

labor-intensive methods of relieving unemployment.

(4) Chopped the **CETA public sector jobs program** from 725,000 to 600,000 jobs, limited jobholders to 18 months tenure, and added further restrictive conditions on who may hold CETA jobs. Since CETA has been widely used in urban areas to fund needed trained city service personnel who would otherwise be eliminated in state and local fiscal austerity crackdowns, this is a blow at the nation's city residents. In addition, Congress failed to approve a \$1 billion revenue-sharing program, further throwing local, state, and city budgets out of whack.

(5) Passed Carter's vaunted **Civil Service Reform**, which creates a special category of federal "superbureaucrat" not subject to normal civil service rules and procedures and which encourages interdepartmental "personnel shifts" and outright purge-firings to remove those resisting Brookings Institution master-planners' idea of "effective government" and harebrained schemes emanating from Zbigniew Brzezinski's National Security Council.

(6) Okayed the so-called "**Bert Lance Banking Act**," giving Treasury Secretary Blumenthal and his crew of regulators new powers to conduct "banking watergates," purge bank officers, conduct "Kennedy Justice" antitrust campaigns against proindustrial growth financial institutions, etc. (In one of its few real, if modest, accomplishments, Congress rechartered the U.S. Export-Import Bank for five years, increased its authorization by \$15 billion, and at the behest of Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D-Ill), added language encouraging additional government backing for U.S. exports on the Japanese-European model.)

(7) Passed a **deregulation bill** "deregulating" U.S. airlines by destroying the Civil Aeronautics Board, encouraging rate wars and mergers and promoting a short-term boom in passenger travel and profits for some large lines at the expense of long-term capital investment and overall service in the industry.

(8) Snored through, without realizing its implications, an amendment cutting off all U.S. contributions to the **United Nations technical assistance fund**, an embarrassment to the President and a thumb-in-the-eye to U.S. allies and the developing sector nations.

As a special insult to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Congress granted new most-favored-nation agricultural credits exclusively to China among "communist countries."

At the same time, under Carter's prodding, Congress okayed more than \$1 billion for the International Monetary Fund's "Witteveen Facility" for promoting Nazi economics in Europe and the Third World, while totally ignoring the most important issue now facing the country, U.S. participation in the new European Monetary System designed to rescue the dollar.

— Donald Baier

Crime bosses: do

How the link-ups to dirty money

For many years, only two companies produced voting machines in the U.S.: the Automatic Voting Machine Co. (AVM) of Jamestown, N.Y. and the Shoup Voting Machine Company of New York City. More recently, computerized voting systems have covered about 20 percent of the electorate; the largest producer of computerized systems is the Computer Elections Systems of Berkeley, California. Together these three companies are responsible for a tremendous portion of the votes cast in most American elections.

Now a broad intersection has been uncovered between the circles controlling the voting-machine companies and British-run political-intelligence and drug-money networks.

It is already known that British intelligence and its financier controllers operate the bulk of the world's drug trade, intermingling their approximately \$100 billion of drug money with hot-money flows from gambling and other organized crime enterprises plus more or less legitimate speculative businesses. There is therefore little distinction between British-contaminated sections of the intelligence community and what is usually termed organized crime — as the more serious investigations of the Kennedy and related assassinations have shown. And as this news service has shown (see *Executive Intelligence Review*, Vol. V, No. 39), those organized crime channels are also intimately connected to vote theft and other illegal tampering with U.S. elections.

But in addition, these criminals and their dirty-money financier allies also have a hand in the electoral process at the voting-machine level — and as the following report will show, the implications for free elections in this country are ominous indeed.

Appearing prominently in this investigation of U.S. voting-machine companies have been circles associated directly with now-fugitive drug-runner Robert Vesco, sports investors, convicted stock swindler Louis Wolfson, and the city of Reading, Pa. Only slightly behind the scenes are banks known to be direct conduits for drug money, such as Marine Midland of New York, Kuhn Loeb and its new merger-partner Lehman Brothers, Goldman, Sachs and Co., and the law firms which provide the legal cover for their dirty dealings.

