

# National News

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## Md. students demand Taney's name must go

Students at the Roger B. Taney Middle School in Prince George's County, Maryland are demanding that the Board of Education change the name of their school, after having learned that Taney, as Supreme Court Chief Justice, was the author of the hated 1857 *Dred Scott* decision which ruled that black slaves were property, not humans. The school is 80% black and is in a majority-black county adjacent to the District of Columbia. The students are demanding that the name be changed to honor another Maryland native, the late Justice Thurgood Marshall.

"I don't see how we can be proud of a man that didn't consider most of us citizens," said the president of the student government. "He thought most of us were property."

In reporting on a packed, March 3 school board meeting to discuss the name change, the local Washington NBC affiliate, added the comment: "This is not the only such controversy. The statue of Albert Pike which stands at Judiciary Square [in Washington] may be the next to go. Pike was the founder of the Klan." The anchor neglected to report that the effort to remove the statue was initiated by the presidential campaign of Lyndon LaRouche.

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## Governors protest Indian reservation gambling

At a March 8 meeting in the Interior Department, the governors of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, and Rhode Island protested to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt against the U.S. government's imposition of casino gambling on Indian reservations in their states. The governor of Kansas sided with the gamblers. Rhode Island Gov. Bruce Sundlun voiced concern over the incursion of organized crime through the establishment of the casinos.

Secretary Babbitt issued a weak-kneed statement promising to "continue to seek input from all sides in this debate. . . . I

look forward to my meeting tomorrow with tribal leaders." A spokesman for the Interior Department told *EIR* that they had no plans for formal meetings with the gambler-gangsters who are using the Indian tribes in this enterprise.

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## Thornburgh leaves post at United Nations

Richard Thornburgh, the former U.S. Attorney General, resigned from his post as Undersecretary General for Administration and Management at the United Nations in early March, and simultaneously issued a report critical of Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's management of the U.N. staff. Boutros-Ghali replied that, insofar as this was the first written report his office has received from Thornburgh, he had no basis to evaluate Thornburgh's complaints, which included accusations that Boutros-Ghali rewarded retiring colleagues with over-priced consulting contracts.

Boutros-Ghali declined to renew Thornburgh's appointment, and offered the Clinton administration the opportunity to name his replacement. According to the *New York Times*, this was a concession by the secretary general, who had earlier attempted to establish the principle that such offices were "political" and under the control of the secretary general.

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## Ecologists stock Interior appointments

Interior Department appointments by Bruce Babbitt are causing great consternation among people living in the West who depend on natural resources for their livelihood, according to a report from Putting People First (PPF). The president of the Wilderness Society, George Frampton, has been nominated to become Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks—a position that would put him in charge of the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and enforcement of the Endangered

Species Act.

Jim Baca, a Wilderness Society board member, is slated to become director of Bureau of Land Management. Already confirmed is Alice Rivlin as deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget. The *Washington Post* wrote recently, "The team being assembled to run the Interior Department is as green and southwestern as a jalapeno pepper." (PPF says, "And it's leaving wise users with a hot taste in their mouths.")

Chuck Cushman, executive director of the National Inholders Association said, "Frampton is a classic eastern urban elitist, educated at Harvard Law and Yale, who knows nothing—and cares less—about rural Americans who depend on natural resources for their jobs." NIA fears Baca's influence over the Bureau of Land Management because "he is a demonstrated enemy of mining and private property." Cushman continued, "Many people in America have been convinced that 'wilderness' is synonymous with 'park.' They will be surprised to find out that 'wilderness' means 'you can't go there.'"

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## Pamela Harriman to be ambassador to Paris?

There's a "done deal" for Pamela Harriman to become American ambassador to France, the *Sunday Times* of London reported on March 7. The appointment of this "English aristocrat and daughter-in-law of Sir Winston Churchill" to the post is "considered a personal reward from President Bill Clinton for her political and financial support during the earliest days of his fight for the White House." In 1981, when Clinton lost a reelection bid for Arkansas governor, Harriman asked him to serve on her "influential Democratic fundraising board in Washington," the Democrats for the '80s. Harriman is known as "the Queen Mother of the Clinton court."

The *Sunday Times* article is fawning with admiration for the widow of Democratic Party kingmaker Averell Harriman, including talking of her postwar "glamor years" in Paris and her more recent "political soirées in Washington," which often included such figures as Henry Kissinger and Margaret Thatcher. She now prefers

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the Paris posting to a possible posting in London, since she should be able to "cut an impressive swath in French society" more easily.

