

# National News

## Top Freemason screened GOP for LaRouche ties

Gene Mungold, an officer of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, effectively the headquarters for Freemasonry in the United States, recently admitted that he had screened potential candidates for the Republican Party to ensure there were no ties to Lyndon LaRouche.

"I was chairman of the operations committee of the Republican Party in the state of Virginia, working out of Fairfax. I supervised the investigation of every single candidate who tried to run for office as a Republican, to make sure that they had no affiliation whatsoever with Lyndon LaRouche," Mungold said.

Mungold also said that "We do not allow Christianity in our lodge . . . it's too sectarian."

Freemasons in Alexandria and LaRouche's home in Leesburg, Virginia, stung by public criticism over the exposure of gun-running ties of Judge Albert V. Bryan Jr., the judge who railroaded LaRouche to prison, held open houses on Sept. 29. Mungold denied that the open house was a response to a leaflet distributed by the LaRouche for Justice campaign.

## LaRouche rep addresses Black Caucus Foundation

LaRouche spokeswoman Debra Freeman addressed a workshop on the targeting of black elected officials at the meeting of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation on Sept. 28.

Attendance, expected to be 150, was 1,000. Freeman described the judicial railroad of Lyndon LaRouche. She challenged the audience to look at the situation of harassment of blacks, trade union officials, and a statesman such as LaRouche from a perspective that the powers behind the Bush administration needed to destroy all constituency leadership in order to implement de-

pression austerity.

Former Maryland State Sen. Clarence Mitchell said that when he was indicted, he decided that since he was innocent he would go through the justice system and be exonerated. "That approach," he said, "got me 15 months in prison." We cannot continue with this approach, he concluded. "We have to fight politically."

One woman described how her elderly father, a Baton Rouge city councilman for 30 years, had been dragged from his home in the middle of the night in his underwear, subjected to a frameup, and sentenced to eight years in prison when he was convicted of embezzling \$400.

A city councilwoman from North Carolina explained that she was virtually the only representative from her state at the meeting, because of the devastating frameups of state legislators and other black elected officials.

One caucus member had prepared a list of black elected officials above the level of school board who are currently under indictment, which is 15 typed pages long, not including those now the subject of IRS investigation.

## OSI exposed in Artukovic case

The Department of Justice Office of Special Investigations (OSI) extradited Andrija Artukovic to Yugoslavia based on fraudulent evidence, according to the OSI's consultant, the Sept. 24 *Washington Times* reported.

During World War II, Artukovic was for a time the interior minister of the Ustasha government in Croatia that cooperated with the occupying Nazis. In 1986, Artukovic, then living in Surfside, California, was extradited to Yugoslavia where he was sentenced to death. He died in 1988 at age 88 while awaiting execution.

Dennis Reinhartz, a historian at the University of Texas at Arlington who was the OSI's consultant in the case, said "he does not believe the chief piece of evidence against Artukovic."

The DoJ Office of Professional Respon-

sibility is investigating the OSI for its handling of the Artukovic case and is investigating claims that OSI deliberately withheld evidence in the case of John Demjanjuk, who was deported to Israel and is appealing a death sentence for allegedly being Treblinka's "Ivan the Terrible."

An OSI official says Reinhartz never challenged the accuracy of the charges during the deportation hearings, but under the rules of extradition used against Artukovic, no one could testify to anything that contradicted the evidence supplied by the Yugoslavian government nor attack the communist Yugoslavian system of justice.

"The OSI told the Yugoslavs what evidence to use to extradite my father, then assured that we could not challenge the evidence in any way," Artukovic's son said.

Historian Charles McAdams of the University of San Francisco, who was prevented from testifying for Artukovic at his extradition hearing, said of the evidence, "It was absurd, a joke. The crimes never happened. . . . I'm part Jewish myself. The Holocaust was a tremendous tragedy. But there was no credible evidence against Artukovic. . . . None of the standards of justice used in the U.S. were applied."

Dr. Milan Bulanjc, a former Yugoslav diplomat who represented the Yugoslav government in the extradition and believes Artukovic was a war criminal, has published a book in Yugoslavia declaring the massacres for which Artukovic was prosecuted were inventions.

OSI director Neal Sher defends the extraditions, saying those who find fault are anti-Semitic or have a personal interest.

## Environmentalists did more damage than Exxon

The damage done to Prince William Sound, Alaska during the cleanup of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill was greater than the damage of the spill itself, according to a federal report.

"We think there are probably a number of locations where cleanup damage was worse" than the spill, said John Robinson, hazardous materials response chief for the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, scientific coordinator for the cleanup effort.

Bulldozers and shovels were used to remove acres of oil-coated beach surface, destroying shoreline plants and animals such as seaweed and mussels on which wildlife survives, reported the *Chicago Tribune*. Oily shorelines also were blasted with hot water and steam, killing aquatic organisms.

As a result, Robinson said, Alaska became a classic example of an "aggressive cleanup" in which oil was removed without consideration for the environmental cost because of public outrage over the spill. "There are places where recovery has been slowed down by the aggressiveness of the clean up," Robinson said.

Exxon, which has spent \$2 billion hiring over 11,000 workers to conduct the cleanup, is facing five criminal charges and over 215 other lawsuits resulting from the spill.

## Bush covers up reports of POWs in Vietnam

Reports assembled by CBS News "60 Minutes" producer Monika Jensen-Stevenson and her husband indicate that President Bush is involved in a plot to cover up the existence of U.S. prisoners of war (POWs) in Vietnam, according to the Sept. 29 London *Financial Times*.

The reports on persistent allegations that the U.S. government is deliberately covering up evidence that POWs are being held in Southeast Asia includes information previously released by CIA official Gene Tighe and Navy Admiral Tuttle, as well as stories circulated by Ross Perot and Bo Gritz, all of whom say that the government has stymied efforts to pursue reliable evidence pointing to the existence of POWs.

The Stevensons report that the Vietnamese government has been rebuffed in its efforts to bargain for the release of the prisoners and say that George Bush has been one of the leading members of the coverup. According to the wife of one POW, Ronald Reagan communicated that a mission to rescue such prisoners was mounted and scut-

tled because of security problems.

According to mercenaries and CIA contract agents cited in the reports, the CIA and its drug-laundering apparatus in Southeast Asia have been operationally involved in scuttling rescue missions.

## Judge resigns over sentencing guidelines

U.S. District Judge J. Irving Lawrence of San Diego, California announced his resignation from the bench in late September, citing the federal reforms which have removed sentencing discretion from the bench and put it in the hands of prosecutors.

The so-called reforms, which involved imposing sentencing guidelines, are considered unconstitutional by many in the legal profession because they are designed to eliminate the concept of rehabilitation from the legal system.

"It used to be that a judge could do some good in sentencing, by being lenient when lenience was called for," Irving said in reference to his discretion prior to the new rules. "Now I can't do that. It tugs your heart."

## Nebraska jury indicts child abuse victim

A federal grand jury in Douglas County, Nebraska indicted child abuse victim Alisha Owen on eight counts of perjury on Sept. 26, as part of an escalating pattern of cover-up of allegations of child abuse against prominent individuals in that state.

Owen faces a potential 360 years behind bars as a result of the indictments, but she has refused to recant her testimony against leading members of the Nebraska political community.

Miss Owen also has a paternity suit against Robert Wadman, her accused abuser, the former Police Chief of Omaha. The paternity tests which were ordered by the court were returned negative. *EIR* had warned that this would be the result unless extraordinary precautions were taken.

● **CHESTER CROCKER**, a protégé of Henry Kissinger who served as Reagan's Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs from 1981 to 1989, has joined the board of Minorco, the holding company of the Harry Oppenheimer Anglo-American mining interests. Crocker was the architect of the Namibia settlement under which the mineral-rich former trust territory of South Africa became independent this year and joined the British Commonwealth.

● **THE U.N. CONVENTION** on the Rights of the Child has never been ratified by the United States. One reason is that the convention prohibits capital punishment for children, considered anyone under 18, the Sept. 28 London *Times* reported.

● **PRESIDENT BUSH** is willing to sacrifice 30,000 American soldiers to "preserve our way of life," intelligence community and military sources report. Some 30,000 deaths—more than 50% of the number that died in Vietnam—is the figure for "acceptable losses" should the Anglo-Americans engage Iraqi forces.

● **CITRUS GROWERS** in the U.S. are enraged over the impending destruction of their industry under the Mexico free trade pact. Threatened are 144,000 citrus industry jobs in Florida alone.

● **THE ANTI-DEFAMATION** League has brought a \$120 million civil RICO suit charging the Unification Church, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the *Washington Times*, the law firm of Schwalb, Donnenfeld, Bray & Silbert, the accounting firm of Grant Thornton, and others, with conspiracy to destroy "the American political system in order to establish a worldwide government which would prohibit the separation of church and state."