

Court expands Miranda rule

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court gave criminal suspects two important new tools Monday for preventing their own words from being used against them.

The court ruled that murder defendants must be warned about their rights to remain silent and to have a lawyer's help prior to psychiatric testing if the test results are used after conviction to help choose life or death as punishment.

And in a separate decision, the justices said police cannot use information gained by initiating new conversations with a criminal suspect who previously refused to talk without his lawyer present.

Both rulings expanded or shored up the controversial Miranda doctrine fashioned in 1966 by a Supreme Court generally viewed as more liberal in its views of criminal suspects' rights than the present court. Both results came on unanimous votes.

The psychiatric-testing opinion was authored by Chief Justice Warren Burger, generally viewed as one of the court's most conservative members.

Justice Byron White, who 15 years ago dissented from the Miranda ruling that required police to warn suspects about their rights before questioning them, wrote for the court in the second case.

making the news

From Associated Press Reports

WASHINGTON — Discounting a top Senate Democrat's charge of "red-baiting," Pres. Reagan's prospective point man on human rights asserted Monday that communists are in fact among the world's worst human rights violators.

Dr. Ernest Lefever told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee he opposes human rights violations by right-wing and communist governments alike.

But he added, "At present such gross violations are perpetrated largely by adversary states, notably the Soviet Union."

"Most communist regimes brutalize their own people and some of them are engaged in exporting their repressive systems by subversion and terrorism."

Lefever was assailed by several Democrats during the first of two days of confirmation hearings on his nomination to be assistant secretary of state for human rights.

ROME — The first polling stations with results in Italy's referendum election today reported rejection by a 2-1 ratio of a measure to ban abortions unless a mother's life is endangered. Voting was also heavily against liberalizing the abortion law.

If the trend from less than 1 percent of the 78,796 polling stations continues, Italy's present law allowing free abortions in clinics for women over 18 during the first trimester of pregnancy will stand.

With 493 stations reporting completed counts on the right-to-life movement-backed measure to further restrict abortions, the vote was 40,539 for it to 87,506 against it.

ROME — Police investigating the shooting of Pope John Paul II said Monday there was only a "very, very remote" chance the accused gunman was part of an international conspiracy.

While Interpol agents in other countries were checking statements made by the suspect, Mehmet Ali Agca, about his travels since fleeing a Turkish prison, Italian authorities circulated pictures of two of his hometown friends to Italian newspapers.

In Turkey, three people are now in custody for their alleged roles in helping Agca obtain the false passport found on him after Wednesday's shooting.

Agca is charged with attempted murder of the pope, whose recovery had progressed enough Monday to allow him to be moved out of the intensive care unit at Gemelli Policlinico Hospital. Monday was the pontiff's 61st birthday.

Sewage spills into nearby county waters

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Malfunctions at two sewage treatment plants in Benton and Lane counties caused more than a million gallons of untreated sewage to spill into nearby waters, a spokesman for the Department of Environmental Quality said here Monday.

Department spokesman Mark Fritzler said the spills, headed for the Willamette River, forced Corvallis residents to use alternate water sources.

Fritzler said two pumps broke down Sunday at the plant at Halsey, 20 miles south of Albany, spilling about 250,000 gallons of sewage into nearby Muddy Creek.

He said the sewage would eventually reach the Willamette River, which supplies drinking water for Corvallis.

A standby pump was to be installed Monday afternoon to prevent further leaks, the spokesman said.

A malfunctioning switch at the sewage treatment plant in Cottage Grove caused more than a million gallons of sewage to spill into the Willamette Monday morning, Fritzler said.

The second spill also affected Corvallis residents, Fritzler said, but the city had already turned off its water supply after the Halsey spill.

Officials did not expect the spills to endanger fish life, but they advised residents to avoid any kind of contact with the water for several days.

Two officials plan to resign over infant formula vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charging that one million Third World babies perish each year from diseases brought on by bottle-feeding, two government officials said Monday they will resign when the Reagan administration carries out its decision to vote against an international code that says mothers' milk is best.

Administration officials don't dispute that breast feeding is preferable, but contend the code represents an unwarranted attempt by the United Nations to regulate how private business promote their products.

Dr. Stephen Joseph and Eugene Babb, both senior executives of the Agency for International Development, issued their resignation threat

during a news conference at the American Public Health Association.

Several prominent physicians joined them in deploring the Reagan administration plan to cast what is expected to be a solitary vote against the code at the World Health Assembly in Geneva. The vote is set tentatively for Thursday.

The resignations apparently would make Joseph and Babb the first top officials to quit over Reagan administration policies. Both went to work for AID during the Carter administration.

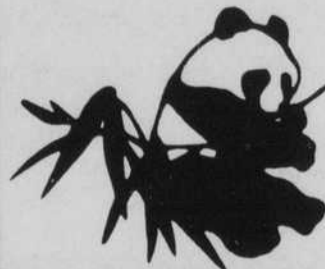
Joseph, a pediatrician who is the highest ranking health professional at AID, charged that the administration "has been swayed by the self-interested arguments of the infant formula lobby."

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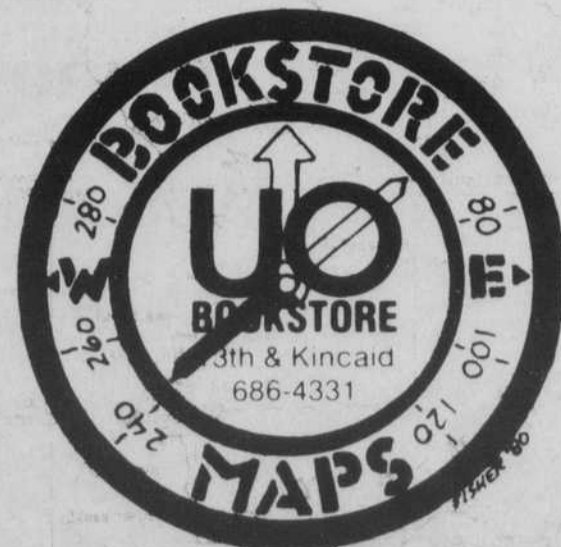
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