

Dope mafia out to stop Meese appointment

by Nancy Spannaus

Desperate to prevent the full implementation of President Reagan's war on drugs and terrorism, the international dope mafia is pulling out all stops to block the appointment of close Reagan associate Edwin Meese as attorney general of the United States.

While the public side of the smear job—which has already prolonged hearings on the appointment for four days—is being run by former Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, the conspiracy behind the scenes is controlled by Walter Sheridan-linked sections of the Justice Department, corrupt elements in the FBI, and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL).

The initial efforts of this same crew to foil the Meese appointment when President Reagan first nominated him in 1984, were foiled by the judgment of a special prosecutor that Meese had committed no wrongdoing. Now the same forces who illegally leaked information to prevent Meese's confirmation at that time, are redoubling their efforts.

The motive for the smear job against Meese lies with their fear that the new attorney general will move to break up the political protection which the Sheridan-linked sections of the Justice Department have been running for the dope lobby since the time of J. Edgar Hoover. *EIR* sources on Capitol Hill indicate that these fears are indeed well founded.

Even if they fail to stop the appointment, however, the dope lobby forces hope to tie Meese's hands, so that he cannot bring into the Justice Department those trusted associates who could carry out the clean-up. Potentially problematic to Meese's efforts would be the remaining associates of Cox in the Justice Department.

Meese's friends and foes alike are indicating privately that they expect him to be confirmed eventually. The opposition, however, has kept their show going considerably longer than most had expected.

The real conspirators

An *EIR* investigation into the forces which are instigating the move against Meese has identified the following key actors in the plot:

1) Walter Sheridan. Formerly a leading official in Division Five of the FBI and in the Justice Department, and now a staff member of Sen. Ted Kennedy, Sheridan heads a network which has consistently blocked any U.S. government

action against international drug mafia figures, including drug kingpin Robert Vesco.

Sheridan's own organized-crime connection run through Meyer Lansky's Resorts International. The security arm of Resorts, Intertel, is known to be an unofficial branch of the FBI, and is completely staffed by "former" FBI and Justice Department officials associated with Sheridan, such as Robert Hundley. This interface between Sheridan and his networks in the Justice Department has given Vesco, currently said to be operating out of Cuba, a free hand.

2) Corrupt elements in the FBI. These elements were the source of the initial leaks which stopped the Meese appointment. They work with corrupted elements in other government agencies to protect both drug and terror networks.

3) The Anti-Defamation League. The ADL would best be described as the organized-crime wing of the Socialist International, due to the involvement of its leading representatives in drug and dirty money operations. For example, according to court records, it was ADL President Kenneth Bialkin, who helped launch Vesco on his international crime spree, by orchestrating his takeover in Bernie Cornfield's Fund of Funds. Bialkin's lawfirm of Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher, who served as Vesco's lawyers in the takeover, in January 1980 were ordered by a court to repay investors!

The ADL, in combination with Sheridan and his networks in the Justice Department, also provides the political protection for such notorious narco-terrorists as Carlos Lehder, Vesco's Colombian connection and currently one of the most wanted criminals in that country. Lehder's narco-terrorist networks, who took to the airwaves Jan. 29 to threaten to kill any opponent of the Colombian drug mob, are currently involved in a live assassination plot against Pope John Paul II (see story, page 32).

The mob surfaces

A review of the individuals and institutions who have come to the fore against Meese shows that they are all intimately related to the ADL and other pro-dope lobby institutions.

First, there is Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, Democrat from the Cleveland, Ohio area. Metzenbaum is a close associate of dope mafia figure Max Fisher, and is a political spokesman for the ADL.

Second, there is the complex of organizations around Common Cause, the liberal lobbying organization now headed by Archibald Cox. Joining Cox, who wrote a 70-page document against Meese for the hearings, on the stand are such ideological compatriots as Joe Rauh, Jr., and Father Robert Drinan, S.J.

Third, there are the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, both papers which have gone on record for liberalization of laws against drugs. In fact, the *New York Times* could not have been more blatant, since it followed its editorial attack on Meese with an endorsement of a bill to legalize heroin for "medical purposes."

