

Cigarettes: Warnings inadequate

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of the players in the U.S. litigation, including Jim Tierney, a former attorney general from Maine who coordinated the state lawsuits.

"We won't need to start all over again," said Amos Hausner of the Israeli anti-smoking campaign. "The mere fact that they (tobacco companies) admitted liability is a strong basis for our cause of action."

Israel's Health ministry is about two months away from filing suit against Israeli and foreign tobacco companies for \$8 billion in damages, with proceeds to be used to treat sick smokers, Hausner said.

British Columbia, meanwhile, became the first Canadian province to follow the lead of the United States and demand that tobacco companies pay for health costs associated with smoking.

But as the anti-smoking drive gains momentum in Western Europe, it has made few inroads in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Far East.

In eastern Africa, tobacco companies face no restrictions beyond health warnings on cigarette boxes, and there are no anti-smoking lobbies. There are some indica-

tions that the big tobacco companies consider the region a growth area, with smoking on the rise among urban middle-class youngsters.

One company has sponsored smoking contests in Kenya, with participants competing over who can smoke the most cigarettes simultaneously.

In Japan, foreign cigarette companies, mainly American firms, take up more than 20 percent of the Japanese market, and the American share is growing. About 35 percent of the population smokes — 60 percent of the men and 18 percent of the women.

Warnings on cigarette boxes show greater concern over etiquette than over health.

"Let's carefully observe smoking manners," one Japanese label gently admonishes.

In the world's trouble spots, the West's anti-smoking campaign and preoccupation with health draw bewilderment.

The residents of former Yugoslavia, preoccupied with their 1992-1995 civil war, have placed little emphasis on the dangers of nicotine. During the hostilities, soldiers were often paid in cigarettes. The Sarajevo tobacco facto-

ry is one of only a few companies working at full capacity today in the war-ravaged country.

In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestinian government is fighting a losing battle to enforce a smoking ban.

"Doctors smoke in hospitals; teachers smoke in schools," said the exasperated health minister, Riyad Zanoun.

In India, New Delhi became a leader in a new crackdown on smoking in movie theaters, parks and buses. Offenders faced fines of \$3 to \$15. Only a dozen people have been punished since January, however.

The Voluntary Health Association of India estimates that tobacco-related illnesses cost the government \$11 billion a year. The group fought in vain to have sports teams drop their tobacco company sponsors following a study estimating that 8.6 million teenagers had smoked a cigarette or otherwise tried tobacco after watching cricket matches.

Several Eastern European countries have recently passed legislation banning cigarette advertising on television, but manufacturers have found creative ways around the laws.

Shabazz dies due to injuries in June 1 fire

■ **DEATH:** Betty Shabazz, Malcom X's widow, was in the audience when her husband was shot in 1965

By Jim Fitzgerald
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Betty Shabazz, who witnessed the assassination of her husband, Malcolm X, and became a civil rights figure herself, died Monday of burns suffered in a fire allegedly set by her 12-year-old grandson. She was 61.

Mrs. Shabazz suffered third-degree burns over 80 percent of her body in the June 1 blaze at her Yonkers apartment. She had been in extremely critical condition since the day of the fire, and underwent five operations to replace burned tissue with artificial skin.

Along with Coretta Scott King and Myrlie Evers-Williams — whose husbands were also assassinated during the civil rights movement — Mrs. Shabazz emerged as a powerful symbol in her right.

"Millions of people look to her for some kind of understanding of the history of the struggle," said black activist and poet Amiri Baraka. "She's the wife of one of the greatest African-American leaders of history."

In 1965, pregnant with twins, she was in the audience at Harlem's Audubon Ballroom with her four children when gunmen pumped 16 shots into her husband as he preached on stage.

Mrs. Shabazz went on to become a university administrator and spokeswoman for civil rights, and raised the couple's six daughters.

She made headlines in recent years by accusing Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan of orchestrating the assassination. She later reconciled with him, and defended her daughter Qubilah Shabazz against charges that she plotted a revenge attack on Farrakhan.

rakhan.

It was Qubilah's son — named for Malcolm X — who was arrested in the fire. Malcolm Shabazz was said to be unhappy that he had been sent to live with his grandmother and wanted to return to his mother in Texas. He is being held in juvenile custody.

Burned skin is prone to infection and causes severe loss of fluids. Patients with Mrs. Shabazz's injuries have a less than 10 percent rate of survival.

A steady stream of dignitaries had visited the Shabazz family at the hospital, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, poet Maya Angelou, Mrs. King, Dick Gregory and former Mayor David Dinkins.

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said he wanted to "express my sympathy, my condolences to her family that's with her and all the people who work with her, know her and love her so much."

Born in Detroit, Betty Shabazz studied at the Tuskegee Institute, Brooklyn State Hospital School of Nursing and Jersey City State College. She met her husband through the Nation of Islam; she called herself Sister Betty X at the time.

They married in 1958, when Malcolm was minister of Harlem's Mosque No. 7 and Betty was working as a nurse.

After his assassination, she raised their daughters alone in Mount Vernon, just outside New York City. More recently, she moved into the apartment in nearby Yonkers where she was burned.

Mrs. Shabazz earned a doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts in 1975. She became director of public relations at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn and later became head of the school's office of institutional advancement.

Funeral arrangements were not immediately known.

Aberdeen drill sergeant pleads guilty

■ **COURT:** Gamble pleaded guilty to fewer counts in exchange for a 3-year term

By Bart Jansen
The Associated Press

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — An Army drill sergeant pleaded guilty Monday to sexual misconduct with 11 trainees, earning a dishonorable discharge and a 10-month prison sentence.

Staff Sgt. Wayne Gamble, 37, pleaded guilty to nine counts of adultery, one count of sodomy, 11 counts of violating general regulations forbidding him from socializing and engaging in sex with trainees, and one count of being absent without leave.

The original charges had involved 14 trainees, but Gamble, who could have gotten more than 70 years in prison if convicted, agreed to plead guilty to fewer counts in exchange for a 3-year term. The judge, Col. Joseph Neurauter, cut the sentence without explanation.

Gamble, of Manning, S.C., is the fourth staff member of Aberdeen's Ordnance Center and School to be court-martialed on charges stemming from an investigation of sexual misconduct at the post 30 miles northeast of Baltimore.

The inquiry led to criminal charges against 12 Aberdeen staff members and triggered an investigation of

sexual harassment at U.S. military bases worldwide.

During sentencing proceedings, prosecutor Capt. Dave Thomas said Gamble used trainees as "sexual playthings for his own gratification."

"He was supposed to be acting like a drill sergeant, not acting like a gigolo, sleeping with every trainee he could get his hands on," Thomas said.

Gamble, now stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., testified for the prosecution at the May court-martial of another Aberdeen drill sergeant, Vernell Robinson, who was convicted of having sex with five trainees.

Gamble said he, Robinson and four others participated in a secret sex ring they called "the game," in which they chose new trainees as potential sexual partners, slept with them and shared their names.

"I let a whole lot of people down," Gamble said at his sentencing, wiping his eyes. "I don't want to be living a lie anymore. ... I want to try to salvage some kind of shred of dignity."

In a statement read by his attorney, Gamble apologized to the 11 women and also said his 13-year-old son, Tony, needs guidance that he has not been able to give.

Gamble's wife of seven years, who is seeking a divorce, shouted angrily from the courtroom gallery.

"He apologized to everyone but his own wife. He didn't apologize to me," Marilyn Gamble said.

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