

Elephants and Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

LaRouche Dem puts Warner on hot seat

The existence of openly Satanic elements in the U.S. Armed Forces has become a special focus of a U.S. Senate candidate in Virginia. With recent media revelations about Col. Michael Aquino, founder of the Temple of Set, and other evidence that Satanism has penetrated the U.S. military at high levels, the issue has become one which demands national attention.

Nancy Spannaus, a LaRouche Democrat who is challenging Republican John Warner for his Senate seat, has called on Warner to conduct an immediate investigation into Colonel Aquino, an intelligence officer in good standing in the U.S. Army who has enjoyed top secret clearance.

On Feb. 20, Spannaus wrote to Warner, in his capacity as ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, outlining the facts of the Aquino case, and requesting that he meet with her to discuss what action could be taken.

Warner wrote back that he had "reviewed" her concerns on the case, and then conveyed through an assistant that he didn't want to discuss this matter with her, because she had chosen to oppose him—as if Satanism were a partisan issue.

Dissatisfied with Warner's failure even to consider the threat to national security posed by the presence of Sa-

tanists in the military, Mrs. Spannaus has taken her effort to force a spotlight on this dangerous problem to the voters.

In an open letter issued March 19, Mrs. Spannaus wrote that she was urging all U.S. citizens, but especially those in Virginia, and in Georgia—home state of Senate Armed Services Committee chairman Sam Nunn—to demand that the Senate panel take appropriate action to stop the conduct of Satanism in the armed services, including holding hearings immediately on the Aquino case.

"We cannot afford to have the U.S. Army condoning Satanism in any shape or form," Mrs. Spannaus wrote. "It is not only a threat to our national security, but a message to the country that 'Satanism' is just another 'religion.' . . . I urge that citizens begin now to flood the offices of Senator Warner, and of . . . Sen. Sam Nunn, with demands that such hearings be held immediately."

Indeed, in 1980 the U.S. Army updated its standard encyclopedia of religious beliefs, which is used by Army chaplains, to include a section on Satanism.

Mrs. Spannaus followed that up with press conferences in Roanoke and Lynchburg where she blasted Warner for refusing to take up the fight against Satanic influences within the U.S. military.

EIR contacted the Capitol Hill offices of Senators Nunn and Warner in early April to get their response to Mrs. Spannaus's charges, but so far, neither has commented.

In her open letter, Mrs. Spannaus also included the text of her communication with Senator Warner, which cited some of the reasons why Satanists like Aquino have no place in the military.

In her letter to her opponent, Mrs. Spannaus referred him to published

press accounts reporting that Aquino was accused in 1987 of being involved in a brutal child rape case in San Francisco, but was not charged. However, Mrs. Spannaus wrote, "The police did find in his home 38 videotapes, photo negatives, and other evidence that the house, which doubled as a Satanic church, had been the hub of a pedophile ring operating in and around the Army base.

"Yet, when the Army was confronted with these facts, and with the outrage of citizens who heard Aquino's confession of Satanic faith on the Geraldo Rivera show in October of 1988, Army officials came to his support. . . . U.S. Army spokesman Lt. Col. Greg Rixon, quoted in the Dec. 27 *Washington Times*, said: 'Lt. Col. Aquino is protected by the U.S. Constitution . . . serves admirably in his unit in St. Louis and . . . is an exemplary officer. I believe it would be impossible to make a case that Lt. Col. Aquino is a divisive influence.' "

This attitude is intolerable, according to Mrs. Spannaus. "Satanism, and its sordid, hideous practices, are not a matter of free speech, or freedom of expression, as our Armed Forces seem to imply. Worship of the devil, as police officers who deal with these crimes testify, directly leads to the pursuit of evil, for the explicit purpose of the destruction of the good. This is no 'religion,' but a cult committed to destruction. Perhaps our Constitution may allow an individual to profess Satanism, but it explicitly outlaws the hideous practices it prescribes."

She noted that the state legislatures of Washington and Pennsylvania have bills before them to ban Satanism. But, she added, "how much more important that the federal government cease providing sanction for Satanic leaders," and urged people join with her to demand that our elected representatives take up the matter.