LaRouche testimony supports Meese

Testimony of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. on the confirmation of Edwin Meese to be U.S. Attorney-General, on Jan. 29:

I declare myself in support of our re-elected President's wish to place his trusted collaborator, Edwin Meese, in the position of Attorney-General of the United States.

The frustrating failures we have suffered during most recent years, in our national efforts to crush the international drug trafficking into our nation's neighborhoods and schoolyards, shows us the urgency of a general shake-up in the Federal Bureau of Investigation in particular and in the Department of Justice in general.

In this time and place, it is not necessary that the members of the Senate speculate upon the attitudes toward drug enforcement of particular members of the Department of Justice. The failures of the Department of Justice, on this account, are to be seen chiefly as typical of the diseases to which any large part of a permanent bureaucracy is subject, merely by virtue of the fact that it is a powerful and entrenched bureaucracy. Periodically, the permanent bureaucracy of various sections of government must be purified by those same methods which the fabled Hercules employed to cleanse the Augean stables. The Department of Justice has been long overripe for such purification; we shall not defeat this pestilence of the drug traffic until that purification is accomplished.

I testify as one who has become expert in the pestilence of the international drug-trafficking problem, and the connection between drug trafficking and terrorism. For the sake of brevity, I outline one of the aspects of the international drug trafficking which threatens the United States most directly: the interface between the circles of the fugitive Robert Vesco and Cuban and Bulgarian intelligence services in the Caribbean region.

It is our best information at present, that the Soviet bloc's leading participation in the international drug traffic dates from the time of a Warsaw Pact ministers' meeting in 1967, and that the most significant Warsaw Pact figure associated with the weapons-for-drugs traffic has been a Bulgarian of-

ficial, Ivan Slavkov, the son-in-law of Bulgaria's President Todor Zhivkov. This is the same Bulgarian connection featured in the case of the dissolved weapons-for-drugs trading enterprise, Stipam, International, the same Bulgarian connection under continued investigation in the matter of the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II by the Turkish professional assassin Mehmet ali Agca. This is the Bulgarian connection to Fidel Castro's client, Robert Vesco, and to the kingpin of the Colombian drug trafficking, Carlos Lehder.

In my functioning as contributing editor for the international newsweekly *Executive Intelligence Review*, I have had the opportunity to share investigative information with representatives of governments and of influential religious and other private circles among the nations of the Caribbean and South America. It is established beyond reasonable doubt, that the major drug trafficking and terrorism in the Caribbean and South America are all of one common piece. It is established that the core of the cocaine and marijuana traffic into the United States from the Caribbean region is controlled by a network most efficiently and correctly identified as the Nazi International of Switzerland's François Genoud, and that the Soviet bloc interests participating in this drug trafficking are working in close and witting collaboration with both this Nazi International's network and with elements of organized crime.

It is also established that the proceeds of the drug traffic are in the order of hundreds of billions of dollars, most of which revenue is extracted from the streets and school yards of the United States. In addition to the central role of the drug traffic in organized and local crime, major financial interests cooperating with the so-called offshore banking interests, "launder" these billions of drug-trafficking revenues through cooperation of persons and financial institutions often classified as "above suspicion."

Since approximately 1977-80, on the issue of drug trafficking and drug-related crime, the U.S. Department of Justice has had its priorities upside-down. Today, the United States is suffering an economic loss which is greater in amount than the defense budget of the nation, as a result of the combined direct and indirect costs of the drug trafficking, an amount far in excess of the Federal budget deficit. In addition, the drug traffic and the role of drug-traffic revenues in supporting Bulgarian-Cuban-linked terrorism in this hemisphere, is the greatest single internal security threat to this hemisphere as a whole. During the recent eight years, or so, the priorities of the Department of Justice have reflected a liberal toleration of the spread of drug usage, a softness toward the lobbying efforts of such agencies as NORML, *High Times*, and the fellow-travelers of this so-called "drug lobby."

The Department of Justice needs a "new broom." It is in the vital interests of our nation, and of the interests of the victims of crime in our nation, that the Honorable Edwin Meese be afforded the support he requires to be that "new broom."