
Book Reviews

Nebraska pedophile scandal is reopened, with new revelations

by Allen Douglas

The Franklin Cover-Up: Child Abuse, Satanism and Murder in Nebraska (second edition)

by John DeCamp

AWT, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1996

411 pages, paperbound, \$9.95

On the morning of July 11, 1990, this reporter was present in Nebraska State Senator Loran Schmit's office in the capitol building in Lincoln. The occasion was an interview I was conducting with him on what had become infamous as "the Franklin case," named after a small credit union in Omaha, and for which Schmit chaired the Senate's investigative committee. He took a phone call, listened for a minute or two, and said, "Oh, my God. My God. How did it happen?" Profoundly shaken, with tears in his eyes, he turned to try to continue the interview.

"What is the matter, senator?" I asked. "Gary's dead," he replied. "His plane blew up on the way back from Chicago early this morning." "Gary" was Gary Caradori, a former state trooper and then a dedicated investigator for Senator Schmit's Franklin Committee. Caradori was investigating leads in Chicago, and had taken his eight-year-old son A.J., who was also in the plane when it exploded, to see the all-star baseball game there. I was, through other contacts, to have met Caradori shortly after his return.

Senator Schmit continued, "He called me before he left, very excited, and said, 'We've got them now. We've got the hard evidence.' Gary used to tell me, 'It's unlikely that they would kill me or you, Loran, because that would be too obvious.' I warned him to be careful, particularly with his private plane."

In 1992, Senator Schmit's longtime associate and personal lawyer, former Nebraska State Senator John DeCamp, wrote a book about the Franklin investigation. Its back cover summarized the stakes which led to the murder of Caradori and his son:

"The shutdown of Omaha, Nebraska's Franklin Commu-

nity Federal Credit Union, raided by federal agencies in November 1988, sent shock waves all the way to Washington, D.C. \$40 million was missing. The credit union's manager: Republican Party activist Lawrence E. 'Larry' King, Jr., behind whose rise to fame and riches stood powerful figures in Nebraska politics and business, and in the nation's capital.

"In the face of opposition from local and state law enforcement, from the FBI, and from the powerful *Omaha World-Herald* newspaper, a special Franklin Committee of the Nebraska Legislature launched its own probe. What looked like a financial swindle, soon exploded into a hideous tale of drugs, Iran-Contra money-laundering, a nationwide child abuse ring, and ritual murder. Nineteen months later, the legislative committee's chief investigator died—suddenly, and violently, like more than a dozen other people linked to the Franklin case."

The original edition of *The Franklin Cover-Up* sold 50,000 copies—an astonishing number for a self-published book, without the benefit of a single penny of advertising. Now, almost four and a half years later, DeCamp has issued a second edition. With 116 new pages comprised of eight chapters and an epilogue, the second edition is almost two books in one; the new "Part II" indeed contains, as the book's cover proclaims, "new, startling revelations."

George Bush and Franklin

In the first three chapters of Part II, DeCamp provides fascinating new material to back up his original assertions, material which comes from sources as diverse as Msgr. Robert Hupp, the former president of Boys Town in Omaha (some of whose residents were abused); to a British television investigative team, which spent months in Nebraska; to a compelling affidavit from victim-witness Troy Boner, on how the FBI terrorized him into recanting his story.

In addition, two other cases which have come to light since the first edition, may also help explain why so many dead bodies turned up in the Franklin case: that of the Contra cocaine apparatus, made famous by the *San Jose Mercury News* series of Aug. 18-20, 1996; and, that of a high-level satanism/pedophile ring in Belgium, revelations about which have provoked the largest street demonstrations in that country's history.

Immediately after the FBI raided Franklin in 1988, rumors swept Nebraska that the “real story” behind Franklin was that Larry King was laundering tens of millions of dollars for the Contras; DeCamp’s first edition showed that King was deeply involved with the Contra support apparatus, that he was an associate of George Bush (who was elected President just days before Franklin was raided), and that children victim-witnesses had repeatedly mentioned Bush’s name. After summarizing some new evidence, DeCamp now asks, “So, was Larry King’s buddy George Bush the country’s ‘drug king-pin’ in the 1980s? I don’t know. But what I *do* know, is that if Bush *were* running the Contra affair, and drugs were a big part of it, that would certainly jibe 100% with everything known or rumored about Bush, Larry King, and the Franklin Credit Union.”

