with the virus that causes AIDS. Infections were most prevalent among black African.

women and those with a history of injecting drugs. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086259-a43>

\*\*\* Study may explain how estrogens cause cancer

U.S. chemists said Thursday they had found a by-product of Premarin, the top-selling menopause drug, which could explain why users have a higher risk of cancer. They said it damaged DNA in a way that could cause breast cancer and all estrogen replacement drugs should be checked for the same effect. The research team described the findings as preliminary. Researchers made a synthetic version of 1 of the components of Premarin, which is derived from the urine of pregnant mares, and studied how it breaks down in a test tube. They found this breakdown product, or metabolite, reacted in an unusual way with DNA.

Damage to DNA can cause cancer. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089568-224>

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## Technology

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\*\*\* Netscape to begin giving away browsers

Netscape Communications Corp, moving to shore up its share of the Internet software market, said Thursday it will begin giving away its Navigator browser with "no strings attached." The company also said it will make the programming code of its products - which are usually

jealously guarded by software companies - available on the Internet so that independent programmers can modify and improve the software.

In the past year, Netscape, the pioneer of Internet software, had been losing market share to rival Microsoft Corp and its free product Internet Explorer. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085533-83f>

\*\*\* AOL accuses Navy of tricking it to get data

Internet service provider America Online accused the U.S. Navy of duping it into disclosing data on a subscriber now at the center of a wide-reaching privacy lawsuit. AOL said the Navy "deliberately ignored both federal law and well-established procedures for handling government inquiries" and used trickery instead in the case of Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh. McVeigh, 36, is suing the Navy and the Defense Department for allegedly unlawfully obtaining confidential subscriber data without a court order. He is not related to the convicted Oklahoma City bomber of the same name. On Jan. 5, the Navy ordered McVeigh's discharge for allegedly violating the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which bars U.S. military personnel from declaring themselves to be homosexual. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7076021-334>

\*\*\* AT&T to cut up to 15,000 jobs, sources say

AT&T Corp. is planning to cut at least 15,000 jobs and reorganize as it gears up to compete in local telephone and Internet service and

other new businesses, sources familiar with the plans said Thursday.

The changes, expected to be announced at a meeting with industry analysts Monday, will lay the groundwork as AT&T seeks to defend its turf in long-distance telecommunications while also venturing into what are expected to be lucrative lines of business. AT&T officials declined to comment. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086056-ab7>

\*\*\* InfoBeat covers Olympics for free

InfoBeat Inc., the largest e-mail publisher on the Internet, announced Thursday free coverage of this year's 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games via e-mail. InfoBeat has a fast-growing subscriber base of 2.3 million subscriptions. From figure skating to alpine events, InfoBeat, which provided popular event coverage during the 1996 Summer Olympics, offers e-mail users complete customized coverage of the specific Olympic events they want to follow. InfoBeat's pre-Olympic coverage, starting Jan. 22, and InfoBeat's Olympic Game coverage, available Feb. 7-22, can be accessed by visiting <http://www.infobeat.com>.

\*\*\* Microsoft, Justice Dept. reach partial settlement

Microsoft Corp. and the Justice Department announced a partial antitrust settlement Thursday under which personal computer makers that license Microsoft's Windows 95 operating system can delete the icon for its Internet Explorer browser. The surprise announcement was

made by attorneys for both sides at a previously scheduled hearing on the case before U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson. Assistant Attorney General Joel Klein described the settlement as a "victory for consumers." He said it showed that technology companies would not be "snuffed out by Microsoft's exercise of monopoly power." See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7087704-a61>

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## The Environment

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### \*\*\* Canada pushes U.S. for stricter air quality rules

Canada, which receives a large share of U.S. air pollution, will press the United States to further tighten its air quality rules, Canadian Environment Minister Christine Stewart said Thursday. Stewart, on her first official U.S. visit, said she would meet with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner later Thursday to urge America to tighten its controls on emissions of smog-producing ozone, air particle pollutants and sulfur dioxide. Stewart said she hoped to have a draft of an air quality agreement by December. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085540-ec5>

### \*\*\* U.S. proposes moratorium on national forest roads

The Forest Service proposed an 18-month moratorium on road-building

in roadless sections of national forests Thursday and was then criticized it was a ploy to curry political favor. The moratorium would apply to 33 million acres of the 191 million-acre national forest system. Logging would be reduced by 100 million board feet to 275 million board feet, compared to the annual harvest of about 3.8 billion board feet. Exempt from the moratorium would be the 17 million-acre Tongass National Forest in Alaska, 8 forests in the lower 48 states, and Pacific Northwest land affected by spotted owl recovery plans. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7090526-138>

### \*\*\* U.S. to open nuclear dump in N.M. in May

The Department of Energy said Thursday it would gather various types of radioactive waste from its defense operations in 15 states and begin moving it in May to a disposal site in N.M. It would be the 1st permanent storage site in the U.S. for nuclear waste. It would not accept material from commercial nuclear power plants. The waste to be stored comes from the department's production of nuclear weapons and from its dismantling of them at the end of the Cold War. Some is also the result of research and development. The department said it needed to dispose of 6.18 million square feet of waste. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7092147-6b6>

### \*\*\* Australians find wallaby the world forgot

A wallaby thought to be extinct for nearly a century is alive and

well on a small island in New Zealand. An Australian research center said in a statement its tests had identified the marsupials living on Kawau Island, 33 miles northeast of Auckland, as tammar wallabies which vanished from the South Australian mainland in the early 1900s. Kawau Island's wallabies - locally known as damas - were shipped to New Zealand in the late 1800s by New Zealand's then-governor Sir George Grey. Grey bought the 5,000-acre island in 1862 and stocked it with reminders of his postings in Australia and South Africa, including zebra, antelope, kookaburras and tammar and parma wallabies.

