

National News

Brainwashing techniques said used in FBI sting

"The findings of a two-year independent investigation" showed that the FBI and Department of Justice used Korean-style brainwashing techniques in Operation Lightning Strike. John Crenshaw, a member of the Houston-area Space industry community who was unsuccessfully targeted in the FBI sting, said on Dec. 19. "I am outraged at federal law enforcement agencies for their tactics," he said at a press conference with lawyers and others involved with the 13 defendants in the case. "None of you are safe . . . my children are not safe."

The sting, aimed against NASA employees at the Johnson Space Center, space industry engineers, and astronauts, was conducted by the FBI over 20 months during 1992-94, working with the Department of Defense Criminal Investigative Service and the NASA Office of the Inspector General. Of the 13 people snared in the investigation, only two received prison sentences. The trial of the one defendant who fought the charges, ended in a hung jury. The DOJ declined further prosecution.

Dr. Margaret Singer, a psychologist at the University of California at Berkeley employed by the victims of the sting, said, "It is my opinion that psychological techniques were used on these NASA 13 that are forbidden in the ordinary legal world we live in and are forbidden in the Geneva Convention and the terms of international warfare. . . . A coordinated coercive influence program was employed in the interrogation of the Lightning Strike subjects."

Depopulation planners demand more genocide

Speaking in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 27, Werner Fornos, president of the World Population Institute, delivered his annual call for genocide, on behalf of the Malthusian oligarchs who regard the increase of the human species as an evil to be crushed at all costs.

He acknowledged, as the UN Population Fund and others have reported, that world population growth has dropped by another 10 million, to 90 million per year, but insisted that this is not enough.

"The difference," Fornos said, "is analogous to a tidal wave surging toward one of our coastal cities. Whether the tidal wave is 90 or 100 feet high, the impact will be similar." He then claimed that, in "developing" countries, intensifying birth-control measures is preferable to raising living standards, because "lower birthrates can be achieved less expensively and more rapidly than raising education levels and living standards."

Even the rising global death-rate due to AIDS is inadequate, Fornos complained. He noted that AIDS currently accounts for 22% of all deaths in developing countries, and that the figure is expected to increase to 38% by the year 2010. But, he whined, "Total population is projected to increase, even in the 23 countries most affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which are projected to grow by 1.8% between 1996 and 2000."

Fornos also denounced funding restrictions on population programs passed by Congress, which, if not reversed in 1997, "could be the beginning of the end of the U.S. international population programs." The result, he conjured, would be "4 million unintended pregnancies, 2 million additional unplanned births, 1.6 million additional abortions, and 8,000 more deaths among women."

Logging bans bring new pests with imported wood

Environmentalists have set up the United States for an ecological nightmare, as a result of their policies to ban logging across the country, particularly in the Pacific Northwest. With most U.S. forests now closed to logging, and most small and medium-sized logging companies out of business, multinational timber companies are importing foreign logs infested with exotic pests—which now threaten to kill hundreds of millions of trees in the United States. The potential damage is greater than what resulted from the

chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease—which killed over 25% of eastern forests from the 1930s through the 1960s.

In September 1996, Cornell University entomologists discovered an infestation of Asian longhorn beetles on Long Island, New York. Previously unknown in the United States, the beetles came from logs imported from China. They are particularly fond of maple trees, which entomologists warn could go the way of the chestnuts and elms in just a few years, if the beetle is not stopped. A risk-assessment report prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture warns, "Should this beetle escape from Long Island . . . the magnitude of damage could far exceed that of any insect, including the gypsy moth, in forests, orchards, and in urban areas."

The report, written in collaboration with New York state and local governments, contends that more than 800 million trees, covering 62% of New York's 18.6 million acres of forested land, are possible targets of the bug. Losses would run into the billions of dollars. "The risk of attack in the United States is probably much greater than in China," the report contends, "because we have a greater abundance of the Asian longhorn beetles's prime food source—maples."

The Asian longhorn beetle is just one of dozens of pests and diseases shipped into the country in imported logs. Other pests and fungi include the Asian gypsy moth, the pine bark beetle, and the Mexican pitch canker. At present, multinational timber companies are importing raw logs from Mexico, Chile, New Zealand, and Brazil. The greatest danger, however, will occur when Weyerhaeuser and other multinationals start importing logs from Siberian forests, which have dozens of pests not found in American forests.

Weld eyes grandfather clause for third term

Hints by Massachusetts Governor William Weld that he may seek a third term have drawn criticism from Democrats and some Republicans. Weld has co-chaired campaigns for national and state term-limits, and had pledged to serve as governor for only two terms. On Dec. 19, however, he was

quoted in the *Boston Herald*, joking that he would run for a third term in 1998 to "kick" the "ass" of likely Democratic gubernatorial candidate Joseph P. Kennedy, who is currently serving in the U.S. House of Representatives.

According to the *Herald*, the vice chairman of the state's 1995 term-limits campaign, Republican John Lakian, claims that, "If you endorse term limits for everybody else, and say you're only going to serve two terms, you ought to stay with it." Although a Massachusetts referendum adopted in 1994 limits all constitutional officers to two four-year terms, there is a "grandfather clause"—a loophole which allows incumbent Governor Weld to legally seek another term in 1998.

On Dec. 23, Rep. Joe Kennedy, on the final day of a Northern Ireland peace mission, took the occasion to attack Weld for failing to complete a major infrastructure project in Massachusetts, in time to qualify for federal aid covering 80% of the cost. Kennedy also scored Weld for sanctioning Republican-backed cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, and in research and development funding for small biotech and high-tech firms.

National Farmers Union warns of dairy crisis

A Dec. 19 letter from the National Farmers Union (NFU) to the National Economic Council called for federal intervention "to arrest the current national economic disaster facing dairy producers." The NFU letter links the precipitous reduction in milk prices paid to dairy farmers, to machinations of the Wisconsin-based National Cheese Exchange.

The Cheese Exchange is dominated by the Philip Morris tobacco company, which is also the second largest food company in the world—chiefly through its ownership of Kraft, the dairy cartel. Kraft is the "market maker" on the Cheese Exchange for the so-called "market-based" milk price paid to farmers. Milk prices to the farmer have been plunging throughout the fall and winter. From Sept. 27 to Nov. 15, barrel cheese

prices on the Cheese Exchange fell 42¢, or 25%, in six weeks. Block cheese prices dropped 30¢ per pound, an 18% decline.

"If milk prices remain at their current levels," stated the NFU, "we will see a mass exodus of dairy farmers from their farms, which will ultimately result in a milk shortage." The NFU has asked the Clinton administration to issue an Executive order, directing the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or the Federal Trade Commission to provide oversight of the National Cheese Exchange activities. Although the Exchange trades less than 1% of all cheese, it acts as the price-setter for 90-95% of the nation's milk.

Dope lobby says Clinton threatens 'free speech'

The announcement by the Clinton administration, that it was launching counter-measures against California and Arizona initiatives to legalize marijuana for "medical use," has drawn howls of protest from the flunkies of high finance. Their scam to provide pot for every dope was heavily bankrolled by international swindler George Soros.

According to the Jan. 1 *Washington Post*, a number of California physicians who supported Proposition 215, Soros's marijuana legalization ploy, now say that they will not issue prescriptions for medical use of marijuana, out of fear that their medical licenses will be revoked. The Clinton administration's decision to enforce existing laws (against distribution, possession, and use of marijuana) has been denounced by Americans for Medical Rights (AMR), as a violation of doctors' "free speech" rights under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

In a flagrant puff for Soros's scheme, the pot lobbyists have declared they will take their case to federal court. David Fratello, a spokesman for AMR, told the *Post* that the group plans to introduce similar ballot initiatives in a half-dozen more states this year, and then attacked the Clinton policy as an attempt to intimidate doctors into withdrawing their support for "medical" use of marijuana.

Briefly

BUSH-BABY Texas Gov. George W. Bush and California Gov. Pete Wilson are demanding full implementation of a NAFTA provision to allow Mexican trucks unlimited access to U.S. highways. Last year, at the urging of the Teamsters, President Clinton put the plan on hold. The two governors want the ban lifted, despite evidence that most of the trucks are improperly licensed, are driven by underage drivers, and have broken suspensions, substandard tires, inoperable brakes, and unsecured loads.

BOSTON'S senior citizens are besieging City Hall with requests for assistance, in the face of rent increases of up to \$1,000 a month. According to the *Boston Herald*, Mayor Thomas Menino has asked the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for several hundred additional Section 8 certificates, which provide monthly subsidies worth \$600 to \$700 for qualified tenants.

THE U.S. LABOR movement plans to maintain the level of renewed political activism it demonstrated during the 1996 election campaigns. In mid-December, AFL-CIO representatives met with ten U.S. congressmen at the "grassroots" level in five states. Labor's goal is to meet with 150 lawmakers before March.

THE NURSES of Philadelphia's Episcopal Hospital, who say they have felt victimized by short-staffing and pay cuts under managed care, have voted overwhelmingly to organize a union, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* reported Dec. 25. Organizers said their cause was aided by the firing of a 12-year veteran nurse, who was accused by hospital supervisors of making "unauthorized" comments about patient care to a reporter.

GEN. GEORGE JOULWAN, NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, has announced that he plans to retire next spring. President Clinton praised Joulwan in remarks he made to Marines, while paying a Christmastime visit to Camp Lejeune in eastern North Carolina.