

National News

RTC probes S&L tie to Clinton campaigns

The Resolution Trust Co. (RTC), caretaker of failed savings and loan associations, has set in motion an inquiry into possible financial wrongdoing by the gubernatorial campaigns of Bill Clinton during the 1980s.

According to the Nov. 1 *Baltimore Sun*, the RTC sent information to U.S. Attorney Paula Casey in Little Rock, Arkansas about transactions at the Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan Association. Some of the transactions involved the Whitewater Development Corp., once owned by Bill and Hillary Clinton and Madison owner James B. McDougal and his former wife Susan McDougal. Whitewater developed land in the Ozarks, and had an account at Madison. According to Nov. 9 news reports, Casey's office has asked the Department of Justice to take over the investigation, citing conflict of interest.

The RTC is now probing whether Clinton's two gubernatorial campaigns received checks written on various Madison accounts. James McDougal was an economic aide to Clinton during his first term as governor, and was president of Madison when it failed in 1989 at a cost to taxpayers estimated at \$47 million.

Russia's Kuzin tells Americans to wake up

Russian human rights leader and elected Moscow City Council member Viktor Kuzin completed a two-week U.S. tour on Nov. 1, sponsored by the Schiller Institute, during which he alerted thousands of Americans to the fact that Boris Yeltsin is a tyrant who has shut down democracy in Russia. Kuzin's address to the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. appeared in *EIR* on Nov. 5.

In St. Paul, Minnesota on Oct. 25, Kuzin was quoted on local TV news as saying: "The United States used to have a very high reputation in Russia, a reputation as a model for democracy. But under this condition of full support for Yeltsin, this reputation has sharply fallen."

At an evening meeting in St. Paul, Kuzin charged that several thousand Russian citizens, not just the "fascists and communists" claimed by Yeltsin and the western press, were killed defending the Russian Parliament. He said he was discussing only what he personally knows to be true. That number included at least six journalists who were killed to prevent news from reaching the outside.

On Oct. 26, Kuzin appeared on Chicago's clear-channel radio station WLS on a live talk show hosted by former Cook County Democratic Party Chairman Edward Vrdolyak and African-American commentator Ty Wansley. Kuzin told listeners that, since the arrests of Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov and Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, a major problem for true democrats in Russia is that so many westerners, including Bill Clinton, are praising what Yeltsin is doing and calling it democracy.

In Long Beach, California, where Kuzin addressed his largest audience, he called the recent events in Moscow a "violent coup d'état" by Yeltsin. He warned that Yeltsin must now decide what to do with Khasbulatov and Rutskoy, who are imprisoned in the KGB's Lefortovo Prison. There is no legal basis for charges against them, Kuzin said, and there is "great fear that both will be liquidated," possibly through faked suicides in their jail cells.

New York museum gets rare Verdi collection

The Pierpont Morgan Library in New York City has received the collection of 350 scores and librettos from George W. Martin, the author of a standard biography of Giuseppe Verdi. Many are in early or first editions. The bequest joins an already important collection of the composer's manuscripts, letters, and printed works to make the library a major center for Verdi studies.

In all there are full printed scores of 19 of Verdi's 26 operas. Full scores of Verdi's works are especially rare, because they were never offered for sale but available only on rental from his publisher, Ricordi. Among the librettos, one notable one is for a perfor-

mance of *Rigoletto* in the small papal state of Sinigaglia. Because of the church's position on suicide, Gilda is allowed to live, and the story's setting is changed from Mantua to Boston in order to move it farther from Rome.

U.S. Jewish figure finds ADL embarrassing

At a November conference on Christian-Jewish relations in Lower Saxony, Germany, a senior official from the American Jewish Committee confided to a journalist what he really thought about the Anti-Defamation League: "To tell you the truth, my view is that the ADL suffers from the sin of hubris. They've overstepped their bounds, and that's a real mistake. It's one thing to maintain press-clipping files on known anti-Semitic groups; it's another thing to procure confidential police files, and to get caught doing that. Our organization would never get involved in obtaining police files; this is overstepping the bounds."

At a conference workshop, the AJC official tried to change the subject when the journalist raised the ADL scandal. However, this obstruction only further whetted the curiosity of German Jewish attendees, who are subjected to a 100% blackout in Germany about the scandal. Even usually well-informed and well-briefed Jewish influentials in Germany had no idea about the dimensions the ADL scandal has reached, and were eager to get more information, especially as the ADL has been very active in Germany recently.

Senate candidate files IRS complaint vs. ADL

Ted Andromidas, a political collaborator of Lyndon LaRouche, announced on Nov. 4 that he will run in next year's Democratic Party primary for the U.S. Senate seat held by Dianne Feinstein of California. At the same time, Andromidas released the text of a complaint to the Internal Revenue Service about the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), regarding the violations of its

Briefly

tax-exempt status.

In a statement, Andromidas revealed that "in May of 1993, I and several other individuals and organizations associated with presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche were informed by the San Francisco Police Commission that our names had been discovered in the files of Tom Gerard, a former San Francisco police inspector. The Gerard files were nearly identical to some of the files seized in raids on the ADL offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles, and at the home of Roy Bullock, a longtime ADL undercover operative."

In his IRS complaint, Andromidas charged that the ADL's "World of Difference" program specifically violates its tax-exempt status through "the ADL's publication and wide-scale public dissemination, nationwide, of specific printed materials in opposition to U.S. Democratic presidential candidate and statesman Lyndon LaRouche through the ADL's curriculum for schools. . . . The ADL's clear purpose in publishing and disseminating these materials is to adversely affect the electoral efforts of both LaRouche and his political associates. These ADL 'teaching materials' single out only one candidate and political movement for attention, that of LaRouche."

Minneapolis turns schools over to private firm

The Minneapolis, Minnesota School Board voted to turn over management of all city schools to a private consulting firm called Public Strategies Group, Inc., according to the *Washington Post* of Nov. 5. The firm will run the 75 schools with a budget of \$220 million. Sources say that move was precipitated by the bankruptcy of the school district. The president of Public Strategies, Peter Hutchinson, has been acting as a financial consultant to the district since last spring, when the superintendent resigned after being accused of financial mismanagement.

Hutchinson, a former Minnesota finance commissioner, will now become superintendent, the paper says, possibly leading to a trend where districts are run by financial managers rather than educators. Public Strategies will run the district for a fee which

"will not be paid unless certain student performance goals are met."

In a related development, communications magnate Walter Annenberg is planning to pump up to \$1 billion into an "education reform" initiative for public schools. Annenberg collected \$3 billion from the sale of his Triangle Publications and intends to make substantial donations to reform the public schools in league with the New American Schools Development Corp. (NASDC), Stanford University's Accelerated Schools Project, and the Harvard Project on Schooling and Children. Annenberg expects to give \$50 million to NASDC. Annenberg's plan is to include incentives for schools, especially in the inner-city ghettos, to participate in the reform project.

Educrats' new report card dazes parents

The lead article in the Nov. 5 *Houston Chronicle* reports on the new report cards, which will replace grades with "outcomes," being issued in 57 elementary schools in the Houston Independent School District (HISD). "Some HISD parents say they are dazed and confused by an experimental report card that replaces letter grades with technical, educational lingo," wrote the *Chronicle*.

The report cards cover grades K through 4 with eight "developmental stages": discovery, exploration, developing, expanding, connecting, independent, application, synthesis. The discovery stage is at the kindergarten level, while synthesis is at fourth grade level. Instead of stigmatizing a student with an F in a higher grade, the report card might place the failing student in a developmental stage for a lower grade. Each grade is composed of two to four developmental stages, with some grades sharing developmental stages.

Parents didn't like it, according to the *Chronicle*. "I'll bet you the majority of parents of HISD kids will be hopelessly lost," said one. "They'll probably throw their hands up and say the heck with it. . . . Is he [his son] 'expanding'? I don't know what that means." A nine-page guide, complete with glossary, purports to explain the new system.

● **THE IRS** is taking a closer look at the Thatcher Foundation according to the German weekly *Wirtschaftswoche* of Nov. 5. The Washington branch of the former British prime minister's foundation was "too political" to be eligible for tax-exempt status, and the IRS is concerned that the foundation "is merely using funds raised in the U.S. for the propagation of the ideas of Margaret Thatcher in Britain and elsewhere," an unnamed spokesman of the IRS is quoted as saying.

● **'SKIP' HUMPHREY**, Minnesota's attorney general, was awarded the "Al Capone/Kid Cann Organized Crime Award for Lifetime Achievement" at a Democratic Party dinner in South Dakota on Nov. 6. The award was made by protesters who seek to have him impeached. As Humphrey was presented the framed certificate featuring mugs of Kid Cann, Meyer Lansky, and Lucky Luciano, dinner guests politely applauded.

● **DEATH ROW INMATE** Keith Sanford Hitchens of California, who has spent the last 10 years at San Quentin proclaiming his innocence was granted a new trial by the California Supreme Court on Nov. 4, in a rare reversal. The court has reversed only 6 of the 95 death sentence appeals they've heard since 1990.

● **CLINTON'S** nominee for director of the National Institutes of Health, Harold Varmus, stressed the need for open-ended basic research, in confirmation hearings before the Senate Labor Committee. Varmus won the Nobel Prize for discovering oncogenes.

● **JACK KEVORKIAN** is a student of Lucifer Trust founder Alice Bailey, according to an expert assisting the prosecution of Kevorkian. One of the expert's assistants discovered in the courtroom enlarged photocopies with Kevorkian's annotations of Bailey's works. They appeared to have been copied from a new anthology of Bailey's works titled *Death: The Great Adventure*, printed by Lucis Publications.