The picture that follows, when combined with evidence in the public domain on the extent of organized crime control of the election apparatus in key cities and states of our nation, provides more than ample grounds for full-scale Justice Department and congressional investigations of the vote-fraud

they control U.S. voting machines?

and British networks work

apparatus that has held the U.S. in its grip since at least the 1960 presidential elections. But if it is to be successful, such investigations must *not* be of the type typically run by the Kennedy-faction sections of the Justice Department, which targets only the factional opponents of the Kennedy and allied Zionist lobby-British networks, perpetuating the myth that street-level "Mafia families" are the ultimate forces behind organized crime, leaving the real controllers totally out of view.

1. Some pieces in the puzzle

Before providing a detailed outline of the control of the two major voting machine companies, let's take a look at a fairly recent financial transaction involving Computer Elections Systems (CES).

In the mid-1960s, when Robert Vesco was in the process of putting together his International Investment Trust, a forerunner to Investors Overseas Services, his financial angels on the West Coast were a group of individuals known as Hale Brothers Associates, an investment group closely tied to the Bank of America. Richard W. Pershing, now president of Hale Brothers, arranged for Vesco to borrow money on the collapsed stock of one of his companies called Cyronetics, and later was instrumental in arranging a \$17 million loan from the Bank of America. Throughout the late 1960s and early 1970s, until Vesco was forced to flee the U.S., Pershing and the Hale Brothers, who also control the Broadway-Hale Stores, were Vesco's close friends and associates.

In August 1977, Hale Brothers Associates became the owners of CES, paying \$11.6 million — for a company with \$1.4 million in annual sales. Lest anyone think the Hale Brothers are simply hard-minded businessmen looking for a solid investment, it should be noted that Hale was also the largest contributor to the prodrug election campaign of George "Marijuana" Moscone for mayor of San Francisco.

Robert Vesco will reappear in the course of our survey of the Shoup Voting Machine Company. In the early 1950s, financier Louis Wolfson took control of the Merritt-Chapman and Scott Company, an old shipbuilding and dredging concern, and turned it into one of the first conglomerates. According to one author, Wolfson "raised thoroughbreds, bankrolled election campaigns, and counted the big names of

politics, sports, and show business among his friends."

He also made voting machines.

One of Merritt-Chapman and Scott's early acquisitions in the 1950s was the Shoup Voting Machine Company. Wolfson moved in some new management, and kept control of the company into the early 1960s. During this period Wolfson was engaging in the stock manipulation of his various companies that was to lead to his conviction in two separate trials in 1967 and 1968.

When Wolfson came under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission from 1964 on, he turned to two law firms for advice. Both of them play a significant role in our story. The first was the Washington firm of Arnold, Fortas, and Porter. Wolfson's close friend and legal advisor Abe Fortas possessed long-standing vote-fraud credentials, having assisted Lyndon Johnson in the legal coverup of his 87-vote "victory" in 1948 in the U.S. Senate election in Texas, in a situation where 200 "lost" Johnson votes suddenly appeared in rural counties three days after the election, giving LBJ his slim margin of victory. The participation of Fortas and the Arnold and Porter law firm in this case of flagrant fraud indicates that from 1948 on they were witting participants in the theft of elections.

The second law firm to which Wolfson turned was Shea, Gallop, Gould and Climenko in New York. This firm is headed by William A. Shea, a man who, like Wolfson himself, has considerable financial interests in the sports and horseracing world, including the New York Mets and Shea Stadium. Shea is far more heavily involved in politics than Wolfson; he is described by knowledgeable sources as "the most powerful political power-broker in New York" and is known to be one of the key Zionist bankers' control points for *both* the Democratic and Republican parties.

But by this time Shea was not only a sports investor, political power-broker, and lawyer for Wolfson. He was also chairman of the board of the Shoup Voting Machine Company.

