

National News

Panda caricature upsets genocidalists

The World Wildlife Fund sent a complaint to the *New Federalist* newspaper on May 18, for publication of "a caricature of the World Wildlife Fund logo." The WWF logo is a panda.

The letter, signed by general counsel Michael A. Mantell from their Washington, D.C. office, claims that even caricatures must be approved by the WWF, because of its "exclusive intellectual property rights" on the panda logo.

"World Wildlife Fund objects to your unauthorized (and derogatory) use of its logo, or any colorable likeness thereof. We ask you do not use it again, in any form, without our prior permission," the letter concludes.

A spokesman for *New Federalist* said that the caricature which they used is about five years old, showing a panda with the bones of a (implied human) victim. Suddenly, however, the current influence of *New Federalist* seems to be such that the WWF has thought to complain. Will the ecologists now seek to ban all cartoons?

Bush pulls anti-drug agents out of Panama

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is being pulled out of Panama, dealing a blow to the war on drugs, because of President Bush's foreign policy escapades there.

The DEA is understood to have objected strongly, but lost the argument that its operations in Panama were too vital to be curtailed, and is being removed entirely as part of an embassy staff reduction.

According to a report in the *Washington Post* on May 19, DEA spokesman Maurice Hill said the Panama office has been "extremely productive" for the DEA, adding that "in the past, we have had very good cooperation" from the Panama Defense Forces. Closing it down "would be a minor setback."

The *Post* comments that this action, along with closing down Customs and other law enforcement related agencies, could hurt the U.S. fight against drugs and seriously reduce the capacity to monitor illicit transactions in the Colon Free Zone and Panama City's banking center. "The monitoring will be gone. It's like shooting yourself in the foot," one official said.

Although the DEA has lauded the co-operation of Panamanian authorities, the *Post* cites other critics who claim there are limits to that assistance and there are areas that the DEA cannot effectively probe.

Scientists back bigger magnetic fusion program

A report produced by the National Academy of Sciences and leaked to the press the week of May 21, calls for an accelerated effort in the magnetic confinement fusion program.

The report calls for accelerated construction of the \$455 million Compact Ignition Tokamak to produce a sustained reaction in the early 1990s. This would be followed by construction of a prototype fusion power plant, the International Tokamak Experimental Reactor, about the end of the century.

Completed in March, the NAS apparently kept the report under close wraps to avoid comparisons of tokamaks and the small capital requirements of the cold fusion experiments then dominating the news. In terms of energy gain, tokamaks and palladium cathodes are currently about even.

Legion post adopts anti-Satanism resolve

A resolution condemning Satanism as antithetical to service in the U.S. Armed Forces, expected to be a model for similar resolutions, has been adopted by an American Legion Post in Erie County, Pennsylvania, and

will be submitted to the state convention July 11, in Pittsburgh. It calls for the expulsion of Lt. Col. Michael Aquino from the Armed Forces.

The resolution postulates that "the maintenance of high moral standards in the Armed Forces of the United States is essential to national security," that since "Satanism, by definition, is the worship of Evil, and thereby promotes a criminal mentality, and a corruption of moral standards," that since "no Satanist can honestly swear to uphold the Constitution of the United States, since the promotion of Evil undermines justice and domestic tranquility, and subverts the general welfare," the American Legion "calls upon the Secretary of Defense to establish that profession of Satanism in all its forms is incompatible with service in the Armed Forces of the United States."

The resolution specifically notes that since Lt. Col. Michael A. Aquino (U.S. Army Reserve) is a "professed Satanist, having been a leading member of the 'Church of Satan', and is the founder and 'High Priest' of the Satanist 'Temple of Set,' and has boasted of his Satanic activities on national television," which thereby "disgraces the United States military, subverts the American philosophy of service to God and Country, and provides aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States," Aquino should be given a "dishonorable discharge."

Warner backs 'religious beliefs' of Satanists

Sen. John Warner (R-Va.), has equated the beliefs of Satanism with religious beliefs protected under the Constitution.

Warner sent out a letter on May 16 defending Satanist Lt. Col. Michael Aquino's "constitutional right" to "profess his personal choice of religion" to all the signers of a petition protesting Aquino's protection by the U.S. Army. Over 100 signatures were sent to Warner in April.

"The officer in question, Lt. Col. Michael Aquino," Warner wrote, "is currently

...
serving a tour of active duty at the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis, Missouri. In the exercise of his personal religious beliefs, LTC Aquino professes to be a priest of the Temple of Set.

"I empathize with you over this matter and share your abhorrence of LTC Aquino's choice of religion. However, while every other citizen of the United States may disagree with LTC Aquino's personal religious belief, the First Amendment of the Constitution provides in part, that 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.' In essence, the Constitution guarantees him the fundamental freedom to profess any personal religious belief, and the United States Army may neither endorse nor condemn it.

"With regard to illegal activities, in the absence of proven evidence that LTC Aquino has engaged in conduct which is criminal, violates military regulations, or interferes with his military duties, any action by the Army against him would be based solely on his professed religious beliefs and would therefore be unconstitutional. If such actions are proven in the future, I have every confidence that the Army will act swiftly and appropriately in dealing with them."

The petition to Warner from constituents calls upon him "to publicly investigate, through hearings of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the case of admitted Satanist Lt. Col. Michael Aquino. We demand that Satanism be outlawed from the U.S. military. We demand a response from you as to why you are allowing such a national security crisis to continue."

Space Command chief: Soviets are number one

Commander Gen. John L. Piotrowski, of the U.S. Space Command, warned that the Soviet Union holds a decisive superiority in space, in remarks delivered to the Senate Appropriations Committee on May 18.

"We have yielded control of wartime space to the Soviets—a situation that does

not serve our national security interests," he told the committee.

Piotrowski contrasted the U.S. and Soviet approaches to space, pointing out that U.S. peacetime strengths such as complexity and unique capabilities, are a primary wartime disadvantage compared to the robust, in-depth, and simple systems developed by the Soviets. The "net combat advantage" held by the Soviets renders virtually all sophisticated command-and-control technologies of the allies useless, unless there is a priority reorientation on the ASAT (Anti-Satellite Systems) issue, and a beefing-up of the space program overall.

He further pointed out that a single space surveillance satellite of the type his command is pushing for, could perform over the entire Caribbean drug transportation scene, for the same cost as AWACS coverage of the narrow Florida-Bermuda route.

HHS nominations are running into snags

Several individuals which Louis Sullivan, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, would like to have appointed to posts under him, have unsavory pasts which may torpedo their nominations.

Evidence is mounting that Robert Fulton, whom Sullivan wants to head the Family Support Administration which supervises the nation's welfare program, directed the coverup of an Oklahoma hospital experiment which denied handicapped children life-saving medical care because doctors judged that their families were too poor to care for the infants, and then threatened these families with a cutoff of all state assistance if they did not stop contact with reporters investigating the incidents.

Drew E. Altman, Sullivan's candidate to head Medicare who promoted sex education classes in New Jersey schools while Commissioner of Human Services, is suspected of having a conflict of interest because health clinics in N.J. schools, which he established, were selling Ortho birth control products.

Briefly

● **RUDOLPH GIULIANI**, the former U.S. Attorney for New York, announced his bid for mayor of New York City May 18, promising "fundamental change." Giuliani is facing perfume-heir Ronald Lauder in a Sept. 12 Republican primary race.

● **JIMMY CARTER** credited George Bush for his continuing "rehabilitation," in remarks to the *New York Times* May 18. "It's a totally different attitude to the presidency," he said, in describing the Bush White House "consideration" of him and his views.

● **RUDY LINARES**, the man who disconnected his son's hospital respirator at gunpoint, was sentenced to one year of non-reporting probation by a Chicago judge on May 19. A grand jury rejected a charge of murder, and he pleaded guilty to a minor gun violation. The press and the Right-to-Die lobby has been calling the murder "an act of love." The grand jury "showed the opinion of the community," according to his attorney.

● **VICE PRESIDENT** Dan Quayle is saving President Bush from a threat of impeachment, according to nationally syndicated columnist Mary McGroarty in the May 21 *Washington Post*. The image of Dan Quayle as President is hindering those who would otherwise be madly pursuing the issue of Bush's involvement in the Iran-Contra affair, possibly to the point of impeachment, she wrote.

● **LLOYD CUTLER**, the former Carter White House counsel and lawyer for the Greenpeace radical ecologist sect, cosigned a letter published in the May 23 *International Herald Tribune*, with Greenpeace International head David McTaggart. The letter denounces an Icelandic film which exposes the fraudulent actions of Greenpeace to fuel their campaigns against whaling and sealing.