

National News

Bush aide, on deathbed, regrets dirty tricks

Lee Atwater, a former Bush campaign aide and chairman of the Republican National Committee, expressed regret for the dirty tricks which helped George Bush into the White House, in a deathbed discussion with Andrew Stephen of the *London Observer*, which reported the story March 31.

Atwater said that the Bush campaign was based on racist libels against Michael Dukakis, and that his own role in that campaign was a wrongdoing he regrets. "Atwater understood," the article stated, "it was important for Bush to stir primeval racial fears among the white majority of voters." Atwater authored the infamous campaign ad which pinned the blame for the prison furlough release of Willie Horton, a black who raped and murdered a white woman during his release, on Dukakis.

Atwater reportedly sent many written apologies to the victims of his dirty tricks over the years. Lyndon LaRouche, one such victim, was a notable exception.

What's wrong with U.S.: lawyers, says magazine

The March 1991 issue of *Anti-Shyster*, a Texas-based publication, points its finger at lawyers as what is wrong with America. The following are excerpts:

America has 6% of the world's population and 66% of the world's lawyers.

Japan has 12,500 lawyers, France has 16,000, England has 40,000. Prior to reunification, West Germany had 47,000. The U.S.A. has 750,000!

On a per capita basis America has 30 times as many as Japan, 10 times as many as France, 5 times as many as England, and 4 times as many as Germany.

In terms of costs, the U.S. tort system consumes 2.7% of total national output, compared to 0.5% in Canada, and less than 0.5% in France, Germany, and England.

The average attorney causes a \$1 million

annual loss to our GNP—that's over one-half trillion dollars per year, twice what it costs to run the Defense Department.

It costs 100 times more and takes 17 times longer to probate an estate in America than it does in England.

Each year the entire nation of Japan adds only about 500 new lawyers, while America adds nearly 40,000.

Unlike America, the use of a lawyer in Japan is regarded as a shameful thing. A book written in 1854 describes lawyers as "those who accompany stupid people to court." To never use the law is the normal hope of honorable Japanese people. Amen.

Existence of Virginia Democratic Party doubted

According to Virginia Republican state delegate George F. Allen of Albemarle County, the Virginia Democratic Party no longer legally exists. State law says that, to be a party, it would have to get 10% in the most recent elections, and the Virginia Democrats didn't run a candidate in the 1990 Senate election.

The affair was covered in the March 30 *Washington Post* and *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, the latter of which mentioned that Nancy Spannaus, a LaRouche Democrat who polled over 18% of the vote running as an independent, was the only candidate against incumbent Sen. John Warner (R).

Delegate Allen fears that there are no Virginia judges who would implement the law on this issue. More likely, state delegates, who are dealing with redistricting, will pass a "clarification" of the law to avoid the problem.

Fraud on Gulf war cost, says former official

Lawrence Korb, of the Brookings Institution, detailed the means by which Pentagon planners used the Gulf war to offset reductions mandated under the October budget agreement, in an April interview with Ger-

man Hessen 3 TV.

According to Korb, who was the assistant secretary of Defense responsible for approximately 70% of all Pentagon spending under Reagan, the Pentagon used the 1990 Omnibus Reconciliation Act, which mandated that all Gulf war costs were "off budget," to transfer tens of billions of dollars from regular Pentagon budget items, claiming they were part of the Gulf war costs. He cited as an example the Pentagon original budget plans to buy 6,500 Patriot, Tomahawk, and similar missiles under the FY 1992 budget. But in February, the Pentagon requested only funds for 1,500 on regular budget lines, while 6,000 were said to be in the "off budget" account.

Korb pointed out that the Pentagon's inflated estimate of \$70 billion war costs compares to a final estimate of between \$35-40 billion, of which some \$55 billion comes from allied contributions, especially Germany and Japan. "If we want our allies to fund the war in full we ought to say so," he said.

LaRouche Democratic Campaign sues FEC

Edward Spannaus, treasurer of the LaRouche Democratic Campaign, filed a lawsuit against the Federal Election Commission on April 2, charging that the FEC failed to take appropriate action after finding that the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the American Jewish Congress (AJC) violated federal election law.

The suit, which was filed before Judge Harold Greene in the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia, asks the court to order the FEC to take action to enforce the federal election law against the ADL and the AJC.

The suit was filed after the FEC found probable cause that the ADL and AJC had violated the federal election law by actively engaging in campaigning against LaRouche candidates in the 1986 elections.

The suit documents that not only was the FEC wrong when it decided not to prosecute the ADL and AJC, but that the FEC's investigation of Spannaus' initial complaint was

incompetent.

