

National News

Walsh investigates domestic spying

Independent prosecutor Lawrence Walsh is investigating whether "Project Democracy"—specifically Lt. Col. Oliver North and Gen. Richard Secord—ran an illegal domestic spying operation targeting critics of the Reagan administration's Contra policy.

According to the Dec. 7 *Wall Street Journal*, Walsh recently broadened his grand jury investigation to determine if the Project Democracy networks were involved in any unauthorized surveillance, intelligence-gathering, or other free-lance investigations to harass or discredit political opponents.

The *Journal* names independent film producer Larry Spivey and Jack Terrell, a disaffected Contra supporter, as having been subjected to illegal Project Democracy harassment, and that it was told by FBI number-two man, Oliver Revell, that he and other FBI officials "became concerned" in July 1986 that North was using Secord and others to run a "plumbers unit" from the White House.

In fact, Revell was an intimate collaborator of North's National Security Council unit.

Two Kemp backers defect to Bush

Amid reports that Jack Kemp's presidential bid is foundering on the shoals of financial non-support, two of three co-chairmen of his Michigan campaign resigned to form a "coalition of convenience" with the Bush campaign, the *Washington Post* reported Dec. 8.

The weakness of the Kemp campaign nationally appeared to be a major factor in the decision of the two Kemp supporters, State Sen. Dick Posthumus and Larrain Thomas, whose resignations were promptly accepted.

According to Kemp's national campaign manager, Charlie Black, Kemp has

borrowed nearly \$2 million against federal matching funds, has issued another \$300,000 in letters of credit, and owes another \$500,000 to vendors.

This latest defection in Michigan allegedly puts George Bush in command in that state. In early December, 11 minor Robertson supporters announced that they were bolting for the Bush camp, because of reports that Robertson used Christian Broadcast Network money for his campaign.

Another blow to Kemp's campaign came Dec. 7 when evangelist Tim LaHaye resigned as campaign co-chairman, citing a "scurrilous attack," in the *Baltimore Sun*. The *Sun* had reported that LaHaye recently referred to Catholicism as "a false religion" and said that the Jews' rejection of Jesus was one reason for the historic troubles of Jerusalem.

New indictments over AIDS initiative?

A California ballot initiative making AIDS subject to public health measures has touched off a furor among the counterculture's political leaders. Radio reports Dec. 8 said that the Los Angeles City Council would pass a resolution against the initiative, which is similar to 1986's Proposition 64, and that Mayor Tom Bradley had denounced initiative for "discrimination."

The radio reports also indicated that indictments would be handed down against Proposition 64's sponsors, also the sponsors of the present initiative. An independent Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations was quick to react, issuing a press release that began:

"A new wave of arrests and indictments against political causes and persons associated with U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche is probably imminent, according to the Los Angeles District Attorney's office. . . . If indictments are handed down, they will be the result of an 18-month-old investigation, initiated by California Attorney General John Van de Kamp, of the 'petitioning methods' for Proposition 64. . . .

"Most significant, is that this matter has come to a head just as Soviet dictator Mikhail Gorbachov has come to the United States. This Commission has reviewed conclusive evidence that the Soviet Union has been a central agent in the legal efforts to destroy Lyndon LaRouche and his influence. . . .

"The decision as to whether or not to pursue indictments, will directly reflect Kremlin strategy on 'the LaRouche question.'"

"Though the November 1986 AIDS initiative was defeated, it received broad international attention, to the degree that, for many Americans, AIDS is the issue they most identify with the name, 'LaRouche'. . . .

"Since the petition circulators were all duly registered California voters, Van de Kamp focused on the question of their 'intent'—whether the circulators 'intended' to reside in California 'permanently'—a subtle question involving no overt acts, a 'state of mind' argument typical of Soviet-style prosecutions. . . .

"The violation of human rights which has already occurred in this case is substantial. If, in addition, Soviet-style political indictments are issued . . . the courts will degrade themselves to become instruments of political persecution."

'Controlled dissent' over INF treaty

The battle over the INF treaty has fractured the "Reagan coalition" to such a degree that a special brand of "opponent" of this giveaway of Europe has been created, as perhaps the only way to ensure that the treaty actually gets implemented. This special brand of "opponent" roundly denounces the treaty, but insists it's a *fait accompli*.

Such "controlled dissent" is coming out of the American Conservative Union, for example, as well as the "Summit Information Center," a front-group for the KGB-infested Heritage Foundation. It will be almost impossible to defeat the treaty, they say, so no one should try, but instead focus