
Book Review

A combat manual for a competent war on the international drug cartel

by Peter Brand

Dope, Inc., The Book That Drove Kissinger Crazy

by the Editors of *Executive Intelligence Review*
EIR, Washington, D.C., 1992
697 pages, paperbound, \$16

After being out of circulation for nearly five years, *Dope, Inc.* is back in print once again. The third, expanded edition of the bestseller, which was first published in 1978, could not have been released at a more appropriate moment.

As the authors document in three new introductory chapters, the international drug trade is doubling every five years. Best estimates are that the profits of illegal narcotics sales during fiscal year 1991 alone nearly reached the \$1 trillion mark. Drug money today represents the largest pool of liquid capital in the world. If anyone wishes to really figure out why the world economy is shot to hell, and why the entire Bretton Woods international financial structure is hopelessly bankrupt, then this is the starting point for discovering the horrible truth, and the third edition of *Dope, Inc.*, subtitled *The Book That Drove Kissinger Crazy*, is must reading.

Back in 1978, when a team of researchers for the now-defunct U.S. Labor Party undertook to piece together an overview of the global narcotics trade at the urging of Lyndon LaRouche, it was big news that the world's major "legitimate" financial institutions were up to their eyeballs in the proceeds from the sale of illegal, mind-altering drugs.

At the time, the authors of *Dope, Inc., Britain's Opium War Against the United States* took the battle against the bigtime drug money launderers to the doorsteps of the Federal Reserve Board by attempting to block the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. ("Hong Shang") from taking over Marine Midland Bank, New York State's eighth-largest commercial bank, on the grounds that the Hong Shang was a wholly owned subsidiary of the worldwide opium cartel. Although then-New York State Banking Commissioner Mu-

riel Siebert blocked the sale, the Federal Reserve Board gave its approval by granting Marine Midland a federal charter, and the deal went through under Federal Reserve auspices. The Hong Shang takeover was an important event. It signaled that the floodgates had been opened for drug money to flow freely into the American economy. For the first time, with no congressional or Executive branch okay, an unregulated, unaudited offshore bank—publicly acknowledged by the British government as the central bank of Britain's Far East opium trade since the 1860s—was given permission to take over a major American financial institution.

Things have never been the same since.

Eurodollars, petrodollars, narco-dollars

Lyndon LaRouche warned on Aug. 15, 1971 that the Nixon-Kissinger administration's free floating of the dollar and delinking of the U.S. currency from gold (accomplished at the Azores conference earlier that summer) would wreck the U.S. and world economies, by giving speculators a significant advantage over investors seeking to make long-term investments in productive enterprises like manufacturing, agriculture, and the expansion of infrastructure.

In the late 1960s, LaRouche had already launched what would become a lifelong battle against the rise of the drug-rock-sex counterculture, a rise that coincided with President Lyndon Johnson's capitulation to policies initiated by the Harold Wilson "New Age" government in England between 1964-67. U.S. aerospace began a long downward slide as LBJ scaled back the successful U.S. space program, the British pound sterling went through a crisis in 1967-68, triggering the beginning of the demise of the Bretton Woods system, and the trend toward the post-industrial society took off.

After Henry Kissinger's orchestrated Middle East oil crisis of 1974, the Eurodollar market emerged as the center of an offshore system for recycling petrodollars into an ever-expanding pool of speculative cash literally flooding the world economies. Some of those Eurodollars and petrodollars were shoved down the throats of developing sector coun-

tries, which had previously been free of the burdens of servicing debt, forcing their submission to economy-wrecking austerity imposed by consortiums of international bankers, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank. Years later, it would be unearthed that, at the same time that he was peddling this petrodollar hoax, Henry Kissinger was authoring a Nixon administration National Security Study Memorandum detailing a plan for reducing the population of the developing sector. One of the unspoken features of that plan was the replacement of food production in the Third World with the cultivation and production of drugs.

Years later, on May 10, 1982, in a speech before the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA) at London's Chatham House, Kissinger would boast that he had functioned as a British agent of influence while Nixon's secretary of state and national security adviser.

