

## National News

### Donald Regan funded environmentalist groups

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan may well rank as the person who has done more to sabotage nuclear energy than any other man in America. From his position as director of Wall Street's Charles Merrill Trust, the Treasury chief channeled millions of dollars to anti-nuclear environmentalist groups over the course of the 1970s.

Robert Zubrin reports in the Nov. 3 issue of *New Solidarity* that in 1979, when Donald Regan was President of Merrill Lynch and Company, the world's largest investment firm, and Director of its Charles Merrill Trust, he signed over grants ranging in value from \$10,000 to \$130,000 each to such groups as the Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Fund, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Draper Fund/Population Crisis Committee. The total value of Charles Merrill Trust grants to anti-nuclear and population-reduction organizations over the 1970s adds up to millions of dollars. The Treasury Secretary's tenure as President of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc. dates from 1968 to 1981.

### Mondale backs Volcker Global 2000

Former Vice-President Walter Mondale apparently has hopes of taking back the White House in 1984 by supporting the very economic collapse policies which caused the electorate to bounce him in the first place. On national television Oct. 25 Mondale gave full backing to Carter-appointed Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, whose interest-rate policies have crippled the U.S. economy. The Federal Reserve, declared Mondale, "is the only inflation game in town. They are trying to keep a restraint on inflation."

Mondale unofficially announced his campaign for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination with a major speech

to the Foreign Policy Association Oct. 20. At the same luncheon, Mondale told *EIR* that he was still behind the *Global 2000 Report* put out by the Carter administration. That document called for a reduction in the world's population by 2 billion by the year 2000. "I support the general thrust of it," he said. "The idea of reviewing the limits of the world's resources. I wouldn't want to be held accountable for all the figures in the report, but the general thrust yes."

### Due process hearing in Williams case

In the Long Island courtroom of Abscam Judge George C. Pratt, final argument was given Oct. 21 in the judicial frameup of Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.). Williams was found guilty on May 1 in a trial in which three major exculpatory documents had been withheld from the jury and from Williams by order of the Presiding Judge Pratt. The documents were internal Justice Department memoranda admitting that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after 13 months of pursuing Williams, still had no case.

The Oct. 21 re-hearing of the due process motions arose after these documents later became public. A full Senate vote is expected during the week of Nov. 16 on whether to expel Williams.

The focus of the Oct. 21 re-hearing was whether, in fact, still more exculpatory evidence is being withheld by Abscam Prosecutor Thomas Puccio or the Department of Justice.

Judge Pratt was obliged to ask, "Are there any more 302s [FBI reports], Mr. Puccio?" A pregnant pause fell over the courtroom, after which Puccio ambiguously answered, "Nothing that I know of, Your Honor." This answer tends to corroborate what most legal observers have assumed to be the case, that in all likelihood additional clearing evidence remains to be seen on Williams and his co-defendant Alex Feinberg. With the probability that such documentation is outstanding, there is no question that the U.S. Senate should not entertain holding a vote on the question of expulsion.

At one point during the due process hearing, Dean Erwin Griswold, a former U.S. Solicitor General who represents Williams, characterized the government's Abscam sting operation as "shameful, immoral, and shocking in the extreme." Asking the court to consider the consequences of condoning such actions on the part of the government, he asserted it would be sanctioning a "police state."

Griswold asked Pratt whether, if every time someone played golf with him or walked into his office to discuss social business matters he had to worry if that person were taping his conversation, would not he find himself uneasy?

To this, Judge Pratt jolted forward in his seat and replied, "Are you saying that this would be a terrible state of affairs? My parents always taught me I should speak in private as if I were on stage at Carnegie Hall."

### New York mayors call for lower rates

The New York Conference of Mayors has written a letter, following the specifications of their Sept. 26 conference resolution to President Reagan regarding interest rates. The resolution was introduced by Auburn, New York Mayor Paul Lattimore, who had personally contacted the President on the problem.

The letter by Conference President Herbert D. Brewer states:

"The Executive Committee of the [New York] Conference of Mayors, at a meeting held in the City of New York on Sept. 26, 1981, adopted a resolution which relates to the impact of high interest rates upon our economy. . . .

"We know that the goal of your Administration is to reduce interest rates. Since the time of the adoption of our resolution, the prime rate has dropped almost two points, and it appears that such trend is downward. Seemingly, the goal you seek will be achieved.

"Nevertheless, in order to comply with the directive of the Executive Committee, I set forth herein a portion of the resolution. . . .

