

National News

Reading, Pa.: depot for \$300 billion in dope

U.S. intelligence sources estimate that over the past 11-year period, the sleepy eastern Pennsylvania town of Reading has been a transshipment point for \$300 billion in cocaine and other drugs.

In early August, drug conspiracy indictments were handed down against a pair of Colombia-to-Reading, Pa. cocaine trafficking organizations. One of the dope rings, operating through Air America, Inc. of Scranton, Pa. was credited on Aug. 8 by Attorney-General Edwin Meese with importing "the largest documented amount of cocaine ever smuggled into this country by a single trafficking organization." Linked to the case was the Harold Rosenthal drug ring based out of Atlanta, Georgia, which ordered the assassination of Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla in 1984.

On July 21, 1975, this news service published a 4,000-word investigative report detailing an elaborate gun- and drug-running network based in Reading—involving local criminal elements and international leftist-terrorist connections. The 1975 story charged that the Reading area was an international hub of gun-for-drug transactions, enjoying the cooperation of area federal agents, local bankers, top officials of the Reading Police Department, and the reform wing of the country Democratic Party.

Gentry takes 33% in Oklahoma Senate race

LaRouche Democrat George Gentry received 33% of the vote in the Oklahoma Democratic Party's primary for U.S. Senate on Aug. 26. The big vote for Gentry came after Democratic National Committee chairman Paul Kirk poured money and resources into the state on behalf of Gentry's opponent, Rep. Jim Jones of Tulsa.

The Democratic National Committee had

targeted Oklahoma as a key swing state in its efforts to retake the U.S. Senate from the Republicans. Kirk had shipped in a team of "election experts" nicknamed "The Force." Jones was bankrolled to the tune of \$1.8 million; pro-Soviet billionaires Armand Hammer and the late Averell Harriman were among his supporters.

Meanwhile, Gentry spent less than the \$5,000 required to file with the Federal Elections Commission. Just a few weeks before the primary, Gentry's own farm was foreclosed on, and sold at auction. Gentry campaigned from one end of the state to the other on a program to extend long-term, low-interest credit to farmers, because millions all over the world need U.S. food production to survive. Gentry also called for a "shooting war" on drugs, in a state where marijuana has become a major "cash crop."

Gentry may have actually won an even bigger share of the vote, which was marked by a suspicious "computer malfunction" shortly after the count began. He took 24% in Jones's home county of Tulsa, where Jones had been a congressman for the last 14 years.

McCarthyite Roy Cohn: Soviet agent or dupe?

"It could be our most explosive story of the 1980s," says *New Solidarity* editor-in-chief Nancy Spannaus, speaking of the feature articles on McCarthyism run in consecutive editions of the national newspaper during August. "Both the left and the right are going to have their circuits blown."

The articles review the evidence of homosexuality attributed to McCarthy and his chief counsel, Roy Cohn, who recently died of AIDS; document in detail the dubious background of the man who set McCarthy in motion, Georgetown geopolitician Father Edmund Walsh; and assess the damage done to U.S. institutions by the McCarthy era.

Author Scott Thompson's conclusion: "As Michael Straight bragged in his 1983 confessions, the Soviet penetration of our Wall Street and Boston crowd emerged from

the period of 'McCarthyism' more securely entrenched than ever. U.S. analytical doctrine for analysis of the Soviet empire, is today predominantly that laid down by Georgetown's Father Edmund Walsh, a tradition which has dominated the U.S. State Department's professionals, the FBI, and the Soviet section at CIA."

NASA underfunded, senators say

Republican Sens. Jake Garn (Utah), John Danforth (Mo.), and Slade Gorton (Wash.) have criticized the funding proposed by the White House for the fourth Space Shuttle orbiter as "inadequate and indefensible." NASA chief James Fletcher admits that "NASA is in serious funding difficulties." The space agency has to come up with \$108 million to meet FY87 costs resulting from the accident in January, irrespective of the fourth orbiter.

Although Rocco Petrone of Rockwell International has said that a fourth orbiter could be ready in 36 months, with adequate funding, the administration's plan would delay it until 1991, as a "cost-saving" measure. Petrone said the replacement will cost \$1.5 billion, without the main engines and robot arm.

Meanwhile, the House Appropriations Committee has cut another space program, the Defense Department's Aerospace Plane, from \$149 million to \$60 million in the 1987 budget. *Aviation Week* reported on Aug. 11 that the NASA share of the Aerospace Plane funding was being cut by \$10 million to \$35 million.

Dump Weld nomination, NDPC tells Reagan

Because he has committed perjury, the National Democratic Policy Committee is petitioning Attorney-General Ed Meese and President Ronald Reagan to withdraw the

Briefly

nomination of William Weld, now the U.S. Attorney in Boston, to be chief of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department.

In testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee Aug. 13, Weld lied about a conflict of interest in the notorious Bank of Boston-Crédit Suisse money-laundering case, NDPC chairman Warren J. Hamerman said in letters to Meese and the White House. Hamerman states that the same standards now being used in the case of Michael Deaver must be applied to Weld.

The issue of Weld's conflict of interest goes back to February 1985, when Weld negotiated a plea bargain with the Bank of Boston to charge the bank with only *one* felony count for 1,163 felony violations—evading federal currency transaction laws, involving the transfer of drug trafficking proceeds to and from Switzerland.

For laundering \$1.22 billion in cash, the Bank of Boston was fined a mere \$500,000. U.S. Sen. Alphonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) denounced the fine as a "pittance." One of the largest Swiss banks to be involved in that traffic was Crédit Suisse, which had been in a lucrative partnership with White Weld & Co., the securities company of which William Weld's father, David Weld, was a general partner.

Asked directly about his conflict of interest, Weld said: "Since my father's death, my family has had no financial interest in . . . White Weld."

The NDPC has produced documentary evidence that Weld's statement is false.

Fusion scientists stuck without funds

Fusion scientists at the Magnetic Fusion Advisory Committee meeting in Seattle Aug. 27 debated what to do with the nation's magnetic mirror fusion research program, which currently is not funded because of a \$60 million budget cut.

The choice posed to them by Department of Energy Fusion Office head John Clarke was to put the money back into the mirror program by cutting the research in alternative concepts, such as the spher-

mak, the Oak Ridge stellarator, and the Los Alamos reversed field pinch.

The group rejected this solution and instead chose to pursue a "small" \$3 million mirror research program, funded by a 1% cut across-the-board in the fusion program. Clarke has rejected this option, however, so the issue is still unresolved.

The huge MFTF tandem mirror device, completed this year at Lawrence Livermore, has never been used because its operating budget was cut. A smaller Livermore tandem mirror device (TMX)

Jewish terrorist Levy: Assassinate LaRouche!

At a press conference in Israel, Mordechai Levy, leader of the so-called Jewish Defense Organization (JDO), United States, called for the assassination of U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, the *Jerusalem Post* reported on Aug. 24.

Levy "is in Israel to gain support from student organizations," and "is slated to set up a [JDO] chapter in France."

"Levy said he does not advocate the assassination of anti-Semitic activists," the *Post* claimed, "but insists that if men like Louis Farrakhan and Lyndon LaRouche gain substantial, 'thus dangerous' political power in the United States, then 'assassination may be the only answer.'"

Levy, who is currently under investigation in the United States in connection with at least one murder and several terrorist incidents, was reportedly called as a witness in the federal grand jury targeting LaRouche's political associates run by U.S. Attorney in Boston William Weld.

According to the *Jerusalem Post*, the "emphatic" "fist-waving" Levy, characterized as a "Diaspora militant," claims 3,500 JDO members in the United States. Says the *Post*: "The JDO operates camps in California and in New York which train youths aged 13-20 in karate and in the use of semi-automatic weapons. Some 2,000 American Jews are now proficient in both as a result of JDO courses, Levy claimed."

● **BANK OF AMERICA** loan executive Gladys Ayala and two other bank employees were among eight persons indicted for aiding Colombian cocaine traffickers operating in the Los Angeles area. The 12-count federal indictment charged the ring with helping to launder drug profits through Orange County banks.

● **THE CALIFORNIA** Senate has passed sweeping legislation that would require state pension and university funds to sell the more than \$11 billion worth of securities they hold in companies doing business in South Africa. "This is the single most significant breakthrough on the divestment question in the nation," said Willie Brown, speaker of the State Assembly, "because of the amount of investments involved."

● **MAYORS FROM 40 CITIES**, meeting in New York on Aug. 26, called on Congress to use the armed forces to stop narcotics smuggling across U.S. borders. The officials also passed resolutions calling on Congress to provide local authorities with \$625 million a year for five years to fight drug abuse; to withhold foreign aid to nations that don't stop the export of illicit drugs; to make finding and deporting illegal aliens convicted of drug offenses a first priority; and to create special narcotics courts.

● **ANOTHER ISRAELI** official was arrested in the United States on Aug. 25. Ronen Tidhar, a "technical staff" employee at the Israeli consulate in New York City, was arrested along with the president of an Ohio high-tech company, Bill Longfellow, as the pair attempted to break into the offices of a Long Island electronics company that does Defense Department contract work.

● **SEN. RICHARD LUGAR** (R-Ind.) is seriously considering signing the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty.