

National News

Governor Wilder urged to grant new trial

Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder was presented with more than 14,000 petitions in the state capital in Richmond on Nov. 14 by the Giarratano Review Action Committee (GRACE), asking the governor to grant a new trial to death row inmate Joe Giarratano.

The GRACE press conference featured Mike Farrell, actor and friend of Giarratano, who emphasized that in the case of Giarratano, procedures overtook the truth. Kenny Pinkard, president of the Reedville Fishermen's Association, and Marie Deans, executive director of the Virginia Coalition on Jails and Prisons, also made statements.

Giarratano was convicted on the basis of "confessions," but there is ample evidence, including different fingerprints at the scene of the crime, to show he might not have committed the murder for which he has been sentenced to die. Nonetheless, Virginia does not allow him to present new evidence. The Supreme Court has denied his appeal, and he is presently scheduled to be executed in a matter of weeks.

Reilly deceit aided Clean Air bill

Environmental Protection Agency head William Reilly went into hiding to prevent crucial evidence from reaching Congress in the last days of the debate on the Clean Air legislation, which President Bush signed into law on Nov. 15, the Nov. 17 *Washington Post* reported.

"The White House was developing data that EPA officials feared could be used to justify weaker acid rain controls and derail the whole legislative package. So when presidential aides called to enlist Reilly's help, he was nowhere to be found. Anticipating an order to send the data to congressional conferees, he left for his weekend house in Loudoun County [Virginia] and remained in virtual hiding until the acid rain issue was resolved," the *Post* reported.

Rep. Edward R. Madigan (R-Ill.) was quoted, "If the EPA letter came, we'd still be in conference," suggesting that the bill would not have passed before adjournment.

On Nov. 16, Bush signed eight more environmental laws that will further devastate the United States, including a ban on all mineral exploration in Antarctica, outlawing most commercial and fishing activities along 1,211 miles of shoreline, mandating that schools make environment the most important academic subject taught, and adding 200 criminal investigative positions for environmental crimes—which now outnumber what the Drug Enforcement Administration has for investigating drug crimes.

One law, the Global Change Research Act of 1990, will channel over \$1 billion to "climate scientists" and environmental groups for research on "global climate change" at a time when other major scientific research programs, from the Space Station to fusion research, are seeing their funding evaporate.

Nebraska investigator's death ruled undetermined

A coroner's jury ruled Nov. 13 that the cause of the plane crash that killed Nebraska child abuse investigator Gary Caradori was undetermined.

Caradori's plane, a single-engine Piper Saratoga which he was flying, broke up in flight on July 11 on the way back to Nebraska from Chicago. In an initial eyewitness report, a farmer said he heard a sound and then saw a flash of light. Yet, the investigator for the air traffic safety board testified at the hearing that there wasn't any indication of an on-board explosion. The air traffic safety board is not expected to complete its investigation for another nine months.

Karen J. Ormiston, Caradori's assistant, released a statement to the media the same week that she had taken and passed a lie detector test to clear up allegations made after his death concerning the integrity of Caradori's investigation. Ormiston denied that Caradori had coached child abuse victim-witnesses whom he interviewed on videotape, denied threatening any witnesses to obtain information, advising any of the

four witnesses to fabricate statements, or "scripting" the investigation as part of a "hoax." Dr. Chris Gigas, president of the National Polygraph Association, stated, "It is the opinion of this examiner that Ms. Ormiston answered all of the above relevant questions truthfully."

Bush wins teachers' 'doublespeak' award

The National Council of Teachers of English, meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, gave President George Bush the 1990 Double-speak Award, the Nov. 17 *Washington Post* reported.

The council cited three reasons for the award: President Bush pledged "no new taxes," then called for "tax revenue increases." After the Tiananmen Square massacre of protesting Chinese students in Beijing, Bush announced suspension of U.S. "participation in all high-level exchanges of government officials" with the People's Republic of China. But two weeks later, Bush "secretly sent National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger to China." Bush called the trip a "contact," not an "exchange," but then resumed negotiations for arms sales to China. Finally, Bush refused to refer to the U.S. mission in Panama as an invasion, saying he "deployed forces" in Operation Just Cause.

U.S. Panama atrocities exposed

Former U.S. Sen. Donald Stewart (D-Ala.) is calling for an investigation of the massacres that occurred during the U.S. invasion of Panama, Cable News Network's "Daybreak" show reported Nov. 14. Stewart is charging that U.S. soldiers "shot hundreds" of prisoners, who were then buried in mass graves.

The Nov. 12 *Los Angeles Times* published three letters to the editor attacking a coverup story that had appeared two weeks earlier. One writer said that he had heard

from members of the 193rd Infantry Brigade that they had been detailed to load body bags, "hundreds and hundreds of them," onto planes bound for a secret burial at the large American airbase in Honduras, shortly after the invasion.

A second writer reported personally seeing a mass grave in February while on a visit there, while a third wrote that 14 mass graves have been documented.

Du Pont heir seeks review of CFC ban

Lewis du Pont Smith, an heir to the du Pont fortune, and stockholder in E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Inc., announced Nov. 16 that he was submitting a stockholder proposal to E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. on the policy toward chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), for consideration by company stockholders at their annual meeting in April 1991.

"Citing estimates which warn of 20-40 million people . . . to die every year from hunger, starvation, and food poisoning, especially in the Third World, as a result of the collapse of the presently existing refrigeration infrastructure and the food chain, precipitated by the banning of CFCs," Smith said, "I have called upon the company to 1) conduct a thorough reevaluation of its 1986 decision to abandon CFCs, whose use Du Pont scientists had vigorously and cogently defended until that moment, and 2) establish a Blue Ribbon scientific commission . . . to conduct an emergency factual study into this matter."

Smith noted that studies refuting this theory have been misrepresented and their authors vilified.

C. Boyden Gray ran Bush civil rights response

White House counsel C. Boyden Gray was the architect of President Bush's rejection of the Civil Rights Act of 1990, according to *Legal Times* magazine for the week of Nov. 12.

Gray has also been a key White House

figure in White House efforts to keep statesman Lyndon LaRouche behind bars.

Gray argued that discriminatory hiring policies could be defended if an employer proved a need to do so based on "legitimate community or customer relations."

Considering that it is much cheaper to subsidize a lodge of the Ku Klux Klan than to hire a lawyer to defend against a discrimination charge, Gray's proposal would encourage small employers to cultivate such "community opinion" in the well-known fashion of the Old South.

Senate staffers interviewed for the article said that Gray controlled administration policy on the bill, and attended the negotiating sessions. Gray reportedly became upset when former Secretary of Transportation William Coleman, Jr., confronted him on the contents of his memo.

FBI adopts 'Webster doctrine,' targets French

FBI senior official W. Douglas Gow has accused French foreign intelligence, the DGSE, of having engaged in spying on U.S. industrial targets, including IBM and Texas Instruments, according to the *International Herald Tribune* Nov. 17.

Gow revealed that the FBI had cooperated with the CIA in uncovering the French espionage, alleged to be on behalf of the troubled state-owned French Groupe Bull computer maker in 1987-89.

The charge is widely viewed as no more than a pretext staged to justify the application of the CIA's "Webster Doctrine"—using U.S. intelligence to run economic and industrial espionage against "political allies who are our industrial competitors."

The paper cited unnamed other U.S. officials who state that "aside from the former East bloc, France has long been among the most aggressive users of espionage to collect U.S. industrial and technology secrets." It said, "U.S. intelligence agencies so far have generally refused to use their agents and electronic equipment to collect industrial and technical secrets from allies," but "some experts have argued that this policy should be reconsidered."

Briefly

● **MEIR KAHANE'S** racism was exposed in the Nov. 7 *Dallas Times Herald*, which ran a previously unpublished interview under the headline "Slain rabbi so radical Israel turned on him." Reporter Mark Potok concludes that Kahane "was consumed by the fire he spent his life stoking."

● **THE INDIGENT** are being denied the right to counsel in a Harris County, Texas judicial districts where District Judge Mary Bacon will not appoint lawyers for people who have not been indicted until they face a grand jury. Eileen Standfield was recently held for six weeks without a lawyer.

● **WILLIAM BENNETT** will reportedly become chairman of the Republican National Committee. "What this administration needs is someone who can beat up on Democrats," said GOP consultant Eddie Mahe. Party fundraising dropped so much after Bush abandoned his "no new taxes" pledge in June, that the RNC is slashing 25-33% of its staff.

● **LEADING MONETARISTS** Milton Friedman, James Buchanan, and George Stigler, co-signed a letter to Bush in October urging him to veto the Clean Air bill, terming it "ill-advised" and of "questionable benefits but certain and serious economic costs."

● **MICHAEL DELAND**, head of the Council on Environmental Quality, told the annual meeting of the American Nuclear Society and the nuclear industry Nov. 12 that he is a "cautious advocate" of nuclear power. "It is unconscionable for Shoreham to stand idle," he said.

● **WILLIAM WELD**, the governor-elect of Massachusetts, has tapped George Bush's nephew and son of Nancy Bush Ellis, Alexander M. (Hap) Ellis III, to head the state Republican Party, the Nov. 17 *Boston Globe* reported.