National News

Will 'Black Widow' records be withheld?

The Office of the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth of Virginia has filed papers in Richmond Circuit Court seeking to block the release of the official records in the alleged suicide of former *Washington Post* owner Philip L. Graham.

Investigative reporter Anton Chaitkin, co-author with Stephanie Ezrol of the "Black Widow" series in the national newspaper New Solidarity, had petitioned Judge Willard I. Walker at the beginning of August to allow Chaitkin to copy the death certificate and medical examiner's reports in the 1963 shotgun death. In the series, Chaitkin and Ezrol presented a convincing case that Graham may have been murdered, after which control of the Post passed to the "black widow," Katharine Graham—contrary to her husband's will—thanks to the efforts of moblawyer Edward Bennett Williams.

Judge Walker had set Sept. 22, for a hearing in the case.

On Sept. 19, three days before the scheduled hearing, Chaitkin received copies of opposition briefs filed by the Virginia attorney-general, asking the court not to release the documents. That afternoon, Chaitkin requested and received a postponement of the hearing so as to prepare a response to the last-minute opposition.

Sermos still backs Proposition 64

Gus Sermos, former Centers for Disease Control public health official, has written to the Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee in Los Angeles: "This week I have been urged on several occasions to disassociate myself from Proposition 64. . . .

"A representative of the 'No on 64/Stop LaRouche' organization was gracious enough to send me information regarding their views on why Proposition 64 should be defeated. I carefully reviewed the material sent to me. I reviewed my own material. And I also discussed the Proposition with two trusted advisers.

"There are many unknowns regarding the natural history and transmission pattern of the AIDS virus. Available evidence indicates that the AIDS virus will be widely transmitted via heterosexual activity in the United States, as it has been in Africa. . . . We absolutely cannot depend on incumbent officials at the Public Health Service and the Centers for Disease Control for intelligent, affective public health measures. Officials at the CDC have greatly deceived the public they are sworn to serve. . . .

"Therefore, why not give the voters a chance to voice their idea? . . . I maintain my original position as a supporter of Proposition 64."

Weld: 'I am an environmental terrorist'

William Weld, the Boston Brahmin U.S. Attorney who is about to become head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, called himself an "environmental terrorist" in an interview with Boston Globe Magazine Sept. 21. It is the second time that Weld has made such a statement.

Weld's family is linked to the Swiss dirtymoney-laundry Crédit Suisse, and he has been notoriously soft on U.S. bank laundering of drug funds. An associate of Lyndon LaRouche, National Democratic Policy Committee chairman Warren Hamerman, testified against Weld at confirmation hearings, unsuccessfully urging an investigation of his drug-lobby ties, related conflicts of interest, and his links to Soviet-Chinese intelligence networks.

Weld is married to the great granddaughter of Teddy Roosevelt, a specialist in "Chinese law." They have frequently traveled to China.

On the "environmental terrorist" issue, Weld confessed, "I personally don't view that as a liberal position; I view it as a conservative position. If you go back to Teddy Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot camping out at Yosemite, and deciding that they had to do something to expand the natural park system before it was all gone—that's conservative in the root sense of the word."

Asked what his confirmation hearing was like, Weld answered, "I liked it. Lyndon LaRouche representatives testified against me at length, and submitted written opposition and questions concerning my leadership of an international dope peddling ring and numerous alleged financial conflicts of interest." ("Your office has instituted a grandjury investigation of some LaRouche groups, hasn't it?") "That's right. I knew they were going to show up at my confirmation hearing."

Crocker meets with Soviet-run terrorist

Chester Crocker, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, held a meeting with Oliver Tambo in London on Sept. 20. Tambo is the head of the African National Congress, a Soviet-backed, East German-trained terrorist organization which has specialized in murdering other blacks in South Africa.

According to the Washington Post, a State Department official confirmed the meeting.

ANC official Frene Ginwala said the two met at the request of the State Department itself "in the context" of George Shultz's upcoming trip to Africa.

Earlier the same day, Tambo met with British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe.

Weinberger to visit allies

"Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, at the President's request, will be departing Oct. 4 for an 18-day trip to the Far East, Southeast Asia, and Europe," Larry Speakes announced Sept. 23 at a White House briefing.

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Weinberger will be discussing U.S. security interests with allies. He will go to Hong Kong, China, India, Pakistan, Italy, and Great Britain.

