

National News

Insurance spokesman for 'management of death'

A spokesman for the New York-based American Council on Life Insurance, the organization speaking for the interests of the large life-insurance companies like Prudential and Equitable, told a reporter May 3 that a "cost-benefit approach" by the companies is leading to more support for hospices and for the "assertion of the individual's right to have the choice to die."

He declared: "What Governor Lamm said marks the opening of a public policy debate: Who shall receive costly services? We will have to adopt a cost-benefit approach, and we are seeing the opening edges: the hospice movement, talk of triage in some hospitals, and so on.

"Because of the extreme cost of heroic and intensive care, we have to think more seriously about cost-effectiveness. Hospice care is preferred, it is cheaper and more appropriate, because it involves people trained in the management-of-death process, in the neighborhood of [Elisabeth] Kübler-Ross's theories. There must be the recognition of death, to overcome denial. After the anger that brings, there comes the acceptance of mortality.

"The role of the insurance companies is to make appropriate coverage linked with attempts to get more cost-effectiveness. The key is cost-containment. . . . This won't mean more euthanasia, not in America, people won't stand for that. But what would happen here is the assertion of the individual choice of the right to die. This will remain a choice, since the word 'euthanasia' is anathema to Americans."

Webster hails 'decline' in U.S. terrorism

FBI Director William Webster announced once again that U.S. terrorism is on the de-

cline. Figures released by the FBI on April 29 "reveal" a 14% decline in bombings in the United States.

Amidst this allegedly waning wave of terror came the bomb attack at the Capitol Nov. 7, which caused more than \$250,000 in damages and avoided blowing up senators and others only due to a last-minute scheduling change. According to the FBI, there were 687 bombings in 1983, resulting in 12 deaths, 100 injuries, and more than \$6 million in property damage.

The same FBI director who denies KGB control of the "peace movement" and domestic terrorism also announced the reduction in the number of terrorist cases, from 38 in 1982 to 22 in 1983. A good indication of how these figures are arrived at was the Jan. 11 terrorist assassination of Maj.-Gen. Robert Ownby at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Ownby was found hanging with his hands tied behind his back and a terrorist note pinned to his uniform. The FBI promptly announced "suicide," and closed the case.

Ironically, the FBI released its figures the very day the Israeli government announced the arrest of 20 terrorists whose planned murder of hundreds of Moslems while they worshipped at the Dome of the Rock could have thrust the Middle East into war. The KGB authors of Middle East destabilization have placed the United States next on the terror agenda.

FBI becomes target in presidential campaign

On April 27, Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. charged on national television that the FBI is complicit in a wide range of illegal and potentially treasonous activities including covering up terrorist operations. Shortly afterward, two other presidential candidates issued public attacks against the Bureau.

In a campaign appearance in Memphis April 30, at the site where Martin Luther King was assassinated, Jesse Jackson charged that the FBI had taken part in a conspiracy to murder Dr. King. "I went to

see James Earl Ray in prison," Jackson said. "It was clear he was involved, but it was also clear he wasn't capable of pulling it off himself." Jackson said that the authorities had failed to protect Dr. King adequately and that the FBI had attempted to impugn his character and divide his family.

Gary Hart has also hit the Bureau, criticizing the "entrapment" methods it used during Abscam; Hart has vowed to replace FBI director William Webster for his role in the sting operations against Congress.

Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights blasted the FBI May 1 for its Abscam-style undercover operations, charging that the bureau has not hesitated to interfere with the nation's "political, judicial, and financial institutions." The subcommittee issued a 100-page report, based on a four-year investigation into FBI undercover activities (see Congressional Closeup).

At a news conference, subcommittee chairman Don Edwards (D-Calif.) said that FBI undercover operations have sometimes intruded into the "lives of some very innocent people."

NBC in more deals with Moscow

NBC-TV has negotiated a breakthrough deal with Moscow to film a television mini-series on Peter the Great. According to the May 1 New York *Daily News*, "Mother Russia is waiting with open arms" for the filming to start, and NBC and the Soviets "have now settled all problems and even signed a 'treaty' for this great work."

The *News* reports that this is the first "totally independent" production of an American-made movie inside the Soviet Union.

It is not the first cooperative media effort between NBC and Moscow. NBC-TV is currently the defendant in a multimillion-dollar libel suit brought by presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. The RCA subsidiary spent six months and millions of dollars to prepare two 1984 broadcasts full of wild

lies about LaRouche. Eight days after the March 4 "First Camera" broadcast, the Soviet government daily *Izvestia* ran it nearly verbatim on page one of its international section.

