

National News

Bounty offered for kidnapers of Americans

The U.S. government has offered up to \$2 million for anyone who helps capture pro-Iranian kidnapers allegedly responsible for killing three American hostages in Lebanon. The offer was made in a State Department advertisement in the Saudi-owned, London-based Arabic newspaper *al-Hayat* of Nov. 30.

"There Is a Price We Pay as a Result of Terrorism, and a Price We Will Pay to Stop Terrorism" read the ad's headline. The text, accompanied by photos of Beirut CIA station chief William Buckley, U.S. Col. William Higgins, and a third American, Peter Kilburn, said in part: "There were three American hostages who did not return from Lebanon. Their terrible ordeal did not end in freedom, but ended in their savage execution on the hands of their captors. And to present these criminals to justice, the American government offers rewards up to \$2 million."

The ad is signed by the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service.

Who wants casinos on Indian lands?

The presidential campaign of Lyndon LaRouche and the Rev. James Bevel, which has backed Indians' efforts to block establishment of casino gambling on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota, released an exposé of the Swiss, South African, and Israeli organized crime and intelligence interests behind the casinos.

A Dec. 1 statement by campaign spokesman Philip Valenti said: "The Standing Rock Tribal Council is considering a casino contract with Seven Circle Resorts, a subsidiary of Tivolino of Switzerland. The president of Seven Circle is one Brian David McMullan." Valenti said that McMullan worked for Sun International of South Africa from May 1986 until April 1992, and, McMullan's resumé lists him as "responsible for the entire gaming operations" of a

total of 29 resorts, hotels, and casinos located in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, and four "tribal homelands."

According to Valenti: "One of Kerzner's business partners was Shabtai Kalmanowitch, who was known as the 'white president' of [homeland] Bophuthatswana. . . . Kalmanowitch was heavily involved in Israeli and U.S. intelligence operations through his Bophuthatswana-based 'B International.' One Solomon Schwartz of B International was arrested for weapons smuggling by U.S. Customs in 1984, and claimed that the operation was sanctioned by Oliver North. Kalmanowitch also worked with Swiss-based commodities trader Marc Rich to illegally ship Iranian oil to South Africa. Rich was indicted in New York in 1983 for violating the Trading With the Enemy Act, and remains a fugitive in Switzerland. Kalmanowitch was arrested in Britain in May 1987 for passing \$2 million in forged checks. Later that year, while out on bail, he was arrested in Israel, accused of being an agent of the Soviet KGB, and convicted of espionage."

Valenti has called for a congressional investigation into the underworld behind the campaign to establish casino gambling on Indian lands.

U.S., Vietnam continue POW-MIA coverup

While Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and most of his colleagues are rushing to "to slam the book shut" on the investigation into Vietnamese prisoners of war and missing in action (POW-MIAs), only Senators Bob Smith (R-N.H.) and Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) are trying to find out the whole painful truth, said Fort Worth, Texas *Star-Telegram* columnist Tommy Denton in a syndicated column on Nov. 29. He wrote: "Too much damning information has come from formerly classified intelligence files for [Senate] committee members and the American people to deny that governments in both Washington and Hanoi have lied to protect the dark, ugly secret: Prisoners were knowingly abandoned to avoid political complications."

The current rush to end the inquiry

smacks of a coverup, he said, and "the latest chapter of what has been an almost 20-year train of lies and deceptions fed to families and the rest of the public about the status of the missing Americans."

Insurance co. funds euthanasia conference

Club of Life spokesman Linda Everett blasted FHP International Co. for being the major backer of a Dec. 3-5 conference in Minneapolis on "Managing Mortality: Ethics, Euthanasia, and the Termination of Medical Treatment."

Everett said: "The conference, which promotes murder as the solution for everything from 'poor' quality of life to cost overruns, is bankrolled by a grant from the FHP Foundation, whose major donor, the FHP International Corp., is a for-profit managed care company that owns 58 health maintenance organizations, hospitals, nursing homes, employee health plans and insurance companies. FHP, like any insurance company or managed care plan, makes its profits on services *not* delivered."

FHP, she continued, "will certainly profit by this conference's message: Triage patients, don't treat them."

She stressed that, until recently, "the Hemlock Society and the Euthanasia Council lobby brainwashed the public to believe that terminating life-sustaining treatment and so-called 'physician-assisted suicide' are compassionate acts that relieve human suffering. But, at this conference, the death mob has no such pretense, as they join the authors of Minnesota's murderous 'Health-Right' rationing plan, malthusian academics, and insurance companies in their aim to terminate human life to cut costs."

Daily echoes LaRouche maglev concept

The Nov. 26 issue of the *International Herald Tribune* ran a front-page feature, "America Gets Working on the Railroads," which details moves in the United States to bring about

government spending for high-speed rail projects in America. While much of the article tried to portray Bill Clinton, Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.), and others as the driving force behind such proposals, *EIR* readers are familiar with the emphasis that physical economist Lyndon LaRouche put on this aspect of infrastructure creation during his presidential campaign.

Accompanying the article was a map of "Tomorrow's High-Speed Connections" (the source is the Pittsburgh-based High Speed Rail/Maglev Association), which is very similar to one from *EIR*'s in-depth study by Christopher White on magnetic levitation technology for inter-urban transport ("The Case for Maglev: Paying More Is Cheaper," *EIR*, Nov. 6).

The *International Herald Tribune* is an English-language daily jointly published by the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* in Paris.

D.C. to cut teachers and close schools

The latest version of the proposed Washington, D.C. school budget that passed Nov. 19 would cut 430 teaching jobs, close 8 schools, cut another 283 staff positions, and slash school-based programs by \$8.5 million. Officials admitted that this will require some teacher layoffs, in addition to reduction by attrition.

The budget would also cut programs for dropout prevention and to encourage candidates for the National Merit Scholarship.

In addition, the plan calls for closing eight more city schools and includes no money for pay raises for teachers who only a week earlier signed a contract for \$15 million worth of increases.

New book exposes CIA ties to BCCI

A Nov. 27 *Wall Street Journal* column, "How BCCI Bought Washington," excerpting from the book *False Profits*, pointed to the increasingly undeniable ties

of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International to the CIA and a variety of agency covert operations.

The excerpts from the newly released book by Peter Truell and Larry Gurwin pointed out that BCCI was an "equal opportunity employer" in the political and intelligence demi-monde. For example, Jackson Stephens, the investment banker from Arkansas who brought the bank into the U.S., sent millions of dollars of legal work to Hillary Clinton's law firm, gave support to others in the Clinton machine, and contributed to George Bush's campaign.

GOP potentate Craig Fuller and Bush press spokesman James Lake were also heavily rewarded by their ties to BCCI, and the Pakistani founder of BCCI, Agha Hasan Abedi, openly spoke of the involvement of onetime CIA director Richard Helms and other CIA officials in the bank, according to the reports.

U.N. environmentalists want Presidio Army base

In an affront to what remains of U.S. sovereignty, the United Nations has asked President-elect Bill Clinton to turn over the U.S. Army base on Presidio Island in San Francisco, as the site for the planning and training headquarters for the U.N. Environmental Program.

The *San Francisco Examiner* reported on Nov. 23 that a U.N. official has written to Clinton proposing that the United States donate the base, scheduled to be closed soon as part of cuts in the defense budget. The letter expressed the hope that the base could be turned over to the "green helmets" in time for the U.N. to open its environmental "global headquarters" in 1995, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the U.N. Charter in San Francisco.

The U.N. claims it would use the complex to draw up "solutions" to the pollution of "modern mega-cities," train "environmental engineers," and design plans for "cleaning up major military sites." So far, the UNEP's solutions, for which member countries are supposed to pay, have usually involved drastically cutting living standards or population—or both.

Briefly

● **TRADE UNIONISTS** who support the formation of a third political party met Dec. 5-6 in Detroit. The conference, organized by Labor Party Advocates of Detroit and Cleveland, featured both trade union leaders who support the idea of a new labor-led political party and those who support the two-party system. LPA organizers plan to sign up 100,000 members, and hold a founding convention in 1994.

● **LAWRENCE EAGLEBURGER** has less than a month left as acting secretary of state, according to State Department spokesman Richard Boucher. The term for the acting secretary is set at 120 days. When reporters asked what will happen after that, Boucher said, "Then we'll see."

● **ROSS PEROT** came in second in Maine and Utah, according to final election returns that overturn the omnipresent "media projections." Clinton won Maine with 39%. Bush and Perot both had 30% of the Maine total, but Perot had slightly more votes. Bush took Utah with 41%, followed by Perot with 26% and Clinton with 24%.

● **SEN. LLOYD BENTSEN** met with Bill Clinton on Nov. 24 to discuss the possibility of Bentsen becoming treasury secretary. The Texas Democrat is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

● **NEW ORLEANS'** city council unanimously passed a resolution on Dec. 1 calling on the President of the United States to "remove the statue of Albert Pike, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan," in Washington, D.C., "as requested in the resolution of D.C. councilmember William P. Lightfoot."

● **THE CIA** has drafted a report which claims that Iran is attempting to build a nuclear bomb, and could develop one by the year 2000, according to the *New York Times* of Nov. 30. The report is believed to have resulted in a State Department order for a review of U.S. policy toward Iran.