In the early 1960s, the Shoup Company was sold by Wolfson to the General Battery and Ceramic Company, run from New York City but located in Reading, Pa. General Battery is linked to British-dominated zinc mining, and contains on its board at least one member of the British monarchy's "secret society," Venerable Knight of Malta Thomas J. Deegan, Jr., who is otherwise closely linked to British Round Table circles in the U.S. Throughout the 1960s,

the two top officers of General Battery were William Shea and one Edward H. Weitzen, and Shea is still the company's chairman. Shea and Weitzen were also both chairmen of the Shoup Company in the mid-1960s.

In an interview with this news service, Shea (who has been before so many grand juries that poor memory has become habitual to him) had difficulty recalling that he had had any association at all with the Shoup Voting Machine Company, saying "I think we represented them for four or five years." When reminded that he had in fact been chairman of the board of Shoup, he explained that it was simply an "honorary position."

While Shea was in the process of acquiring the Shoup Company, if not owning it already, he negotiated for Shoup a deal with the City of New York whereby the City replaced its old AVM machines with 7,000 new Shoup machines. Many people say that this deal was rigged by Shea.

Beginning in 1967, the stock of the Shoup Company began to be acquired by individuals associated with the Macrodyne-Chattillon Corporation, and in 1969 the company was sold to Macrodyne-Chattillon. In 1972, following a well-publicized series of investigations, indictments, and convictions, Macrodyne wrote off the old Shoup Company and formed a new company called International Elections Systems, Inc. (The Shoup family, which had not owned the company for decades, was completely forced out and formed their own company, R.F. Shoup and Company, not connected to IES.)⁽¹⁾

Macrodyne was one of the aerospace conglomerates that flourished in the late 1960s among "hot money" circles. Macrodyne's principal bank was Marine Midland, the drug-money bank now in the process of willingly being taken over by the Bank of Hong Kong and Shanghai, whose openly advertised principal business is the Golden Triangle drug trade. Marine Midland is accordingly represented on the Board of Macrodyne. Another director and major stockholder of Macrodyne was C.H. Penneys, who was also the chairman of B.T. Babbitt and Company, now known as the International Banknote Company. We will detail the all-important Banknote connection below; but first, let's look at the federal investigations of voting machine corruption that hit both the Shoup and AVM companies in the 1969-1973 period.

2. What kind of investigation?

From our picture so far, we can see abundant reason for an investigation of the voting-machine industry. And sure enough, the Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force did begin such an investigation in 1969. The Strike Force's entré into the Shoup situation was the supposedly Mafia-held gambling debts owed by Irving Meyers, then the president of Shoup. The official story is that Meyers's frequent trips to Las Vegas and his consequent financial difficulties came

to the attention of the Internal Revenue Service, which initiated the first investigation.

It is unclear whether the investigation was a cover-up from the beginning, or a well-intentioned effort by Nixon forces to go after and clean up the nationwide vote fraud apparatus that had cost Richard Nixon the 1960 election. In any case, the probe was quickly derailed and misdirected by Kennedy-linked forces in the Justice Department, and what ensued was a small-change investigation of bribes paid to local public officials in connection with the sale of voting machines. The obvious connections into the hot money-sports-gambling-drug world were never pursued beyond Meyers's Las Vegas connections. Shea, Weitzen, and all the other owners of Shoup came out smelling like a bouquet of roses. Wolfson's name never even figured in the investigation.

Robert Ozer, the head of the Philadelphia Organized Crime Strike Force, quickly "turned" Meyers into a government witness; Meyers then bounced around the country in a traveling road show smearing local

How vote

I. MACHINE RIGGING. According to numerous experts in the elections field, voting machines can be rigged in just about any way desired. As one specialist put it: "Any pinball mechanic could fix a voting machine."