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"Wherefore be it resolved, that this Executive Committee of the Conference of Mayors assembled at its fall meeting in the City of New York, motivated by the best interests of the people of the State of New York, respectfully calls upon President Reagan and officials of the Federal Reserve System to act to significantly reduce interest rates with all due speed."

A copy of the letter was also sent to the Federal Reserve Board in Washington.

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## Illinois court fight over NADC status

The drug lobby received a sharp blow Oct. 23, to its efforts to take over the state of Illinois when State Attorney General Tyrone Fahner lost the first round in his courtroom bid to shut down the National Anti-Drug Coalition (NADC). Judge John Hechinger of the Cook County circuit court denied the Attorney General's request for a temporary restraining order which would have immediately halted all Anti-Drug Coalition fundraising in the state and allowed the government to seize and dissolve the only statewide organization fighting the drug epidemic.

A spokesman for the Coalition ascribed the Attorney General's extraordinary legal demand for emergency action without a full hearing to heavy pressure from the state's drug lobby and the ultra-liberal *Chicago Sun-Times*. The *Sun-Times* and key drug-lobby figures have admitted they are determined to destroy the National Anti-Drug Coalition, the spokesman said.

Fahner's motion was argued by Assistant Attorneys General Danita Harth and Floyd D. Perkins, both of whom have worked with the *Sun-Times* to smear the Anti-Drug Coalition for alleged non-compliance with the Illinois charitable statutes.

The NADC has repeatedly informed the Attorney General that it is not a charity but a political organization dedicated to a "war on drugs." The Attorney

General's office has admitted that its application of the charities statutes to the activities of the NADC is "novel" and "uncharted" legally.

Legal experts consulted in Chicago pointed out that the Attorney General had hoped to gain a press coup for his beleaguered "investigation" of the National Anti-Drug Coalition by the grant of a temporary restraining order. The tactic of not properly serving the NADC in order to prevent adequate legal representation was employed for this result. The Coalition first heard about the lawsuit when the Attorney General issued a press release reporting that it had been filed.

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## Soviets launch new killer satellite

The latest issue of *Aviation Week & Space Technology* reports that the Soviet Union has launched a battle-station capable of destroying U.S. satellites in low-earth orbit. The satellite is reportedly armed with clusters of guided missiles, which, according to Edgar Ulsamer, senior editor of *Air Force* magazine, could represent a serious threat to the more than 100 reconnaissance and communications satellites that the United States has placed in low-earth orbit.

However, Ulsamer stressed that the U.S.S.R.'s battle-station would not be able to destroy those U.S. satellites which are in geosynchronous orbit—22,000 miles up—which is the orbit for the critical early-warning satellites. A "kill" of the geosynchronous satellites will only become possible when the Soviets either emplace high-energy lasers in their new battle-station or place it into a higher orbit using a TT-50 rocket, (similar to a Saturn V), goals the Soviets hope to attain, according to both Ulsamer and to former Air Force Intelligence Director Gen. George Keegan.

The Pentagon had no comment on the *Aviation Week* article, but said that the Defense Intelligence Agency was looking into the journal's claim.

## Briefly

● **DONALD HOVDE**, the new Undersecretary of Housing and Urban Development called for the real-estate industry to "help bring about a change of attitude in housing," at a meeting in Houston of the Industrial Development Research Council Oct. 26. "The philosophy of the seventies is not appropriate to the philosophy and needs of the eighties," he said. The new decade dictates a need for cluster, townhouse, and condotype housing, not the split-levels of the past. The country has been suffering from "a situation of excesses," Hovde concluded.

● **A NATIONAL** conference on a project to bring water from Alaska to the High Plains and Colorado River regions and a revival of the 1960s National American Water and Power Alliance proposal of the R. M. Parsons Company will be sponsored by *EIR* on Jan. 27, 1982 in Denver, Colorado, at the Airport Hilton Hotel. The High Plains, which feeds 49 percent of the nation's cattle and 22 percent of agricultural exports, faces near-term depletion of its water supply from the Ogallala Aquifer. Regional meetings leading up to the Jan. 27 conference are planned for Phoenix, Arizona, Canada, and Mexico.

● **AN APPELLATE** court Oct. 28 upheld a 1978 lower court ruling that the American system of using local property taxes to finance public-school education in New York State is inequitable and unconstitutional. A final decision on further appeal by the state is expected during next summer. The appellate court ruling bolsters the free enterprisers' moves to end the American system of public, compulsory education.

● **THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING** Union announced Oct. 29 that Secretary of State Alexander Haig is not a member.