In Belgium, a pedophile ring, involving some of the country’s political and judicial leadership, had abused and then ritualistically murdered children. DeCamp believes that the Belgian case is tied to Franklin, though he did not have time to develop that in this second edition; certain shared features of the two cases are highly suggestive.

First of all, high-level pedophile networks are tightly integrated internationally. In the Franklin case, victim-witness Paul Bonacci reported that he was regularly taken to Europe (including to East Germany before the Berlin Wall fell), where he was abused, on board airplanes of the Strategic Air Command, which is based at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha—a base which is plugged tightly into the NATO apparatus headquartered in Belgium. Ritualistic, satanic activity was a “marker” for the Franklin case, just as it is for the Belgian one, and the Belgian case overlapped an arms-trafficking ring with possible Contra connections. In addition, freemasonry is a prominent feature of the Belgian ring, just as it was of Franklin; two of the Omaha-based freemasons Caradori investigated have extensive connections in Europe.

The U.S. Justice Department: Murder, Inc.

As a result of the circulation of the original book, DeCamp became a lawyer for Yorie Kahl, the son of Midwestern farmer-activist Gordon Kahl. In a chapter entitled “The U.S. Justice Department Murder of Gordon Kahl,” based on Kahl’s never-released diary, and his son’s affidavit, DeCamp records the chilling case of how the Justice Department systematically set out to murder Kahl. After an initial shoot-out in which Yorie, who had traded jackets with his father hours earlier, was severely wounded, the Department of Justice conducted a months-long manhunt, at the end of which Gordon was slaughtered in Arkansas.

In addition to physical murder, DeCamp shows, the Department of Justice attempts political murder, as in the targeting of black politicians (the *Frühmenschen* cases); the case of retired Cleveland auto worker John Demjanjuk (whom the Department of Justice claimed was the Nazi concentration camp guard “Ivan the Terrible” at a time when it had proof he was not); and the case of Lyndon LaRouche. On the last case,

DeCamp records his thoughts after reading a small portion of the six volumes of evidence proving LaRouche’s innocence: “I was shocked—no, ‘stunned’ is a better word—by what I read. . . . The U.S. Justice Department had not a shadow of ‘evidence’ to convict LaRouche, nor any of his associates.”

In memoriam: Bill Colby

Former CIA chief William Colby, it emerges in DeCamp’s new, concluding chapter, was a key instigator of the Franklin investigation, the person who constantly pushed DeCamp, who had served under Colby in Vietnam, to continue to fight. As Colby once told DeCamp, “This case is so much bigger than you think. It goes to the very highest levels; we have to keep pulling the strings.”

In addition to the Franklin case, Colby also urged DeCamp to continue his legal work with the militias, another result of the wide circulation of the book’s first edition. DeCamp’s work in avoiding a potentially lethal government-versus-militia showdown in Montana, and his deep involvement in investigating the bombing of the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma federal building on April 19, 1995, comprise two of the book’s new chapters. Colby argued that the militia movement was just the tip of the iceberg of a profound, growing anger by three-quarters of America’s citizens against their government, that this was “a very dangerous trend,” and that “lines of communication” had to be opened between the government and its citizens.

The book concludes with Colby’s mysterious death in April 1996, when his body was recovered from the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, near his vacation home. Rumors spread that he was depressed and had perhaps killed himself. DeCamp spent many hours with Colby in the weeks and months before his death, and shows him to have been highly optimistic and looking forward to travel and new projects. He also notes that one of the projects Colby was involved in at the time of his death, was writing for the *Strategic Investment* newsletter of London’s Lord William Rees-Mogg and friends. This crowd was deeply involved in attempts to overthrow President Clinton—of whom Colby was a great supporter—in part through manipulating the “patriot movement.”

DeCamp also recorded a telling little incident, in which one of Rees-Mogg’s minions, *Sunday Telegraph* Washington correspondent Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, who has led the attack against the Clinton Presidency for years, had once called DeCamp, demanding a meeting. DeCamp recounted the approach to Colby, whom he saw shortly thereafter. “I had never heard of him before,” said DeCamp, “and so asked Bill if he had ever heard of this fellow, ‘Evans-Prickard, or something.’ ” Colby replied, “His name is Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. And be very careful.”

This book may be ordered from AWT, Inc., P.O. Box 85461, Drawer B, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501, for \$9.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling.