

# National News

## Irradiating food gaining favor from consumers

"Irradiated Food Shows New Signs of Life" is the headline of an optimistic news story in the March 1 *Wall Street Journal*. The article begins by saying "Irradiation, a powerful but controversial weapon against harmful bacteria, is likely to become a big gun in the nation's food-safety arsenal." Among other things, noted is the fact that the deaths from contaminated hamburger in the Northwest have spurred the government regulatory agencies to put irradiation of red meat on a fast track for approval. Although poultry and pork have gone through the approval process, red meat has not.

The article reported that Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy recently told a private meeting of meat industry officials that if they are not able to successfully lower the level of pathogens in meat sold at the retail level, the Agriculture Department may begin requiring irradiation of meat.

Although the article notes the anti-nuclear opposition, the focus is on the positive. One Utah food supplier is quoted saying about irradiated poultry, "We have stores telling us they would prefer it." And a Chicago merchant who has sold various irradiated produce items says that his consumers "are overwhelmingly in favor of it."

*EIR* encourages readers to urge supermarkets to carry irradiated food, and not be intimidated by anti-nuclear lies about it.

## Croatian journalist widely covered in Pa.

The official paper of the Croatian Fraternal Union (CFU) reprinted the *EIR* article by Srecko Jurdana, in its March 3 issue. The Pittsburgh-based paper *Zajednicar* is the largest Croatian newspaper in North America with 100,000 members. Jurdana was touring the United States sponsored by the Schiller Institute, founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the wife of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. In Pittsburgh, Jurdana gave a press conference with national

CFU President Bernard M. Luketich.

*Zajednicar* wrote in its introduction: "Mr. Jurdana, who said he wanted to inform Croatian-Americans on what is happening both politically and militarily in the Old Homeland, said the war in Bosnia and Croatia must be stopped immediately or it will spread into World War III. He spoke out against the Vance-Owen plan, stating it rewards Serbian aggression and genocide. He compared the six-point plan for peace in Bosnia offered by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher as supporting the Vance-Owen plan with minor modifications.

"He lashed out at Great Britain for playing a major role in the war in support of Serbia in an effort to destabilize Europe. Mr. Jurdana said Great Britain doesn't want to see an integrated Europe based on German economic power. Russia, he declared, is openly supporting Serbia because the Russians want a direct line between Moscow and Belgrade to establish Balkan control, an aim that is not clearly recognized by the U.S. or other nations. He said the Russian involvement poses a 'direct threat to U.S. security.' Beginning with the first Serbian air attack on the Slovenian city of Santill in 1991, Mr. Jurdana has covered practically all of the battlefields in the war-plagued former Yugoslavia. . . ."

Earlier coverage in Pennsylvania included articles in the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette* and the *Greenburg Tribune Review*.

## ADL spies targeted many non-Arab groups

The *Los Angeles Times* belatedly broke the spy scandal surrounding the West Coast Anti-Defamation League (ADL) on Feb. 26, including some new information. According to the *Times*, San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) officer Tom Gerard was interviewed by the FBI in November, shortly before he fled to the Philippines. The FBI learned about Gerard's suspected selling of secret police files to the ADL and the South African government as the result of a two-year probe of ADL private eye Roy Bullock. The *Times* wrote that Bullock's phone was tapped after the FBI, which was paying him as a source, learned he was also employed by the South

Africans—as well as by the ADL. The *Times* also reported that he had worked as an undercover spy for the ADL for as much as 40 years, and that he was covertly paid through a Los Angeles law firm.

The *Times* characterized the ADL as running a nationwide private spying operation which was eventually tapped into by the South Africans. According to the story, files seized at Bullock's home and at the ADL offices were gotten from the Los Angeles and Portland police.

According to Feb. 26 *San Francisco Examiner* feature, 75% of the names seized from the ADL offices and from Bullock's and Gerard's homes were not only of Arab-Americans, but of other ethnic groups, political activists, and journalists. At Bullock's house alone, police grabbed a data base containing over 12,000 names. District Attorney Arlo Smith publicly acknowledged that Department of Motor Vehicles records, photos, criminal records, fingerprints, and other data only accessible from police files, were found in the searches.

## Klan foes arraigned for Pike 'statue climbing'

Rev. James Bevel, former vice-presidential running mate of Lyndon LaRouche, and historian Anton Chaitkin were arraigned by Magistrate Alan Kay in U.S. District Court in Washington on Feb. 25 and pleaded not guilty to the charge of "statue climbing." The two men were arrested Nov. 13 at the Albert Pike statue, protesting the federally maintained statue of the founder of the Ku Klux Klan in downtown Washington.

Before pleading, Chaitkin asked: "The masonic organization which erected the statue we are seeking to remove, distributed this month a broad attack and condemnation against our efforts. That group is the de facto leadership group of all Caucasian Freemasonry. In the interest of a just and fair proceeding, we respectfully request Your Honor to inform us of your own relationship, if any, to the masonic order." His Honor declined to respond at that time.