### \*\*\* Panama Canal ready for nuclear waste ship transit

The Panama Canal is prepared for passage of a Japan-bound freighter carrying the largest load ever shipped of highly radioactive nuclear waste, canal authorities said Thursday. The French state-run reprocessing company Cogema confirmed Thursday the British-registered "Pacific Swan" will travel to Japan by way of the Panama Canal. The vessel left the French port of Cherbourg Wednesday, carrying the 3rd and largest load of highly radioactive waste to be shipped from Europe to Japan. British Nuclear Fuels, which operates the ship, said it is carrying 24 tons of reprocessed nuclear waste. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7092224-deb>

### \*\*\* Greenpeace blocks BP exploration vessel in Belfast

Greenpeace said Thursday it had blockaded a British Petroleum

offshore oil vessel in Belfast harbor in its first non-violent action against new oil exploration since the Kyoto climate summit. The activities, supported by 3 inflatable boats and a team of 8 including 2 divers, stopped the vessel, Schiehallion, from leaving the port. Schiehallion, a floating production, storage and offloading vessel was to have sailed to the Atlantic Frontier, north of Ireland. Greenpeace said it would not remove the blockade until the British government honored its Kyoto summit pledge to take action to tackle climate change. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7086026-f4b>

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#### Human Interest

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\*\*\* 'Naughtygate,' 'All the President's Women' - British press

British newspapers had a field day Thursday with the charge of sexual impropriety against President Clinton, calling it "Naughtygate" and "All the President's Women." The tabloid Daily Star proclaimed the advent of "Naughtygate" while the Mirror declared: "Kiss and Tell Girls Line Up." Heavyweight newspapers showed no less interest, publishing photographs of "All the President's Women" and mapping out a path to impeachment if the accusations proved true. Clinton has denied accusations that he had a sexual relationship with a 21-year-old White House intern and that he later pressed her to deny the affair under oath. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7085600-88b>

\*\*\* Florida family of 25 live in 2-bedroom house

Police were searching Thursday for a bigger home for Peter Thomas, his 22 children and 2 of their mothers after finding all 25 living in a 2-bedroom, 1-bath house. The 2 mothers are sisters April and Rebekah Thomas, who have taken Peter Thomas' name even though neither is married to him. April is the mother of 9 of his children and Rebekah is the mother of 5, police said. A 3rd sister, who no longer lives with the family, is the mother of the other 8 children. Police said they discovered the family Wednesday while checking out an unrelated complaint. The family is not breaking any laws, but police appealed to the public to help them find a house with 5 or more bedrooms. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7089099-e96>

\*\*\* Update: Vatican archives reveal Bible was once 'banned'

The Vatican permitted scrutiny of one of the most notorious periods in Roman Catholic Church history Thursday, opening up the archives of the department once known as the Inquisition and showing that even the Bible was once blacklisted. Scholars now will be able to study cases such as that of the astronomer Galileo, condemned by the Inquisition for claiming the earth revolved round the sun, and Giordano Bruno, a monk burnt for heresy in 1600 in Rome. Vatican officials say the secret files, dating between 1542 and 1902, will

yield few juicy secrets - the Church officially rehabilitated Galileo in 1992, for example. But the archives do contain some surprises. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088238-d91>

### \*\*\* Bosnian mine victims take on England soccer heroes

Velic Sabahuddin scored a goal to cheers from the crowd Thursday although the Bosnian thought he would never play soccer again after losing his leg in a land mine blast. He and eight countrymen - all avid soccer players - who had also lost legs to land mines planted during Bosnia's war were joined by past and present stars of English soccer to play a charity match in tribute to Princess Diana, the world's most famous campaigner against land mines. The Bosnians were fitted only this week with state-of-the-art artificial limbs donated by British manufacturer Blandford. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7088473-7cc>

### \*\*\* Germans shoplift every 3rd condom they use

Every 3rd condom used in Germany is a stolen one, the Berliner Morgenpost newspaper said Thursday. The paper quoted HDE retailers' association spokesman Thomas Werz as saying feelings of shame among Germans with regard to sexual activity led them to shoplift 38% of the condoms they use. "One can hardly find another explanation for the fact that every 3rd condom passes the till unpaid," Werz said. The HDE said other commonly stolen goods included a popular anti-wrinkle lotion and a well-known Swiss confectionery product. It

would not give brand names.

### \*\*\* Rabanne outfit raises Maori ire in New Zealand

An outfit by top European designer Paco Rabanne, inspired by a traditional Maori tattoo, has enraged some Maoris in New Zealand, who say the design is a "bastardization" of their culture. Presenting his spring-summer collection in Paris this week, Spanish-born Rabanne danced with 2 models wearing the metallic creations, which are derived from the Maori 'moko' tattoo. "(Rabanne)'s taken a very sacred concept and used this design all over the body and in doing so has taken the symbolism of the moko completely out of context," said Maori member of Parliament Tariana Turia. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=7092383-5ac>

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23 Jan 1998 03:51:01 -0500 (EST)

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crowley\_m@al.eop.gov; Fri, 23 Jan 1998 03:50:58 -0500 (EST)

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Fri, 23 Jan 1998 03:50:29 -0500 (EST)

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Errors-to: news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com

X-TestFile: merc-news3-text-crowley\_m@al.eop.gov

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Doug.Case ( Doug.Case@sdsu.edu@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-JAN-1998 20:40:00.00

SUBJECT: Bi-Partisan Members of Congress Blast DOD: Free McVeigh, Member

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard.Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart.D.Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Forwarded From: john@wiredstrategies.com (John Aravosis)

January 23, 1998

Contacts: John Aravosis, 202/328-5707

Barbara Bode, 202/588-9598

Bi-Partisan Members of Congress Blast DOD

Free McVeigh, Members Urge

Twenty-one Members of Congress today, from both political parties,  
released

a letter sent to the Secretary of the Navy, John Dalton, on behalf of

Senior

Chief Timothy R. McVeigh. The letter informed Dalton that the Members of

Congress "believe that the Navy's actions in this case constitute a  
violation

of the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and show an insufficient regard for the  
privacy of servicemembers," and the Members urged Dalton to revoke the  
imminent discharge and "reverse the Navy's decision in this case."

"We believe that the manner through which the Navy confirmed 'Tim's'

identity violated the gays-in-the-military policy, both in the investigator's decision to contact AOL and in his failure to identify himself as part of the Navy," the Members wrote.

"The case of ETCS(SS) McVeigh constitutes a dramatic example of the Armed Forces' misapplication and inconsistent application of the policy," the letter said. "McVeigh's continued service has apparently been determined to be inconvenient for someone in a position to effect his discharge, notwithstanding his unblemished 17-year record."

Signatories of the letter include: Constance Morella (R-MD), Charles Schumer (D-NY), Tom Lantos (D-CA), Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), Barney Frank (D-MA), Henry Waxman (D-CA), and Edward Markey (D-MA).

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X-Sender: dcase@mail.sdsu.edu

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CREATOR: rwockner ( rwockner@netcom.com@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JAN-1998 14:36:00.00

SUBJECT: NC5888: GLAADAlert 01.23.98: Save Ellen!

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart D. Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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GLAADALERT

January 23, 1998

The GLAADAlert is the weekly activation tool of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance  
Against Defamation

Save Ellen's Future!

