

National News

Prosecution folds in Illinois 'LaRouche' case

Ogle County, Illinois prosecutor Dennis Schumacher dropped all charges against LaRouche associates Ron Fredman, Pat Noble-Schenk, and Richard Blomquist on June 1.

Earlier in the day, defense attorney Michael Null filed a motion asking the Court to compel NBC-TV and Schumacher to produce documents and out-takes relating to an NBC Nightly News slander that featured the Ogle County case. The motion charges that Schumacher "arranged, promoted and induced" the interview and that Schumacher "stepped outside of his prosecutorial role and acted as a zealous advocate of anti-LaRouche action, giving the lie to his statements that he is not conducting these prosecutions because of the defendants' First Amendment activities and beliefs."

The motion also charges that NBC News "acted as agents and deputies of the State's Attorney."

The three associates of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. were scheduled to be retried on June 4 on a total of 18 counts of robbery, theft by intimidation, and burglary. An earlier trial of the defendants ended in a mistrial when the prosecution's chief witness, Harriet Driver, had a stroke, after being forced by Schumacher—against her will—to testify for 45 minutes.

'Organic farmers' jailed for making drug 'crank'

Leading North Dakota "organic farmers" Barry and Serena Dossenko were sentenced May 31 on charges of manufacturing illegal drugs and tax evasion by federal district judge Patrick Conmy. Barry Dossenko was sentenced to four years on charges of manufacturing methamphetamine, known as "crank" or "speed" and his wife Serena to one year on charges of tax evasion. The Dossenkos have been identified to *EIR* as associates of the satanic Son of Sam cultist

John Carr in Minot in the 1960s. Satanic paraphernalia was discovered on their property during the drug raids on their farm according to police. The prosecuting U.S. Attorney referred to Dossenko as a pioneer in the organic farming movement. They are activists who publish a newsletter and head an organic farming group called "Organic Futures," which sponsors meetings and seminars.

They are active in the 'sustainable agriculture' circuit. A character witness for Dossenko was Dan Carlson, a University of Minnesota based geneticist who has invented a "miracle" fertilizer called "sonic bloom."

Oligarchs call for tax increases

Mouthpieces for the Eastern Establishment are calling for tax increases, including the *New York Times*, J.P. Morgan chief economist Rimmer de Vries, and First Boston economist Darwin Beck, among others.

"As it happens," the *Times* noted May 27, "the noble-sounding sentiments about deficit reduction largely coincide with Wall Street's self-interest," since "a tax increase might well send the stock market up further, at least in the short term."

The *Times*'s lead editorial on May 27 called for tax increases. "Your taxes are going up. President Bush knows that. Congress knows that . . . and taxpayers know it too." The "fairest" way would be via the income tax, but "Bush's obdurate refusal to contemplate" that is a barrier. Therefore, the "best choice is higher energy taxes" through "a small tax on energy consumption." Another "good option," the *Times* said, is higher "sin" taxes. "Sizable tax increases need not be forbidding, but they are necessary."

The *Washington Post* claimed in its lead editorial May 27, that "environmental legislation" is the "great exception" to "America's exasperation with their government." The present clean air rules are expensive, costing \$30 billion a year, and the Clean Air Act will add another \$20 billion to that. "But despite the vociferous resistance to taxes for

other purposes, public support for the new clean air requirements remains strikingly broad and durable," the *Post* said.

NOW admits RICO use is political vendetta

The National Organization of Women admitted that its use of the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) law is to conduct a political vendetta. Commenting on NOW's legal assault against Operation Rescue, NOW official Patricia Ireland told the May 22 *Wall Street Journal*, "We're making every effort to hit them in the pocketbook. We know ourselves that it's hard to organize when you don't have money."

NOW won RICO suits against Operation Rescue, as a result of which the anti-abortion organization has been fined \$150,000 in New York. The fear that money will be seized by the government, has had a chilling effect on Operation Rescue's potential contributors.

G. Robert Blakely, the Notre Dame law professor who wrote the RICO law in 1971, while defending his monster, admitted, "Unfortunately, RICO is being used as a political tool and people are being brought in not for doing something unlawful on the picket line, but because they have a certain viewpoint."

Blakely fretted that "These two sides in this death struggle have grabbed this statute and are pulling it down with them."

Court rules states can't stop hydro projects

The Supreme Court ruled unanimously on May 22 that California could not impose stricter environmental standards for a proposed hydroelectric plant than those already promulgated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The specific issue was the water flow rate necessary to protect fish and wildlife in a California river, but the implications are far-reaching.

