

National News

Weld targets defense, hits Meese on Irangate

William Weld, the chief of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, complained about the difficulty of prosecuting Defense Department employees, in testimony before the Energy and Commerce investigations subcommittee July 30. "In the absence of fraudulent intent," Weld said, "the resulting overcharges [involved in DoD cost overruns] may not be prosecutable or even recoverable."

"In many investigations we have found, rather than venal or improper acquiescence on the part of government officials, a merging and mutual reinforcement of interests—profit motive on the part of defense contractors and a desire to accomplish the mission on the part of the military," Weld complained that two cases against General Dynamics and one against Pratt and Whitney had been abandoned because no fraud had been intended.

Concerning the Irangate scandal, Weld said, in a deposition given July 16, that he had urged Attorney General Edwin Meese and other Justice Department officials to bring the Criminal Division into the investigation, but was rebuffed.

According to a report in the *New York Times*, Weld was involved at the time in investigating the arms-smuggling case of Israeli Gen. Avraham Bar-Am, which featured shipment of arms to Iran.

When Weld was appointed to head the Criminal Division, *EIR* warned Meese that the snake would go after him. It looks like we were right.

House panel cuts aid to Pakistan

The House Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations has approved a \$13.2 billion foreign aid package for fiscal year 1988 that includes the withholding of \$290 mil-

lion in foreign military sales credits and \$250 million in economic assistance from Pakistan until Jan. 15, 1988, at which time President Reagan would have to determine whether to resume the aid.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman expressed "regret" at the move, saying, "While we seek a more satisfactory understanding on the nuclear issue [allegations that Pakistan is acquiring a nuclear weapons capability—ed.], we also wish to maintain the continuity of our crucial cooperation with Pakistan."

The aid package also earmarks military and economic aid of \$3 billion for Israel; \$2.1 billion for Egypt; \$540 million for Pakistan; and \$284 million for the Philippines.

LaRouche: 'The U.S. government is in chaos'

In a campaign statement issued July 27, Lyndon LaRouche wrote that the budget crisis of the previous week brought the world "right up to the edge of the financial precipice," and neither the Congress nor the President has shown any inclination to face reality and reverse the economic collapse.

"Congress was so obsessed with its efforts to blackmail a weakened President Reagan," he wrote, "that it seemed not to care that its actions might even set off a worldwide financial crash. On his side, the President was so obsessed with trying to ram through more of his failed 'economic agenda,' and to get an early summit with Moscow's General Secretary Gorbachov, that he, too, paid no attention to the risk of plunging the world economy into chaos."

The recent bungling, he said, is typical of the way entire financial systems or even empires sometimes fall. "The threat of a financial crash worries me; but, what worries me much more, and should worry all of you, is the fact that our government is in chaos, with no one really in control of the situation. The President has his head up in Cloud Nine, and most of the Congress is acting like a bunch of drunks working themselves up for a late night bar-room brawl."

Reviewing the measures he has pro-

posed to launch a high-technology industrial build-up, LaRouche compared his own role to that of Lazare Carnot in saving the French nation from the follies committed during the Revolution.

The problem today, he wrote, is that Washington officials refuse to abandon "the usual way of doing things," and therefore are afraid to implement the solutions which will work. Further, many of those who know LaRouche is right, still fear to support his candidacy until he has received such broadly visible support, that they can afford to stick their necks out.

Jones tours India with LaRouche policies

Sheila Jones, Midwest coordinator of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), is on tour of India Aug. 1-15, speaking on behalf of Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche. She was invited by attorney S.C. Birla, of the Supreme Court of India and the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the United States.

Mrs. Jones was a candidate for mayor of Chicago this year, and gained national attention following the victory of two LaRouche associates in the March 1986 Democratic primary. As coordinator of their campaigns, she became famous for the humorous and combative manner in which she dealt with a generally hostile press corps, often winning their grudging admiration. Accomplished in poetry and classical music, she is also a former school teacher.

Mrs. Jones will speak before meetings of the All-India Lawyers Federation, an organization formed last year by Birla to represent the broad interests of Indian attorneys. She will speak in New Delhi, Poona, Bangalore, Cochin, and Goa, focusing on LaRouche's policies for global economic development, and discussing the political witchhunt launched against LaRouche by the Soviets and the "secret government" in the United States.

A cultural program has also been

planned, with a group of Indian poets.

Senators ask indefinite halt in aid to Panama

Eight senators have sent a letter to Secretary of State George Shultz, asking him to continue the freeze on economic and military aid to Panama indefinitely. Led by Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), chair of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs, the group asked Shultz to consider other measures, in addition to the aid cutoff, "to evidence our firm opposition to the control of the government of Panama by its military forces."

Other signers included the subcommittee's ranking Republican, Richard Lugar (Ind.), ranking Democrat, Senator Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), and the subcommittee chairman Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and of the Irangate investigating committee. The letter said that continuing the freeze would "make it clear to the people of Panama that we stand with them in their quest for the establishment and growth of democratic institutions."

Koop: no AIDS tests for pregnant women

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop came out against mandatory AIDS testing of pregnant women, during testimony before the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control on July 27. The committee held a hearing at Harlem Hospital in New York City.

Koop argued that testing would force the women "underground." Admitting that New York City figures among pregnant women "forecast a staggering number of pediatric AIDS cases in the future," Koop maintained that education remained the best weapon

against AIDS, even though prospective mothers who are at risk are difficult to reach because they "have low socioeconomic status, a low educational level . . . [are] unemployed or work as prostitutes."

Mayor Ed Koch agreed with Koop, saying: "After you have mandatory testing, what do you get? You can't do anything for these people. You've branded them." He doubted that most of those found infected would change their behavior.

Bush lashes out against LaRouche

Vice President George Bush, at a campaign rally in Shelton, Iowa July 31, was asked whether he agreed with Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche that Executive Orders 12333 and 12334 should be revoked. Bush replied: "I don't know what they are. I haven't heard about them. Tell me more." After being told that these orders legalized dirty tricks by the "secret government," undermining the rule of law and the Constitution, Bush said, "Well, I wrote an executive order that made intelligence accountable to the appropriate institutions. Maybe this order has been amended. But, in any case, if Lyndon LaRouche is for it, I'd be very, very wary."

Bush was asked to comment on opposition to the "zero option" arms-control deal by Gen. Bernard Rogers and on LaRouche's ongoing visit to Turkey. Answering the second question first, Bush said: "I don't know what to make of the LaRouche visit, and I assume the Turkish prime minister doesn't know what to make of it either. . . . I don't like the things LaRouche does. . . . He's bilked people out of lots of money and misrepresented what causes the money was going to. LaRouche is in a lot of trouble and deserves to be in a lot of trouble."

On the zero option, Bush said: "It's true that Rogers expressed opposition to the zero option, because he thought it would be bad for Europe. But General Galvin approves of the zero option, and I agree with Galvin." Galvin has replaced Rogers as NATO supreme commander.

Briefly

● **ROBERT DOLE**, during a recent visit to Birmingham, Alabama, proposed that all presidential candidates sign a statement pledging not to discuss the issue of AIDS during the 1988 campaign. He did not say who will deal with the AIDS crisis, if the next President of the United States will not.

● **JESSE JACKSON** is getting narco-dollars from Cuba, according to a report in the London Sunday *Express* July 26. The paper cites an unnamed Justice Department official who alleges that Jackson has been getting funds from Havana to finance his U.S. political activities. Federal investigators have reportedly interrogated Miami-based Cubans about the alleged drug money link.

● **PAT ROBERTSON** said at the National Press Club on July 24 that he believes the United States should withdraw its troops from Western Europe. "I am probably going to get blasted for this," he said, "but I am going to say it anyway. We cannot permit Europe to take a free ride on America. There is going to be a phase-out of U.S. involvement. The party's over for Europe. Europe is going to have to rise up to the challenge, itself."

● **CASPAR WEINBERGER** told the Iran-Contra hearings on July 31 that the real objective of Moscow in Central America is to induce the United States to divert military forces from Europe and decouple the NATO alliance.

● **A FEDERAL APPEALS** court in St. Louis upheld the assault convictions of AIDS victim David Kazenbach, who attacked three guards, biting one at the U.S. Medical Center for Prisoners in Springfield, Missouri. Assistant U.S. Attorney David Jones said he did not know whether the guard bitten by Kazenbach would contract AIDS, but that the bite had drawn blood. The guard will undergo testing for the disease for seven years.