

Congressional Closeup by Ronald Kokinda and Susan Kokinda

Congressional cover-up on Secret Service issue

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Treasury, which is supposed to exercise "oversight responsibility" over Secretary Regan and the Secret Service, is playing dirty politics with the life of a presidential candidate. At Feb. 27 hearings featuring Secretary Regan, the subcommittee engaged in a "dog and pony show" with the secretary to establish a conceptual basis for calling Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. a "minor" candidate, as the unconstitutional basis for denying him Secret Service protection.

In an obviously pre-arranged exchange, ranking Republican Clarence Miller (Ohio) said, "The question of Secret Service protection is only granted to major candidates and that is decided by a committee, is that correct?" Regan replied affirmatively, using the phrase "major candidate" numerous times. Miller then asked, "I understand from the FEC [Federal Elections Commission] that there are over one hundred people running for President, isn't that correct?" Regan coyly looked around the congressional hearing room and said, "From where I sit, there are at least 535," the combined membership of the House and Senate, "running for President."

It having been established that every imbecile on Capitol Hill might be considered a presidential candidate, those seated in the hearing room felt confident that they had covered their backsides on the issue of LaRouche.

Miller, buttonholed by a LaRouche representative before the hearing, hid behind the FEC's illegal denial of matching funds to LaRouche and the decision of the advisory committee, in justifying his refusal to support LaRouche's request.

Meanwhile, subcommittee chairman Edward Roybal (D-Calif.) was assuring constituents that all the "ma-

ior candidates" had received protection, without bothering to tell them that LaRouche was excluded because they had labeled him "minor." At the close of the Feb. 27 hearing, the subcommittee had washed its hands of the affair. Besides Roybal and Miller, the other members of the subcommittee are Joe Addabbo (D-N.Y.), Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), Edward Boland (D-Mass.), Clarence Long (D-Md.), Eldon Rudd (R-Ariz.) and Harold Rogers (R-Ky.). Boland is an intimate of Tip O'Neill, Long is a racist and an advocate of genocide, and Eldon Rudd is an ex-FBI agent.

Stevens bill to contain Kissinger's policy

Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) is preparing legislation to help implement the Kissinger faction's plan to decouple Western Europe from the United States. Stevens, who chairs the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, said on Feb. 28 that he has instructed his staff to develop approaches to cut the 1985 increase in the defense budget to 5%—the same as the previous year's with an inflation adjustment. This would mean a \$19 billion cut from the 13% increase projected by the White House.

A source in the Pentagon confirmed March 2 that Stevens is leading a congressional effort to "push the Europeans into this [decoupling] by congressional mandate." Stevens has been working on this project for "two or three years" to formulate legislation that would pull much of America's troop strength from Europe. Withdrawal of up to 50% of American troops was one of the proposals made by Kissinger in his March 5 *Time* magazine article.

Stevens, a chronic proponent of defense cutbacks, is viewed on the Hill

as a lightweight who is obviously taking orders. Robert O. Anderson, the oilman whose Aspen Institute is working on a decoupling blueprint, has great clout in Alaska. And one of the members of Stevens's subcommittee staff, Wayne Schroeder, is associated with the Soviet-tainted Heritage Foundation.

NDPC supports parity at Congressional hearing

Testifying on Feb. 28 before the House Agriculture Committee's hearings in preparation for the work on the 1985 farm bill, the National Democratic Policy Committee delivered a message: Junk the last 35 years of agricultural policy and implement a parity system based on the America system of economics, or get ready to be replaced on Election Day.

At the lengthy hearings—25 to 30 people testified—the other witnesses accepted the dogma of agricultural "oversupply." Dave Center of the American Agriculture Movement said that farmers will have to accept the "political reality" that no real relief is in sight for them.

The NDPC spokesman began by describing the 4,000-strong citizens candidates movement running on Lyndon LaRouche's program for national defense mobilization and emergency American System economic measures to revive industry and agriculture. She noted that several members of the Agriculture Committee already had NDPC-backed candidates running against them. One of them, Charles Stenholm (D-Tex.), who is facing a potent challenge from farm spokesman Noel Cowling, stayed to listen to the NDPC testimony. The other, Sid Morrison (R-Wash.), had left the hearing.