ABC will soon be announcing its decision on whether or not to renew Ellen  
for a new season. While producers to the show are committed to its ongoing  
success and the program's ratings have remained constant, ABC has  
continued its love/hate relationship with Ellen's open and realistic  
representations of lesbian and gay life. Ellen consistently wins in its  
timeslot. But ABC continues to be assaulted by constant pressure from

radical religious groups targeting ABC and its parent company, Disney, based on their inclusion of gay people. The anti-gay group American Family Association is now urging their ranks to demand that ABC pull the show, claiming that such a decision would indicate that Americans reject fair representations of lesbians and gay men. Ellen needs your support now!

Let ABC and Disney know how much you value the show. Please include testimonials on how this show is especially important to young people dealing with their own sexual orientation, to families dealing with understanding a lesbian or gay family member and to viewers of quality television everywhere.

Contact: ( Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90037, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: [abcaudr@abc.com](mailto:abcaudr@abc.com);

( Michael Eisner, Chairman and David Newman, President of Network TV, The Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91521, fax: 818.560.1930, e-mail: WWW: <http://www.disney.com/Mail>.

Leave Your Stamp on History!

The U.S. Postal Service is planning an upcoming stamp collection commemorating the twentieth century, and there is a chance that lesbian and gay history could be included--with your participation. For the "Celebrate the Century" campaign, stamps will be issued to commemorate each decade, and the public will get to vote on which ones will honor the 1950s-1990s. The nominations to be voted on by the public will be chosen by the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC). This committee needs to

hear from lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and those concerned with honoring America's lesbian and gay heritage, and GLAAD is spearheading a letter-writing campaign to ensure that Americans will be able to vote for a major lesbian and gay event in American history as a possible candidate for the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

"This is a unique opportunity for our community to have a direct impact on lesbian and gay visibility in a medium that Americans use every day--stamps," said GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry. "While there are lesbian, gay and bisexual people represented in some stamps (Bessie Smith, James Dean, Tennessee Williams and Cole Porter, most notably), our community's larger history is invisible in the world of stamps."

Please ask the CSAC to include the Stonewall Riots for the 1960s, slain civil rights leader and San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk for the 1970s, the 1987 display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, D.C. for the 1980s and the historic 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Civil Rights and Liberation. In addition, explain why each event holds special historical meaning. Act quickly, as the ballots for the 1960s could be finalized as early as the beginning of March!

Contact: Stamps Department, Attn.: Dr. Virginia Noelke, Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, RM 4474E, Washington, D.C. 20260-6753

Go on, "Girlfriend"

While she may be coy about her own sexual orientation, rapper Queen Pen's new song, "Girlfriend," openly discusses a liaison with a woman from the perspective of her female lover. From the album *My Melody*, the chorus of "Girlfriend" starts: "Girlfriend, girlfriend--Yes, I had your girlfriend/If that was your girlfriend/She wasn't last night." It continues: "I'll be/The one that your main squeeze been digging/Pull you out your closet/Sex so wicked/It's my business what I do." After telling the guy who thought the woman was his girlfriend a few things about her and the evening they spent together, she finishes by addressing the woman, saying, "It never ceases to amaze me/Break it down/'Cause I like to get down/I will/I love to love you baby."

In the world of rap music, affirmations of lesbians and gay men are slim to none, and this explicit, proud work is both an homage to Me'Shell N'degeocello and a celebration of women passionately loving other women.

Let Interscope Records and Queen Pen know you appreciate this sassy, tight song. Also, encourage local radio stations and dance clubs to give it a spin.

Contact: Interscope Records, 10900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1230, Los Angeles, CA 90024, fax: 310.208.6547, e-mail: [interscope@interscope.com](mailto:interscope@interscope.com).

## Discovering the Hypothalamus

The February issue of *Discover* magazine's "Science Classics" cartoon

column discussed the nature/nurture debate of sexual orientation as it relates to the hypothalamus. One panel's caption explains how "When a region of the human brain was found to be smaller in homosexual men than in heterosexual men, it was suggested that the brain difference might somehow cause the difference in sexual preference." The picture shows two men holding hands, with one asking, "Hey, how's your hypothalamus?" and the other responding, "Small!" The next panel's caption reads, "But the brain isn't just an information processor...It's also an organ, and organs can change their size and shape." The picture has one of the men suddenly all buff, saying, "Like, look at what happened to my biceps since the last panel." After discussing a study about this theory, it concludes in one panel that, "Differences between brains may be the result, rather than the cause of differences in behavior [such as sexual orientation]." The boys say, "Oh well, who cares?" and "Um, I care about biceps now."

Without moralizing about either nature or nurture, the cartoon explains the basic debate around the gay hypothalamus theory in a light-hearted, highly accessible way.

Let Discover know that this fun approach to scientific theory around sexual orientation is valuable and engaging.

Contact: Marc Zabludoff, Editor In Chief, Discover, 114 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011-5604, fax: 212.633.4817

Blue Boy Is Back

The cast of ABC's critically acclaimed NYPD Blue once again features the sensitive, together gay police aide John, played by Bill Broctrup. In the past, John was occasionally given storylines, and as a soft-spoken openly gay man, he brought both calm and dignity to the police station. Broctrup left the show two years ago to pursue larger roles on two other Steven Bochco productions, Public Morals and Total Security, both of which have subsequently been canceled.

Please commend Bochco's production company for bringing back John and encourage them to develop major plotlines for the character.

Contact: Steven Bochco Productions, 10201 W. Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90035

#### GLAADAlert Media Round-Up: Media Play On AOL and McVeigh

For the past two weeks, the story of sailor Timothy McVeigh's discharge proceedings for allegedly being gay has unfolded. At issue is the Navy's apparent abuse of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act (EPCA) in asking America Online to reveal McVeigh's identity after his screen name identified his married status as "gay." In addition, AOL broke their own terms of service, and possibly the EPCA, by giving the information to the Navy. Around the country, media have been weighing in on the rights of privacy and the aggressive pursuit of gay servicemembers by the military in an electronic age. Following are some of the best and worst media moments: ( On January 16, San Jose

