

National News

Agriculture business group warns of environmentalism

The Southern Agricultural Chemicals Association warned its members at a meeting in Atlanta at the end of October that environmental groups are planning to launch an all-out campaign against food that would make the Alar scare they orchestrated a couple of years ago look tame by comparison.

The theme of the environmentalists will be food safety, in particular baby food safety, the association warned, and the assault will target all agricultural chemicals. The result of the campaign, as is intended, will hurt both consumers and producers, and will not improve the safety of the already safe food supply.

In 1984, a leading U.S. entomologist calculated that 100 million people died a year as a result of direct and indirect effects of the anti-pesticide activities in the United States.

Former DoJ prosecutor ties Bush to Iran-Contra

A former prosecutor in the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) has implicated George Bush in the Iran-Contra and Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) scandals in an affidavit, according to the Oct. 25 issue of the British weekly *Private Eye*, which claims to have possession of the affidavit.

In 1983, Vice President Bush set up a special Senior Inter-agency Group to deal with terrorism in the Mideast, which Bush assistant Donald Gregg helped run for Bush. A British national, Leslie Aspin, was personally recruited by CIA chief William Casey in 1984, and by November 1984, Aspin and Oliver North "opened three accounts in the BCCI in Paris" where North deposited \$5 million. "Aspin and North engaged the services of a Syrian-born arms dealer Monzer Al Kassab to sell arms to Iran, to help the Contras. For this purpose Aspin laundered \$42 million through the BCCI accounts in the Cayman Islands."

In a related development, the Newhouse Newspaper chain reported in late October that White House Chief of Staff John Sununu's chief aide, Edward Rogers, Jr., had quit the administration to take a \$600,000 two-year contract to represent Saudi Sheik Kamal Adham, the former head of Saudi intelligence who was a central player in BCCI.

On Oct. 28, *New York Times* columnist William Safire cried "political payoff" and demanded a special prosecutor be appointed to investigate why the DoJ under then-Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and, earlier, the James Baker Treasury Department, had failed to probe CIA reports of BCCI dirty dealings. The Safire article was described by one source close to the White House as a "declaration of war."

FBI new threat list to target allies

The FBI is developing an expanded "threat list" of countries suspected of or known to be engaged in commercial espionage in the United States, including those who collect non-classified scientific information, the *Washington Times* reported Oct. 30.

The FBI list, which is now being finalized and emphatically includes nations friendly to the United States, was described by deputy assistant FBI intelligence director Harry B. Brandon, during a speech he gave to a security symposium in Arlington, Virginia.

The National Security Threat List outlines new areas for FBI counter-intelligence investigations in areas including: proliferation of nuclear, chemical, biological, or other unconventional weapons; theft of "core technologies" identified by the government as essential to U.S. security—the information need not be secret; a broad and undefined area involving U.S. industrial, proprietary, or economic information, beyond the "core technologies"; U.S. intelligence and foreign affairs information; active measures by foreign agents to influence government or public policy—traditional and non-traditional; and other areas.

Brandon told the gathering that "our ap-

proach in the '90s is going to be that if we find governmental use of an intelligence service in any of these areas, then we believe, and the Attorney General now believes, that it would be appropriate for the counter-intelligence community to become involved."

Columnist castigates Bush on starving Iraq

Columnist Mary McGrory criticized George Bush for starving the people of Iraq in a column in the Nov. 3 *Washington Post*. "We ignore our food policy towards Iraq. . . . George Bush repeatedly said we had no quarrel with the people of Iraq, but they are suffering—from the continued economic sanctions imposed on them by the West and from the consequences of the air war."

McGrory cited the recent data from a group of Harvard doctors visiting Iraq, "that 900,000 Iraqi children are malnourished and that the mortality rate for children is 380% greater than it was before the war. The root problem: Baghdad's power plant . . . is destroyed. . . . There is no power for sewage treatment centers; raw waste flows in the streets. Every new day . . . brings 2,000 new cases of typhoid fever. Hospitals are out of medicine, they lack the power to perform all but emergency surgery."

McGrory says that U.S. officials deny they are depriving the population in order to foment a revolt against Saddam, but they have no other policy. "Unless something is done, the Iraqis, particularly the Kurds, face a winter that could be as brutal as last March. . . . Americans . . . will have to goad the government into feeding Iraqi children."

Hemlock leader accused of smothering wife

Derek Humphry, the founder of the Hemlock Society, a group dedicated to duping people into demanding suicide as a right, has been accused of murdering his first wife

by smothering her. The accusation was leveled by Ann Wickett Humphry, the woman Derek Humphry married the year after he says he "helped" his wife, Jean, who had cancer, to die at her request. For years, Humphry, author of the book *Final Exit*, and his group, have been in the business of making murder look like suicide and of counseling people on how to get away with the crime.