Some of the most common methods include:

- (1) **Adding votes** — by presetting machines, or by running up additional votes during the election or after the polls close (the "Chicago method").
- (2) **Counter tampering** — chip or file a counter tooth so that the counter stops registering at a predetermined number; or chip or file the pointer which activates the next higher column, in which case the counter would keep repeating the numbers 0 to 9 without ever registering 10, or keep repeating 90 to 99 without turning over the 100s column. (Such tampering would be invisible during a routine inspection.)
- (3) **Misprogramming the machine** — failing to set the activating pin so that the candidate's lever actually moves the counters, or (in a more complicated process) programming the machine so that votes cast for one candidate actually register for another.

Note: AVM machines are particularly prone to "accidental" counter failure. During the November 1976 elections in Pinellas County, Florida, an estimated 35,000 of a total of 360,000 votes were lost

election officials in Philadelphia, New Jersey, Chicago, Miami, and elsewhere. Meyers got off with a one-year sentence; today he resides in Florida, living off the real estate investments he holds along with others from the Shea-Weitzen crowd and their Philadelphia law firm, Blank, Rome, Klaus, and Comisky.

Blank, Rome (previously Blank Rudenko) was deeply involved in all the financial and legal manipulations around the Shoup Company. (Meyers was later told that if he had had Blank Rudenko as his lawyers instead of F. Lee Bailey, he would have gotten off scott free.) The Blank law firm showed up again during the 1976 elections, as heavily implicated in the Operation "Big Vote" election fraud in Philadelphia, a significant part of the nationwide fraud which put Carter in the White House.

Ozer, meanwhile, went off to Buffalo where he launched the same type of investigation (bribes and corruption) against the AVM voting machine company. From Buffalo he went on to Detroit, playing

fraud works

due to counter failure; a grand jury investigation found no evidence of deliberate fraud, but blamed AVM for poor workmanship and products.

In many jurisdictions, mechanics work from diagrams prepared by others, so that only a handful of people actually know how the machines are programmed; this is the case in the city of Detroit, for example.

II. COMPUTER FRAUD. Computerized voting is prone to fraud on two counts:

- (1) Misprogramming the system so that votes are dropped, added, or incremented at a slower rate than they are coming in on cards or magnetic tapes.
- (2) Tampering with punch cards so as to invalidate the ballots cast for an opponent, or substituting cards.

III. "TOMBSTONE" VOTING. The third major method is to add fictitious names to the registration rolls, especially through post-card or same-day registrations ("Mondale method"). One variation is to create maximum chaos through post-card registrations so that batches of voters can be herded from one polling place to another on election day. This method was used extensively in New York, Ohio, and elsewhere to steal the 1976 election for Jimmy Carter.

a key role in the coverup of the Hoffa assassination (Ozer put out the line that Tony Provenzano did it); then he returned to Philadelphia to join the law firm of . . . Blank, Rome, Klaus, and Comisky. (This repeats a familiar pattern. When Ozer left Buffalo, a good section of his Strike Force there went into the employ of the Jacobs brothers' SportServices, Inc. And both Resorts International and Intertel are chock full of former "organized crime" investigators from the Justice Department.)

3. The Automatic Voting Machine Company

AVM, the Automatic Voting Machine Company, was founded in 1898 to find a mechanical means of replacing paper ballots and securing honest elections. Or so the story goes.

After being controlled by a combination of Hartford insurance interests and Cleveland banking interests, the AVM company was bought up by the Rockwell family interests in the late 1950s, with Willard Rockwell, Sr. and Jr. becoming the top two officers for a period. In the mid 1960s the Rockwells sold off part of their interests, at which time the Mellon Bank (a thoroughly Anglophile outfit) took up more control, putting its vice-president Spencer Hackett on the AVM board. Harvey Kreuger of the Zionist lobby Kuhn Loeb banking house also joined the AVM board during the mid-1960s. (It is significant that they remained unscathed during the scandals that erupted in 1972-73 around AVM.)