Mercury News Technology Columnist Dan Gillmor wrote, "As more and more supposedly private information goes into databases, we'll have to do more to ensure that businesses and governments insist on handling the data properly. They need to keep it safe from internal misuse. When it comes to private information, let's apply at least part of the military's policy: Don't tell." ( Frank Rich, in his January 17 New York Times column, compares the two Timothy McVeighs, noting that this McVeigh has "served his country for 17 years with a spotless record," earned many medals, and has excellent performance reviews. During the Oklahoma City bomber McVeigh's Army stint, he "was known for fomenting racial polarization by slurring his black peers, openly trafficked in anti-Semitic and racist literature, and participated in the activities of organizations toying with armed resistance to the Government." Rich asks, "What does it say about Americans fairness and justice--let alone our priorities in national security--that the military looked the other way at that McVeigh's ostentatious public psychosis while it torments the exemplary McVeigh for the 'crime' of having a private life that should be nobody's business but his own?" ( The New York Post demonized Timothy McVeigh as the wrongdoer in this whole affair, claiming in a January 20 editorial that since the AOL screen name was "boysrch," which presumably means "boy search," McVeigh might be a dangerous child molester. "There is a warranted nationwide concern about the use of cyberspace as a hidden network for pedophiles, and here was McVeigh, sending out e-mail that sounded as though he were targeting for his attentions the children of his shipmates." In reality, McVeigh was co-planning a Christmas charity toy drive for the kids of the base, but leave it to the Post to disregard facts when they think bigotry sells more papers. ( Los Angeles Times

columnist Robert Scheer wrote on January 20, "Chatting online under a pseudonym is clearly a private activity....Once again, it is the homophobes who are the real threat to the integrity of the Navy. Clearly they are the likely security risks since they have demonstrated so little respect for the law. Instead of fabricating evidence to frame dedicated members of the military, the Pentagon should be educating its officers in the lessons of tolerance. It is not the business of the military in a free society to make war on its own people." ( On Sunday, January 25 at 10:00 p.m. (Eastern and again Pacific), CNN's Impact will devote the program to the ways in which the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is also used to silence women who fend off sexual harassment and abuse by threatening to call them lesbians. ( On January 21, AOL admitted "Our member services representative did confirm information presented to him by the Navy. This clearly should not have happened and we regret it....This was a case of human error under very unusual circumstances," adding that, "The Navy deliberately ignored both Federal law and well-established procedures for handling government inquiries about AOL members." They said they are "instituting additional measures that will reinforce our privacy policies and procedures to our member services representatives."

Contact:

( Dan Gillmor, c/o San Jose Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Dr., San Jose, CA 95190-0001, fax: 408.920.5917, e-mail: dgillmor@sjmercury.com

( Frank Rich, c/o New York Times, 229 West 43rd St., New York, NY 10036-3959

( Ken Chandler, Editor, New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8790

( Robert Scheer, c/o Los Angeles Times, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles,  
CA 90053

( Pamela Hill, Executive Producer, Impact, One CNN Center, Atlanta, GA  
30303, fax: 404.827.4443, e-mail c/o: kimberly.buckwalter@turner.com

( Steve Case, President and CEO, America Online, 8619 Westwood Center  
Drive, Vienna, VA 22182, e-mail: stevecase@aol.com

The GLAADAlert is the weekly activation tool of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance  
Against Defamation. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive  
representation in the media as a means of challenging homophobia and all  
forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

Contact GLAAD by e-mail at [glaad@glaad.org](mailto:glaad@glaad.org) or by phone at 213.658.6775  
(Los Angeles), 212.807.1700 (New York), 415.861.2244 (San Francisco),  
202.986.1360 (Washington, DC), and 404.607.1204 (Atlanta)

Feel free to pass GLAADAlert on to friends, family and associates!

Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine!  
1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334)

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Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

glaad@glaad.org===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====  
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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24 Jan 1998 14:40:12 -0500 (EST)

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by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-7 #6879)

with ESMTP id <01ISRBKEC3OA0007CC@STORM.EOP.GOV>; Sat,

24 Jan 1998 14:39:39 -0500 (EST)

Received: (from rwockner@localhost)

by netcom20.netcom.com (8.8.5-r-beta/8.8.5/(NETCOM v1.02)) id LAA26524; Sat,

24 Jan 1998 11:36:37 -0800 (PST)

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: LAGomez ( LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 16:34:00.00

SUBJECT: fwd: McVeigh Wins 1st Round

TO: Daniel C. Montoya ( Daniel C. Montoya@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

-----

Original Text

From: <SLDN1@aol.com>, on 1/26/98 4:01 PM:

To:

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Kevin

Winston

January 26, 1998

(202) 667-0901

Rich Klein

(212) 969-3061

DISCHARGE OF CHIEF OF BOAT DELAYED

AS JUDGE GRANTS PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Court Finds that Military has "Gone too Far"

WASHINGTON, DC - District Judge Stanley Sporkin of the U.S. District Court

for  
the District of Columbia has granted Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy R. McVeigh a preliminary injunction in his effort to remain in the Navy. The discharge will be delayed pending the resolution of the case, and will allow McVeigh's attorneys the chance to further highlight the military's alleged violation of online privacy laws and the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy.

McVeigh, who was scheduled to be discharged at midnight tomorrow because he allegedly used the word "gay" to describe his marital status on an America Online user profile, filed a lawsuit last week against the government. His suit claims that the Navy unlawfully obtained information about him from America Online without a warrant or court order as required by the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), and breached the limits on investigations under the Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy.

"The Navy violated the very essence of "Don't Ask, Don't Pursue" by launching a search and destroy mission," Judge Sporkin stated in his ruling. "Suggestions of sexual orientation in a private, anonymous email account did not give the Navy a sufficient reason to investigate to determine whether to commence discharge proceedings. In its actions, the Navy violated its own

regulations."

With respect to the merits of McVeigh's claim that the military solicited a violation of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act by AOL, Judge Sporkin

wrote, "the Court finds that there is likely success on the merits with regards to this issue."

"I'm gratified that I will be allowed to continue to serve my country in the

Navy pending further review of this situation," McVeigh said. "I want to thank my fellow shipmates on the USS Chicago and others for their support."

The case, which has caught the attention of the online industry, watchdog, and civil rights groups, is the latest in a long line of controversies surrounding the military's policy on gays.

"In granting this preliminary injunction, the Court is sending a strong and clear message that there are serious questions surrounding the military's actions with respect to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act and the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue' policy," stated C. Dixon Osburn of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. "The military simply cannot be allowed

to operate outside the bounds of federal law."

McVeigh's case was strengthened last week when America Online, after

admitting

that it released McVeigh's identity to a Naval paralegal, blasted the

military

for flouting Federal law by ignoring proper legal procedures to obtain such

information.

Additionally, the author of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue"

policy,

professor Charles Moskos of Northwestern University, after reviewing the

facts

of the case, criticized the military in a declaration he released

yesterday.

"It is my opinion that the Navy violated the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

policy

in

the McVeigh case by launching an investigation without there being credible

evidence that Senior Chief McVeigh had engaged in homosexual acts or had

openly stated that he was a homosexual."

McVeigh said that he has not decided whether he will take legal action

against

America Online.