For years, environmentalists have tried to have state and local regulations supersede federal standards, including for projects from commercial nuclear power plants to nuclear weapons production plants. Communities have tried to declare "nuclear-free zones," stop the shipment of nuclear waste through their areas, and stop other projects where local eco-terrorists claimed the federal standards were not strict enough to "protect" the environment. The decision should squash attempts at sabotaging necessary production facilities.

Dallas DEA seizes Federal Reserve funds

Dallas Drug Enforcement Administration agents seized \$25 million in cash packed in eight canvas bags from an American Airlines flight at Dallas Fort-Worth Airport, only to find that it was money from the San Antonio branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas destined for a bank in New York.

Vernon Parker, head of the San Antonio DEA, said, "We knew the cash was legitimate—it had been declared before they put it on the airplane here." He speculated that someone reported the cargo as a tip to Dallas DEA as a "suspicious cash shipment." Phil Jordan, head of Dallas DEA office, ordered the money released.

One regional banking expert commented that it might not have been a mistake. "The San Antonio Federal Reserve district is notorious for its cash surplus due to money laundering," he said. "Maybe the Dallas DEA was right, the money might have been drug money which had already been successfully laundered," he told *EIR*.

Lenders may be liable for cleanup, says court

A federal appeals court in Atlanta ruled the week of May 21 that lenders may be liable for the toxic waste cleanup costs of their clients, the *Wall Street Journal* reported May 29.

The court upheld the Environmental

Protection Agency's contention that a unit of Fleet/Norstar Financial Group, which had sold off the inventory of a bankrupt printing company in Georgia to which it had lent money, was so liable.

The *Journal* noted, "The panel said that lenders must insist that debtors comply with environmental standards as a requirement for continued and future financial support."

Boston residents sue FBI for drug proliferation

The residents of the Dorchester section of Boston, Massachusetts have filed a \$300,000 damage suit against the FBI in an attempt to recoup some of the costs of cleaning up a drug and prostitution infestation which was created by an FBI-run sting program.

The blue-collar neighborhood had successfully survived some of the worst of the drug ravages of the 1970s until a former taxi driver named Charles Matta opened up an after-hours club and brought drug dealers, prostitutes, and gamblers into the neighborhood. Matta was arrested repeatedly on gambling and alcohol charges by the local police, but the charges never seemed to stick. "He would always say, 'You can't bother me—I'll show you,'" said Dorchester police deputy Lt. Paul Bankowski.

Matta continued to operate his club even after his first guilty plea to drug possession, and only after being sentenced to 10 years on his second charge of possession did he reveal that he was an FBI informer.

FBI agent Paul Cavanaugh says "If an informant goes bad, that's a tragedy." But residents of the Savin Hill neighborhood which was ruined by Matta's clientele say, "It's the kind of thing you can imagine the CIA doing to destabilize a foreign government." Bill Walczak, a member of the local civic association told the *New York Times*, "You wouldn't think our government would do it to destabilize a neighborhood here."

On May 26, the Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association demanded an apology and \$300,000 restitution from the FBI to pay for a special Dorchester foot patrol, two neighborhood youth workers, and for improvements at their local Boys Club.

Briefly

● **SEN. CHUCK ROBB** (D-Va.) called for "substantial revenue increases" and said, "If [Bush] proposes taxes, he'll get the necessary support from both parties," the May 22 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported.

● **JOAN QUIGLEY**, the Reagans' astrologer, said the stars were not right for the Bush-Gorbachov summit. "Whatever is signed June 1, 1990, at 6 p.m. in Washington, the situation will have changed within two months and diplomats will be disagreeing over it then, especially if it involves the military," she told Reuters in a May 28 interview.

● **POLLSTER** Louis Harris said in a May 23 *New York Times* commentary that "Voters are ready to hold the President accountable for our shrinking share of the global economy."

● **THE U.S. NAVY** has reopened its investigation of the explosion aboard the battleship Iowa that killed 47 sailors in 1989. Investigators told the Senate Armed Services Committee May 25 that tests show the 16-inch gun's rammer could have snapped forward, slamming faulty gunpowder bags into the barrel too hard, and exploding them into the gun turret.

● **D.C. MAYOR** Marion Barry charged the federal government may have tried to murder him. "They had me ingest cocaine, crack cocaine, which could have killed me. . . . I could have been dead now, with 70, 80, 90% pure cocaine," he told the May 30 *Washington Post* of the Jan. 18 sting operation which led to his arrest.

● **ROBERT MCFARLANE**, the former National Security Adviser, in an upcoming *National Review*, calls Caspar Weinberger's published charge that McFarlane played a key role in the Iran-Contra scam, "an outright lie."