

## National News

### 'Geo' exposé of CFCs scandal suppressed

Edgar Bronfman, a magnate of Seagrams and DuPont corporations and a top patron of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), has suppressed publication of an article in *Geo* magazine which reportedly documented the opportunistic activities of Bronfman and the DuPont corporation around the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)-ozone hole hoax, a European source reported March 18.

According to the source, *Geo* researchers had uncovered material about Bronfman's nasty activities but, following an intense pressure campaign by Bronfman and collaborators against the article, the magazine is now not putting out the story.

As *EIR* has reported, all potential substitutes for CFCs—for which DuPont is a primary producer—are more toxic and more dangerous to humans and the environment, and much more expensive. While the shift to CFC substitutes may generate billions of dollars in revenue for manufacturers, the disruption in the refrigeration chain will mean millions of deaths in Third World nations.

### Judge on LaRouche 2255 motion stays on

In a written order entered on March 16, the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals denied the petition of Lyndon LaRouche to prohibit Judge Albert V. Bryan from continuing on his 2255/Rule 33 Motion. Their order even denies LaRouche's request for an oral argument on the issue.

LaRouche's 2255 appeal includes new evidence that LaRouche's conviction and imprisonment were unlawful because of illegal government actions, including financial warfare against organizations affiliated with LaRouche.

Attorneys for LaRouche sought to force Bryan off the case because of demonstrated prejudice against the defendants. Bryan had made significant legal decisions approving the bad-faith forced bankruptcy of companies run by associates of LaRouche in 1987, over a year before he sat on LaRouche's

Alexandria, Virginia trial. The bankruptcies were overturned on appeal. Also, Bryan's history as a member of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and his Classified Information Procedures Act rulings at trial mean that he cannot fairly judge the claims raised pertaining to Executive Order 12333, under which many of the illegal government actions against LaRouche are believed to have been sanctioned.

The three judges who denied LaRouche's writ were Judge Murnaghan, Judge Hall, and Judge Butzner, the same three judges who earlier denied LaRouche's appeal after trial.

### Irradiated food ban rejected in Maryland

A bill that would have prohibited the sale or manufacture of irradiated food in Maryland died in committee March 13, by a vote of 14-3. Three committee members abstained and three others were absent. The bill, H.B. 1064, would have changed the state's health code, which now follows federal irradiation regulations, to redefine irradiation-processed food as "adulterated" and therefore unsafe.

The Environmental Matters Committee held hearings on the bill March 5. Bill sponsors had tried to sneak their anti-nuclear bill through by not inviting those who were pro-irradiation and by stacking the hearings with anti-irradiation speakers. When word of the hearing leaked out, however, the scientific community quickly mobilized and sent written scientific testimony as well as irradiated strawberries to the hearings. Jim Olson, a representative of *21st Century Science & Technology* magazine, was one of the witnesses who testified against the bill.

### Renewed bombing of Iraq hit as 'election ploy'

Plans by President Bush to renew the bombing against Iraq were denounced as a "despicable election ploy" at a press conference in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on March 18. At the press conference, Pennsylvania dairy farmer Don Jeffries announced that a third

shipment of 2,250 pounds of milk powder has been secured for delivery to starving children in Iraq, as part of the dairy farmer "milk lift" organized by the Committee to Save the Children in Iraq.

"This effort is unique," said committee spokesman Philip Valenti, "because we are shipping 'made in U.S.A.' milk powder from U.S. territory. The major relief agencies usually buy European product in Jordan, but we organized this 'milk air-lift' from here to dramatize the fact that Americans are also opposed to Bush's genocidal policies." He said that over 100 farmers from 15 states are active in the milk lift as an alternative to dumping milk in a fight for higher prices to farmers.

"By shipping this milk now, we also wish to take a stand against plans by Bush and British Prime Minister John Major to bomb Iraq again later this month. Bush and Major's threats against Iraq, Libya, and other small countries, are nothing but a despicable election ploy, concocted by failed politicians being rejected by their own people," Valenti said.

Public support for the movement has come from church and civil rights organizations, including the Catholic diocesan newspapers of Madison, Wisconsin and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and the Philadelphia and Milwaukee branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

### SDI faces cuts as experiment fails

The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program is facing a renewed drive for budget cuts, and Congress is grabbing onto a recent failure of an SDI experiment to justify the cuts.

An experiment conducted in mid-March designed to demonstrate the ability of ground-based missiles to engage incoming warheads, failed when the Exoatmospheric Vehicle Reentry System (ERIS) missile missed its target. The SDI Organization is still analyzing the data in an attempt to determine what went wrong. It is suspected that the interceptor hit one of the decoys which accompanied the target.

The congressional attack could cripple the program severely, according to an edito-

## Briefly

● **'AMELIA BOYNTON** Robinson Day' was declared by the Common Council of the City of Buffalo, New York on March 17. A plaque was presented to the civil rights leader, and a resolution was passed which congratulated Robinson on the second edition of her book *Bridge Across Jordan*.

● **GEORGE BUSH** reversed policy March 20 to allow doctors at federally funded family planning clinics to advise pregnant women that abortions are available to them. Nurses and other health workers are still prohibited from doing so. The National Right-to-Life Committee, which endorsed Bush two weeks earlier for his "pro-life" stand, praised the administration guidelines.

● **JOHN OVERINGTON**, a West Virginia state legislator and an antagonist of Lyndon LaRouche, recently introduced a bill to supply Norplant to welfare recipients. In a column penned for the March 12 issue of a local West Virginia newspaper, he claimed "there is broad interest in this method of birth control both as a way to cut down on the number of tax-funded abortions and to reduce the demand on welfare."

● **A PROBE** of the CIA and the Drug Enforcement Administration, to determine if these agencies made a pact with drug traffickers in 1986 to finance the Nicaraguan Contra rebels, has been requested of the U.S. Congress by a group of Bolivian parliamentarians, *La Jornada* of Mexico has reported.

● **PRESIDENT BUSH** rejected a compromise that would have freed \$1 billion in loan guarantees now for Israel in exchange for giving the President a veto over future annual installments. Bush said that he would grant up to \$10 billion only if Israel froze all new settlement construction in the occupied West Bank.

● **THE SENATE** sustained President Bush's veto of restrictions on Most Favored Nation trade status with China on March 18.

rial in the March 17 *Washington Times*, a potential which was created by the Bush administration decision to limit the SDI to ground-based systems only.

### U.S. tells Vietnamese refugees to go home

The United States has changed its official policy on Vietnamese refugees, AP reported on March 12.

"The U.S. government has begun telling thousands of Vietnamese in crowded refugee camps throughout Southeast Asia to go home, marking a shift in American policy toward boat people and their tragic exodus from Vietnam.

"Since October, the State Department's Refugee Bureau has employed a former U.S. Army officer and eight-year veteran of the Vietnam War to enact the policy change, officials said. The United States has also said it will not allow Vietnamese who have failed to win refugee status to resettle in the United States."

### AEI pushes 'pop' culture to secure superpower role

"The geopolitics of the '90s is culture" and American pop culture is the wave of the future, according to participants in a seminar held March 9 in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute. The thinking of the group is that pop culture will help the United States secure rule as the world's dominant superpower.

The seminar was organized by neo-conservative ideologue Ben Wattenberg, who assembled William Bennett, Robert Bork, Francis Fukuyama, and a bevy of writers, producers, and rock musicians to debate the future roll of pop culture in the United States and the world.

Wattenberg, Fukuyama, and their circle were the first to jump on the bandwagon praising the theses developed by Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Paul Wolfowitz asserting that the United States is the sole world superpower. Wattenberg is an unabashed defender of the political use of what

this circle calls "trash culture" as a vehicle for cultivating support for "American democracy" throughout the world.

Fukuyama, a former State Department intelligence analyst, describes himself as "a really great consumer," in a profile in the March 10 *Washington Post*. He is the author of the book *The End of History and the Last Man*, the latter phrase taken from the Nazi forerunner Friedrich Nietzsche.

"It is hard not to measure my own life," he told the paper. "To what extent am I a pawn of my consumerist desires? How much struggle and risk am I willing to commit myself to a cause? That is a question I think about a lot. . . . Being the last man doesn't make you proud of yourself."

The so-called "conservatives" among attendees complained that the anti-human values of the rock culture were "good" when they were directed against the Soviet state, but might be too dangerous if unleashed inside the United States.

### Big corporations get taxpayer dollars

Rep. Peter Kostmayer (D-Pa.) introduced legislation on March 16 to cap the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Market Promotion Program that has awarded millions of dollars in advertising grants to some of the country's biggest companies and their foreign competitors, the March 17 *Des Moines Register* reported.

The \$200 million-a-year program is supposed to boost exports of U.S. food and farm products by helping private companies and industry associations advertise overseas. According to USDA documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, the recipients include McDonald's, Burger King, Pillsbury, Gerber, and Dole. Kostmayer's investigation of the program revealed that foreign companies were also being subsidized at the expense of U.S. competitors.

"Just when we should be helping our own small and medium-sized companies to export and creating jobs in this country, this program is lining the pockets of some of the world's largest corporations and subsidizing the export of U.S. jobs overseas," Kostmayer said.