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FAX TRANSMISSION**FAXED****Date (Fecha):** 9/8/99**Pages (Páginas):** 74**From (De):** Zach Gast**To (A):** Cheryl Bauerle**Title (Titulo):****Of (De):** Office of National AIDS Policy
Fax: 456-2439

Cheryl,
Here is our contact list. I hope
this helps.

Zach

Take 2.

FINCA Uganda Trip Media Contacts List

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Linda Richardon	New York Times	P: 212/556-1904 F: 212/556-3717 The New York Times 229 W. 43 rd Street New York, NY 10036-3959

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Marlene Simmons	L.A. Times	861-9245
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Activists make a noise about Aids drug prices

A noisy group of about 70 Aids activists on Tuesday demonstrated at the 13th International Aids Conference being held in Durban against the expensive drug prices imposed by pharmaceutical companies.

The whistle and horn blowing protesters disrupted afternoon proceedings, which largely dealt with the availability and accessibility of drugs to developing nations.

The group chanted several slogans including "medication for every nation".

The outburst disrupted a press conference at which three Aids dissidents, including a member of President Thabo Mbeki's Aids Advisory Panel, hailed the South African leader a "hero" for his stance on questioning whether HIV causes Aids.

Professor Charles Gesheker, on the panel, said the demonstration had upstaged the press conference, but that it was not because he had called the press.

"This (the protest) is very normal at these Aids conferences. It is part of the show. It is business as usual."

Gesheker and two women activists spelled out the dangers of making AZT available publicly to treat HIV.

Earlier, a renowned scientist argued that the effectiveness of using of the anti-retroviral drug was overwhelmingly positive. - Sapa

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Conference gets bad news on cure for Aids

By Lynne Altenroxel

Delegates at the Durban Aids conference have been given bad news by some of the world's top researchers in the field - a cure for the dreaded disease is much further away than originally thought.

This is because of the discovery that the crafty virus outwits anti-retroviral drugs by consistently replenishing a reservoir of viruses during treatment, which quickly multiply to return their human host to pre-treatment levels of viral load.

The latest research into the flushing out of these reservoirs was presented by three experts, including former Time magazine Man of the Year Dr David Ho, at the conference on Tuesday.

Conclusions reached by scientists in several separate studies are that, as a result of the reservoirs, the virus is going to be difficult to conquer.

It had been clearly established by a number of laboratories that a reservoir of HIV is created early on in the course of HIV infection, soon after primary infection, explained Dr Anthony Fauci, of the US National Institute of Health.

The reservoir consists, at least in part, of resting, latently infected CD4 T-cells distributed in various lymphoid organs throughout the body.

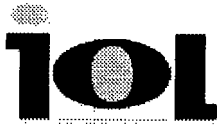
Their discovery, over the past two to three years, has led scientists to alter their views on the length of time it would take to eradicate HIV from the body. Before, it was believed that the virus could possibly be eliminated through three years of anti-retroviral therapy.

Scientists have realised that as a result of the reservoirs, however minuscule, a cure with drugs similar to current therapies is impossible, even in patients whose HIV levels are so low that the virus is not detectable in their blood plasma.

The Star

Published on the Web by IOL on 2000-07-11 21:25:09

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Zuma laments leaving Aids cure up to experts

It is unfortunate that much of the struggle to find a cure for Aids lies in the hands of scientists, while governments and civil society groups can only give support and ask questions seeking clarification, Deputy President Jacob Zuma said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the gala dinner of the 13th International Aids Conference in Durban, Zuma said scientists should seek "to take us on board so that this partnership is strengthened and we can focus our collective energy on the big prize: winning the war against Aids".

Zuma sought to defend President Thabo Mbeki's perceived support of the revisionist view, which challenges the belief that HIV causes Aids. He said valuable time was being wasted at the conference debating issues that had never been raised or had been refuted.

"Our government does not, and has never, questioned the link between HIV and Aids. Neither do we say that drugs should not be made available to pregnant women and other people who have contracted the virus."

'Our government does not question the link between HIV and Aids'

One of the confounding elements of HIV/Aids was the stark difference in the manner in which the pandemic manifested itself in the developed world compared with the developing world.

"It is clear that, in addition to individual risk-taking behaviour in our country and perhaps the continent, many other social factors, including poverty, migrancy, gender imbalances and social deprivation, contribute as determinants of the extent and rate of the epidemic."

It was unfortunate that some people seemed incapable or unwilling to understand the issues that were being raised by the South African government and had missed the opportunity to help find answers quickly, Zuma said. - Sapa

The Star

Published on the Web by IOL on 2000-07-11 23:10:04

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SA counts 1 600 new HIV infections a day

July 11 2000 at 11:10AM

South Africa's HIV/Aids epidemic is still in the early stages, but the implications are clear. More than four million people are already infected with HIV, and there are about 1 600 new infections each day, says the SA Medical Council.

At this rate more than 10 million South Africans could contract HIV/Aids during the next 10 years - roughly the equivalent of the total populations of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

Most HIV infections occur in people aged under 20. Projections are that at the current rate of increase in HIV infections, more than half of those under 20 today could die of Aids-related causes before they reach 35.

There is no cure for Aids. Although people who contract HIV can live productive and relatively healthy lives for a number of years, many succumb to secondary infections such as pneumonia and tuberculosis, because their immune systems are unable to fight these infections.

Most HIV infections occur in people aged under 20

HIV does not discriminate and there is no evidence to suggest the poor might contract HIV more readily than others, but poor people who contract HIV generally die more quickly than others in the general population because their immune systems are often already weak from malnutrition

and other infections.

HIV is an easily preventable infection. The virus cannot live outside the human body - it does not survive, for example, in dried blood, urine or human faeces. It is not transported by mosquitoes or ticks. HIV lives in the bloodstream and is most often transferred during sex.

Daily News



'Saint' lightens gloom of Aids conference

Staff Reporters

The gloom over the Aids disaster facing Africa lifted partly yesterday with breakthrough results in drug trials to combat mother-to-child transmission, and a new initiative to develop a vaccine.

The announcements were made at the 13th International Aids Conference in Durban when South African scientists disclosed the results of a breakthrough study that shows that the anti-retroviral drug, South African Interpartum Nevirapine Trials, also known as "Saint", can halve the number of babies born HIV positive - at a cost of R25 each.

If approved for use in preventing mother-to-child transmission, Nevirapine would save the lives of 20 000 South African babies each year.

If all pregnant South African women received the treatment over the next five years, up to 110 000 HIV infections of newborns could be avoided.

Nevirapine has been approved for use by HIV-infected pregnant women in Uganda and Senegal.

UNAids statistics show that infants born to HIV-infected mothers have a 15-35% chance of being infected without medical intervention. In 1997 alone, some 590 000 children around the world were infected with HIV at or soon after birth.

A pilot project funded by International Solidarity Therapeutical Fund (ISTF) will be launched next month, in which 18 000 women in four provinces will receive Nevirapine. An agreement was signed this week between ISTF and Wits University to launch the programme, which will start in Soweto, where an estimated 5 000 pregnant women are expected to be treated.

Scientists congratulated the South African researchers for their work, which showed that the small dose had no adverse effects in the 652 women and children given it.

The findings fly in the face of government statements expressing concern that Nevirapine could be toxic.

Boehringer Ingelheim's medical director, Dr Lynette Boshoff, confirmed that the company's five-year offer to provide free Nevirapine would extend to all women who could not afford to buy it.

Health Department director-general Dr Ayanda Ntsaluba said he was encouraged by the outcome, but that registration and further studies into questions about the single dose increasing drug resistance would still have to be studied before the government could reach a decision on whether to

provide it.

Dr James McIntyre, director of the perinatal unit at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Johannesburg, said of the project: "We know that it works. E (this) project is to determine what we need to do to make it accessible, the supervision of the dosages, counselling and follow-ups."

At the same time, it was announced that the first candidates to find a vaccine against Aids designed specifically for Africa will be recruited for human trials this year.

The trial will start in Oxford, England, next month; in Nairobi, Kenya, six months later; and in Durban and Johannesburg by the end of the year or early next year.

Making the announcement on the Oxford and Nairobi trials, the vice-president of the International Aids Vaccine Initiative, Dr Wayne Koff, said the goal of a protective vaccine against HIV/Aids was now in sight.

"We are increasingly confident that a protective vaccine will be ready in five to 10 years."

The Star

Published on the Web by IOL on 2000-07-11 21:25:09

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Aids vaccine: only trials and time will tell

July 13 2000 at 07:05AM

South Africa will start human trials on a possible HIV/Aids vaccine within the next six months, but it could still take several years before such a vaccine becomes a reality.

A discussion on whether a vaccine for HIV/Aids can be developed will be one of the main topics on the agenda of the 13th International Aids Conference in Durban on Thursday.

