

# National News

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## U.S. support said to be vital to Cambodia peace

Former Australian Ambassador to Cambodia Tony Kevin, appearing at the National Press Club on June 22, urged the United States to support the election process ongoing in Cambodia. He said that the U.S. reaction is "crucial to Cambodia's chances of resuming normal relations with the outside world."

He also spent a great deal of effort refuting the prevailing view in Washington of Cambodia and Hun Sen, in particular, calling Prince Norodom Ranariddh and his father, King Sihanouk, "morally tainted" for their collaboration with the Khmer Rouge, including in the Khmer Rouge's plans in July 1997 to overthrow the Phnom Penh government, using co-Prime Minister Ranariddh as a figurehead. Hun Sen foiled the plot, whose true extent was uncovered by the *Phnom Penh Post*, based on Khmer Rouge papers discovered in May 1998.

Kevin was especially harsh toward the *Washington Post*, which blacked out the Khmer Rouge papers, saying that the *Washington Post* "doesn't like to cover anything that doesn't go their way."

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## Clinton says U.S. seeks reconciliation with Iran

In a statement on June 18, President Clinton said that United States is seeking "a genuine reconciliation with Iran based on mutuality and reciprocity and a sense the Iranians are prepared to move away from support of terrorism and distribution of dangerous weapons," as well as Tehran ending its opposition to the Middle East Peace process.

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazmi, speaking from Madrid, Spain, responded that the United States must end its "hostile policies" toward Iran before any normalization could occur. Of particular concern is U.S. opposition to building a Caspian pipeline in Iranian territory.

The first hint that the United States was responding to the opening created by Iranian President Mohammed Seyyed Khatami's Jan. 7 interview with Cable News Network, occurred with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's June 18 speech at the Asia Society in New York. She praised the Iranian people and the democratically elected government, and suggested that there is a path now available, for normalization of relations between the two countries. Albright cited Iran's successful internal crackdown on drug trafficking, and praised the Iranian government's humanitarian treatment of Afghani and Iraqi refugees inside the country. She cited President Khatami's recognition of Yasser Arafat as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people as a sign that Iran was softening its opposition to the Middle East peace process. Albright acknowledged that the United States has quietly been working with Iran bilaterally in brokering the cease-fire in Afghanistan, and on several other issues that she chose not to elaborate.

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## McCaffrey testifies vs. dope 'harm reduction'

White House drug policy adviser Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.) submitted written testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in June, strongly condemning the "carefully camouflaged, exorbitantly funded, well-heeled elitest group whose ultimate goal is to legalize drug use in the United States," which hides behind "harm reduction." The leading funder of such campaigns, both in the United States and overseas, is speculator and self-styled philanthropist George Soros. "Through a slick misinformation campaign," said McCaffrey, "these individuals perpetuate a fraud on American people." His statement prompted the Judiciary Committee's ranking Democrat, Joseph R. Biden (Del.), to propose hearings to expose drug legalization "for the fraud that it is."

General McCaffrey called "harm reduction," such as needle-exchange programs, ostensibly to curb the spread of AIDS, "a hijacked concept that has become a euphe-

mism for drug legalization. It's become a cover story for people who would lower the barriers of drug abuse." He closed his testimony by calling for debate, and expressed his confidence that legalization would be "rejected resoundingly" by Americans. Without naming names, he made a clear reference to the open letter, signed by 500 "elites" including George Soros, which spread across two pages in the *New York Times* as the UN General Assembly opened its special three-day session on drugs.

In response, dope legalization mouthpiece Ethan Nadelman of Soros's Lindesmith Center in New York, lied that "the majority of harm reduction advocates oppose drug legalization, and that includes George Soros." Nadelman claimed that he would welcome a debate, because "his [McCaffrey] trying to equate all forms of harm reduction with a free market approach to drug legalization is both false and duplicitous."

Soros was the major financier behind the "medical marijuana" ballot initiatives that passed in California and Arizona in 1996.

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## Lawrence Freeman runs for Maryland governor

Lyndon LaRouche associate and Schiller Institute leader Lawrence Freeman announced his intention to run for the Democratic nomination for governor in Maryland. The primary is Sept. 15. Freeman, who has reported for *EIR* on his numerous trips to Nigeria and Sudan, declared that "the watchwords of my campaign for Governor of Maryland will be 'truth and justice.'

"In my previous campaign, I was the only candidate who told the truth. I warned the citizens of Maryland of the impending financial collapse. I have been proven 100% on the mark. My longtime friend and colleague, Lyndon LaRouche, was the only economist to accurately forecast the breakdown of the global financial system. . . . We are now in a 'global depression,' as one World Bank official has reluctantly admitted." Freeman cited LaRouche's call for a

**PENNSYLVANIA'S** Legislative Black Caucus is attempting to intervene in the Philadelphia transit strike. Caucus chairman Harold James said that the strike is "devastating" the livelihoods of his inner-city constituents. He is hoping the Caucus can help bring about a settlement, and recognizes the justice of the Transport Workers Union Local 234 demands. The Southeast Pennsylvania Transit Authority is making demands similar to those UPS made of the Teamsters: part-time hires, with no benefits at below-standard wage, cuts in benefits, and privatization of routes.

