

National News

Walsh investigates domestic spying

Independent prosecutor Lawrence Walsh is investigating whether "Project Democracy"—specifically Lt. Col. Oliver North and Gen. Richard Secord—ran an illegal domestic spying operation targeting critics of the Reagan administration's Contra policy.

According to the Dec. 7 *Wall Street Journal*, Walsh recently broadened his grand jury investigation to determine if the Project Democracy networks were involved in any unauthorized surveillance, intelligence-gathering, or other free-lance investigations to harass or discredit political opponents.

The *Journal* names independent film producer Larry Spivey and Jack Terrell, a disaffected Contra supporter, as having been subjected to illegal Project Democracy harassment, and that it was told by FBI number-two man, Oliver Revell, that he and other FBI officials "became concerned" in July 1986 that North was using Secord and others to run a "plumbers unit" from the White House.

In fact, Revell was an intimate collaborator of North's National Security Council unit.

Two Kemp backers defect to Bush

Amid reports that Jack Kemp's presidential bid is foundering on the shoals of financial non-support, two of three co-chairmen of his Michigan campaign resigned to form a "coalition of convenience" with the Bush campaign, the *Washington Post* reported Dec. 8.

The weakness of the Kemp campaign nationally appeared to be a major factor in the decision of the two Kemp supporters, State Sen. Dick Posthumus and Larrain Thomas, whose resignations were promptly accepted.

According to Kemp's national campaign manager, Charlie Black, Kemp has

borrowed nearly \$2 million against federal matching funds, has issued another \$300,000 in letters of credit, and owes another \$500,000 to vendors.

This latest defection in Michigan allegedly puts George Bush in command in that state. In early December, 11 minor Robertson supporters announced that they were bolting for the Bush camp, because of reports that Robertson used Christian Broadcast Network money for his campaign.

Another blow to Kemp's campaign came Dec. 7 when evangelist Tim LaHaye resigned as campaign co-chairman, citing a "scurrilous attack," in the *Baltimore Sun*. The *Sun* had reported that LaHaye recently referred to Catholicism as "a false religion" and said that the Jews' rejection of Jesus was one reason for the historic troubles of Jerusalem.

New indictments over AIDS initiative?

A California ballot initiative making AIDS subject to public health measures has touched off a furor among the counterculture's political leaders. Radio reports Dec. 8 said that the Los Angeles City Council would pass a resolution against the initiative, which is similar to 1986's Proposition 64, and that Mayor Tom Bradley had denounced initiative for "discrimination."

The radio reports also indicated that indictments would be handed down against Proposition 64's sponsors, also the sponsors of the present initiative. An independent Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations was quick to react, issuing a press release that began:

"A new wave of arrests and indictments against political causes and persons associated with U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche is probably imminent, according to the Los Angeles District Attorney's office. . . . If indictments are handed down, they will be the result of an 18-month-old investigation, initiated by California Attorney General John Van de Kamp, of the 'petitioning methods' for Proposition 64. . . .

"Most significant, is that this matter has come to a head just as Soviet dictator Mikhail Gorbachov has come to the United States. This Commission has reviewed conclusive evidence that the Soviet Union has been a central agent in the legal efforts to destroy Lyndon LaRouche and his influence. . . .

"The decision as to whether or not to pursue indictments, will directly reflect Kremlin strategy on 'the LaRouche question.'"

"Though the November 1986 AIDS initiative was defeated, it received broad international attention, to the degree that, for many Americans, AIDS is the issue they most identify with the name, 'LaRouche'. . . .

"Since the petition circulators were all duly registered California voters, Van de Kamp focused on the question of their 'intent'—whether the circulators 'intended' to reside in California 'permanently'—a subtle question involving no overt acts, a 'state of mind' argument typical of Soviet-style prosecutions. . . .

"The violation of human rights which has already occurred in this case is substantial. If, in addition, Soviet-style political indictments are issued . . . the courts will degrade themselves to become instruments of political persecution."

'Controlled dissent' over INF treaty

The battle over the INF treaty has fractured the "Reagan coalition" to such a degree that a special brand of "opponent" of this giveaway of Europe has been created, as perhaps the only way to ensure that the treaty actually gets implemented. This special brand of "opponent" roundly denounces the treaty, but insists it's a *fait accompli*.

Such "controlled dissent" is coming out of the American Conservative Union, for example, as well as the "Summit Information Center," a front-group for the KGB-infested Heritage Foundation. It will be almost impossible to defeat the treaty, they say, so no one should try, but instead focus

on "post-ratification" fights over U.S. policy.

ACU president Dan Casey told a reporter Dec. 8 that, while the group intends to lobby the Senate to amend the treaty, the "political reality" is that "it probably can't be stopped. The best we can hope for, is to get the Senate to adopt some reservations" to the treaty which would call for stricter verification measures, and "allow" (not require) the deployment of a theater defense for Western Europe.

Casey, who appeared at a pre-summit "Anti-Appeasement Alliance" press conference in Washington, said he disagreed with conservative gadfly Howard Phillips for attacking the President and for focusing on the INF treaty. "After all, this isn't like Ronald Reagan is giving away the whole store."

Ed Haiselmaier of the Summit Information Center said his group will use the INF ratification process to focus on Soviet human rights abuses.

Garn says Reagan gives no space leadership

Sen. Jake Garn, addressing an audience of contractors and space program proponents at a Washington seminar, accused President Reagan of showing "no leadership on space whatsoever."

Garn was the first American politician to fly into space aboard the Space Shuttle.

Garn was no less kind with his colleagues, saying that they have no understanding of the effects of their budget cuts on the space program.

"The appalling thing to me is that there is no real support for space in this body. No one calls up, in any of these [budget] negotiations, and puts any pressure on my colleagues either in the House or the Senate to say we need more for space; contractors. We hear from contractors. Well, that is not a wide base of support. . . .

"I hesitate to say this, but the past two administrations, including this one, which is mine and a Republic President I greatly admire, has shown no leadership on space

whatsoever. . . . Other than the speech announcing the space station, in my opinion, there has been no follow-up whatsoever in communicating to the general public."

NBC held in contempt in 'LaRouche case'

NBC-TV has been held in contempt by U.S. District Judge Robert Keeton for "willful failure" to produce outtakes and payment records concerning a key government witness in the Boston "LaRouche case."

LaRouche and 15 co-defendants face trial for alleged credit card fraud and conspiracy to obstruct justice, but the government's key witness, Forrest Lee Fick, has not exactly proven himself a paragon of credibility. The defense charges that he was paid by NBC News to make slanderous attacks on LaRouche, broadcast by NBC in May 1984.

Judge Keeton had ordered that outtakes—unused portions—of Fick's televised defamatory attacks on LaRouche, and Fick's pay stubs, be produced by 2:15 p.m. on Dec. 4. At the same time, Keeton had ordered CBS to produce similar outtakes for government witness Charles Tate, who appeared on CBS's "West 57th Street" TV news series. CBS produced the outtakes for the court; NBC did not.

On Dec. 8, Judge Keeton ordered NBC to pay \$500 a day in fines for its "continuing contumacious conduct in its refusal to comply with the court's order of Dec. 2, 1987." Keeton stayed the imposition of the sanctions until NBC receives a decision on a stay from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. NBC is appealing Keeton's produce order to that court.

If the Court of Appeals denies NBC's motion for a stay, the sanctions will accumulate until NBC complies with the court order, or the LaRouche trial ends, whichever happens first. Keeton states in his order, that if the Court of Appeals denies NBC's motion for a stay, and NBC does not comply with his order, he will consider imposing larger daily sanctions.

Briefly

● **RAISA GORBACHOV** was the guest of honor at a tea given by Democratic Party moneyhag Pamela Churchill Harriman in Washington Dec. 10.

● **ROY FRANKHAUSER**, the CIA-linked former security consultant to Lyndon LaRouche, was found guilty of conspiracy to obstruct justice in Boston Dec. 10. One courtroom observer was heard to comment: "That's what happens when both the prosecution and the defense lawyer work for the federal government." Court-appointed defense attorney Owen Walker spent most of his time attacking LaRouche, ending up tarring his client with the same lies.

● **ARMAND HAMMER** recently had "the birthday party of the century," his 89th, which ended only when he left for Moscow to get an award for contributions to world peace. The 400 guests included Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin, two Saudi princes; three members of the British Royal Family, royalty from Denmark and Holland, and big names in film, industry, finance. ABC-TV's Barbara Walters cut the two-meter-high cake.

● **SEN. AL GORE** was "livid" when his friend and political patron, Armand Hammer, failed to get him an invitation to one of the social events being held for Gorbachov in Washington. Hammer finally got Gore and his wife, Tipper, onto the guest list for a Dec. 9 luncheon for the Soviet dictator.

● **THE ARMY** has announced periodic re-testing of active-duty servicemen for exposure to AIDS. Under the new policy, all soldiers will be re-tested at least once every two years, with servicemen stationed overseas or in certain units, such as the Rangers, being screened more frequently. The directive, issued Nov. 16, was released Dec. 4.