

National News

Washington Post launches Mineworkers frame-up

A front-page, five-part series in last week's *Washington Post* is paving the way for a planned Justice Department frame-up against the United Mineworkers Union (UMW) and its conservative political allies, focusing on the UMW-owned National Bank of Washington. For the last month rumors have circulated throughout Justice and investigative-reporter networks that the DOJ's "Project Leviticus" is preparing a mammoth assault against the UMW and the National Bank of Washington for supposedly dubious loans. "Project Leviticus" is identical in method and purpose to the ongoing assaults against the Teamsters.

The bank in question is the third largest bank in Washington, D.C. Its largest stockholder is the UMW. The *Post's* attack comes as the oil multinationals are attempting to wipe out the nation's independent coal operators and consolidate their control over U.S. energy supplies.

Trilateral director sees Carter-Soviet deal

George Franklin, executive director of the Trilateral Commission, told a reporter this week that he is "absolutely certain" that Leonid Brezhnev is working for the reelection of Jimmy Carter.

Franklin, himself a Carter supporter, said that his "circle of friends" has been talking about the Soviet desire to ensure Carter a victory. "It makes perfect sense to me. The Soviets are being smart. They know what they have in Carter; they know they can bargain with him." Franklin noted that in the current Persian Gulf crisis, the Soviets could topple Carter "any time they want" by "calling Carter's bluffs." Instead, the Soviets have been extremely cautious. "The word is that the U.S. has a wide berth to operate in, provided they don't go beyond

certain limits. It makes Carter look good."

Franklin said Carter will not attempt a major military intervention into the Middle East before the election, because of his campaign image as "a man of peace" and his desire to keep the Soviets "in the game." He says Trilateral Commission members are "pretty evenly divided" on the presidential race. "Some people feel Carter will do a better job, others feel George Bush would be a better President." Reminded that Bush is only the vice-presidential candidate, Franklin replied, "I know, that's the problem."

Message to Arrupe on antidrug effort

EIR Contributing Editor Lyndon LaRouche issued a statement Oct. 16 titled "The Cultural Basis For Drug Susceptibility": "Yesterday, I was pleasantly surprised to hear reports of statements on the growing drug problem by Father General of the Society of Jesus, Pedro Arrupe. Speaking at the Synod of Bishops in Rome on Oct. 15, Father General Arrupe echoed the warnings of the U.S. National Anti-Drug Coalition. He warned of the financial interests behind the growing international drug traffic, and of the need to attack the spread of drug culture, in calling for a Catholic organization to mobilize its forces against the evil of drugs. . . .

"I would prefer that Catholics continue to fight with the efforts of the Anti-Drug Coalitions in various countries, so that the efforts might be made ecumenical with respect to both religious and secular forces, and thus more effective. However, the creation of a distinct Catholic organization is useful, if it is created and developed in addition to participation in more ecumenical efforts. . . .

"There are two key points no anti-drug effort should omit. First, as the results of the Carter administration's softness on drugs has shown, the effort must be explicitly political, and must be targeted by name on the enemy forces of the drug lobbies as well as the politically

powerful financier interests which have continued to coordinate the international drug traffic since the British East India Company. Secondly, the effort must expose as variously incompetent or liars those who attempt to attribute the drug problem to the consequences of 'industrial society'. . . .

"Drug addiction is not a sociological phenomenon of 'industrial society.' Its potential was cultivated by powerful, influential agencies, and the problem was created as the international drug traffickers deployed networks of drug pushers at rock concerts and other locations to convert that potential into actual drug addiction.

"We are faced with four categorical tasks: 1) use of law enforcement and intelligence operations, with full support of courts and legislatures, to detect and destroy every arm of the international drug traffic, and to enforce the principle of law enforcement that the individual who uses drugs is spreading an epidemic against the essential fabric of society; 2) education to bring hatred against the evil of rock-pornography and related existentialist poisons as catalysts for spread of drug addiction; 3) medical therapy for the drug victim, but excluding the introduction of Tavistockian techniques in the misused name of 'therapy'; 4) re-establishment of true education in schools. . . ."

Attack against Abscam begins on East Coast

Michael Myers, expelled from Congress on Abscam charges, held a rebound electoral rally this week for Philadelphia Democratic committeemen and activists. Myers ripped the Justice Department's entrapment operations, stating: "I'm not running for reelection just to get back in Congress; if the FBI gets away with these frame-ups, no American citizen is safe. All constitutional rights are threatened. It is a travesty to see the FBI frame up innocent people while bank robbers, kidnapers, and dope pushers go free." The politically savvy audience cheered. Myers then repeated a standard call to

reelect the President, and everyone booted.