Robert Ozer, now conveniently the head of the Buffalo Organized Crime Strike Force, launched a mammoth fishing expedition into the books and records of the AVM company, finding here and there leads into the same sort of bribery scandals that had wracked the old Shoup Company. AVM then launched the parallel "inside" operation by bringing in the law firm of Arnold and Porter to head up a company housecleaning. Also brought in as a "consultant" was Harold J. Ruttenberg, a labor movement "spook" from the 1930s who had subsequently made his way handsomely in the business world with substantial holdings in both the U.S. and Israel.

One version of the story has it that AVM was trying to obtain the legal services of Abe Fortas by calling in Arnold and Porter. Be that as it may, Arnold and Porter actually deployed Mitchell Rogovin into the AVM situation; Rogovin was at the time the General Counsel to the terrorist Institute for Policy Studies and to Common Cause. (He later became Special Counsel to the CIA.)

When Rogovin came in, AVM had a \$23 million deal pending with the government of Venezuela to provide Venezuela with electronic voting machines. As Rogovin sniffed around in true legal-beagle fashion for any hint of incriminating activity on the part of his

clients, it came to his attention that AVM's sales agent for the Venezuelan deal, one Hans Mangin, had allegedly bribed Venezuelan officials to secure the contract. Rogovin's immediate advice to AVM was to "come clean" and to refuse to pay Mangin his sales commission. Predictably, Mangin sued AVM in federal court in Miami, and when Rogovin offered the "defense" that AVM hadn't paid Mangin his commission because kickbacks were involved, the ceiling blew off the Venezuelan deal and a major government scandal erupted in Caracas.

Most of the participants in the Florida trial — including the trial judge — found Rogovin's legal "strategy" totally inexplicable. He is still referred to as "that s.o.b. Rogovin" by those who believe he was setting them up for criminal charges.

As a result of Ozer's investigations and Rogovin's manipulations, all of the top officers of the AVM voting machine division resigned or were fired, and Ruttenberg became the head of the AVM Corporation.

At this point negotiations were underway between the AVM Corporation and some of the voting-machine officers to have the latter buy the voting-machine division, which reportedly has been in rough financial shape since the 1972-73 period. (One of the principal beneficiaries of the voting machine scandal was CES, which has taken the largest share of the market for new equipment since that time.) The group trying to purchase the company is headed by Tom Huh, the New York-New England sales representative, and includes Keith Spaulding, the AVM official who once told this news service that voting machines can be fixed in any way desired — that all it takes for rigging to occur is a "proper political climate" in which "election officials will look the other way."

4. The Banknote connection

Is there any common link between the companies and investors that have controlled the two voting machine companies over the past two decades?

We have already noted the connection of Robert Vesco to the Hale Brothers who now own CES. During the late 1960s, it is also reliably reported that Robert Vesco was given a late-night, guided tour through the Shoup manufacturing facilities.

A cross-gridding of owners and directors of the voting machine companies leads directly to an entity known as the American Banknote Company and its parent, the International Banknote Company. Both exist in the center of British-Zionist banking, intelligence, and drug networks. Both also link into a curious group of "investors" from Reading, Pa. who controlled key sections of the New York docks during the 1950s and 1960s.

To summarize the links:

Spencer Hackett, of the Mellon Bank and AVM, is on the boards of both International Banknote and

American Banknote.

Edward Weitzen, one-time chairman and president of the Shoup Company, is chairman of International Banknote and president of American Banknote.

Joseph Ponce, of General Battery (owners of Shoup) is on the board of International Banknote.

C.H. Penneys, stockholder and director of Macrodyne, was at one time the chairman of B.T. Babbitt, the company also headed by Weitzen which bought American Banknote in 1969 to become International Banknote.

Overlapping the Banknote connection is the Black Maltese Order of St. John of Jerusalem. The Mellon family includes at least two Knights of Malta, as does the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell, which controlled American Banknote. Knights of Malta have also appeared in General Battery (Shoup) and Rockwell companies (AVM) — closing the circle, so to speak.