He has been directed to solicit the views of the officials he meets on a wide range of global and regional issues of interest to the United States, Speakes said. While in the Britain, Weinberger will also consult with NATO defense ministers.

Woman in coma survives near 'mercy killing'

A 44-year-old mother of four who suffered a severe stroke last March and spent 47 days in a coma, suddenly woke up—only six days after her husband had attempted to have the machines that sustained her turned off.

Shortly after her stroke, Jacqueline Cole's husband, Harry, who had been told by doctors she would not recover, went to court to argue that his wife would not want to be kept alive "artificially." But Baltimore Judge John Carroll Byrnes denied Cole's request—saving her life from the "passive euthanasia." Six days later, she pulled out of the coma.

Harry Cole, a Presbyterian minister, and Jacqueline appear to have now changed their views with respect to what was called euthanasia in the Nazi period. "I didn't believe a person should be kept alive unnecessarily," she said. "But miracles can happen, and on that odd chance that it can happen, people should take every step they can to see that it does."

American bishops foam over Vatican's action

Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee, former head of the Benedictines, has become the only Catholic archbishop to publicly defend sexual-liberation theologian Charles Curran of Washington, D.C. and his co-thinker, Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle. Curran was recently forbidden to teach Catholic theology, and Hunthausen was replaced in his duties by a subordinate.

Both men had insisted on calling the most un-Christian things imaginable acceptable to Catholicism, and were disciplined for denying the Magisterium of the Church.

Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit also denounced as "cruel" and "demeaning" the Vatican's recent action against Hunthausen. He said the Vatican's action will "intimidate" the U.S. Catholic hierarchy. He predicted that U.S. prelates "will always be looking over their shoulder to see who's watching, and afraid to speak or act."

The Vatican, through Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger of Munich and others, is clearly only beginning a crack down on what is known in Rome as the "American Heresy," and which has seen everything from euthanasia to homosexuality endorsed by sections of the American Church.

So. Carolina House called drug infested

A Republican member of the South Carolina House of Representatives created a sensation the evening of Sept. 18 when he called a radio talk show to report: "I have seen actual use of cocaine and drugs which we normally refer to as 'uppers' being used on the floor of the House of Representatives while the legislature was in session and actual debate was going on, on the floor."

Rep. Phil Bradley of Greenville said that up to eight lawmakers were involved, and some of them at times became "incoherent" during debate.

All 124 members of the South Carolina House are up for re-election, and were stunned by their colleague's accusation.

Sen. Nick Theodore, the Democratic candidate for lieutenant-governor in November, called upon fellow legislators to follow his lead and take drug tests to counter Bradley's accusations.

Queried on his office's response to Bradley's charges, the state's chief prosecutor, James Anders, said only: "He'll either have to name names or eat crow."

Briefly

- DESMOND TUTU, South African Anglican Archbishop and Nobel peace prize winner, will give the Dec. 10 keynote address at Houston's Rothko Chapel Awards for Commitment to Truth and Freedom dinner. (Chapel personnel say the winners have not yet been selected.) The Rothko Chapel is run by Madam Dominique Schlumberger, a Sufi mystique, who has made it into an international center for all manner of cults and "religious" terrorists.
- THE UAW went on record Sept. 18 against mandatory drug testing of automakers' employees, calling such action a violation of the individual's "right to privacy."
- HENRY KISSINGER lurked in the shadows during Brazilian President José Sarney's visit to Washington in mid-September. He was present at Sarney's State Department luncheon, and according to a secret service source, met with members of the Brazilian delegation at Washington's Willard Hotel.
- A NEW JERSEY JUDGE threw out the results of drug tests conducted on 103 New Jersey firefighters, ruling the surprise nature of the tests' a violation of constitutional rights. Plainfield, N.J. had dismissed 16 firefighters, 2 police officers, and 2 radio dispatchers based on the tests, but Judge H. Lee Sarokin reinstated them.
- 100 HOUSE of Representatives members, urging President Reagan to take an uncompromising stand on the Soviets' arrest of U.S. News & World Report correspondent Nicholas Daniloff, introduced a bill Sept. 19 to reduce the size of the Soviet mission at the United Nations. "With the arrest of [Soviet masterspy] Gennady Zakharov, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the bloated Soviet contingency there serves as a haven for espionage," stated the congressmen's letter to the President.