In the first three days of the conference, delegates have repeatedly emphasised that a vaccine was the only way to fight and win the war against HIV/Aids.

In six months' time, South Africa, in partnership with the United States, will start human trials on such a vaccine - the first to be conducted on the African continent.

Little research on a vaccine has been conducted in Africa

Little research on a vaccine has been conducted in Africa, where two-thirds of the world's HIV/Aids infected population lives. Most of the research so far has been done for Europe and America.

Kenya, in partnership with Britain, will also start human trials for a possible vaccine

soon.

United States President Bill Clinton has said that he would like to see a vaccine on the market by the year 2007.

United States-based scientist Margaret Liu will lead a discussion on Thursday on whether it is likely the world will have an Aids vaccine in the next seven years.

The pharmaceutical industry will also address its role in developing a vaccine.

Medical Research Council president Professor William Malegapuru Makgoba will, together with a number of other scientists, discuss an African strategy for HIV vaccines.

Thursday will be the last day of major discussions at the conference.

Former president Nelson Mandela will close the conference on Friday. - Sapa

10L

Rape act in play leaves Aids delegates aghast

July 12 2000 at 06:33PM

A youth group from Botswana put on a play involving a father raping his daughter on Wednesday which was so realistic it left delegates at the 13th International Aids Conference in Durban open-mouthed.

The educational play showed how innocent a normal family was about sex.

In the rape scene, the "father" took his trousers down, threw the "daughter", who was wearing tights, on the ground, spread her legs apart, and appeared to be having violent sex with her.

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The mother, discovering later that the daughter had been raped but ignorant of the culprit, tried to take the girl to the police to report it.

She then urged her daughter to tell her father about the incident....
Sapa-AFP

100 000 schoolkids lose teachers to Aids



By Lynne Altenroxel

July 12 2000 at 10:25PM

South Africa tops a list indicating the number of primary school children who lost a teacher to Aids last year, says a new United Nations report.

An estimated 100 000 South African schoolchildren lost a teacher to Aids last year, and nearly one million lost a teacher in the sub-Saharan region.

These are the grim statistics contained in the latest United Nations Progress of Nations Report released on Wednesday, which says South African teenagers have the third highest infection rate in the world.

The UN has pointed out that teachers are not necessarily worse hit by the pandemic than other sectors of society.

**One in four
SA women
aged 15 to
24 are
infected**

According to the report, one in four South African women and one in 10 men aged between 15 and 24 are infected.

This places Zimbabwe and South Africa in an unenviable third spot on the list of infection rates for this age group.

Botswana and Lesotho top the list. One in three young women and one in seven young men in Botswana are infected. Lesotho's rates, at 26 percent for women and 12 percent for men, are only marginally (one percent) ahead of the South African and Zimbabwean HIV epidemic.

The report described the soaring HIV rates in this age group as a searing indictment, documenting the failures of vision, commitment and action of almost unimaginable proportions.

Although Aids can not be cured, it can be prevented. Current infection rates should never have reached such catastrophic levels, the report said.

The UN, in its condemnation of government failure to deal with the crisis in the region, has joined a growing list of eminent scientists, leaders and organisations who have sharply criticised the South African government in particular.

THE  MERCURY

10 L

Gates's R47m opens doors for sex education

July 12 2000 at 10:40PM

Microsoft tycoon Bill Gates has donated R47-million to South Africa to boost a campaign to influence sexual behaviour among the country's youth.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donated the money to the LoveLife campaign on Wednesday.

The programme combines broad-based awareness and educational efforts with adolescent reproductive health service development and outreach programmes.

LoveLife operates under the patronage of Zanele Mbeki and other leading South African personalities, and its programmes are managed by the Planned Parenthood Association of South Africa.

The donated funds are to be used to support sexual-health, clinical and educational services, including peer education and outreach programmes in rural areas.

Meanwhile, the Medical Research Council (MRC) has received a boost from the US Institute for Health, which has awarded the research body R100-million over five years to establish two units to study HIV/Aids prevention.

"Both units will ensure that South Africa stays at the forefront of the global effort to devise and test HIV vaccines and prevention strategies," said Dr Salim Abdool Karim, MRC's director of HIV prevention and vaccine research. - Staff Reporter

The Star

IOL

Dirty tricks infect Aids drug campaign

July 13 2000 at 09:45AM

Evidence of dirty tricks in the Aids drug campaign emerged on Wednesday after a top pharmaceutical company admitted to funding an activist group that has been aggressively lobbying for greater access to drugs to treat the disease.

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The revelation came to the fore after activists from a group called Act-Up (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power) staged a demonstration at the stall of pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim at the 13th International Aids conference in Durban on Wednesday afternoon.

After a vocal altercation with conference organisers, members of the group moved to the stall of another pharmaceutical company, Merck Sharpe and Dome (MSD).

Here, the company's executive director of public affairs, Geoffrey Sturchio, admitted the company funded Act-Up.

People shouldn't be naive about Aids activist groups

Boehringer-Ingelheim, who manufacture Aids drug Nevirapene, compete with MSD, who manufacture the drug Crixivan. Both are major sponsors of the Durban conference.

In the past few days, members of Act-Up disrupted several meetings at the conference, demanding that the South African government supply anti-retrovirals to pregnant women. They were also vocal at the opening ceremony of the conference.

Earlier this year, Professor Jerry Coovadia, the chairperson of the Durban conference, refused to give Act-Up permission to attend, saying they were disruptive and aggressive.

A collaboration between MSD and Act-Up was also uncovered at the 12th International Aids conference in Geneva, when security personnel admitted to a journalist Alex Russel that the two had collaborated to stage an aggressive publicity stunt at the company's booth.

AZT sales doubled Glaxo Wellcome's turnover in five years

Act-Up were in the news again two years ago, when certain branches of the movement broke away from the central body to campaign against the use of anti-retrovirals.

The breakaway group said the drugs caused severe side effects and did more harm than good.

Science writer and consultant Anita Allen said people shouldn't be naive about the role some Aids activist groups and non-

governmental organisations play in the Aids drug campaign.

"What better advertisement than to have people shouting passionately for your drug with the company logo in the background?" Allen asked.

The South African government has come under great pressure from activists, the media, the public and pharmaceutical companies to supply Aids drugs like Nevirapene and AZT free of charge.

Government has resisted the calls, saying the drugs could be harmful and are too expensive.

Stakes in the business are high. Sales from AZT alone doubled the turnover of pharmaceutical company Glaxo Wellcome within five years after receiving a licence to sell the drug.

A doctor, who did not want to be named and who is a speaker at the Durban conference, said government policy was often defined by recommendations compiled after conferences and panel discussions on the disease.

He said he had been under pressure to alter his speech to a more drug-prone stance at the second meeting of President Thabo Mbeki's Aids advisory panel earlier in July.

"They came to my room and wanted to see my speech. They said I must start it with a strong statement on retroviral drugs. When I refused, they suggested that I cut my speech by half so that someone else could speak.

"Again I refused. They were obviously terrified about what I was going to say," the doctor said.

The doctor, who has been treating Aids patients since before 1984, said he felt the role of Aids drugs in combating the disease was exaggerated. Dosages of drugs used to fight the disease, he said, were often too high.

"AZT has probably killed more people than it saved. If it came to a choice between giving Africa Aids drugs or food and water, I'd have no hesitation, give them food and water," he said.

Doctor Helen Gayle, from the Centres for Disease Control, who was implicated in manipulating the doctors speech, denied knowledge of the incident.

She said everyone at the panel spoke independently and of their own free will. Later however, she admitted to hearing rumours of the incident, but said she felt doctors had misunderstood the situation. - Sapa

TODAY SHOW



OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 12, 2000 (5:30 PM)

White House AIDS Czar Sandra Thurman is available for your morning news programs through Jeff Kamen in Durban, South Africa. He may be reached via cell phone at (27) (82) 858-6059 or at the Hilton Durban Hotel (27) (31) 336-8100.

Ms. Thurman appears tonight on the CBS Evening News in a One on One with Dan Rather.

CBS Early Morning



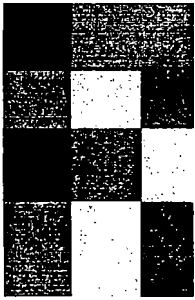
OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY
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M E M O R A N D U M

Date: December 12, 2000

To: Jason Heffner

From: Jon Hofmann, 202-822-5200 x303

Re: White House World AIDS Day Media Report

Attached is the coverage of the White House World AIDS Day Summit that we have collected so far. We will continue to search for clips and will update you by Friday, December 22. We have included the abstracts of the broadcast pieces. If you would like the full transcripts or video copies of any of these pieces, we can obtain them from Federal News Service for a charge of \$45 per transcript and \$50 per video (NOTE: there is an additional charge of \$35 for local pieces not in the Baltimore/Washington area). If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to give me a call.