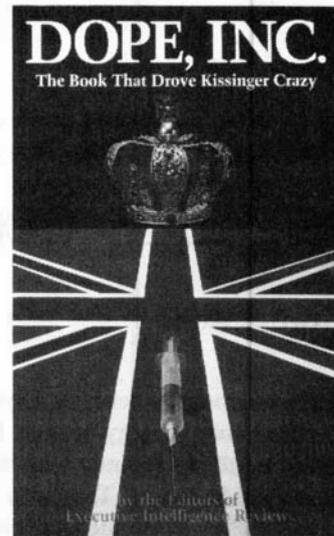
By the time the Trilateral Commission-dense Carter administration came into office in January 1977, the world money markets were already flooded with speculative capital that had been created out of thin air—or rather, thick smoke.

It is no coincidence that the Carter administration was on record as supporting the legalization of drugs. Under Carter, and later, under the Reagan-Bush administration, the Eurodollars and petrodollars would be superseded by a new currency: the narco-dollar.

Under the direction of Carter's new Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul Volcker (who now is the North American chairman of the Trilateral Commission), U.S. interest rates were driven up to over 20%, while the White House led the charge for wholesale banking deregulation, on the model of the Hong Shing takeover of Marine Midland. Overnight, the cartel that became infamous as "Dope, Inc." had been given both the motive and the means for flooding the U.S. economy with narco-dollars. These actions by Volcker all followed a blueprint authored by the New York Council on Foreign Relations years earlier. The CFR's *1980s Project* prescribed a series of steps aimed at taking the world economy through a "controlled disintegration."

As the result of deregulation and Volcker's high interest rate regime, the vast majority of Eurodollar-denominated cash collapsed onto the U.S. economy. By 1981-82, the deregulated U.S. banking system had become a safe haven for illegal cash, laundered back in as leverage for corporate takeovers and junk bond "creative financing" schemes of all kinds. Overnight, Wall Street outfits like Kohlberg Kravis Roberts (KKR) and Drexel Burnham Lambert began buying up some of America's most prestigious big-ticket corporate entities. Their capital pool was the flood of narco-dollars.

By the mid-1980s, the minions of national crime syndicate boss Meyer Lansky, reaping the profits of a vastly expanded flow of illegal narcotics and drug money into the U.S., were literally buying up America's corporate sector and in the process looting the nation's pension funds and savings and loans.



Bigger than Iran-Contra

As the result of all the media attention devoted to the so-called Iran-Contra scandal, the false impression has been spread that a collection of "out of control" intelligence agents, typified by Oliver North and the late CIA director William Casey, developed an expedient relationship with the Medellín Cartel and other narco-traffickers for the purpose of financing secret wars. That prevailing view of the scandals of the Reagan-Bush era misses the larger reality, which comes across loud and clear in the pages of *Dope, Inc.*: The United States, during the 1980s, was in the final stages of being taken over top down by the sponsors of the international drug trade. The biggest scandal of the Reagan-Bush years was the wholesale looting of what remained of the productive base of the U.S. economy through the narco-dollar invasion. Compared to that tragedy, the Iran-Contra muddle was a relatively insignificant, albeit revealing, manifestation of the problem.

This updated, third edition of *Dope, Inc.* provides the reader with an in-depth basis for understanding the narco-dollar invasion. But, above all, *Dope, Inc.* is a call to action to destroy the international drug cartel while there is still a chance.

Back in March 1985, shortly after drug traffickers had assassinated the courageous justice minister of Colombia, Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, and had kidnaped and tortured to death U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique Camarena Salazar in Mexico, Lyndon LaRouche authored a 14-point plan for conducting a hemispheric war on drugs. Just as *Dope, Inc.* to this day remains the combat manual exposing the enemy's order of battle, the LaRouche 14-point plan (which appears in full as an appendix in the new edition) represents the war plan for successfully carrying out the campaign to end the scourge of drugs and the dictatorship of narco-dollars.