####

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====  
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26 Jan 1998 16:35:56 -0500 (EST)

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montoya\_dc@a1.eop.gov; Mon, 26 Jan 1998 16:35:52 -0500 (EST)

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Mon, 26 Jan 1998 16:35:20 -0500 (EST)

Received: by ches02.efaches.navfac.navy.mil with VINES-ISMTp; Mon,  
26 Jan 1998 16:35:06 -0500 (EST)

X-Incognito-SN: 410

From: LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil, "Letitia A Gomez"@STORM.eop.gov

Errors-to: LAGomez@efaches.navfac.navy.mil

X-Priority: 3 (Normal)

X-Incognito-Version: 4.11.23

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Doug.Case ( Doug.Case@sdsu.edu@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 17:06:00.00

SUBJECT: Court Quotes from McVeigh Opinion

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard.Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart.D.Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Today, the Navy got torpedoed. The folowing are direct quotes from Judge

Sporkin's 15 page opinion in McVeigh v. Cohen.

"Plaintiff in this case demonstrates a likely success to prevail on the merits."

"In 1993, leaders of Congress and the President reached a compromise designed to recognize the important role that officers who happen to be gay play in the defense of our nation."

"The face as stated above clearly demonstrate that the Plaintiff did not openly express his homosexuality in a way that compromised this "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Suggestions of sexual orientation in a private, anonymous email account did not give the Navy a sufficient reason to investigate to determine whether to commence discharge proceedings. In its actions, the Navy violated its own regulations."

"All that the Navy had was an email message and user profile that it suspected was authored by plaintiff. Under the military regulation, that

information alone should not have triggered any sort of investigation.

When the navy affirmatively took steps to confirm the identity of the email respondent, it violated the very essence of "Don't Ask, Don't Pursue" by launching a search and destroy mission."

"The subsequent steps taken by the Navy in its 'pursuit' of the Plaintiff were not only unauthorized under its policy, but likely illegal under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (ECPA)."

"In soliciting and obtaining over the phone personal information about the Plaintiff from AOL, his private on-line service provider, the government in this case invoked neither of these provisions [of ECPA] and thus failed to comply with ECPA.]

"The government knew, or should have known, that by turning over the information without a warrant, AOL was breaking the law. Yet the Navy, in this case, directly solicited the information anyway. What is most telling is that the Naval investigator did not identify himself when he made his request."

"In these days of 'big brother,' where through technology and otherwise the privacy interests of individuals from all walks of life are being ignored or marginalized, it is imperative that statutes explicitly protecting these rights be strictly observed."

"In Plaintiff's case, this Court finds that the Navy has gone too far. The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy was clearly aimed at

accommodating gay men and women in the military. In effect, it was intended to bring our nation's armed forces in line with the rest of society, which finds discrimination of virtually every form intolerable. It is self-evident that person's sexual orientation does not affect that individual's performance in the workplace. At this point in history, our society should not be deprived of the many accomplishments provided by people who happen to be gay."

"Nothing has been produced before this court which would in any way suggest that his [McVeigh's] sexual orientation has adversely affected his job performance. Senior Chief McVeigh's place in the Navy might even be characterized by some to be the very essence of what was hoped to be achieved by those who conceived the policy. The plaintiff is no less an officer today than he was on January 5, 1998, the day before he was told his imminent discharge from the Navy because of his sexual orientation."

"As this Court stated in *Elzie v Aspin*, 897F.Supp 1,3 (1995), it cannot understand why the Navy would seek to discharge an officer who has serviced his country in a distinguished manner just because he might be gay."

"The Court must note that the defense mounted against gays in the military have been tried before in our nation's history - against blacks and women. Surely, it is time to move beyond this vestige of discrimination and misconception of gay men and women."

"Certainly, the public has an inherent interest in the preservation of privacy rights as advanced by the Plaintiff in this case. With literally

the entire world on the world-wide web, enforcement of the ECPA is of great concern to those who bare the most personal information about their lives in private accounts through the Internet. In this case in particular, where the government may well have violated a federal statute in its zeal to brand the Plaintiff a homosexual, the actions of the Navy must be more closely scrutinized by the Court."

"...while Plaintiff complied with the requirements imposed upon him under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue," the Defendant went further than the policy permits. Although Officer McVeigh did not publicly announce his sexual orientation, the Navy nonetheless impermissibly embarked on a search and 'outing' mission."

\*\*\*\*\*

John Aravosis

Wired Strategies - Online Advocacy Consulting

Washington, DC

202/328-5707 tel.

202/328-5708 fax

<http://www.wiredstrategies.com>

<mailto:john@wiredstrategies.com>

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by mail.sdsu.edu (8.8.7/8.8.7) with ESMTP id OAA25165; Mon,

26 Jan 1998 14:06:11 -0800 (PST)

X-Sender: dcase@mail.sdsu.edu

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: rwockner ( rwockner@netcom.com@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 18:41:00.00

SUBJECT: NC5894: NYT Lead Editorial on McVeigh

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart D. Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

\*\*\*\*\*

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New York Times

Lead Editorial

January 26, 1998

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Online

The Navy's move to dismiss a highly decorated sailor, Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy R. McVeigh, for homosexuality shows the senselessness of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy and the vulnerability of private information on the Internet.

Mr. McVeigh, no relation to the man convicted of the Oklahoma City bombing, is a 17-year Navy veteran with an exemplary record. Recent performance reviews have called him "inspiring," an "outstanding role

model" and the "embodiment of Navy core values." Yet Mr. McVeigh is being drummed out on the suspicion that he is gay.

The case began when Mr. McVeigh, who is a subscriber to America Online, sent an E-mail message to the wife of a fellow crewman about a Christmas toy drive with a return address of "boysrch." She looked up the user profile under that address and found the name "Tim," a marital status of "gay" and a hobby of "boy watching." This information was given to a commanding officer who believed that there was no basis for further inquiry. A superior officer overruled that decision and turned the case over for investigation.

A Navy investigator obtained Mr. McVeigh's full name and address from AOL. The company admits that disclosure violated its own confidentiality rules, but says the investigator failed to identify himself or the purpose of the request. Federal law prohibits the Government from getting customer information without a subpoena or court order, which the investigator did not have. Now the Navy is using that information against Mr. McVeigh.

The guidelines on "don't ask, don't tell" allow military personnel to attend gay rights parades, go to gay bars and read gay literature without having evidence of those activities used against them. The policy supposedly allows associational freedom and a zone of privacy. The idea is to protect individuals from inquiries spurred by rumor and suspicion.

The fact that the Navy had to pry away, by improper means, an essentially anonymous E-mail address shows how far it went beyond the "don't ask,

don't tell" policy. Mr. McVeigh has asked a Federal court to enjoin his  
discharge. That request should be granted when the judge rules this week.  
Otherwise the "don't ask, don't tell" policy affords no privacy protection  
at all. This is another grievous instance of the military destroying an  
honorable career solely for homophobic reasons.