In South Carolina, where Cong. John Jenrette is under fire from Abscam, the local paper in his district carried full coverage of a press conference given by Committee Against Brilab and Abscam spokesman Richard Leebove. "Although the committee does not endorse candidates we find it crucial to provide voting citizens with the research we have done on the dangers facing the nation if the Justice Department tactics against such fine individuals as John Jenrette are allowed to prevail. . . . It was Jenrette's stated desire for economic development that caused the Justice Department to set the trap for him in the first place."

In New England, the prestigious Roman Catholic newspaper *The Pilot* carried an Oct. 22 editorial entitled "The Challenge of Corruption." The editorial stated: "The mere suggestion of corruption [these days] prompts investigation and charges. . . . There is no room, however, for entrapment or illegal devices for special defendants, while others go free. . . . It is not difficult to imagine what the Communist witchhunts of a past era would have achieved if the investigators had at hand the tools available today. . . . [Blemishes] on the body politic should be removed without killing the apparatus that makes us people of independence and integrity."

Carter draws support from Foggy Bottom veterans

Ex-State Department officials held a press conference Oct. 20 to announce the formation of a "Former Diplomats for Carter-Mondale Committee," two weeks before the presidential election. The group's statement, which defended President Carter's attacks on Ronald Reagan, was endorsed by, among others, Cyrus Vance and Hodding Carter III, who left the Carter administration last spring because they considered the abortive attempt to rescue the American hostages in Iran to be dangerous. Other members are Averell Harriman, Clark Clifford, Andrew Young, Paul Warnke,

Sargent Shriver, and Patsy Mink, former assistant secretary of state and now head of the liberal Americans for Democratic Action (ADA).

International Herald Tribune found guilty

A Paris court ruled Oct. 20 that the *International Herald Tribune* was guilty of libeling Lyndon H. LaRouche during his 1979-80 campaign seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in the United States. The *Tribune*, in October 1979, republished an article by Paul Montgomery and Howard Blum, published in the *New York Times* a few days earlier. The *Tribune* is jointly owned by the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*.

The article charged that Mr. LaRouche and his campaign organization were a violent, anti-Semitic cult. The French court, after a full evidentiary hearing, ruled that the *International Herald Tribune* had presented no proof whatsoever of the charges they had published. The court further judged that the *Tribune* had made no effort to substantiate the information provided by its sources. This reckless disregard for truth, the court found, was particularly prejudicial because it libeled Mr. LaRouche at a time when he was running for election to public office.

Although truth is a complete defense in a charge of libel under French criminal libel law, the *Tribune* presented no proof of any of its charges, complained that French law was too stringent, and threatened to move its publishing plant out of France if the court's decision was adverse.

The court ruled that the *Tribune* will have to place advertisements reprinting the court judgment in three national French daily newspapers as well as its own. It must also pay the legal costs for both sides and approximately \$1,000 in damages. Observers remarked that the judge's decision was very strong and the monetary damages extraordinarily high by French standards.

Briefly

● **THE MAJORITY** of families of the American hostages currently being held in Iran do not support President Carter's reelection, according to a poll conducted by the *New York Post* released Oct. 21. Of 31 of the 52 hostage families, only six still supported the President.

● **RONALD REAGAN**, in an interview with the West German daily *Die Welt*, commented that it would be very bad if some day China used against the U.S. the weapons the U.S. had sold it. He said he could understand why Schmidt and Giscard had met with Brezhnev this year, given Carter's uncertain policy, and called it a mistake for Carter to ban nuclear sales to Brazil.

● **PETER MEYERS**, chief counsel for the promarijuana NORML said in an interview Oct. 16: "Senator Javits is probably our number one supporter on Capitol Hill. He has been a consistent strong supporter of marijuana reform, particularly eliminating criminal penalties for minor marijuana offenses. Senator Javits has been great on marijuana. Elizabeth Holtzman [Democratic senatorial candidate for New York] has also been a consistent supporter of marijuana reform. Her positions have been excellent."

● **TEXAS HOUSE** Speaker Billy Clayton and Austin lawyer/lobbyists Don Ray and Buck Wood were acquitted Oct. 22 of all counts of racketeering. The defense established that under Texas law, a campaign contribution is not "accepted" unless it is either reported or spent; Clayton maintained that he accepted the contribution with an intent to return it, as he had many other improper contributions in the past. Pandemonium broke loose as the verdict was announced, and every juror shook Clayton's hand. The acquittal—the first in Brilab—may mark the end of federal stinger Joseph Hauser's career as a star witness.