Another story passing the rounds, is that Hillary Clinton connived to have her sent to Paris, to get her out of Washington, so she would not have competition among the Washington power circles.

### Clinton appointee rejects managed health care

Bruce Vladek, president of the United Hospital Fund of New York, has been nominated by Clinton to head the Health Care Financing Administration, the federal agency that runs the Medicare and Medicaid programs. He is a vocal critic of what has come to be called "managed care," one of the Clinton administration's main nostrums for the health care crisis, having written an article last September entitled "Old Snake Oil in New Bottles."

In the article, Vladek charged that "managed care" offers "only untested theory (most of it contrary to actual experience) as a solution," and he said most health care providers are lining up behind it precisely because "they don't believe its cost containment mechanisms will really work, and they're afraid the mechanisms in other proposals for health care reform would work."

### Spannaus exposes Va. Dems' caucus rigging

Nancy Spannaus, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor in Virginia, charged on March 5 that the state party had rigged the nominations procedure to ensure that mavericks—and especially associates of Lyndon LaRouche like herself—would be shut out.

"Ironically, just as the Communist Party of the Soviet Union is being disbanded, the Virginia Party is adopting communist tactics. That's one tested way to get a 99% vote.

"What I have found is that numerous

local party machines are acting to not only discourage, but in some cases to prevent party members from becoming delegates for Spannaus, and in some cases, from becoming delegates for the labor-endorsed candidate for Attorney General, Jim Updike.

"In four localities which I know of, individuals approaching the designated party officials have been given delegate forms with the names of Mary Sue Terry and Don Beyer already typed in. When they have asked for blank delegate forms, they have been told that they are not available. In some cases the individuals wishing to become delegates for Spannaus, have succeeded in getting one form which was blank; in at least one other, an individual was told that it was not possible to sign up for anyone other than Mary Sue Terry, or uncommitted.

"This is clearly only the tip of the iceberg, and a violation in spirit, if not in law, of the voting rights which have supposedly been guaranteed to our citizens. Perhaps the Democratic Party intends to rename itself the Communist Party of Virginia?"

### Las Vegas mob hotel hosts B'nai B'rith bash

The B'nai B'rith has put out a flyer inviting members, friends, and families to attend a big five-day bash commemorating the freemasonic organization's 150th anniversary. The celebration, slated for Aug. 15-19 is to take place at the Desert Inn, one of Las Vegas' hottest casinos. Desert Inn was owned for years by Meyer Lansky syndicate bigshot Morris Dalitz. In the mid-1980s, Dalitz was given a philanthropic award by the B'nai B'rith enforcement arm, the Anti-Defamation League.

The brochure advertising the celebration boasts: "We wanted a class hotel/casino with great facilities but with old-time Las Vegas hospitality. . . . 'The' Party is the place to join old friends and new to celebrate a century and a half of a job well done. Old-timers will get a chance to reminisce about how it used to be while the younger set gets charged up to make plans for how it is going to be in the future. . . . \$1,000 winner take all Blackjack Tournament, \$1,000 winner take all Slot Tournament, \$1,000 winner take all Video Poker Tournament."

● **AMELIA BOYNTON** Robinson joined the commemoration of the March 7, 1965 march across Selma, Alabama's Edmund Pettus Bridge this year, marching beneath a banner declaring "From King to LaRouche: Freedom Still Can't Wait." During the original march 28 years ago, Amelia Boynton was beaten, gassed, and left for dead, but never stopped her battle for human rights.

● **INDIANA SENATORS** voted 41-9 this month to make it a crime in Indiana to assist in a suicide. The penalty could be a sentence of up to eight years in prison. The measure now moves to the Indiana House.

● **POLITICAL CORRECTNESS** determines that it is no longer proper to say that Stanford University, which straddles California's San Andreas Fault, is in an earthquake zone. We now say, it is "seismically challenged."

● **PABLO ESCOBAR**, the Colombian drug kingpin, denied any involvement in the World Trade Center bombing, in a one-page letter allegedly sent to U.S. Ambassador Morris Busby: "If I had done it, I would be saying why and I would be saying what I want."

● **BERNARD ARONSON**, former assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, has been replaced by career diplomat Alexander Watson, a former ambassador to Peru, who was described by a Peruvian paper as "an experienced student of Henry Kissinger." He was also close to Hernando de Soto, the "coca for debt" advocate of the primacy of the informal economy.

● **SEVENTY PEOPLE** attending a Midwest conference of Amnesty International signed the petition to President Clinton calling for the release and exoneration of U.S. political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. One signer said, "We don't understand it all [why LaRouche was jailed], but something really set the government off against him."