

Gore announces proposal to fight AIDS abroad

WASHINGTON (AP) — Asserting the United States has a "moral duty" to do more to fight AIDS, Vice President Al Gore announced a new \$100 million proposal to help Africa stop the spread of the disease.

Gore, whose presidential campaign has been dogged by AIDS activists, also released a new study on the scope and the toll of the HIV virus in Africa.

"The crisis is growing, and so must our commitment," he said.

Activists from ACT-UP have pursued Gore

along the campaign trail to protest administration policies that they say make it difficult to get affordable AIDS drugs to people who need them in South Africa.

Yesterday, the vice president, joined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobelist from South Africa, announced new proposals not included in the Clinton administration's fiscal 2000 budget to fight AIDS in Africa.

The spending proposals announced by Gore included \$48 million for AIDS education, counseling and testing, which involved a De-

fense Department program to train African militaries how to provide AIDS prevention training.

The remaining funds would be targeted at home- and community-based care, caring for children orphaned by AIDS and helping other countries build infrastructure to confront the spread of AIDS.

"We are the promise of hope and change," Gore said. "We have the knowledge and the compassion and the moral duty to make a difference."

Gingrich, wife separate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and his wife Marianne are living apart and attempting to negotiate a mutually acceptable divorce settlement, associates familiar with the situation said Monday.

These associates added that neither Gingrich nor his wife has filed formal papers seeking a divorce.

The couple was married in

1981, at a time when Gingrich was a junior Republican congressman from Georgia and she was a business consultant and columnist from Ohio.

Mrs. Gingrich was a frequent presence in the Capitol during her husband's four years as speaker.

No further details were available of the apparent breakdown of their marriage.

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