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by netcom5.netcom.com (8.8.5-r-beta/8.8.5/(NETCOM v1.02)) id PAA28494; Mon,

26 Jan 1998 15:41:24 -0800 (PST)

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: nglfcampus-request ( nglfcampus-request@nenet.org@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 17:24:00.00

SUBJECT: Ellen Action Alert

TO: Christian M. Grantham ( Christian M. Grantham@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Sent: Monday, January 26, 1998 12:59 PM

Subject: Save ELLEN via GLAADAlert 01.23.98

Hey all -

In a message dated 01.26.98 11:31:11 AM, glaad@glaad.org wrote:

<<Save Ellen's Future!

ABC will soon be announcing its decision on whether or not to renew

Ellen

for a new season. While producers to the show are committed to its

ongoing

success and the program's ratings have remained constant, ABC has

continued

its love/hate relationship with Ellen's open and realistic

representations

of lesbian and gay life. Ellen consistently wins in its timeslot. But

ABC

continues to be assaulted by constant pressure from radical religious

groups targeting ABC and its parent company, Disney, based on their

inclusion of gay people. The anti-gay group American Family Association

is

now urging their ranks to demand that ABC pull the show, claiming that

such

a decision would indicate that Americans reject fair representations of  
lesbians and gay men. Ellen needs your support now!

Let ABC and Disney know how much you value the show. Please include  
testimonials on how this show is especially important to young people  
dealing with their own sexual orientation, to families dealing with  
understanding a lesbian or gay family member and to viewers of quality  
television everywhere.

Contact:

( Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars,  
Los

Angeles, CA 90037, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: [abcaudr@abc.com](mailto:abcaudr@abc.com);

( Michael Eisner, Chairman and David Newman, President of Network TV,  
The

Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91521,  
fax:

818.560.1930, e-mail: WWW: <http://www.disney.com/Mail>.

>>

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Message-ID: <v03007803b0ef16127eba@[38.28.26.30]>

From: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation <glaad@glaad.org>

Subject: GLAADAlert 01.23.98

Date: Fri, 23 Jan 1998 19:54:07 -0800

X-Priority: 3

X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.0.1458.49)

GLAADALERT

January 23, 1998

The GLAADAlert is the weekly activation tool of the Gay & Lesbian  
Alliance  
Against Defamation

Save Ellen's Future!

ABC will soon be announcing its decision on whether or not to renew

Ellen

for a new season. While producers to the show are committed to its

ongoing

success and the program's ratings have remained constant, ABC has

continued

its love/hate relationship with Ellen's open and realistic

representations

of lesbian and gay life. Ellen consistently wins in its timeslot. But

ABC

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groups targeting ABC and its parent company, Disney, based on their

inclusion of gay people. The anti-gay group American Family Association

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now urging their ranks to demand that ABC pull the show, claiming that such a decision would indicate that Americans reject fair representations of lesbians and gay men. Ellen needs your support now!

Let ABC and Disney know how much you value the show. Please include testimonials on how this show is especially important to young people dealing with their own sexual orientation, to families dealing with understanding a lesbian or gay family member and to viewers of quality television everywhere.

Contact:

( Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90037, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: [abcaudr@abc.com](mailto:abcaudr@abc.com);

( Michael Eisner, Chairman and David Newman, President of Network TV, The Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91521, fax:

818.560.1930, e-mail: WWW: <http://www.disney.com/Mail>.

Leave Your Stamp on History!

The U.S. Postal Service is planning an upcoming stamp collection commemorating the twentieth century, and there is a chance that lesbian and gay history could be included--with your participation. For the

"Celebrate

the Century" campaign, stamps will be issued to commemorate each decade, and the public will get to vote on which ones will honor the 1950s-1990s.

The nominations to be voted on by the public will be chosen by the Citizens

Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC). This committee needs to hear from lesbian,

gay, bisexual and transgender people and those concerned with honoring America's lesbian and gay heritage, and GLAAD is spearheading a

letter-writing campaign to ensure that Americans will be able to vote for a

major lesbian and gay event in American history as a possible candidate for

the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

"This is a unique opportunity for our community to have a direct impact on

lesbian and gay visibility in a medium that Americans use every

day--stamps," said GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry. "While there are

lesbian, gay and bisexual people represented in some stamps (Bessie Smith,

James Dean, Tennessee Williams and Cole Porter, most notably), our community's larger history is invisible in the world of stamps."

Please ask the CSAC to include the Stonewall Riots for the 1960s, slain civil rights leader and San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk for the

1970s,  
the 1987 display of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington,  
D.C. for the 1980s and the historic 1993 March on Washington for  
Lesbian,  
Gay and Bi Civil Rights and Liberation. In addition, explain why each  
event  
holds special historical meaning. Act quickly, as the ballots for the  
1960s  
could be finalized as early as the beginning of March!

Contact: Stamps Department, Attn.: Dr. Virginia Noelke, Citizens Stamp  
Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, RM  
4474E,  
Washington, D.C. 20260-6753

Go on, "Girlfriend"

While she may be coy about her own sexual orientation, rapper Queen  
Pen's  
new song, "Girlfriend," openly discusses a liaison with a woman from the  
perspective of her female lover. From the album My Melody, the chorus of  
"Girlfriend" starts: "Girlfriend, girlfriend--Yes, I had your  
girlfriend/If that was your girlfriend/She wasn't last night." It  
continues: "I'll be/The one that your main squeeze been digging/Pull you  
out your closet/Sex so wicked/It's my business what I do." After telling  
the guy who thought the woman was his girlfriend a few things about her  
and  
the evening they spent together, she finishes by addressing the woman,

saying, "It never ceases to amaze me/Break it down/'Cause I like to get down/I will/I love to love you baby."

In the world of rap music, affirmations of lesbians and gay men are slim to none, and this explicit, proud work is both an homage to Me'Shell N'degeocello and a celebration of women passionately loving other women.

Let Interscope Records and Queen Pen know you appreciate this sassy, tight song. Also, encourage local radio stations and dance clubs to give it a spin.

Contact: Interscope Records, 10900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1230, Los Angeles, CA 90024, fax: 310.208.6547, e-mail: [interscope@interscope.com](mailto:interscope@interscope.com).

