News Notes

WATT RESIGNS

by Rebecca Rogers

Interior Secretary James Watt resigned his position Sunday. Watt had been under fire since late September over a statement he made in which he said that one of his coal-leasing panels was comprised of, "a woman, a black, two Jews, ... and a cripple." Though he didn't mention the statement in his resignation letter to President Reagan, many people believe that it was a main factor in his decision.

President Reagan stood by Watt to the end, at least in public. But government aids believe that Watt had become a political liability and that Reagan wanted to get rid of him before annoucing his candidacy for president in 1984.





FIGHTING IN **I EBANON**

by Shannon Coleman

The Lebanese have started training their youths for military service. Many Lebanese feel that Israel is organizing pro-Israeli militias in southern Lebanon so they can strengthen their hold on their territory. It has been reported that Israeli troops arrested four people in Sidon because a hand grenade was thrown near Israeli military headquarters.

In Tyre, 46 miles south of Beruit, a grenade was thrown into an Israeli convey and injured one soldier. In Beruit, army soldiers and militiamen exchanged fire in southern sectors.

JUDGE RULES IN MEDICAL CASE

Pamela Hamilton, a 12-yearold girl, who has a football size tumor lodged in her leg, still refuses medication on religious grounds. Doctors said the tumor would kill her within months without medical treatment.

The case began last June when Pamela's father, Larry Hamilton, pastor of the Church of God of the Union Assembly in La Follette, Tenn., took his daughter to a doctor to see about her pain in her leg. Physicians discovered a small fracture in her thigh and a tumor caused by a rareform of bone cancer known as Ewing's sarcoma. Doctors said Pamela's chances for survival were good, but only if chemotherapy treatments were started immediately. But the Hamilton's church refuses medication because they believe that God alone can perform the cure.

When the Tenn. Dept. of Human Services was unable to change Hamilton's mind, state officials filed suit to obtain custody of Pamela. Hamilton, who faces charges of child neglect, has hired lawyers, and has even fled his home at one point.

Even though patients do have the right to refuse medication on religious grounds, Pamela is considered a minor, therefore courts have the right to order medical

treatment over religious objections of her parents.

On Sept. 17, Judge Charles Herman placed Pamela in state custody to begin chemotherapy saying that she is a "dependent and

by Maria Bardnt

neglected child." Pamela has been given her first chemotherapy medication intravenously, but the treatments may be too late, unfortunately. Pamela's chances for survival have slipped from 75 percent to less than 25 percent.



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