For example, when Spannaus filed his initial complaint he submitted to the FEC public statements from Nathan Perlmutter and Kenneth Bialkin that the ADL intended to distribute 100,000 copies of the ADL's pamphlet entitled "The LaRouche Political Cult, Packaging Extremism," in an effort to stop LaRouche candidates after the March 1986 statewide election victories of Mark Fairchild and Janice Hart in Illinois. Bialkin told AP that the ADL intended to "sink them by exposing them." The ADL also stated in a 1986 fundraising letter that the ADL was "working round the clock" to stop LaRouche candidates. In the December 1986 edition of the ADL *Bulletin*, the ADL claims that the distribution of their pamphlet was responsible for the defeat of LaRouche candidates in the 1986 elections.

According to the FEC general counsel's report of June 5, 1987, the ADL was then claiming that only 25,000 copies of the report had been produced and distributed. But by Dec. 12, 1989, the FEC's general counsel accepted the ADL's claim that only 6,600 copies of the report were produced and distributed.

Not only did the FEC make no effort to resolve these discrepancies, but the FEC's general counsel recommended that the FEC take no action against the ADL because of the "small dollar amount involved" and "the relatively sympathetic posture" of the ADL.

Bush crew said to suppress press freedom

The 1991 report of a Washington, D.C. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, accuses the Bush administration of escalating its efforts to manipulate the flow of news.

The committee cites 135 documented instances of administration efforts to restrict access to public information, accuses the Bush administration of "draconian action, of using disinformation and secrecy to control what is reported," according to a report in the Hong Kong *Morning Post*.

Of the 135 citations, about half were around the Gulf war where the committee

cited "unprecedented restrictions on media including use of escorted press pools, 'security reviews' of all stories and suppression of information about military operations."

"The Gulf was not an aberration," Jane Kirtley, executive director of the committee said. "It is the Bush administration information policy." The White House, Pentagon, and Justice Department were cited as the worst offenders.

Dixon sentence a setback to police state

Don Dixon, the former head of the failed Vernon S&L of Texas, was sentenced to three concurrent five year terms in jail and assessed a \$600,000 fine by U.S. District Judge Joe Fish in Dallas April 2. Dixon was convicted in December on 23 counts of bank fraud for misusing Vernon funds. He will be eligible for parole in 20 months. The sentence marks a significant setback for the government's witchhunt against the S&Ls.

Dixon, one of the most vilified of the government's scapegoats, was facing a maximum sentence of 120 years and fines of \$5.6 million.

"Mr. Dixon has not been convicted of the failure of Vernon Savings and Loan" or of conduct that led to Vernon's failure, Judge Fish said. Dixon's misdeeds "were a far cry in my mind from the loss of a billion-dollar institution," he said. "The media believes, and the public probably believes, that Mr. Dixon was responsible for the fall of Vernon," Fish said. "Those are the charges I had expected to be brought to this court. I was surprised that such evidence was not brought."

Judge Fish said Dixon might have been the victim of a "lynch mob mentality." According to the *Washington Post*, Fish "recalled the mob lynchings after the French Revolution and the hysteria in the United States during World War II that led to internment camps for Japanese-Americans."

"The sentence—and the remarks—seemed a direct slap at Attorney General Dick Thornburgh," the *Washington Times* commented.

Briefly

● **THE FBI** has been ordered to identify all investigative activity directed at Lyndon LaRouche or his associates since Jan. 1, 1989, and to identify all information it has received from the Anti-Defamation League about their ongoing actions against LaRouche, by Federal Magistrate Sharon E. Grubin of New York.

● **L. DOUGLAS WILDER**, the black governor of Virginia who has formed a presidential campaign committee, has been selected to receive the first B'nai B'rith International Great American Traditions award on April 17, the March 30 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported.

● **A VIRGINIA** Congress on Hunger has been formed in response to the study released March 27 by the D.C.-based Food Research and Action Center which shows that 1 in 8 children in the U.S. under the age of 12 do not have enough to eat. The study reports 212,000 children are hungry or at risk of hunger in Virginia, and 61,000 in Maryland.

● **JOHN ASCHER**, a LaRouche Democrat, announced his bid for mayor of Baltimore against incumbent mayor Kurt Schmoke on April 5. Ascher denounced Schmoke's role in pushing drugs and his advocacy of chemical lobotomies for prisoners, as Nazi policies. "Someone must stop Schmoke's political career before it goes any further," Ascher said.

● **A PLAN** for a pipeline to carry fresh water from Alaska to southern California, was approved April 2 by the Los Angeles City Council as an idea for an official feasibility study. The plan involves running a 20-foot wide plastic pipe for 2,000 miles under the ocean from Alaska to California.

● **THE JUSTICE** Department has set up a new unit to investigate criminal fraud in the insurance industry, Assistant Attorney General Robert Mueller said April 1, Reuters reported.