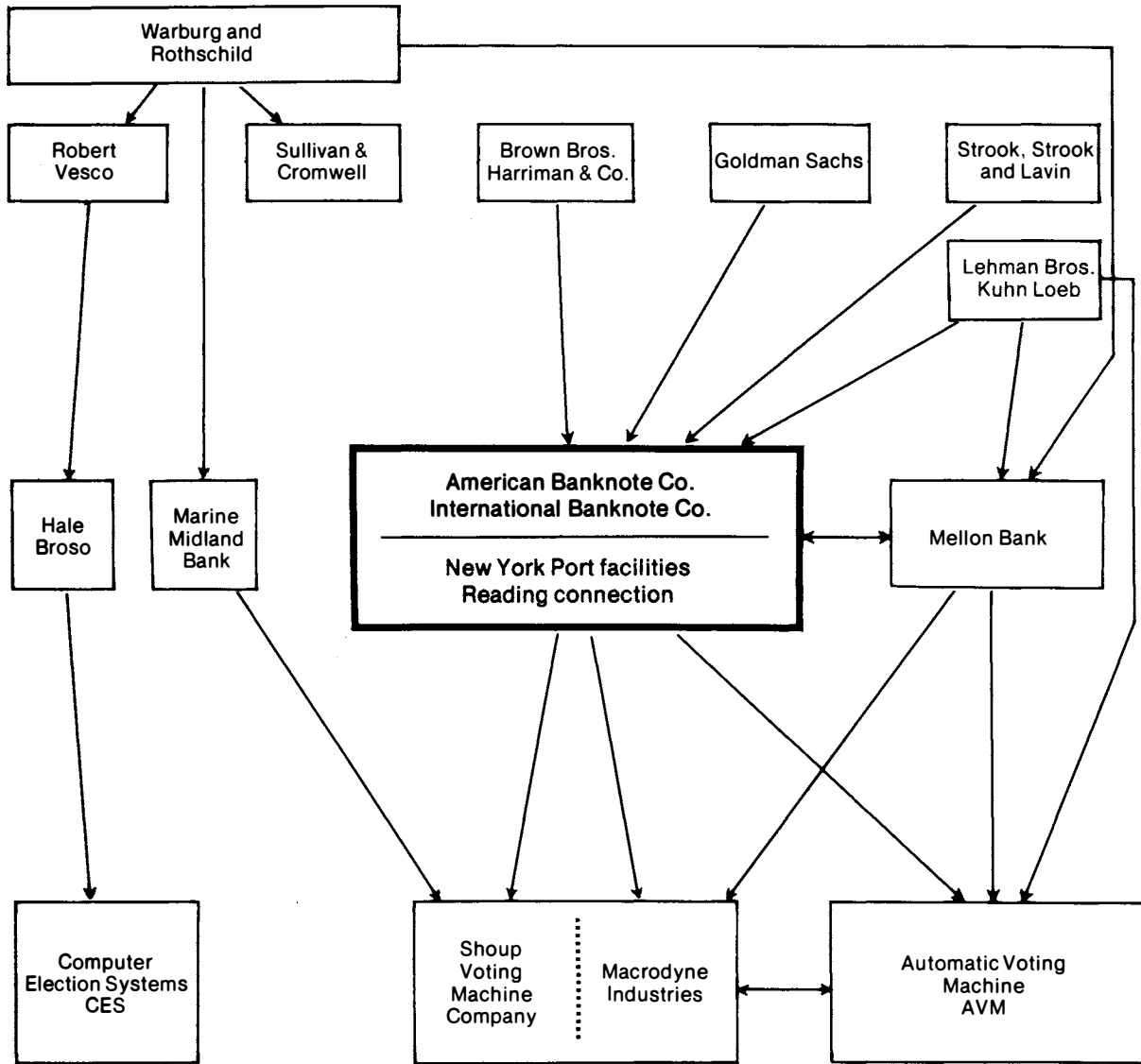
It is a plausible assumption that any company that prints securities and currencies is tailor-made for the conducting of "hot money" and the proceeds of the drug traffic, as well as for financial warfare operations. A search for some such connections during the World War II period revealed the following.