WHITE HOUSE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT

NATIONAL COVERAGE

NEWSPAPERS

The New York Times

“Public Lives: A Lesser-Known Successor Is Making His Voice Heard,” Gustav Niebuhr. Saturday, December 2, 2000. Attached.

“Using Zen Principles to Fight AIDS,” Gustav Niebuhr. Saturday, December 2, 2000. Attached.

The Washington Post

“First AIDS Day Summit Targets Bottom Line,” Caryle Murphy. Thursday, November 30, 2000. Attached.

WIRES

Associated Baptist Press

“AIDS Czar, Clinton, Religious Leaders Seek New Initiatives to End Epidemic,” Kenny Byrd. Tuesday, December 12, 2000. Attached.

Associated Press

“Candlelight Vigils, Condom Campaigns Mark World AIDS Day,” Jill Lawless. Friday, December 1, 2000. Attached.

Associated Press Online

“Global Events Mark World AIDS Day,” Joji Sakurai. Friday, December 1, 2000. Attached.

Catholic News Service

“AIDS Realities of Zambia Don’t Stop Catholic Activist,” Patricia Zapor. Wednesday, December 6, 2000. Attached.

United Methodist News Service

“White House AIDS Summit a ‘Breakthrough,’ African Bishop Says,” Dean Snyder. Friday, December 8, 2000. Attached.

The White House Bulletin

“Clinton to Unveil NIH Plan for AIDS Research.” Friday, December 1, 2000. Attached.

BROADCAST

CNN Headline News

Saturday, December 2, 2000. 12:00 AM
Friday, December 1, 2000. 2:00 PM, 2:30 PM,
3:00 PM, 3:30 PM, 4:00 PM, 4:30 PM, 5:00 PM,
5:30 PM, 6:00 PM, 6:30 PM, 7:00 PM, 7:30 PM,
8:00 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:00 PM, 10:00 PM, 10:30 PM,
11:00 PM. Attached.

LOCAL COVERAGE

NEWSPAPER

The Deseret News (Salt Lake City, UT)

"AIDS day is Marked with Attempts to Keep World
From Being Complacent About Danger,"
Associated Press. Saturday, December 2, 2000.
Attached.

BROADCAST

*KBWB-WB (San Francisco, Oakland,
San Jose, CA)*

"10 O'Clock News." Friday, December 1, 2000.
10:00 PM. Attached.

WRC-NBC (Washington, DC)

"WRC News." Saturday, December 2, 2000.
9:00 AM. Attached.

WUSA-CBS (Washington, DC)

"WUSA News." Thursday, November 30, 2000.
6:30 AM. Attached.

The following is a list of clips that are still outstanding. Either we have not been able to track down the clip at present, or the story will run at a future date. We are continuing to search for these stories and will update you by Friday, December 22.

Adventist Review

AllAfrica.com

Baptist News Service

Boston Globe (future story)

C-Span

Final Call

Newsweek (future story)

Religion News Service (wrote a short brief - we will have a copy by tomorrow)

South African Broadcasting (will get clip from Video Monitoring Service)

Voice of America

The New York Times

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2000

PUBLIC LIVES

A Lesser-Known Successor Is Making His Voice Heard

By GUSTAV NIEBUHR

WASHINGTON

THREE months ago, South Africa's Anglican bishops decided that they should take the blood test for H.I.V., the virus that causes AIDS, and that they should be public about it. Among the first to go was the church's head, Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane of Cape Town, who had his blood drawn before a crowd of journalists.

The publicity, of course, was the church's way of encouraging others to be tested in a nation where more people may be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus than anywhere else in the world. "The whole purpose was to break the silence," the archbishop said in an interview, "and take away the stigma by having bishops and archbishops going to tests on AIDS."

Archbishop Ndungane, 59, came to Washington to speak at a White House conference this week on what religious groups, especially in developing nations, can do to fight AIDS. A well-traveled prelate educated in South Africa and England, he is a man of many distinctions. Head of the Anglican Church Province of South Africa (one of the Episcopal Church's sister communions), he has been prominent among religious leaders in calling for cancellation of the foreign debts of impoverished nations.

As a young man, he served time on Robben Island, the notorious prison run by South Africa's former white minority government, which enforced a system of apartheid, strict racial separation. (For years, its most famous inmate was Nelson Mandela, later released and elected South Africa's first black president, after apartheid's end.)

Yet it is fair to say that Archbishop Ndungane is not as well known, certainly outside his country, as his predecessor, Desmond Tutu, a fierce critic of apartheid who won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Such outspoken stands as Archbishop Tutu and some other religious leaders took during the apartheid era left the Anglican Church and other churches with much moral capital on which to draw. "There's a high regard for the church, because of the role it has taken in justice issues," said Archbishop Ndungane



Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane of South Africa, in Washington.

(pronounced en-dun-GON-ay). "We are still looked on as the voice of moral conscience."

What religious leaders say about AIDS is important in South Africa today, because the government has sent mixed signals to citizens about the disease's cause. Earlier this year, Mr. Mandela's successor, President Thabo Mbeki, drew widespread criticism when he expressed interest in a theory that poverty and malnutrition caused AIDS, rather than H.I.V. Health care workers expressed fear that his comments had harmed efforts to discourage people from risky sexual behavior.

ARCHBISHOP NDUNGANE said he believed that Mr. Mbeki had moved away from the position. The archbishop said his own concern was that the government and the churches join forces in fighting the disease.

As he spoke, he pointed to a newspaper article, faxed to him at his hotel, about the crushing impact AIDS was likely to have on South Africa's population and economy. From his advocacy on the foreign debt issue, the archbishop is well-versed in issues of economic development and international lending.

In a speech last year, he warned that the foreign debts of African nations were forcing them to pay more in interest than they received in aid. "Contrary to general assumptions, therefore, the rich are not paying the poor," he

said then. "The poor end up paying the rich."

When he was young, Archbishop Ndungane contemplated a lucrative career in commercial law. But as with many other South Africans, the anti-apartheid struggle changed his life.

In 1960, he took part in protests organized by the Pan Africanist Congress against the pass laws, the rule that black citizens carry passports inside the country. After the Congress was outlawed, he was arrested for belonging to a "banned" organization.

Sent to Robben Island a few years before Mr. Mandela, he spent 18 months quarrying stone and mixing cement with other inmates to build the prison. "My claim to fame is I built the jail for Mandela," he said.

"Robben Island in those days was hell on earth," he said. "We were made to suffer there. We were forced to feel a need to abandon ideology and hope. The fact that I am here is testimony to the resiliency of the human spirit."

He also underwent a conversion experience, brought on by wrestling with an old question: How could a good God permit such suffering? Amid the turmoil, he experienced an inner peace. "It was at that moment that I felt touched by the hand of God," Archbishop Ndungane said. He committed himself to a ministry of reconciliation.

He has served as a parish priest, head of a seminary, the church's chief executive officer and as a bishop. A widower, he remarried, to a businesswoman who was herself a widow.

In 1996, he was elected Cape Town's archbishop, in a process that required a two-thirds vote by clergy and lay representatives, then confirmation by the church's bishops. He regards Archbishop Tutu as a friend and father figure. "I used to say, 'I pity the person who succeeds Desmond Tutu,'" Archbishop Ndungane said. "Little did I know that the good Lord would point at me."

The archbishop said he did not worry about people drawing comparisons. "It never concerns me," he said. "My philosophy is, it's God who calls and God who equips. It is God who gives us gifts which he wants us to use at a particular time."

The New York Times

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2000

Religion Journal

Using Zen Principles to Fight AIDS

By GUSTAV NIEBUHR

Among Buddhist teachers well known in the West, the Zen monk Thich Nhat Hanh holds a special prominence. Living in France as an exile from his native Vietnam, he is the author of many books and a regular visitor to the United States, where he lectures and holds retreats.

His central mission is to encourage people to work toward "mindfulness" — that is, a process of personal and social transformation through the development of self-understanding and compassion. As he teaches it, mindfulness calls for acute awareness of the present moment.

But this week, Thich Nhat Hanh's particular focus has been how the principles he teaches can be applied to the fight against AIDS. He was among more than 75 religious leaders, many from Africa and Asia, invited to a discussion sponsored by the White House (which coincided with World AIDS Day today) that focused on how religious communities could work against the disease, as advocates and care-givers for those who have it.

In an interview in his hotel on Thursday, Thich Nhat Hanh, who is 74, discussed aspects of the AIDS epidemic — its prevention, public education about it and the care of those who have the disease — in ways that could be appreciated through both Buddhist and interfaith perspectives.

The starting point, he said, was that community is necessary to educate people about the disease and to provide support for those who have it.