The accusation was part of a suicide note left by Ann Wickett Humphry before she reportedly took her life in early October. Wickett wrote the allegation at the bottom of a photocopy of a type-written note addressed to Derek Humphry and sent to others. According to the *Seattle Times*, the accusation states: "I know. Jean actually died of suffocation. I could never say it until now; who would believe me?" Humphry always asserted that his wife of 22 years died after she insisted he procure lethal pills so she could control her death.

In 1989, Humphry walked out on Wickett just weeks after she developed breast cancer. Wickett said at the time that she felt she was expected to commit suicide. In her final note, she wrote: "Derek: There. You got what you wanted. Ever since I was diagnosed as having cancer, you have done everything conceivable to precipitate my death."

Wickett had also said that she and Humphry helped her elderly parents to consume lethal doses of prescription drugs to kill them. The deaths, which she came to regret, are described in her book *Double Exit*. Her parents were not terminally ill, just "distressed" about old age, she wrote.

Some Dems reject primary for presidential delegates

The Democratic Party of Washington State, which voiced fears in its fall 1991 newsletter that a "Republican" crossover could elect delegates committed to Lyndon LaRouche to the Democratic National Convention, has determined not to participate in the first-time state presidential primary scheduled for May 19, 1992. They will select delegates instead by the caucus procedure they have used in the past, which is now scheduled for

March 3, 1992.

The Washington primary was created by a voter referendum initiative which stated that each voter could participate in the primary by simply asking for a Democratic or Republican ballot. State Democratic Party officials objected, insisting that in order to satisfy Democratic National Committee rules, a voter wishing to participate in the Democratic primary must sign a declaration stating: "In accordance with national party rules, I declare that I wish to vote as a (Democrat) (Republican)."

Secretary of State Ralph Munro (R) refused to accept that language, stating: "To require that a voter declare party membership would be a clear violation of the law." Though the Democrats say that the May 19 primary will be only a non-binding beauty contest, Munro says he may sue to force the Democratic Party to comply with the May 19 primary results.

Wilder, Terry tax Social Security benefits

Virginia Attorney General Mary Sue Terry and Gov. L. Douglas Wilder are responsible for the state's decision to tax Social Security benefits, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* charged in its lead editorial Nov. 2.

The Times Dispatch states: "The mess began shortly after the Supreme Court's 1989 *Michigan v. Davis* decision, the devastating consequences of which Attorney General Mary Sue Terry failed to anticipate. *Davis* said Virginia had to give equal tax treatment to all governmental pensioners—tax them all, or exempt them all . . . the state government had taxed federal pensioners, but exempted its own."

In 1990, the state discovered a budget shortfall, and took back half the tax breaks it had given out the previous year, "and the Democrats—voting as an almost solid block—did it in substantial part by imposing a tax penalty on the Social Security benefits." The \$12,000 deduction given retirees had to be reduced by the amount of their social security, but not other pensions, creating a tax on social security.

Briefly

● **JESSE JACKSON** formally announced he will not seek the Democratic nomination for President in 1992, at a press conference Nov. 2 at a Washington, D.C. housing project. Instead, he will launch a nationwide voter registration drive.

● **THE AFL-CIO** will devote one session of their upcoming convention in Detroit to a debate on Nov. 12 among the six declared Democratic candidates, for the first time. Notably, neither Lyndon LaRouche nor his campaign has been invited to participate.

● **HEROIN** may soon overtake cocaine as the dealers' drug of choice, according to Customs agents in Houston, Texas, the Nov. 2 *Houston Chronicle* reported. The lucrative nature of heroin has caught the eye of the Colombian drug cartels, which are now producing some heroin and shipping it along with cocaine.

● **GOV. MARIO CUOMO** of New York will be the 1992 Democratic nominee for President, Republican National Chairman Clayton Yeutter said Oct. 27 on the CBS News program "Face the Nation." Yeutter said, "We consider him the candidate right now."

● **GEORGE BUSH'S** growing electoral vulnerability was analyzed in the Nov. 3 London *Sunday Times*: "*Bush can be had. . . . It's Bush: the act is wearing thin. . . . while average folks are getting pretty damn scared about the economy.*"

● **PATRICK MICHAELS**, a University of Virginia environmental sciences professor, attacked the frauds of "ozone depletion" and "global warming" in a commentary in the Nov. 1 *Washington Times*. He charged that "the unholy alliance between unrefereed, politicized science and environmental policy" is disregarding "well-established facts," which "should prompt the creation of a Special Prosecutor for Hidden Agendas."