

National News

Radio waves may be used to predict earthquakes

Scientists at Stanford University have reported that, after a five-year wait, radio receivers they had placed in the ground successfully forecasted an earthquake one month before it struck. The receivers detected electromagnetic precursors of the quake, offering the hope that some—or even all—earthquakes may be predictable. According to *Science News* Dec. 23, Dr. Antony Fraser-Smith, an atmospheric physicist, became interested in the prospects for earthquake prediction, when he happened to record unusual electromagnetic signals—just before the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in California.

Similar work is being advanced under Dr. Panayiotis Varotos of the University of Athens. “Although long disparaged by Greek seismologists, a prediction scheme based on those signals is now attracting interest . . . after the Royal Society of London and the University of California, Berkeley, recently held workshops examining it,” according to the Nov. 10 issue of *Science* magazine.

British privateers fear Potomac assault on rocks

With the Conservative Revolutionaries close to running aground on Capitol Hill, a number of their floundering strategists gathered at the British-run Heritage Foundation in Washington on Dec. 5—to puff a “citizenship agenda” for Lamar Alexander’s Republican Presidential campaign. The gaggle of “neo-cons” declared that they would form a “loose” coalition around Alexander, in opposition to front-runner Bob Dole’s bid for the nomination.

Alexander, a Harvard graduate who peddles himself as an “outsider” and “good ol’ boy,” declared in his speech at the Heritage Foundation, “Senator Dole, it may be your turn, but it’s not your revolution.” Alexander claimed that a Dole nomination would not

only lose the election to Bill Clinton, but the control of Congress as well. The election in “1994 was a realignment election . . . but how secure is that realignment?” asked Alexander.

“Outsider” Alexander’s speech was written at an inside-the-Beltway dinner at the home of New Age mystic and millionairess Arianna Huffington. She reportedly helped draft it as well—along with William Kristol, editor of Rupert Murdoch’s new Washington rag, the *Weekly Standard*; and Michael Joyce, a member of the oligarchical Mont Pelerin Society, and head of the Harry and Lynde Bradley Foundation.

“Lamar matches up much better against Clinton and holds together the GOP coalition better than Dole does,” Kristol claims, according to the Jan. 5 *Washington Times*. Lamar Alexander was formerly secretary of education under ex-President George Bush.

Does someone on the DNC have a ‘secret agenda’?

Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche released the following statement from Leesburg, Virginia, on Jan. 5:

“I am in receipt of a two-page, scurrilous letter, which presents itself as a policy statement, from Democratic National Committee Chairperson Donald L. Fowler, to each and all ‘Democratic State Party Chairs.’

“The purpose of the letter is stated within the third of the letter’s five paragraphs. The signator, ostensibly Fowler, states that ‘Lyndon Larouche is not a bona fide Democrat. . . . This determination is based on Mr. Larouche’s expressed political beliefs, including beliefs which are explicitly racist and anti-Semitic. . . .’ (sic).

“On this account, either Mr. Fowler, or whoever issued this letter in his name, is purely and simply a liar.

“I am not obliged to speculate on the motives of whoever caused that letter to be put into circulation. However, since I have been an active Democratic Party campaigner during more than 15 years, and have campaigned for the Party’s nomination five times, such an obviously hysterical docu-

ment now, suggests that someone is terribly afraid of the extent of estimated potential support for my candidacy at this time.

“Since Mr. Clinton’s reelection is virtually inevitable, and since I am committed to support his reelection after the August convention, one may ask: whether the authorship of the scurrilous letter either wrote in a deranged state of mind, or is operating under the influence of some secret agenda?”

Public health seen as nonessential service

The Conservative Revolutionist shutdown of the U.S. government has crippled the monitoring and tracking abilities of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), precisely at the time when a major influenza epidemic has broken out in the Middle West. Even worse, doctors at the Centers have been furloughed, during the very period of time they were to be putting together a global picture of the newly emerging strains of influenza, in order to begin the production cycle for next year’s flu vaccines.

The latest government shutdown came less than three weeks after leading epidemiologists from all over the world attended a Maryland conference on the likely emergence of a 1918-type swine flu epidemic—and the steps government institutions must take to be prepared to deal with it. The 1918 pandemic killed between 20-40 million people worldwide. The virus hit the United States so hard that 196,000 Americans died just in the month of October 1918. The warnings of the Maryland conference went largely unheeded, however, because the announcements for the conference were delayed by the first government shutdown; and the proceedings were virtually blacked out in the press.

One of the conference organizers, interviewed by *EIR* on Jan. 4, expressed outrage at the situation at the CDC, where furloughs had reduced the staff to a skeleton crew. The expert stated that unpaid physicians in the CDC’s influenza branch were attempting to put together a picture of influenza strains worldwide, but had neither the staff nor the

Briefly

PRINCE PHILIP, who says he wishes to be reincarnated as a "deadly virus," plans to visit Washington on March 14 to raise money for the Congressional Award Foundation, the U.S. counterpart to his Duke of Edinburgh Awards for young people age 14-23. During Philip's 1991 visit with Queen Elizabeth, the royals presented George Bush with the Churchill Award for nearly obliterating Iraq.

GEN. DANNY GRAHAM, a leading saboteur of President Ronald Reagan's 1983 decision to adopt Lyndon LaRouche's proposal for a space-based, beam-weapon missile defense system, died on Dec. 31. With full backing from the Heritage Foundation, Graham peddled his worthless "High Frontier" alternative of orbiting junk-piles, against what Reagan termed the Strategic Defense Initiative, based on "new physical principles."

GEORGIA has a new policy for the "30-35%" of its prisoners "that ain't fit to be killed," says the state's prison commissioner, Wayne Garner. In a recent memo ordering that all prisoners be put to work, Garner declared that no job was too insignificant for convict labor—including digging unnecessary ditches, "then filling them in, only to dig it up again."

VIRGINIA'S first execution victim for 1996 was Walter Correll, 34, a borderline retardation case killed by lethal injection on Jan. 4. One of three participants in a 1985 kidnap-murder, he was the only one sentenced to death, after his co-defendants identified him as the trigger-man. Gov. George Allen rejected an appeal for clemency, despite evidence submitted that Correll had not committed the murder.

LYNDONLAROUCHE had qualified for the Democratic Presidential primary ballots in 15 states as of Jan. 9: California, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, North Dakota, Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Delaware, and Maryland.

resources to follow up outbreaks such as those in Russia, where the type of emerging flu strains are not known.

On Jan. 3, President Clinton declared, "The CDC tracking system cannot accurately keep up with the flu outbreak in the Midwest." The same day, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala emphasized, "We have moved into a danger zone. I was talking to the director of the CDC. We're no longer tracking some diseases which are very important."

Prosecutor in LaRouche case may face sanctions

The federal prosecutor in the fraudulent bankruptcy case against companies associated with Lyndon LaRouche, may face criminal sanctions for his actions in an unrelated grand jury proceeding, involving the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). Warning against "overzealous prosecutors," the U.S. Fourth Circuit appeals court has ruled that Assistant U.S. Attorney S. David Schiller may be guilty of criminal contempt for disclosing secret grand jury information.

Schiller is the Justice Department's top bankruptcy expert, and was the DOJ official who concocted the "involuntary bankruptcy" filing which was used to shut down three companies associated with Lyndon LaRouche in 1987—an action which was later ruled illegal and a "fraud on the court."

The unanimous opinion, issued Jan. 3 by a three-judge panel of the Fourth Circuit, declared that U.S. District Judge Richard Williams should determine whether Schiller improperly disclosed federal grand jury material, during an investigation of the VRS. Schiller had filed an 83-page "statement of facts" during a sentencing proceeding against a VRS official, which mentioned Mark Finn, a member of the VRS board of trustees, at least 370 times—and accused Finn and other VRS officials of conspiring to commit various crimes.

Only about six pages of the 83-page memorandum dealt with the individual who was being sentenced. Finn himself was never indicted, but the accusations against him

were smeared all over the news media. Schiller was subsequently removed from the case.

"Overzealous prosecutors must not be allowed to file sweeping statements of fact alleging violations of various laws by unindicted individuals," the appellate ruling declared. The court said that the district court judge, who presided over the VRS case, has a duty to investigate the disclosure of grand jury material, and to impose contempt sanctions if a violation of Federal criminal rules of procedure occurred.

If the allegations against Schiller are proved, the judges recommended, "a finding of criminal contempt would be proper as punishment for past violation of the rule and to vindicate the authority of the court."

Sen. Helms forces probe of U.S. Vatican emissary

U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican Raymond Flynn is the subject of a State Department investigation, instigated by Conservative Revolution honcho Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), the *New York Times* claimed on Jan. 11. The complaint lodged by Helms has resulted in a recommendation that Flynn be reprimanded, for statements he made contrasting Pope John Paul II's concern for the poor, with congressional schemes to cut federal social programs. No formal action against Flynn has yet been taken by the State Department.

State Department Inspector General Jacquelyn Williams-Bridgers's report found that Ambassador Flynn, a former Democratic mayor of Boston, had violated procedures for clearing public statements, according to the *Times*. The report said that Flynn had failed to avoid "the appearance of partisanship in the discharge of official duties."

Helms had complained about remarks Flynn made in a letter to 1,000 American religious leaders last April, and had asked for an investigation. Flynn told the *Times*, in a telephone interview from Rome, "It's not the process that Senator Helms objects to, but what I said about the mean-spirited, anti-poor, anti-immigrant, anti-working-class mood of the debate taking place in Congress today. It's the message he's attacking."