### Discovering the Hypothalamus

The February issue of Discover magazine's "Science Classics" cartoon column discussed the nature/nurture debate of sexual orientation as it relates to the hypothalamus. One panel's caption explains how "When a region of the human brain was found to be smaller in homosexual men than in heterosexual men, it was suggested that the brain difference might somehow cause the difference in sexual preference." The picture shows two men holding hands,

with one asking, "Hey, how's your hypothalamus?" and the other responding,

"Small!" The next panel's caption reads, "But the brain isn't just an information processor...It's also an organ, and organs can change their size and shape." The picture has one of the men suddenly all buff, saying,

"Like, look at what happened to my biceps since the last panel." After discussing a study about this theory, it concludes in one panel that, "Differences between brains may be the result, rather than the cause of differences in behavior [such as sexual orientation]." The boys say, "Oh well, who cares?" and "Um, I care about biceps now."

Without moralizing about either nature or nurture, the cartoon explains the basic debate around the gay hypothalamus theory in a light-hearted, highly accessible way.

Let Discover know that this fun approach to scientific theory around sexual orientation is valuable and engaging.

Contact: Marc Zabludoff, Editor In Chief, Discover, 114 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011-5604, fax: 212.633.4817

### Blue Boy Is Back

The cast of ABC's critically acclaimed NYPD Blue once again features the

sensitive, together gay police aide John, played by Bill Broctrup. In the past, John was occasionally given storylines, and as a soft-spoken openly gay man, he brought both calm and dignity to the police station.

Broctrup

left the show two years ago to pursue larger roles on two other Steven Bochco productions, Public Morals and Total Security, both of which have subsequently been canceled.

Please commend Bochco's production company for bringing back John and encourage them to develop major plotlines for the character.

Contact: Steven Bochco Productions, 10201 W. Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90035

GLAADAlert Media Round-Up: Media Play On AOL and McVeigh

For the past two weeks, the story of sailor Timothy McVeigh's discharge proceedings for allegedly being gay has unfolded. At issue is the Navy's apparent abuse of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act (EPCA) in asking America Online to reveal McVeigh's identity after his screen name identified his married status as

"gay." In addition, AOL broke their own terms of service, and possibly the

EPCA, by giving the information to the Navy. Around the country, media have been weighing in on the rights of privacy and the aggressive pursuit of gay servicemembers by the military in an electronic age. Following are some of the best and worst media moments:

( On January 16, San Jose Mercury News Technology Columnist Dan Gillmor wrote, "As more and more supposedly private information goes into databases, we'll have to do more to ensure that businesses and governments insist on handling the data properly. They need to keep it safe from internal misuse. When it comes to private information, let's apply at least part of the military's policy: Don't tell."

( Frank Rich, in his January 17 New York Times column, compares the two Timothy McVeighs, noting that this McVeigh has "served his country for 17 years with a spotless record," earned many medals, and has excellent performance reviews. During the Oklahoma City bomber McVeigh's Army stint, he "was known for fomenting racial polarization by slurring his black peers, openly trafficked in anti-Semitic and racist literature, and participated in the activities of organizations toying with armed resistance to the Government." Rich asks, "What does it say about Americans fairness and justice--let alone our priorities in national

security--that

the military looked the other way at that McVeigh's ostentatious public psychosis while it torments the exemplary McVeigh for the 'crime' of having

a private life that should be nobody's business but his own?"

( The New York Post demonized Timothy McVeigh as the wrongdoer in this whole affair, claiming in a January 20 editorial that since the AOL screen

name was "boysrch," which presumably means "boy search," McVeigh might be a

dangerous child molester. "There is a warranted nationwide concern about the use of cyberspace as a hidden network for pedophiles, and here was McVeigh, sending out e-mail that sounded as though he were targeting for his attentions the children of his shipmates." In reality, McVeigh was co-planning a Christmas charity toy drive for the kids of the base, but leave it to the Post to disregard facts when they think bigotry sells more papers.

( Los Angeles Times columnist Robert Scheer wrote on January 20,

"Chatting

online under a pseudonym is clearly a private activity....Once again, it is

the homophobes who are the real threat to the integrity of the Navy.

Clearly they are the likely security risks since they have demonstrated so

little respect for the law. Instead of fabricating evidence to frame dedicated members of the military, the Pentagon should be educating its

officers in the lessons of tolerance. It is not the business of the military in a free society to make war on its own people."

( On Sunday, January 25 at 10:00 p.m. (Eastern and again Pacific), CNN's

Impact will devote the program to the ways in which the "Don't Ask,

Don't

Tell" policy is also used to silence women who fend off sexual

harassment

and abuse by threatening to call them lesbians.

( On January 21, AOL admitted "Our member services representative did

confirm information presented to him by the Navy. This clearly should

not

have happened and we regret it....This was a case of human error under

very

unusual circumstances," adding that, "The Navy deliberately ignored both

Federal law and well-established procedures for handling government

inquiries about AOL members." They said they are "instituting additional

measures that will reinforce our privacy policies and procedures to our

member services representatives."

Contact:

( Dan Gillmor, c/o San Jose Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Dr., San Jose,

CA

95190-0001, fax: 408.920.5917, e-mail: dgillmor@sjmercury.com

( Frank Rich, c/o New York Times, 229 West 43rd St., New York, NY

10036-3959

( Ken Chandler, Editor, New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New

York, NY 10036-8790

( Robert Scheer, c/o Los Angeles Times, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles,  
CA 90053

( Pamela Hill, Executive Producer, Impact, One CNN Center, Atlanta, GA 30303, fax: 404.827.4443, e-mail c/o: kimberly.buckwalter@turner.com

( Steve Case, President and CEO, America Online, 8619 Westwood Center Drive, Vienna, VA 22182, e-mail: stevecase@aol.com

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GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation in the media as

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Contact GLAAD by e-mail at [glaad@glaad.org](mailto:glaad@glaad.org) or by phone at

213.658.6775 (Los Angeles), 212.807.1700 (New York), 415.861.2244 (San Francisco), 202.986.1360 (Washington, DC), and 404.607.1204 (Atlanta)

Feel free to pass GLAADAlert on to friends, family and associates!

Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine!

