Citibank with hundreds of examiners and personnel to supervise every loan and significant money transfer of roughly \$1 million or above, that Citibank made. It is virtually guaranteed that the Fed did see the paperwork trail of the Raúl Salinas money, under whatever name he was operating.

Further, some of the day-to-day responsibilities for administering Citibank were reportedly coordinated with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. At this point, the vice chairman of the New York Fed was Maurice "Hank" Greenberg, of American International Group insurance company. Greenberg is reputedly one of the top leaders of Meyer Lansky's old organized crime syndicate, including money laundering.

Lyndon LaRouche has pointed out repeatedly that the New York commercial banks and the Federal Reserve System are utterly bankrupt. They also figure as central players in one of the biggest money-laundering, murder, and political intrigue scandals in the last decade of the 20th century.

What will be done?

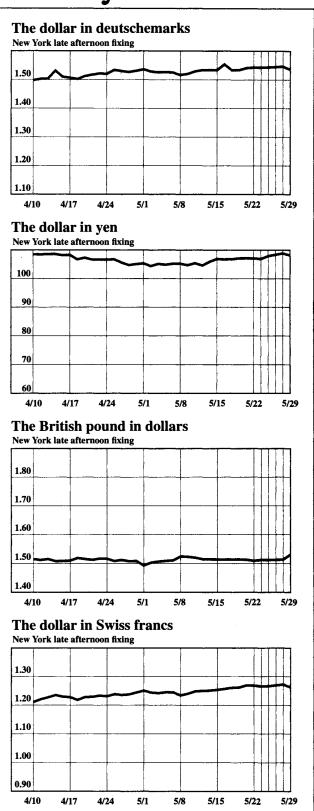
But the question remains, will U.S. authorities seriously prosecute Citicorp and the Federal Reserve? *EIR* has not been able to learn yet what the charges are that the grand juries in Washington, D.C. and New York, which reportedly began gathering evidence in the case, including subpoenaing records from Citibank, are being asked to consider. Or, whether they will focus on only a few individuals, such as Amelia Grovas Elliot, or whether they will move right up the chain of command.

The U.S. money-laundering law that could be applied, has "extraterritorial" reach if the transactions are by a U.S. citizen, or, if by a non-U.S. citizen, they occurred in part in the United States. The known facts of the Salinas-Citibank-Fed caper fit that standard (Title 18, USC Sec. 1956 [f]).

The Citibank-Fed-Salinas case shows how easily money-laundering can occur, and laws be circumvented. As a result of the Bank Secrecy Act of 1986, the U.S. government requires that all U.S. banks file cash transaction reports (CTRs) on all cash deposits \$10,000 or larger, and on all suspicious activities, whether the money is deposited in cash or other form. But simply by qualifying to be a preferred client of Citibank's Private Bank, with a net worth of \$5 million or more, a bank customer can escape such scrutiny if his banker applies for an exemption because the customer in question is so "valued."

Citibank has operated in Mexico for most of this century, and it helped draft the secret banking accords in Chapter XIII of the North American Free Trade Agreement which further deregulated the Mexican banking system, intensifying its destruction. In coordination with the International Monetary Fund, Citibank applies conditionalities policies which are looting the Mexican economy. A serious investigation and/or criminal case on the Salinas matter might unravel this larger relationship.

Currency Rates



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