During the 1940s, the American Banknote Company was run by the intelligence and foreign-policy "old boy" network, in particular the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell from which Allen Dulles set up the CIA in the postwar period. During the 1940s, the directors of Banknote included: John Foster Dulles and William Nelson Cromwell, both of Sullivan and Cromwell; E. Roland Harriman (Brown Brothers Harriman and British-Canadian insurance companies); S. Sloan Colt (Bankers Trust; OSS; British-Canadian insurance interests; later head of the New York Port Authority); and Curtis Calder (Lehman Brothers).

Parenthetically, the reader is advised to dispense with any illusions that the "old boy" network from which the CIA originated represented anything American in character. In general terms, only to the extent that the CIA and the intelligence community has interfaced with the military has it represented a healthy tendency in the U.S. Sullivan and Cromwell, from which Allen Dulles ran the de facto CIA until its official creation in 1947, was the U.S. law firm for the British monarchy's Seligman family and the British-German Schroeder Bank which financed Adolf Hitler. Sullivan and Cromwell is intimately tied to the drug trade financing through its close connections with Marine Midland, Goldman Sachs, etc. During the 1940s the Dulles brothers and other Banknote officials were heavily involved in British-Canadian mining and insurance interests, such as International Nickel of Canada.

One of the most fascinating features of American Banknote is the close ties to Reading, Pa. — known as "Crime City USA," in the 1950s and otherwise identified in the 1960s and 1970s as a center for the

How dirty money oils vote fraud



running of drugs, guns, and explosives to terrorist networks. During the mid-1950s and early 1960s, seven new directors were added to American Banknote: four of them were from Reading.

The Reading group owned a significant section of the New York docks, including the New York Dock Railway (operating on both the New York and New Jersey Ports), Bush Terminal in Brooklyn, and the General Cigar Company. In the words of one member of the Reading group, "we controlled the New York waterfront." In popular mythology, it was the Mafia that controlled the waterfront during this time.

It should also be recalled that the Shea-Weitzen

General Battery Co. was located in Reading, Pa. The Babbitt Company, also headed by Weitzen and by Penneys, bought up American Banknote in 1969, along with its subsidiaries, Wilkinson and Bradbury of London and the Canadian Banknote Company. Weitzen and Penneys were both connected to the Shoup Voting Machine Company as well, Weitzen as a former chairman, and Penneys as a major stockholder and director of Macrodyne.

The Babbitt purchase of American Banknote was financed by the Mellon Bank, which maintains a major degree of control over the AVM company and reportedly tried to gain control of the Shoup company

in the early 1950s. There was clearly no opposition within American Banknote to its purchase by Babbitt.

In summary, the points of intersection between the two principal voting machine companies are the Banknote companies and the closely tied Mellon Bank, and the fact that both were on the receiving end of "organized crime" investigations. The Banknote network, which still maintains significant control over both companies, is in turn centered in the British-controlled intelligence and dirty money networks that run drug trafficking in the world today.

The obvious implication is that during the 1960s and early 1970s a major vote fraud network was put into

place, involving both voting machine rigging and corrupted local election officials. The recent purchase of the Computer Electronics Systems by close associates of the fugitive Robert Vesco only highlights the immediate urgency of busting up this drug-money, vote-fraud machine, which is making a mockery out of the electoral process in the United States.

— *Edward Spannaus*

1. A few months ago, IES was sold to Richard S. Groves, a retired U.S. Army career officer. After leaving the Army (Vietnam was his last overseas tour of duty), Groves became a management consultant for Bell and Howell and for his own consulting company. He is also part owner of Zenith Laboratories, a pharmaceutical house in New Jersey.