1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334)

Visit GLAAD Online at <http://www.glaad.org>

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Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

[glaad@glaad.org](mailto:glaad@glaad.org)

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Mon, 26 Jan 1998 16:31:15 -0500 (EST)  
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by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879) id <01ISU82EIYOW007PS0@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for  
Christian\_M.\_Grantham@oa.eop.gov; Mon, 26 Jan 1998 16:31:11 -0500 (EST)  
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by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-7 #6879)  
with ESMTP id <01ISU81UKN24000E6B@STORM.EOP.GOV> for  
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26 Jan 1998 16:30:30 -0500 (EST)  
Resent-date: Mon, 26 Jan 1998 16:30:30 -0500 (EST)  
Resent-from: nglftcampus@nenet.org  
Resent-sender: nglftcampus-request@nenet.org  
Resent-message-id: <pwRmvC.A.wRH.bBQz0@public4.jri.org>  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.0.1458.49)  
Precedence: list  
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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: rwockner ( rwockner@netcom.com@INET@LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 19:38:00.00

SUBJECT: NC5900: HRC on McVeigh ruling

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart D. Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

\*\*\*\*\*

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NEWS from the

Human Rights Campaign

1101 14th Street NW

Washington, DC 20005

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, Jan. 26, 1998

JUDGE RULES NAVY CAN'T BOOT SAILOR WITH 'GAY' IN HIS AMERICA ONLINE  
PROFILE

## Temporary Reprieve Much-Deserved, HRC Asserts; Navy in Clear Violation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

WASHINGTON -- Chief Petty Officer Timothy R. McVeigh received a much-deserved temporary reprieve today when a federal judge restrained the Navy from firing him for having the word "gay" in his America Online profile, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

"It seems clear to everyone except the U.S. Navy that the Navy violated Chief Petty Officer McVeigh's personal privacy as well as the law governing gays in the military," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director. "Fortunately, the court stepped in and prevented the Navy from compounding its mistakes by wrongfully discharging this exemplary officer."

U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin ruled today that McVeigh could remain on active duty while the court considers the Navy's decision to dismiss him based on evidence of homosexuality obtained from America Online. Sporkin issued a preliminary injunction, saying essentially that McVeigh would be irreparably harmed by being discharged before the court's review of the case was complete. The Navy was proposing to honorably discharge McVeigh immediately, ending his 17-year Navy career and depriving him of a pension and retirement benefits.

Last Wednesday, America Online issued a statement apologizing for the fact that one of its employees revealed McVeigh's identity to a Navy

investigator, saying he did not identify himself as such.

"We believe that the Navy and America Online are both at fault," said Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director. "The Navy appears to have violated the law governing gays in the military by both asking and pursuing McVeigh. America Online revealed private information to a Navy investigator masquerading as a friend of McVeigh's".

McVeigh filed suit in federal court in Washington last week, charging that the Navy violated both electronic privacy law and the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays.

McVeigh, 36, is stationed in Hawaii. His AOL profile did not identify him by name or indicate that he was in the Navy. The profile page has since been removed from AOL.

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national lesbian and gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support and educates the public to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

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CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JAN-1998 18:30:00.00

SUBJECT: NC5893: Navy torpedoed in McVeigh case

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard Socarides@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stuart D. Rosenstein ( Stuart D. Rosenstein@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

From: John Aravosis <john@wiredstrategies.com>

=====

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

January 26, 1998

Contact:

John Aravosis, 202/328-5707

Barbara Bode, 202/588-9598

=====

#### WASHINGTON DC.

In a landmark decision released today, federal judge Stanley Sporkin ruled in favor of cyber sailor Timothy R. McVeigh. Judge Sporkin granted McVeigh's motion for a preliminary junction, thus sending McVeigh back for active duty in the Navy until the entire lawsuit is resolved -- a process which could take years.

Quotes from Judge Sporkin:

"Plaintiff in this case demonstrates a likely success to prevail on the merits."

"In 1993, leaders of Congress and the President reached a compromise designed to recognize the important role that officers who happen to be gay play in the defense of our nation."

"The facts as stated above clearly demonstrate that the Plaintiff did not openly express his homosexuality in a way that compromised this "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Suggestions of sexual orientation in a private, anonymous email account did not give the Navy a sufficient reason to investigate to determine whether to commence discharge proceedings. In its actions, the Navy violated its own regulations."

"All that the Navy had was an email message and user profile that it suspected was authored by plaintiff. Under the military regulation, that information alone should not have triggered any sort of investigation. When the navy affirmatively took steps to confirm the identity of the email respondent, it violated the very essence of "Don't Ask, Don't Pursue" by launching a search and destroy mission."

"The subsequent steps taken by the Navy in its 'pursuit' of the Plaintiff were not only unauthorized under its policy, but likely illegal under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (ECPA)."

"In soliciting and obtaining over the phone personal information about the

Plaintiff from AOL, his private on-line service provider, the government in this case invoked neither of these provisions [of ECPA] and thus failed to comply with ECPA."

"The government knew, or should have known, that by turning over the information without a warrant, AOL was breaking the law. Yet the Navy, in this case, directly solicited the information anyway. What is most telling is that the Naval investigator did not identify himself when he made his request."

"In these days of 'big brother,' where through technology and otherwise the privacy interests of individuals from all walks of life are being ignored or marginalized, it is imperative that statutes explicitly protecting these rights be strictly observed."

"In Plaintiff's case, this Court finds that the Navy has gone too far.

The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy was clearly aimed at accommodating gay men and women in the military. In effect, it was intended to bring our nation's armed forces in line with the rest of society, which finds discrimination of virtually every form intolerable. It is self-evident that a person's sexual orientation does not affect that individual's performance in the workplace. At this point in history, our society should not be deprived of the many accomplishments provided by people who happen to be gay."

"Nothing has been produced before this court which would in any way suggest that his [McVeigh's] sexual orientation has adversely affected his

job performance. Senior Chief McVeigh's place in the Navy might even be characterized by some to be the very essence of what was hoped to be achieved by those who conceived the policy. The plaintiff is no less an officer today than he was on January 5, 1998, the day before he was told his imminent discharge from the Navy because of his sexual orientation."

"As this Court stated in *Elzie v. Aspin*, 897F.Supp 1,3 (1995), it cannot understand why the Navy would seek to discharge an officer who has served his country in a distinguished manner just because he might be gay."

"The Court must note that the defense mounted against gays in the military have been tried before in our nation's history - against blacks and women. Surely, it is time to move beyond this vestige of discrimination and misconception of gay men and women."

"Certainly, the public has an inherent interest in the preservation of privacy rights as advanced by the Plaintiff in this case. With literally the entire world on the world-wide web, enforcement of the ECPA is of great concern to those who bare the most personal information about their lives in private accounts through the Internet. In this case in particular, where the government may well have violated a federal statute in its zeal to brand the Plaintiff a homosexual, the actions of the Navy must be more closely scrutinized by the Court."

"...while Plaintiff complied with the requirements imposed upon him under "Don't Ask, Don' Tell, Don't Pursue," the Defendant went further than the policy permits. Although Officer McVeigh did not publicly announce his

sexual orientation, the Navy nonetheless impermissibly embarked on a search and 'outing' mission."

\*\*\*\*\*

John Aravosis

Wired Strategies - Online Advocacy Consulting

Washington, DC

202/328-5707 tel.

202/328-5708 fax

<http://www.wiredstrategies.com>

mailto:john@wiredstrategies.com===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====  
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