"Every church should set up a group of people to discuss the danger, the suffering caused by AIDS," he said, "and to encourage people to learn about the suffering."

Recognition of suffering and the understanding of its origin are the first two of Buddhism's Four Noble Truths, which derive from the earliest teachings of the Buddha himself.

Ever since Thich Nhat Hanh left the former South Vietnam in 1966 on a personal peace mission to the United States, he has lived in exile. His return home was prevented by the former government of South Vietnam, and then by the Communists who seized power in 1975. He has said that his books are still banned in Vietnam.

One project he has undertaken since the Vietnam War — to which he referred while describing ways to educate the public about AIDS — has been talking with American veterans who served in Vietnam. He has encouraged those who felt wounded, physically or psychologically, by the conflict to become agents of reconciliation.

He has told those veterans, he said, that they can aspire to become bodhisattvas, enlightened beings who

practice virtue by helping others toward enlightenment. Those who have been "touched by the fire of war" have a public role to play in creating awareness of war's awful cruelty, Thich Nhat Hanh said.

The monk said he envisioned a somewhat similar role for people with H.I.V./AIDS, who can serve the public, if they choose, as teachers of what the disease is and advocates of compassion for those who have it.

"They can be nourished by the bodhisattva ideal," he said.

He held this out as vital for anyone who would aspire to it. To recognize the possibility of such meaning in one's own life is to experience transformation, he said.

In teaching mindfulness, Thich Nhat Hanh lays out five principles: reverence for life, generosity, sexual responsibility, "deep listening and loving speech" and careful awareness of what one consumes, whether as food, drink or culture.

And in mindfulness, he said, lies a basis for relations with others that rejects the sort of sexual behavior that can lead to transmission of H.I.V., the virus that causes AIDS.

"We believe that true love should have mindfulness in it," he said. "The awareness of what is going on, the action that is being taken. To love means to protect — to protect oneself, one's family, one's society."

The Washington Post

November 30, 2000

First AIDS Day Summit Targets Bottom Line

By CARYLE MURPHY
Washington Post Staff Writer

About 60 religious leaders from the United States and other countries will gather today for the first World AIDS Day Summit, a four-day conference aimed at mobilizing assistance for faith-based communities that are manning the front lines in the global battle against AIDS.

Organized by the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, the conference is intended to encourage governments, businesses and foundations to increase financial support for faith-based groups fighting the AIDS pandemic in developing countries, said the office's director, Sandra L. Thurman.

Most foreign religious leaders at the conference are from Africa, the region hardest hit by the pandemic. Seventy percent of the 36.1 million people living with HIV or AIDS worldwide reside in sub-Saharan Africa, where the disease "is literally wiping out decades of progress in development," Thurman said.

Anglican Archbishop of Capetown Njongonkulu Ndungane, one of the leaders attending the summit, noted increased concern in South Africa that the AIDS crisis could severely depress economic growth there because of its toll on population increases.

He said his country needs to develop "a war strategy" to fight AIDS, including efforts to "take the stigma" off the disease.

"Words, words, words don't bring health care to people," added Ndungane, who hopes that the summit will lead to more funds for developing a vaccine against AIDS and increasing access to treatment and new drugs.

Ndungane alluded to the controversy sparked by South African President Thabo



PHOTOS BY RAY LUSTIG—THE WASHINGTON POST

Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane of South Africa hopes for more funding for a vaccine.

Mbeki, who has questioned whether HIV causes AIDS and has refused to provide lifesaving drugs to poor, pregnant women.

"I think there is a bit of a thawing now," the archbishop said without mentioning Mbeki by name. The change should allow the country "to harness the resources we have" in the battle against AIDS, he added, and to follow a South African proverb:

"If you meet a snake, you don't ask him, 'Mr. Snake, where do you come from?' No,

you kill the snake!"

After a reception with President Clinton, summit participants today will hold an interfaith service "of healing, hope and remembrance" at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square. The service, at which former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young will preach, is open to the public.

Summit discussions next week will focus on how the U.S. Agency for In-



Sandra L. Thurman heads the White House's office on AIDS policy, the summit's organizer.

ternational Development can form new partnerships with overseas faith communities that are often the primary caregivers for those with HIV or AIDS, according to Alex Ross, head of USAID's Africa desk.

The agency's 2000 budget for HIV/AIDS programs increased to \$330 million from \$140 million in 1999, and total U.S. assistance grew to \$460 million from \$140 million last year, Ross added.

Associated Baptist Press

December 12, 2000, Tuesday

AIDS czar, Clinton, religious leaders seek new initiatives to end epidemic

By Kenny Byrd

WASHINGTON (ABP) -- With the number of orphans in the world living with AIDS expected to exceed 10 million by 2010, more than 75 religious leaders came to the nation's capital for meetings with Clinton administration officials to discuss new initiatives and partnerships to combat the pandemic.

They include a heightened emphasis on funding and partnering with faith-based groups around the world.

"If we are to mount a response that is as broad and deep and sustained as the international AIDS pandemic demands, we must be in continuing and creative partnership with people and organizations of faith," said Sandra Thurman, director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy.

A representative from the Baptist World Alliance participated in some of the meetings but was not immediately available for comment.

HIV/AIDS is now the fourth leading cause of death worldwide and the single leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa.

The meetings, held in conjunction with World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, drew more than 70 clerics and lay persons from 22 countries. The leaders began the five-day spree of meetings with a White House Summit on the disease, but leaders also met with officials from the Centers for Disease Control and the United States Agency for International Development.

President Bill Clinton addressed the leaders at Howard University and unveiled the first strategic plan ever to serve as a blueprint for establishing \$100 million in new funding approaches and research opportunities to combat HIV/AIDS in more than 50 countries.

Clinton urged Congress to increase funds for critical domestic and international HIV/AIDS funding priorities, including domestic and international AIDS prevention and treatment programs, creating a new vaccine tax credit, the Ryan White CARE Act, and investing in HIV/AIDS research.

Clinton told the religious leaders that a "simple, stark question," confronts the world: "Whether we are prepared to do what is necessary to save millions of lives, to save the lives of those who are living with HIV and AIDS and all those who might yet avoid it."

"How we answer will depend upon how well we work together as partners across lines of nationality, faith, religion, color, sexual orientation,"

Clinton said. "It will depend upon, in equal measure, our will and our wallet. And it will depend upon, in some places, still, sadly, going beyond denial."

Clinton said that clinics and community-based organizations across the land have worked hard to combat the pandemic. "Churches, synagogues, mosques and temples here are, more and more, speaking out with a single, clear voice about the importance of prevention as well as care."

At the beginning of the 1990s, health experts predicted that between 15 million and 20 million people would be living with HIV this year. The actual number is 36 million.

"The religious leaders from around the world who are here understand that these numbers mean something quite stark in human terms, not only for the individuals and the families, but ... for whole nations," Clinton said.

"When the disease threatens to triple child mortality and to reduce life expectancy by 20 years in some African countries, it is time to say that AIDS is also a moral crisis."

Clinton reminded religious leaders: "AIDS everywhere is still 100 percent preventable. Prevention is the most effective tool in our arsenal. No matter the cultural or religious factors to be overcome, families must talk about the facts of life before too many more learn the facts of death."

He added, "Overcoming stigma and overcoming silence will be impossible without the moral leadership that in so many places only religious leaders, like those who are here today, can provide."

"In the New Testament of the Christian Bible, it says that when we bear one another's burdens, we fulfill the law of God," he concluded. "So I ask you to go forth here, remembering that a happy heart is good medicine, too. Do not grow weary in doing this."

Warren Buckingham, senior technical adviser for HIV/AIDS for the Africa Bureau of USAID, said faith-based groups play a unique role in combating AIDS and would be one of the primary groups USAID and other would seek to partner with financially and otherwise.

Buckingham said the organization has a long history of funding religiously affiliated groups such as Catholic Charities, World Vision and others.

There is also much discussion about beginning a new worldwide coalition of religious organizations to address the epidemic. The only similar organization -- the AIDS National Interfaith Alliance -- emphasized the domestic face of AIDS but closed shop more than a year ago.

Buckingham said USAID has always been careful about separation of church and state in dispersing its funds to religious organizations. "We do have a long history of working with faith-based organizations who are able to differentiate the delivery of secular services from religious ones."

The Associated Press

December 1, 2000, Friday
International News

Candlelight vigils, condom campaigns mark World AIDS Day

By JILL LAWLESS
LONDON

AIDS activists across the globe waved symbols of hope and held religious services and candlelight vigils Friday on World AIDS Day, seeking to rally a world they say is in danger of surrendering to complacency and ignorance about the global epidemic.

Commemorative flowers, quilts and candles joined with brasher attention-grabbing efforts as activists organized condom convoys and smashed down walls to raise awareness of AIDS and HIV.