LaRouche sues League of Women Voters, again

Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. April 30 sued to enjoin a League of Women Voters debate scheduled for May 2 in Dallas, Texas. A Fort Worth judge rejected the arguments of LaRouche attorneys, but LWV national chair Dorothy Riding was compelled to appear to testify on why her purportedly non-partisan organization had excluded LaRouche from the debate.

She stated that if LaRouche were included, it "would affect the kinds of discussion" that occurred during the debate, and also that she doubted the other candidates would be willing to debate LaRouche.

At the same time, the Federal Communications Commission ruled that radio stations in Dallas and elsewhere must sell to The LaRouche Campaign five-minute time slots for advertisements featuring "Sarah Lockjaw and the League of Wanton Sisters." The humorous commercial imitates a typical LWV debate between Hart, Mondale, and Jackson. A LaRouche complaint on file with the Federal Election Commission, dating from his exclusion from a Pittsburgh debate prior to the Pennsylvania primary, argues that the league is clearly in violation of regulations permitting only non-partisan organizations to stage debates.

Building trades chief busts strike

A Nederland, Texas pipefitters local is getting a lesson in what the deal between AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland and the Walter Mondale machine is all about: breaking

strikes. Pipefitters 195 was ordered in late April by national Building Trades president Robert Georgine to remove pickets from other crafts at refineries operated by American Petrofina, Mobil, Gulf Oil, Union Oil of California, and Texaco. Georgine and the national pipefitters union threatened the local with disciplinary action in letters to the local president.

Building trades leaders in the Beaumont-Port Arthur area were furious with Georgine, but removed the pickets. "He weakened this strike," said one union president. "He is going to make sure that they [the pipefitters] are beaten." The other crafts had signed a weak contract with the oil companies, but were looking to the pipefitters to stand up to the union-busting trend.

"They are going to make this union suffer," said a local building trades official of the oil companies. "Why should they give the union anything now?"

Weeks ago, it was reported that Lane Kirkland had made a decision to stonewall and sabotage all strike activity until the November elections. "They have a caucus coming up down here," said a local building trades leader, referring to the May 5 Democratic caucuses. "They don't want any bad press about unions to hurt Mondale." Most of the building trades members have "no love for Mondale," he added.

Los Alamos begins laser fusion testing

The Los Alamos National Laboratory has announced that fusion target testing has begun with the world's largest carbon dioxide laser, the Antares. The experiments will study the physics of nuclear weapons on a laboratory scale, and contribute to the civilian fusion power program.

The Antares is a \$62-million, 24-beam system which uses mirrors to focus its beams onto a target pellet of fusion fuel about the size of a printed period. Antares will deliver about 50 trillion watts of power—four times the previous Helios laser—to compress the pellet in billionths of a second.

Briefly

● **COL. MARC GENESTE**, known in France as the "father of the French neutron bomb," completed a U.S. tour April 26 with a Washington, D.C. seminar on "A Strategy for the Defense of Europe." He called for the neutron bomb to defend against Soviet land forces, and beam-weapons against Soviet "artillery,"—nuclear missiles. "We have known about beam weapons for 2,000 years, since Archimedes directed the sun's rays to destroy an enemy navy. . . . You have the scientific knowhow and industrial might to make anything possible!" The 50-person audience included nine representatives of the Defense Department.

● **THE NEW ORLEANS *Times-Picayune***, Louisiana's leading newspaper, called for "serious discussion" of President Reagan's "Star Wars" proposal in an editorial April 27.

● **CANDIDATES** backed by LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee—all opponents of the party's national boss, Charles Mantt—won at least 75,000 votes for Democratic National Committee and local party posts in District of Columbia elections May 1. Richard Cohen, running for DNC at-large, received 22%; Laura Chasen Cohen, DNC at-large, 20%; Maxine Smith, DNC alternate at-large, 32.1%; and Dr. Richard Thompson, DNC alternate at-large, 27.2%.

● **SUSAN JOHNSON**, *EIR*'s managing editor, appeared in New York City Criminal Court on April 30 to answer charges of subway graffiti. After a series of other graffiti defendants received \$100 fines, the 40-year-old editor pleaded "guilty with explanation," namely, that posting political campaign stickers should be legal. The judge pronounced: "That's not graffiti," and read out the content of the anti-Kissinger sticker to the courtroom. "I see nothing wrong with that," he said. "Not that I necessarily agree with it, of course." Mrs. Johnson was acquitted.