The speaker declared, "'Government subsidy' is now a dirty word in

Washington, DC," she said, "but I would suggest that those who do not like government subsidies should go back and refight the American revolution—on the other side—because this is what the battle was about. The American System versus British 'free enterprise.'" She identified the backers of the International Monetary Fund as the same forces that want to destroy the family farmer.

Senate passes curb on nuclear sales

Under the direction of the anti-technology Gordon Humphrey (R-N.H.) and with support from Democratic presidential aspirants Gary Hart and John Glenn, the Senate passed an amendment to the Export Administration Act on Feb. 28 which will cripple U.S. sales of nuclear components to the underdeveloped sector. The amendment, opposed by the administration, forces the United States to cut off sales of parts and to ban the re-export of nuclear fuel to countries that have refused to sign the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. Singled out as targets of the amendment were Argentina and India.

In a letter to the Senate dated Feb. 24, Energy Secretary Don Hodel accurately identified the issue as one of national sovereignty: "Many countries have the same objectives as we have, but we are not able to reach agreement with them because they are unwilling to turn over their national sovereignty in a contract, the terms of which are dictated unilaterally by our laws."

Senate Energy Committee chairman James McClure (R-Idaho) and ranking Democrat Bennett Johnston (D-La.) offered a counter-amendment which would have applied the same procedures established in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Act of 1978 to the

parts covered by the Humphrey amendment. McClure called that amendment a case of "U.S. unilateral legislating action" and a "denial-embargo approach" which will undercut the United States' role as a reliable supplier. He added, "The adoption of language targeting Argentina could well disrupt future negotiations with that nation. . . . In addition, Israel would be cut off from access to non-sensitive U.S. nuclear power technology by [the amendment]."

The Humphrey amendment won on a vote like the one that defeated the Clinch River Breeder Reactor—55 to 38. Supporting the administration were almost all the conservative Republicans and a handful of Democrats.

Humphrey has been under the sway of a right-wing Pugwash Conference agent, Henry Sikolski, and was also the "conservative" leader of the opposition to Clinch River.

Senate toughens export legislation

After 25 hours of debate, the Senate passed new authorizing legislation for the Export Administration Act which toughens provisions for exports having national security or foreign policy implications.

The bill also restricts the President's ability to impose a farm-export embargo lasting over 60 days without congressional approval. The Senate version, which contains many other controversial provisions, differs widely from the previously passed House version, which leans more toward trade promotion than export controls. A House-Senate conference on the bill could begin as early as the second week in March.

The Senate bill transfers enforcement controls from the Commerce Department to the Customs Bureau, viewed by many as more enforce-

ment-oriented than Commerce. The Secretary of Defense is given review rights over certain export licenses.

Defense circles have pointed to the Soviet acquisition of crucial defense technologies through inadequacies in the Export Administration Act as extremely dangerous. The Soviet ability to develop MIRVed warheads (multiple reentry vehicles) was due, in part, to their legal acquisition of a ball-bearing technology.

Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) blamed the 1970s dilution of controls on "the Kissinger grand design."

Hill attacks Regan on diversion of anti-drug funds

Representative Glenn English (D-Okla.) and Sen. Paula Hawkins (R-Fla.) have issued a joint statement attacking the decision by Treasury Secretary Donald Regan to divert funds needed for enforcement against drug smuggling to his office account.

After making the anti-drug cut in his budget request, in order to spend the money on remodeling his office, Regan had asked Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to pay for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of a \$300 million fleet of airplanes to be used in an air-interdiction program against drug smugglers. Weinberger has refused, because a previously worked-out agreement had left the O&M funding in the hands of the Treasury Department.

English and Hawkins will propose legislation to replace the \$18.8 million cut in the fiscal 1985 budget with a dollar-for-dollar decrease in the budget request for the office of the secretary. The joint statement said: "The new aircraft, some of which already have been delivered, are considered vital to the effort but will be effectively grounded by Secretary Regan's budget switch."