They warn that the disease continues to devastate sub-Saharan Africa and is finding new ground amid the struggling economies of the former Soviet Union. Infection rates also are rising once again in developed western countries as many people lose their sense of urgency about the disease.

According to a U.N. report issued this week, 36.1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, 5.3 million of whom were infected in the last year. It is expected that 3 million people will die from AIDS this year, 80 percent of them in Africa.

The United Nations' message for the 13th World AIDS day was that men must take responsibility for their behavior to stop the spread of the deadly virus.

"Men can make a particular difference - by being more caring, by taking fewer risks and by facing the issue of AIDS head-on," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said.

In the United States, about 250 people gathered at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in San Francisco where activists, artists and officials remembered those who had died. Names of loved ones were written on leaves which were then planted with a tree.

In New York, names of the more than 105,000 people who have died from HIV/AIDS in the city since the early 1980s were read out by friends, family members and advocates at a 24-hour vigil at City Hall Plaza.

"These are people who I know - patients and friends," said Susan Novales, a nurse who has worked with infected patients since 1989. "I always want to (read) but it's hard. It's like working with this population; You want to help but it's hard."

President Clinton visited an AIDS clinic in Washington and addressed a World AIDS Day summit at Howard University.

"Prevention is the most effective tool in our arsenal," Clinton said. "No matter the cultural or religious factors to overcome, families must talk about the facts of life before too many more learn the facts of death."

He added that it is time to recognize AIDS as "an international security crisis."

At a vigil in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo, participants planned to unfurl a quilt stitched by people with AIDS and those working with them. Activists distributed leaflets and red AIDS ribbons at popular youth hangouts and shopping centers.

In Britain, where a candlelight service was planned for St. Paul's Church in central London, pop star Robbie Williams spearheaded high-profile efforts to raise awareness. Williams used a 50-ton crane to smash a wall - emblazoned "Break the Silence on HIV/AIDS" - at a disused east London factory.

"I've seen the way AIDS is tearing so many young lives apart, but I've also seen people fighting back - spreading the word about prevention, looking after orphans, supporting each other," said Williams, a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, which estimates AIDS has orphaned more than 13 million children around the world.

Around the world, campaigners aimed education activities at those most vulnerable - the poor, the marginalized and the young.

In India's capital New Delhi, activists marched through the main red-light district and talked to teen-age prisoners at Tihar Jail.

A day after the Vatican reiterated its refusal to approve the use of condoms to prevent AIDS, two Italian ministers called on manufacturers to cut the price of condoms. Equal Opportunity Minister Katia Bellillo said many young people complain about the cost - about \$1 per condom.

"Prevention with condoms must become a habit," said Health Minister Umberto Veronesi, a doctor who is a political independent.

Activists used a vast range of media to convey their message. Britain's National AIDS Trust produced leaflets and a Web site urging people to "Make a Difference," while telephone users in New Delhi and Bombay were greeted with a recorded message warning that "anyone can get AIDS, everyone can prevent it."

Cartoon leaflets and condoms were distributed in Athens' main Syntagma Square, while in Vietnam 11 buses decorated with condoms roamed around Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City distributing condoms and AIDS-awareness pamphlets.

In South Africa, which has one of the world's highest HIV infection rates, former president Nelson Mandela encouraged greater openness about the disease.

"Let's speak openly about HIV/AIDS and sex education, let's be more tolerant to those who are infected and let us encourage those who are infected to tell a friend," he said in an AIDS Day message carried in the Sowetan newspaper.

In Russia, lectures and publicity campaigns also targeted the disease, which once was widely regarded as a symptom of Western degeneracy. Some 30,000 people in Russia tested positive this year for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, the health ministry said - almost as many as in the past 13 years combined.

In China, where AIDS has reached crisis proportions, officials handed out condoms and newspapers carried touching articles about AIDS victims in a campaign to tackle public ignorance.

"Condom Men" in Bangkok, Thailand, wore green and orange fluorescent costumes shaped like condoms and sought contributions from commuters at train and bus stations. The money will be used to buy baby formula for infants born to HIV-infected mothers.

At a hospital garden in the southern Australian city of Melbourne, children of HIV/AIDS sufferers planted a new rose hybrid - the Hope Rose - in a ceremony aimed at inspiring those who have the disease not to give up.

Associated Press Online

December 1, 2000, Friday
International news

Global Events Mark World AIDS Day

JOJI SAKURAI
TOKYO

Activists marked the 13th annual World AIDS Day on Friday with a pop concert in Japan, a 'hope rose' in Australia and condom-covered buses in Vietnam as the United Nations focused on ways to protect against the deadly disease.

In a garden at a Melbourne, Australia hospital, children of AIDS sufferers planted a new flower hybrid dubbed the Hope Rose in a ceremony to inspire those who have the disease not to give up. The flower is to be sold to raise money for AIDS research.

'Anyone who has got the virus wants to know there is hope in the future and hope for treatment and that, at some stage, they're going to be able to lead a normal life,' said Stephanie Moore, director of a group for HIV-positive women that hosted the event.

A U.N. report issued this week said 36.1 million people are living with HIV worldwide, with 5.3 million new infections during 2000. Some 3 million people will die this year from AIDS, it said.

'There is no more important issue for us to consider than AIDS,' U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said. 'Will we burden our children and our children's children with a global HIV/AIDS pandemic? Or can we take decisive action now to turn back the progress of this disease?'

In Vietnam, buses festooned with condoms rumbled around the two largest cities, distributing prophylactics and pamphlets aimed at raising AIDS awareness.

In Bangkok, Thailand, men in fluorescent green-and-orange costumes shaped like condoms sought contributions from commuters at train and bus stations. The money will be used to buy formula for babies born to HIV-positive mothers. But unlike in previous years, the government did not distribute free condoms, citing a lack of funds.

In South Korea, citizens were to pay silent tribute to AIDS victims with a state-sponsored candlelight vigil in the center of the capital, Seoul.

In the Philippines, a politician organized an event that mixed images of sex and the threat of AIDS: A naked movie starlet held up a giant syringe and posed before an immense model phallus that was later blown to bits by firecrackers ignited inside.

In Japan, the Health Ministry was sponsoring a charity concert featuring a popular singer to raise funds for AIDS treatment and prevention.

'AIDS awareness is low among young people,' said Teishi Sasaki, an official of the Japanese Foundation for AIDS Prevention. 'They feel, 'It's not my problem.''

A pop-music concert was also planned in Hong Kong, where activists set up booths in shopping areas to distribute pamphlets and talk to passers-by about those suffering from AIDS.

'Discrimination still exists. And this year we are promoting acceptance of people with AIDS,' said Elsa Lai, spokeswoman for the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation.

Elsewhere, Chinese health officials handed out condoms at railroad stations, and newspapers carried touching articles about AIDS victims.

The very public campaign was a milestone in the Chinese government's often plodding efforts to stem the spread of AIDS. But health officials and AIDS sufferers worried that the effects would be as short-lived as the one-day campaign.

'They hoped this attention, this day of care, would not just come one day every year,' the official Beijing Morning Post said in a front-page article.

The United Nations' focus for World AIDS Day this year was on men and their responsibility as partners, parents, political leaders and community members to help stop the spread of AIDS.

'Men can make a particular difference by being more caring, by taking fewer risks, and by facing the issue of AIDS head-on,' Annan said.

Activists planted flowers, organized condom convoys and smashed down walls Friday on World AIDS Day, to drive home the message that ignorance and complacency are fueling the epidemic.

In Britain, pop star Robbie Williams spearheaded high-profile efforts to raise awareness about AIDS.

'I've seen the way AIDS is tearing so many young lives apart, but I've also seen people fighting back spreading the word about prevention, looking after orphans, supporting each other,' said Williams.

Williams planned to use a 50-ton crane to smash a wall as part of a 'Break The Silence' campaign run by UNICEF, which estimates AIDS has orphaned more than 13 million children around the world.

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The United Nations' message for the 13th World AIDS Day was that men must take responsibility for their behavior to help stop the spread of the deadly virus.

'Men can make a particular difference by being more caring, by taking fewer risks and by facing the issue of AIDS head-on,' U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said.

Activists used a vast range of media to convey their message. In Britain, a Web site urged people to 'Make a Difference,' while telephone users in New Delhi and Bombay heard a recorded message saying 'anyone can get AIDS, everyone can prevent it.'

Cartoon leaflets and condoms were distributed in Athens' main Syntagma Square, while in Vietnam buses festooned with condoms passed out pamphlets and prophylactics.

In the Netherlands, billboards encouraged young people to avoid sexually transmitted diseases, or STDs, by having safe sex.

'STDs are available everywhere!' one poster read. Smaller print below added: 'Condoms too.'

