

## National News

### FBI sting targets NASA's life sciences research

The Justice Department announced on Feb. 22 that indictments have been issued against two employees of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and seven industry representatives, including a partner of former NASA Administrator James Beggs in his Arlington, Virginia consulting company. Beggs was forced out of the space agency in 1985 on bogus criminal charges, later dropped by the Justice Department.

The FBI set up a fictitious company selling a machine to crush kidney stones and then offered bribes to NASA and industry officials to help get this fake device aboard a flight on the Space Shuttle. The FBI targeting of the life sciences division at NASA's Johnson Space Center (JSC) is important, because the medical benefits of space research and technology are the most visible to the public. Actually, the fake device was rejected after only 2 of the 19 steps required to be considered for flight. The space center's new head, Carolyn Huntoon, who formerly headed the life sciences division, said that the phony device's failure to pass muster proved the efficacy of their screening system.

The 20-month-long sting ended in December when a local Houston newspaper leaked the story, revealing that the FBI had unsuccessfully tried various lurid methods to get a rookie astronaut to take bribes.

### Spannaus to Dems: 'Help Clinton break with Brits'

"We in the Democratic Party must act now to support President Clinton in breaking from the British policies which are threatening both our nation's interests, and his presidency," declared Nancy Spannaus, a longtime associate of Lyndon LaRouche who is running for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate from Virginia, in a Feb. 25 statement.

"First, we must face the fact that the scandals being orchestrated against President Clinton are coming from Great Britain, and

its assets in the United States. The magazine which launched the Whitewatergate scandal, the so-called *American Spectator*, is actually a joint British-U.S. venture, which includes Sir Peregrine Worsthorpe of the London *Daily Telegraph* on its editorial board. And the leading scandalmonger in the journalist pack is the *Daily Telegraph's* Washington correspondent, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. One of Evans-Pritchard's articles was quite blunt about the objective of the scandals: The British would like to see Clinton removed from office by the end of 1994.

"Joining the explicit British efforts is the U.S. grouping known as the neo-conservatives, typified by the likes of William Safire, the *New York Post*, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and the Zionist Organization of America. . . . In the face of such British-sponsored machinations, and the direct British role in attacking President Clinton, a split from our policy alliance with Great Britain is long overdue. We in the base of the party must support President Clinton by urging he break from the British now!"

### German space pioneers want Rudolph exonerated

Encouraged by the publication of *How We Got to the Moon* by *21st Century Science & Technology* associate editor Marsha Freeman and by the resignation of Neal Sher from the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, some of America's German space pioneers, their families, and friends, have asked Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate the trumped-up charges against Arthur Rudolph. Rudolph, who played a critical role in this nation's space and defense programs for decades, was driven out of the United States in 1984 after the OSI threatened him with prosecution for war crimes, although it had no evidence and no witnesses. Rudolph renounced his U.S. citizenship and moved to Germany. After a two-year investigation into the war crimes allegations, the German government cleared him of all charges.

The daughter of one of the German space pioneers, who has persistently tried to get Congress and the Justice Department to

investigate the OSI's travesty, recently wrote to Attorney General Reno, asking her to have the Rudolph case reconsidered. She states in the letter: "We have pointed out over these 10 years, not only gross omission of 'protection' [of Rudolph's civil rights] but more importantly, the use of coercion, intimidation, revision of history, fabrication of evidence, false witnesses, and reconstituted interrogatories to force Dr. Rudolph to relinquish his citizenship. I believe these practices would not withstand either legal or public scrutiny."

She points out that the "fraud committed upon the court in a different case [that of John Demjanjuk], was committed similarly against Dr. Rudolph." She continues: "I recognize that political pressures are a force to be reckoned with in such sensitive cases. You have inherited a difficult situation. But what is justice if the government will not allow consideration of the fact, with the courage to correct when warranted?"

### French TV exposé: Bush was key in Iran-Contra

A television documentary on France's Antenne 2 network in late February highlighted the central role of then-Vice President George Bush in the Iran-Contra drugs-for-weapons operations. The program, by Mylene Sauloy and Gilles de Maistre, was entitled "Who Profits from Cocaine?"

How is it, asked Sauloy and de Maistre, that Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega could be sentenced to 40 years in jail, while Col. Oliver North is now free to run for the U.S. Senate, and Bush himself, after the exposures surrounding Iran-Contra, went on to become President? One answer was that there was a systematic coverup of Bush's role by the American media, because, a leading U.S. press figure told Antenne 2, "we all agreed, at the larger mass-circulation newspapers, not to attack the higher level" involved in Iran-Contra. He said that they felt that the United States could not survive another Watergate.