The following day, despite a heavy snow, the regular weekly rally calling to remove the statue went on. As organizers

## Briefly

read from Lincoln ally Henry Carey on how to terminate the slave trade, several passing Washingtonians joined in, taking signboards. By the end of the rally, 10 people had stopped to join, and began to pelt Pike with snowballs. Onlookers from nearby office windows also joined in the snowball target practice, until enough snow existed at the base for rally participants to trace the initials "KKK" in the snow, in keeping with the "Truth in Statuary" doctrine.

### ADL-linked judge to hear Arab deportation case

Judge Bruce Einhorn, an immigration judge in California, has refused to recuse himself from presiding over the deportation hearing of two Palestinians, despite the fact that he is an activist with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Lawyers from the National Lawyers Guild, who are representing the Palestinians filed a motion saying, "his organization has a vested interest in seeing our clients deported." Einhorn is the chairman of the civil rights committee of the Los Angeles chapter of the ADL.

In denying the motion, Einhorn said, "I don't believe my association with the ADL as a lay person has interfered with my impartiality in this case." Einhorn, who teaches legal ethics at Pepperdine University, claimed it was his ethical responsibility "not to withdraw."

### Clinton filling in sub-cabinet positions

President Clinton has made two high-level appointments at the Pentagon, as well as filling posts in the Interior Department, where Secretary Bruce Babbitt has given priority to drawing up a map of ecological systems with environmentalists.

John Deutsch, who was a Department of Energy appointee under Carter, has been nominated to be undersecretary for acquisitions at the Defense Department. Frank Wisner, a former Carter State Department official and ambassador for Presidents

Reagan and Bush, has been nominated to be undersecretary for policy. As DOE director of energy research, Deutsch was responsible for the Synfuels Corp., and he later served on President Bush's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. Appointees to the Interior Department are typified by George Frampton, who has been nominated to be assistant secretary for fish, wildlife and parks, who was president of the Wilderness Society. He did battle with the Bush White House over the northern spotted owl.

Finally, President Clinton chose Margaret Milder Richardson, a corporate tax lawyer and former Internal Revenue Service official, to head IRS. She is a partner in the Washington and Atlanta law firm of Sutherland, Asbill and Brennan.

### Most high-tech medical procedures are necessary

It's a myth that many medical procedures are unwarranted and unnecessary, San Antonio cardiologist and TV medical reporter Dr. Brant S. Mittler wrote in a guest column in the March 1 *Wall Street Journal*. Dr. Mittler wrote that after a 1988 RAND Corp. study concluded that 14% of medical procedures were inappropriate and 30% were uncertain, "critics of American medicine" usually rounded the figure off "to a politically correct 50%." Mittler cited a more recent RAND study, which showed that only 2.4% of heart bypass surgeries performed in New York State were inappropriate, and 7% were uncertain.

Mittler noted that Congress last year quietly ended the Peer Review Organization for Medicare, requiring physicians to gain approval from a review board of local doctors for expensive surgeries. "The numbers for Texas for 1989-91 are telling: 16,381 bypasses requested, two denied; 11,288 coronary angioplasties requested, none denied. Nationwide, in 1989, 1.7 million procedures were reviewed, with an average denial rate of only 0.17%. Where's the fat?"

Mittler continued: "Three years ago Duke reported what RAND experts had not yet figured out: A lot more patients benefit from bypass surgery than previously thought, particularly the sickest and oldest."

● **FIFTY-NINE** participants at the third annual leadership conference of the American Muslim Council the last week of February signed the petition to President Clinton asking him to exonerate political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. Signers included school directors, imams, religious studies professors, and the heads of Islamic refugees committees.

● **RICHARD LAMM**, the former governor of Colorado who told the elderly that they should "die and get out of the way" in 1984, is a board member of the Lead or Leave anti-elderly group. Other board members include Rep. Claudine Schneider; Episcopalian Bishop Paul Moore, formerly of the New York Cathedral of St. John the Divine; Tom Hayden; Massachusetts Gov. William Weld; and Drug Policy Foundation funder Richard Dennis.

● **A STANFORD** doctoral candidate is writing his dissertation on serial killers, claiming that it's "the American Way." He told an interviewer recently: "We need serial killers because we need a figure to make us feel normal, we need a figure for us to see where normality ends and deviance begins."

● **NBC CAUGHT** lying again. Hot on the public apology NBC made over faking GM truck explosions, anchorman Tom Brokaw admitted on Feb. 24 that, when NBC couldn't find any dead fish to "prove" their story that the decline of the fish population in a particular lake was allegedly caused by timber overcutting in an Idaho forest, the news team stunned fish from a different lake and showed them.

● **WILLIAM SESSIONS**, the FBI director is still under the gun. The March 1 *Washington Times* called on Clinton to replace him as soon as possible in a front-page article headlined "The FBI: A House Divided." The *Times* pointed out that Sessions, who is hated by the old J. Edgar Hoover crowd, may be being eclipsed in the New York bombing case by New York office director James Fox, who is garnering much media attention.