In many Asian countries, where conservative social values are common, the message was compassion.

In China, officials handed out condoms and newspapers carried touching articles about AIDS victims in a campaign to tackle public ignorance.

At Beijing's Western Railway Station, posters graphically showed sufferers with sores, but tried to dispel misconceptions that AIDS can be caught by shaking hands or sharing toilet seats.

In Bangkok, Thailand, men in fluorescent green-and-orange costumes shaped like condoms sought contributions from commuters at train and bus stations.

In the Philippines, a politician organized an event that mixed images of sex and the threat of AIDS: A naked movie starlet held up a giant syringe and posed before an immense model phallus that was later blown to bits by firecrackers ignited inside.

In Japan, volunteer groups were targeting youngsters.

'AIDS awareness is low among young people,' said Teishi Sasaki, an official of the Japanese Foundation for AIDS Prevention. 'They feel, 'It's not my problem.''

At a hospital in Melbourne, Australia, children of AIDS sufferers planted a new rose hybrid the Hope Rose in a ceremony to inspire people with the virus not to give up.

Drugs are delaying the onset of AIDS in many HIV-positive people, at least in the developed countries. But ignorance, complacency and poverty are sending infection rates climbing in many nations.

In Russia, some 30,000 people tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, this year, the health ministry said almost as many as in the past 13 years combined.

Britain's health department said 52 percent of heterosexual men in London who are HIV-positive are unaware they are infected.

'It's a tragedy for them, and there's a risk that they can pass the virus to sexual partners or transmit it to their child,' said Margaret Johnson, secretary of the British HIV Association.

AIDS activists brandished symbols of hope and held religious services and candlelight vigils Friday on World AIDS Day, seeking to rally a world they say is in danger of surrendering to complacency and ignorance about the epidemic.

Commemorative flowers, quilts and candles joined brasher attention-grabbing efforts as activists organized condom convoys and smashed down walls to raise awareness of AIDS and HIV.

They warn that the disease continues to devastate sub-Saharan Africa and is finding new ground amid the struggling economies of the former Soviet Union. Infection rates also are rising again in developed western countries as many people lose their sense of urgency about the disease.

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In Calcutta, hundreds of Hindus, Muslims and Christians attended an all-faith prayer in St. Paul's Cathedral and later marched through the city streets.

Pop star Robbie Williams spearheaded efforts to raise awareness in Britain. He used a 50-ton crane to smash a wall emblazoned 'Break the Silence on HIV/AIDS' at a disused east London factory.

'I've seen the way AIDS is tearing so many young lives apart, but I've also seen people fighting back spreading the word about prevention, looking after orphans, supporting each other,' said Williams, a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, which estimates AIDS has orphaned more than 13 million children.

Worldwide, campaigners aimed education activities at those most vulnerable the poor, the marginalized and the young.

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A day after the Vatican reiterated its refusal to approve the use of condoms to prevent AIDS, two Italian ministers called on manufacturers to cut the price of condoms. Equal Opportunity Minister Katia Bellillo said many young people complain about the cost about \$1 per condom.

"Prevention with condoms must become a habit," said Health Minister Umberto Veronesi, a doctor who is a political independent.

Activists used a vast range of media to convey their message. Britain's National AIDS Trust produced leaflets and a Web site urging people to "Make a Difference," while telephone users in New Delhi and Bombay were greeted with a recorded message warning that "anyone can get AIDS, everyone can prevent it."

Cartoon leaflets and condoms were distributed in Athens' main Syntagma Square, while in Vietnam 11 buses decorated with condoms roamed around Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City distributing condoms and AIDS-awareness pamphlets.

In South Africa, which has one of the world's highest HIV infection rates, former president Nelson Mandela encouraged greater openness about the disease.

"Let's speak openly about HIV/AIDS and sex education, let's be more tolerant to those who are infected and let us encourage those who are infected to tell a friend," he said in an AIDS Day message carried in the Sowetan newspaper.

In Russia, lectures and publicity campaigns also targeted the disease, which once was widely regarded as a symptom of Western degeneracy. Some 30,000 people in Russia tested positive this year for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, the health ministry said _ almost as many as in the past 13 years combined.

In China, where AIDS has reached crisis proportions, officials handed out condoms and newspapers carried touching articles about AIDS victims in a campaign to tackle public ignorance.

'Condom Men' in Bangkok, Thailand, wore green and orange fluorescent costumes shaped like condoms and sought contributions from commuters at train and bus stations. The money will be used to buy baby formula for infants born to HIV-infected mothers.

At a hospital garden in the southern Australian city of Melbourne, children of HIV/AIDS sufferers planted a new rose hybrid the Hope Rose in a ceremony aimed at inspiring those who have the disease not to give up.

Catholic News Service

December 6, 2000, Wednesday

AIDS Realities of Zambia Don't Stop Catholic Activist

By Patricia Zapor

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Brigitte Syamalevwe of Zambia knows all too well the harsh realities of life in an AIDS-stricken country.

She's the mother of 11 children, foster mother to eight nieces and nephews whose parents died of AIDS, and is trying to work with the Catholic Church and the Zambian Education Ministry to address what the AIDS epidemic means for her church and her country.

Nearly 20 percent of the adult population of Zambia is infected with AIDS or HIV, the virus that causes it. A 1999 World Health Organization report said 870,000 of the country's 9 million people are infected. Ninety-nine thousand people died of AIDS in 1999.

If that doesn't make Syamalevwe's work daunting enough, she and her husband have lived nine years with the knowledge that they, too, are infected with HIV.

Yet Syamalevwe, who is a Catholic, sees primarily the good in her life, from the fact that her youngest child -- 2-and-a-half years old -- was born free of HIV, to the way their own infection has helped her and her husband get beyond troubles in their marriage.

"We knew we loved and trusted each other before," she said in an interview in Washington during a White House conference on the role of faith in responding to AIDS. "But we often didn't see beyond our differences."

For example, her husband, a Pentecostal pastor, had little patience with her efforts to raise their children as Catholics.

"I would try to pray the rosary with the children and he'd say 'stop that nonsense,' and take them to find places in the Bible that he said showed we were wrong," Syamalevwe explained.

But after they were diagnosed as HIV-positive, she said, they were able to set aside their differences and focus on remaining healthy and keeping their family together.

"The differences don't mean anything," she said.

"The advent of HIV in our lives has really strengthened my faith," she continued.

It helps her to see the hand of God in her youngest child's lack of HIV infection, for instance, and in the nine years she has shown no sign of AIDS symptoms -- a virtual miracle in a country where drugs to inhibit the virus are not widely available.

Syamalevwe takes her hopeful, faith-filled attitude into her work with the Education Ministry and into her activism within the church.

"When I have lived for others, my life has been made abundant," she said. "I've gained a lot of support and even health. Whatever I did has come back to me a hundredfold."

Her work addresses official policies, cultural attitudes and how the church responds to and teaches about AIDS and HIV.

The church in Zambia's AIDS-related programs include orphanages for some of the country's 447,000 AIDS orphans, and the beginnings of a network of hospices, so that people in the final stages of illness may die in some degree of comfort, Syamalevwe said.

"Where we as people of faith come together, amazing things will happen," she believes.

But too many people in Zambia still follow cultural taboos against discussing anything related to sex, she said. The fact that she's female also is a hurdle, because Zambian women traditionally would never stand up in front of a classroom or a congregation to discuss a sexually transmitted disease.

``There are a lot of ordinary women who are very involved,'' she said, ``but there are not many of us who are (HIV) positive themselves and who can speak in English.''



United Methodist News Service

The official news agency of The United Methodist Church*Offices in Nashville, New York and Washington

White House AIDS summit a 'breakthrough,' African bishop says

Dec. 8, 2000 News media contact: Tim Tanton • (615)742-5470 • Nashville, Tenn.
{552}

NOTE: A photograph is available with this report.

*By Dean Snyder**

WASHINGTON (UMNS) -- U.S. officials are looking to religious groups to help stop the worldwide spread of AIDS and to care for its victims.

The White House and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) brought several dozen world religious leaders to Washington for back-to-back conferences on the role of faith communities in combating AIDS.

A White House World AIDS Day summit on the theme, "A Consensus from Conscience: Revealing the Role of Faith in Response to AIDS," was held Nov. 30 through Dec. 1. It was followed by a conference on "Animating Theology: Turning Faith into Action in Response to AIDS," sponsored by the U.S. development agency.

The conferences drew Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist leaders, including two United Methodist bishops, Christopher Jokomo of Zimbabwe and Felton Edwin May of Washington.

Sandra Thurman, the White House's top AIDS policy official, said the work of the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe helped convince U.S. officials they should invite global religious leaders to Washington to discuss AIDS.

"I went to Zimbabwe and saw the good work United Methodists have been doing," she said.

