GLOBAL — International AIDS Day (Dec. 1), which to some extent has largely become a huge effort to propagandize the value of Western-produced expensive anti-retroviral drugs — which have in fact lowered deaths rates from AIDS-related diseases — largely focused on the alleged HIV/AIDS pandemic in South Africa, growing HIV/AIDS rates in sub-Saharan Africa, and China’s growing awareness of large HIV/AIDS numbers there.

(Even so, on Nov. 11 American billionaire and Microsoft pioneer Bill Gates stole some of the PR thunder in India — where HIV/AIDS rates are estimated at 5 to 8 million, currently the highest in the world — by announcing that his Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation would give the Indian government $100 million to help curb the epidemic.)

What some style the AIDS industry — built around the majority theory that AIDS, a constellation of more than 30 diseases and conditions, is caused by a single retrovirus, HIV, and that only toxics, immune system-damaging and expensive drugs can slow it down — also took advantage of Dec. 1 to further pummel South African President Thabo Mbeki, who came to power in 1994:

In the face of an admittedly large problem, based primarily on United Nations AIDS (UNAIDS) figures, in which 1 in 4 South Africans aged 18 to 50 are said to be carrying the HIV virus (usually assessed by antibody tests), Mbeki has faced strong criticism for allowing a panel of experts to debate whether HIV actually causes AIDS, at least by itself, and for opposing the forced treatment of pregnant mothers with anti-AIDS drugs.

UNAIDS estimates currently are that 9 million South Africans could be dead from AIDS by 2015, leaving 2 million “AIDS orphans,” and that when 2002 figures are finally assessed 2.4 million may have died of AIDS-related conditions.

Global AIDS watchers also emphasized that three-quarters of the world’s estimated 40 million HIV infectees live in sub-Saharan Africa, but that the real impact of the usually slowly progressing disorder will not be felt until another decade has passed.

US Ambassador to South Africa Cameron Hume claimed the South African government is in denial over the enormity of the AIDS crisis. UNAIDS estimates are that as the pandemic wends its way life expectancy will drop from 39 to 42 in the country before the end of this decade.

The New York Times News Service cited a report by ING-Barings, a German financial company, estimating that by 2015 AIDS-related diseases would claim the lives of 386,000 highly skilled workers, 984,000 skilled workers, and 4.3 million unskilled workers, or 18 percent of the country’s work force.

Last Sept. 6, mainland China authorities, essentially breaking silence as to the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS problem in earth’s most populous country, admitted to 1 million cases and openly asked for international help in curbing it.

On Nov. 30, an on-site review by CNN Television found that even Chinese authorities believe the real number is closer to 10 million and added that in numerous hospitals the Beijing government is turning to traditional herbal medicines at least as a stopgap until it can manufacture its own versions of the West’s antiretrovirals.

The media reported that Beijing authorities are in the process of submitting a $90 million grant application to the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

CNN, reporting Dec. 1 that as of that date no effective anti-HIV

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USA — In its latest barrage, California-based Boyd Ed Graves JD has filed a scatter-shot Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against “the United States of America et al.,” seeking full disclosure of a government cancer viral research program which he — and others — believe outlines how and when the US designed and produced the putative “AIDS virus,” HIV.

Graves, an HIV patient himself and former Naval Academy student who believes he was inoculated with the virus with an experimental device, has led an increasingly noisy campaign via the Internet and over the airwaves to expose the National Cancer Institute (NCI) secret “Special Virus Program,” which ended in 1978, as the origin of AIDS.

In December he filed the latest FOIA complaint/lawsuit in the US District Court, Southern California Jurisdiction, seeking “a full review and full disclosure of the . . . program, and its relationship to the genesis of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.”

Graves said he has made available some 50,000 copies of the program’s 1971 “flowchart” which, he has argued, refers to the thousands of research projects involving hundreds of top-ranking scientists at a cost of $550 million to US taxpayers and about which the public remains oblivious.

In 2001 the Supreme Court refused to hear Graves’ suit against the President and other government figures in the matter of US manufacture of HIV, upholding a lower court decision that the action was “frivolous.”

Graves, who also insists that an Israeli-developed anti-AIDS research drug has cured his condition, also submitted a copy of the three-count FOIA lawsuit to the United Nations’ AIDS-related bureau, UNAIDS.

(Boyd Graves, his documentation and book STATE ORIGIN may be accessed at www.boydgraves.com, boyded2002@yahoo.com or FAX 785—263-1568).