**REP. TONY HALL** (D-Ohio), a partisan of the ill-named Christian Solidarity International, lied that the Sudanese government is preventing humanitarian aid from reaching starving populations in the war-torn south. As is well-documented by aid agencies, the blockade is being put up by Baroness Cox's own rebel, John Garang. Garang's Sudanese People's Liberation Army troops are believed to be consuming the aid.

**'SHRUB' BUSH**, the former President's son, pressed the flesh in Washington on June 18 to raise money for his reelection as Texas governor. However, many think the Washington fundraiser was to give young George W. Bush national exposure, so he can run as GOP candidate for President in 2000.

**MARÍA ELENA MILTON**, the LaRouche Democrat who shook up Arizona in 1996 with her campaign against Rep. John Shadegg (R), has announced her candidacy against him again, and challenged him to sign on as a sponsor of the McDade-Murtha Citizens Protection Act. The Democratic primary is Sept. 8.

**REPUBLICAN** National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson issued a call for the party to begin agitating for missile defense systems, according to the June 21 *Washington Times*. The call was based on scare propaganda about ostensible threats from China, India, and Pakistan.

New Bretton Woods conference to replace the oligarchy's bankrupt world financial system.

In both domestic and foreign policy, Freeman pointed out, U.S. politics is being hamstrung by a corrupt justice system, citing the case of Maryland State Sen. Larry Young, whose expulsion "by the Maryland State Senate during their last session was a hideous spectacle, which never should have been allowed to occur. This is not a question of whether or not one supports Senator Young politically. Larry Young's expulsion was not based on criminal evidence. He was a victim of a nasty, racist policy emanating out of the Justice Department, called 'Operation Fruehmenschen,' . . . that has been targeting prominent African-American public and elected officials. . . . It is the same evil nest in the Justice Department that conducted the judicial railroad that sent Lyndon LaRouche to prison. We have also shown that it is the very same cast of characters who are trying to impeach President Clinton and destabilize the United States government."

Noble says, is that "there are few situations where substantive information on an investigation can be released. And if [it] is released, it should be on the record." Then Noble draws the obvious conclusion about Starr's reported leaks: "Any off-the-record conversation between prosecutors and reporters is by definition suspect." He argues that a prosecutor must be held "accountable" for his actions both to the public and the judge presiding over any grand jury.

Noble ridicules Starr's claim, that last February he investigated "whether his office was leaking information." Clearly, based on Brill's revelations, Starr's "investigation" is highly suspect and, as Noble writes, "Starr has no choice but to ask for an independent investigation" whether leaks occurred. Otherwise, he argues, "it will appear that the Independent Counsel's Office is above the law."

## Cabinet shifts occur at Energy Dept., UN post

President Clinton has decided to name U.S. Ambassador to the UN Bill Richardson to replace Federico Peña, who is retiring as Energy Secretary. (Peña replaced Hazel O'Leary, one of the several minority cabinet officials forced out by Justice Department scandalizing.)

Stepping into Richardson's shoes as UN ambassador will be Richard Holbrooke, who was Clinton's special envoy to Bosnia in 1995. According to the June 18 *Washington Post*, Holbrooke was especially attractive to the White House, because he is said to be "strong-willed," rather than a "foreign policy team" yes-man. Holbrooke was in the Carter State Department, and has served President Clinton as special envoy to the Balkans, and, as Clinton's trouble-shooter on the Cyprus crisis. He recently returned from private life to go back to the Balkans, when the Kosova crisis erupted, to support special envoy Robert Gelbard in pressuring Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic to abandon his "ethnic cleansing" of Kosova's ethnic Albanian majority.

## Former Bush official: 'Starr stretches rules'

In a *New York Times* commentary on June 19, Ronald K. Noble, writing on Steve Brill's exposé on the media leaks from independent counsel Kenneth Starr, chides Starr for trying to carve out an "exception" for his leaking. Noble writes, "The Justice Department specifically forbids prosecutors from answering questions about an ongoing criminal investigation." Noble should know. He was a prosecutor and became the Deputy Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division during the Bush administration. He also served in the first Clinton administration as the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement in the Treasury Department. Now a professor of law at New York University, Noble argues that the leaks "must be investigated."

Noble writes that Justice "guidelines on media relations" also forbid employees from releasing "information that is likely to prejudice any legal matter." The bottom line,