During her September 1999 trip to Zimbabwe, Thurman was introduced by Jokomo to Willard Tinet, 15, who was single-handedly raising his younger brothers, Joseph, 14, and Cloud, 12, since their mother's 1994 death from AIDS. The brothers are supported by the Family AIDS Caring Trust, a program run by a Mutare-area congregation. The trust, which operates out of Mutare's St. Augustine United Methodist Church and three others, deploys 137 volunteers to help care for 4,000 orphans.

"That effort is a good example of how we feel we can partner with faith-based

organizations," Thurman said.

Jokomo called the AIDS conferences, which included a meeting with President Clinton, a "breakthrough."

"Meeting with Sandy Thurman (and) meeting with the president of the U.S. is probably the greatest thing that has happened to the churches relating to HIV/AIDS programs," Jokomo said. "That's a major realization that the churches have a major role to play in the whole matter of HIV/AIDS."

Jokomo plans to arrange a meeting between the head of USAID in Zimbabwe and leaders of the country's Christian denominations to discuss how the agency and the churches can cooperate to fight AIDS and care for its victims.

Churches sometimes provide a more effective base for fighting the conditions that promote the spread of AIDS than large government structures, according to Jokomo. "If you have a \$500 million project, like building a dam, that's a government project ... but if you are talking about providing funds, probably \$200, to send a child to school in a remote village, you don't need large bureaucracies," he said. "You need to work with community-based groups, and the best community-based group is the church. That's the message we have given to USAID."

Thurman visited United Methodist ministries in Zimbabwe at the suggestion of Bishop May, who delivered the opening prayer for the White House summit. May participated in a Thurman-led Presidential Mission to study AIDS in Africa in March 1999.

The conferences, held at Howard University and the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, addressed AIDS holistically, May said. "I was encouraged that religious leaders from Africa and Asia along with their United States counterparts could look at the issue of HIV/AIDS theologically and spiritually," he said. "I was also impressed with the acknowledgment that AIDS is a pandemic in our world that is related to many systemic issues, such as poverty, lack of education and lack of health care."

As much as \$100 million may be available to support the work of faith groups globally in combating AIDS, according to May. "This is a new approach to addressing issues in the global community," he said. "Heretofore, monies have been funneled through governments, but now they (U.S. leaders) are seeing the tie between strong faith, good health and good social practices."

Speaking at the summit, President Clinton called upon the global religious leaders to help end the silence about the causes of AIDS as well as the stigma that victims of AIDS often suffer.

"Meeting both these challenges -- overcoming stigma and overcoming silence -- will be impossible without the moral leadership that in so many places only religious leaders, like those who are here today, can provide," he said.

Other speakers at the conferences included the Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, Ambassador Andrew Young, Nhat Hanh, a Buddhist

theologian, and the Most Rev. Njongonkulu Ndungane, archbishop of Capetown, South Africa.

The Rev. Rebecca Parker, a United Methodist pastor who serves as president of Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkley, Calif., said the dialogue with global religious leaders during the conference was a learning experience for U.S. participants.

"I think some of the ways we have viewed Africa in the United States tell more about our racism than they tell us about Africa," she said. "So this is a very good opportunity for us who are U.S. religious leaders to get beyond that veil of racism that keeps us from being able to understand what the crisis in Africa is about."

The conference also helped her appreciate the benefits of being a United Methodist, Parker said. "The kind of work that the Board of Global Ministries has done to establish partnerships between U.S. Christians and Christians around the world is critically important now as the AIDS crisis becomes more severe in Asia and Africa," she said.

Jokomo said the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, where 26 percent of the population is infected with HIV/AIDS, needs the help of U.S. churches to respond to the crisis. The first and most difficult need is for prayer, he said. "I say difficult because you don't pray for a person you don't know, you don't pray for a person you don't love," he said. "So when I am saying we need your prayers, I am saying let's find ways to get to know each other."

The Zimbabwean church also needs help training its clergy, who are facing new demands because of AIDS, as well as resources to strengthen ministries with children, and a printing press to produce Sunday school materials for children and youth, Jokomo said.

Support for a new school of medical sciences at Africa University is also critical, he said. The United Methodist-related school in Mutare will train nurses and health workers to serve in the villages where the need for health education and care is the greatest.

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*Snyder is director of communications for the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

For questions regarding this site, email newsdesk@umcom.org
For general information about the United Methodist Church call InfoServ at 1-800-251-8140

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The White House Bulletin

December 1, 2000, Friday

Clinton To Unveil NIH Plan For AIDS Research

President Clinton today is expected join international religious leaders at Howard University to mark World AIDS Day. According to White House documents, Clinton will use the event to unveil a National Institutes of Health strategic plan for international AIDS research, a "blueprint for establishing new funding approaches and research opportunities in over 50 countries." Clinton is also expected to release a new report from the **White House Office of National AIDS Policy**, entitled "Action Against AIDS: A Legacy of Leadership at Home and Around the World" touting the administration's successes in fighting the AIDS epidemic.

Federal News Service

Friday, December 1 - Saturday, December 2, 2000

National Broadcast Coverage

**DEC 2 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 12:00AM "HEADLINE
NEWS"**
RUN TIME: 0:26

[**12:14:03 AM**] FRIDAY MARKED THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**12:14:29 AM**]

**DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 11:00PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"**
RUN TIME: 0:23

[**11:14:05 PM**] FRIDAY MARKED THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**11:14:28 PM**]

**DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 10:30PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"**
RUN TIME: 0:27

[**10:41:42 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**10:42:09 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

10:00PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:26

[**10:13:01 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**10:13:27 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

9:00PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:26

[**09:09:34 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**09:10:00 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

8:30PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:27

[**08:40:26 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**08:40:53 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

8:00PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:27

[**08:11:43 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**08:12:10 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

7:30PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:24

[**07:42:09 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS RALLIED TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**07:42:33 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

7:00PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:28

[**07:12:14 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**07:12:42 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

6:30PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:27

[**06:44:09 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**06:44:36 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

6:00PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:26

[**06:13:46 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**06:14:12 PM**]

DEC 1 2000

NATIONAL

HLN-CNN

5:30PM

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:25

[**05:44:31 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**05:44:56 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 5:00PM
RUN TIME: 0:25

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

[**05:12:13 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A WORLD AIDS DAY SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**05:12:38 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 4:30PM
RUN TIME: 0:12

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

[**04:47:31 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. THOSE STORIES AND MORE IN 15 MINUTES. AND FOR TOP STORIES ANYTIME, CLICK ON HEADLINENEWS.COM. [**04:47:43 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 4:30PM
RUN TIME: 0:27

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

[**04:40:17 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY ATTENDING THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR THE AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**04:40:44 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 4:00PM
RUN TIME: 0:06

"HEADLINE
NEWS"

[**04:17:17 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. [**04:17:23 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 4:00PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"
RUN TIME: 0:30

[**04:12:13 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY ATTENDING THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR THE AIDS EPIDEMIC. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**04:12:43 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 3:30PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"
RUN TIME: 0:06

[**03:47:15 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. [**03:47:21 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 3:00PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"
RUN TIME: 0:07

[**03:17:16 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. [**03:17:23 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 2:30PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"
RUN TIME: 0:06

[**02:47:15 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. [**02:47:21 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 2:30PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:27

[**02:39:59 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON AND DELIVERING A SPEECH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. THE EVENT WAS ATTEND BID RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD N. WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE WHOEVER BECOMES THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR AIDS RESEARCH. MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT 2000. [**02:40:26 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 2:00PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:06

[**02:17:15 PM**] TODAY IS WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED IT BY TOURING AN AIDS CLINIC IN WASHINGTON. ON MONDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD AN AIDS SUMMIT. [**02:17:21 PM**]

DEC 1 2000 NATIONAL HLN-CNN 2:00PM "HEADLINE
NEWS"

RUN TIME: 0:27

[**02:12:25 PM**] TODAY MARKS THE 13TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY. PRESIDENT CLINTON MARKED THE OCCASION BY ATTENDING THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD. ELSEWHERE IN WASHINGTON, AIDS GROUPS HELD A RALLY TO URGE THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR THE AIDS EPIDEMIC. MONDAY THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HOLD THE WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT. [**02:12:52 PM**]

The Deseret News (Salt Lake City, UT)

December 2, 2000, Saturday

AIDS day is marked with attempts to keep world from being complacent about danger

Associated Press

LONDON -- AIDS activists across the globe waved symbols of hope and held religious services and candlelight vigils Friday on World AIDS Day, seeking to rally a world they say is in danger of surrendering to complacency and ignorance about the global epidemic.

Commemorative flowers, quilts and candles joined with brasher attention-grabbing efforts as activists organized condom convoys and smashed down walls to raise awareness of AIDS and HIV.