The program also disproved the line that the Dec. 20, 1989 invasion of Panama was aimed at fighting the war on drugs by capturing General Noriega, and quoted a former

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head of the Drug Enforcement Administration to that effect. According to Sauloy and de Maistre, who also interviewed former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, a primary aim of "Operation Just Cause" was to secure U.S. control over the Panama Canal, which required destruction of the Panamanian army, and bringing to power a "kept" leader like Guillermo Endara.

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## Virginia moving to abolish parole

Virginia's House of Delegates passed several bills in mid-February calling for the abolition of parole in the case of violent crimes, according to Virginia Legislative Services. The House action was reported in a prominent guest opinion column in the Feb. 22 issue of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* by William Barr and Richard Cullen. Barr, a former U.S. Attorney General, and Cullen, a former U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, are co-chairmen of Gov. George Allen's Commission on the Abolition of Parole and Sentencing Reform.

Their column is a rallying cry to use the abolition of parole in Virginia as a "model" for the rest of the nation; Barr had announced his plans for such a program while he still headed the Justice Department under President George Bush.

According to Barr and Cullen, the bill does not specify how the no-parole system will be paid for, and they therefore announce that they will hold public hearings on this question, and on the question of how to make room for all the new prisoners such a policy will create.

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## Elders demands Medicaid fund abortion pills

U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders charged that the Medicaid program, by providing for prenatal care for poor women, but not for them to use oral abortifacients, must have been developed by "a white male slave owner." Speaking to the annual meeting of the National Family Planning and Reproduc-

tive Health Association on Feb. 25, Elders, who backed abortion as a cure for social ills, said that because Medicaid "fails to provide services to poor women to prevent unwanted pregnancies . . . this failure contributes to poverty, ignorance and enslavement."

What Elders meant by "family planning" soon became clear: Medicaid "pays for you to be pregnant and have a baby, but it won't pay for much family planning," she said. "We pay for prenatal care. We pay for the delivery. . . . There's something wrong with our system. We've got to fight to get our post-coital contraceptives available," i.e., abortifacients, in government-funded clinics. Referring to Norplant, Depo-Provera, RU-486, and female condoms, she said, "We've got to have all of them if we're going to be able to take care of all of the problems that we face in our low-income women."

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## Valenti petitions to run for Penn. governor

Philip Valenti, an associate of Democratic presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, filed nominating petitions on Feb. 28 to put his name on the Democratic primary ballot for governor of Pennsylvania. Valenti's petitions, with 5,500 names, almost three times the signatures required to qualify, include signatures of Democrats from 20 counties covering every corner of the Commonwealth.

Valenti, who received about 48,000 votes in the 1992 Democratic primary for U.S. Senate, announced his candidacy last Dec. 2 at a demonstration against outcome-based education (OBE) outside the Birdsboro Elementary Center. He led a widely publicized march against OBE in Birdsboro Jan. 14, and testified Feb. 7 before the Philadelphia School Board in opposition to OBE and the racist "multicultural curriculum" promoted by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. In a surprise development, Valenti announced that John D. Morris of Drexel Hill would be his running-mate for lieutenant governor. Morris also filed well over the minimum number of petitions to gain ballot access on Feb. 28.

## Briefly

● **ABE FOXMAN**, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told the Feb. 11 issue of *Jewish Forward* that he is "philosophical" about the ADL's settlement with the San Francisco district attorney's office after the ADL was caught in a nationwide spying and harassment operation. "I'm happy it's behind me, and I'm happy we're continuing with what we're doing," he gloated.

● **OLIVER NORTH** does not have a lock on the Republican Party nomination for U.S. Senate from Virginia. On Feb. 17, supporters of James C. Miller III held a press conference at which retired military officers, led by Gen. John Singlaub who had worked with North, affirmed the latter's dishonesty.

● **ALABAMA** Gov. Jim Folsom's New Age school reform package, "Alabama First," was killed in the state's House Ways and Means Committee in February after a coalition of teachers, farmers, LaRouche supporters, and Christian conservatives mobilized to stop it.

● **NEO-CON** Emmett Tyrell, whose magazine *American Spectator* has run the Whitewater scandal against the President, made a poor attempt at irony in his Feb. 25 column in the *New York Post*: "Bill Clinton is confirming what close observers of the American presidency have suspected for years, to wit: If there is one position in the government that ought by law to be barred to the brainy, it is the presidency," he wrote.

● **ANTHONY LAKE**, the U.S. national security adviser, wrote that the United States is ready for "an authoritative dialogue" with Iran, "in which we will raise aspects of Iranian behavior that cause us so much concern," in the latest issue of *Foreign Affairs*. Lake blamed the Reagan and Bush administrations for trying to build up the "moderates" in Iran. "These same moderates are responsible for the very policies we find so objectionable," he wrote.