They warn that the disease continues to devastate sub-Saharan Africa and is finding new ground amid the struggling economies of the former Soviet Union. Infection rates also are rising once again in developed Western countries as many people lose their sense of urgency about the disease.

According to a U.N. report issued this week, 36.1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, 5.3 million of whom were infected in the past year. It is expected that 3 million people will die from AIDS this year, 80 percent of them in Africa.

The United Nations' message for the 13th World AIDS Day was that men must take responsibility for their behavior to stop the spread of the deadly virus.

"Men can make a particular difference -- by being more caring, by taking fewer risks and by facing the issue of AIDS head-on," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said.

In the United States, about 250 people gathered at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in San Francisco, where activists, artists and officials remembered those who had died. Names of loved ones were written on leaves which were then planted with a tree.

In New York, names of the more than 105,000 people who have died from HIV/AIDS in the city since the early 1980s were read out by friends, family members and advocates at a 24-hour vigil at City Hall Plaza.

"These are people who I know -- patients and friends," said Susan Novales, a nurse who has worked with infected patients since 1989. "I always want to (read) but it's hard. It's like working with this population. You want to help but it's hard."

President Clinton visited an AIDS clinic in Washington and addressed a World AIDS Day summit at Howard University.

"Prevention is the most effective tool in our arsenal," Clinton said. "No matter the cultural or religious factors to overcome, families must talk about the facts of life before too many more learn the facts of death."

He added that it is time to recognize AIDS as "an international security crisis."

At a vigil in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo, participants planned to unfurl a quilt stitched by people with AIDS and those working with them. Activists distributed leaflets and red AIDS ribbons at popular youth hangouts and shopping centers.

In Britain, where a candlelight service was planned for St. Paul's Church in central London, pop star Robbie Williams spearheaded high-profile efforts to raise awareness. Williams used a 50-ton crane to smash a wall -- emblazoned "Break the Silence on HIV/AIDS" -- at a disused east London factory.

"I've seen the way AIDS is tearing so many young lives apart, but I've also seen people fighting back -- spreading the word about prevention, looking after orphans, supporting each other," said Williams, a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, which estimates AIDS has orphaned more than 13 million children around the world.

Around the world, campaigners aimed education activities at those most vulnerable -- the poor, the marginalized and the young.

In India's capital New Delhi, activists marched through the main red-light district and talked to teen-age prisoners at Tihar Jail.

A day after the Vatican reiterated its refusal to approve the use of condoms to prevent AIDS, two Italian ministers called on manufacturers to cut the price of condoms. Equal Opportunity Minister Katia Bellillo said many young people complain about the cost -- about \$1 per condom.

"Prevention with condoms must become a habit," said Health Minister Umberto Veronesi, a doctor who is a political independent.

Activists used a vast range of media to convey their message. Britain's National AIDS Trust produced leaflets and a Web site urging people to "Make a Difference," while telephone users in New Delhi and Bombay were greeted with a recorded message warning that "anyone can get AIDS, everyone can prevent it."

Cartoon leaflets and condoms were distributed in Athens' main Syntagma Square, while in Vietnam 11 buses decorated with condoms roamed around Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City distributing condoms and AIDS-awareness pamphlets.

In South Africa, which has one of the world's highest HIV infection rates, former president Nelson Mandela encouraged greater openness about the disease.

"Let's speak openly about HIV/AIDS and sex education, let's be more tolerant to those who are infected and let us encourage those who are infected to tell a friend," he said in an AIDS Day message carried in the Sowetan newspaper.

In Russia, lectures and publicity campaigns also targeted the disease, which once was widely regarded as a symptom of Western degeneracy. Some 30,000 people in Russia tested positive this year for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, the health ministry said -- almost as many as in the past 13 years combined.

In China, where AIDS has reached crisis proportions, officials handed out condoms and newspapers carried touching articles about AIDS victims in a campaign to tackle public ignorance.

"Condom Men" in Bangkok, Thailand, wore green and orange fluorescent costumes shaped like condoms and sought contributions from commuters at

train and bus stations. The money will be used to buy baby formula for infants born to HIV-infected mothers.

At a hospital garden in the southern Australian city of Melbourne, children of HIV/AIDS sufferers planted a new rose hybrid -- the Hope Rose -- in a ceremony aimed at inspiring those who have the disease not to give up.

Federal News Service

Thursday, November 30 - Saturday, December 2, 2000

Local Broadcast Coverage

DEC 2 2000 WASHINGTON WRC-NBC 9:00AM "WRC NEWS"
DC

THERE IS A NEW WARNING FROM THE WHITE HOUSE, THE **CLINTON** ADMINISTRATION SAYS WHILE THE NUMBER OF **AIDS** DEATHS IN THE U.S. HAD DROPPED MORE THAN 70%, 40,000 AMERICANS BECOME INFECTED WITH H.I.V. EACH YEAR. *09:13:00 AM* PRESIDENT **CLINTON** HIMSELF CALLED **AIDS** A SEVERE THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY YESTERDAY. HE SAID THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE HAS ECLIPSED THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO OF JUST 10 YEARS AGO.

AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, HE TOLD THE CROWD ABOUT NEW EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE DEADLY DISEASE. SB; PRESIDENT CLINTON: TODAY OUR NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH IS RELEASING THE FIRST-EVER STRATEGIC PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL **AIDS** RESEARCH. A \$100 MILLION BLUEPRINT FOR PURSUING NEW RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES WITH UNIVERSITIES IN OVER 50 COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, EUROPE, AND LATIN AMERICA. AND OUR INITIATIVE WILL TRIPLE EFFORTS IN THE H.I.V. EFFORTS.

DESPITE THE RAPID SPREAD OF **AIDS** IN MANY COUNTRIES, THE DEATH RATE IN THE U.S. IS THE LOWEST SINCE 1987. YESTERDAY WAS, OF COURSE, WORLD **AIDS** DAY.

DEC 1 2000 SAN KBWB-WB 10:00PM "10 O'CLOCK
FRANCISCO- OAKLAND-SAN JOSE
JOSE
NEWS"

...A CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED FROM **AIDS**... CEREMONIES TO REMEMBER BAY AREA VICTIMS... ON THE SAME DAY WORLD SITUATION IS BEING CALLED A WORST CASE SCENARIO.

..."WORLD **AIDS** DAY". PRESIDENT **CLINTON** VISITED **AIDS** PATIENTS AT A WASHINGTON CLINIC. LATER HE SPOKE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY. HE SAID THE WORLD **AIDS** EPIDEMIC HAS SURPASSED A "WORST CASE" SCENARIO PREDICTED 10-YEARS AGO. IN THE EARLY 90'S THE FEAR WAS THAT 15 TO 20 MILLION MIGHT BE INFECTED WITH H-I-V BY THE END OF THE DECADE-- THE ACTUAL NUMBER TURNED OUT TO BE 36 MILLION.

DEVIN FEEHLY REPORTS ON WORLD **AIDS** DAY HERE IN THE BAY AREA.

DOZENS ATTENDED THIS CANDLELIGHT VIGIL IN DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE THIS

EVENING TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF PEOPLE WHO'VE DIED FROM AIDS....

WHILE MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS HAVE ENABLED AIDS PATIENTS TO LIVE LONGER AND BETTER LIVES... MANY ARE STILL DYING FROM THE DISEASE. PEOPLE THINK THE CURE HAS LONG BEEN DISCOVERED, WHICH IT HASN'T. PEOPLE ARE STILL DYING FROM THIS DISEASE. PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE THAT.

EARLIER TODAY, ARIS, A NON-PROFIT AGENCY PROVIDING MEDICAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO AIDS PATIENTS, OPENED ITS NEW OFFICE IN DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE. ARIS IS TRYING TO MET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE AIDS COMMUNITY. SB: NOW, WE'RE PROVIDING SERVICES TO PEOPLE LIVING LONGER WITH THIS DISEASE....

...LOVED ONES LEFT A LONE ROSE AT THE NATIONAL AIDS MEMORIAL GROVE IN GOLDEN GATE PARK. MARGARET IRVINE CAME TO MOURN THE LOSE....

THERE'S AN ALARMING RISE IN THE NUMBER OF NEW CASES. THEY FEAR THE PUBLIC HAS GROWN COMPLACENT, CONFUSING THE NEW DRUGS WITH A CURE....

NOV 30 2000 WASHINGTON
 DC WUSA-CBS 6:30AM "WUSA NEWS"

...75 RELIGIOUS LEADERS ARE GATHERING IN WASHINGTON FOR THE START OF WORLD AIDS DAY SUMMIT. AN ORGANIZER OF LAST YEAR'S PROTEST HOLD A DEMONSTRATION IN DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON....