

National News

Israeli gun-runner prosecution stalled

The prosecution of Israeli Gen. Avraham Bar-Am and a dozen others for illegal arms sales to Iran has effectively been put on ice, as a New York court on Dec. 2 ordered a delay in pre-trial hearings until November 1987. The case, a "sting" using Iranian gun-runner Cyrus Hashemi to entrap Bar-Am's group, had been scheduled to go to trial Feb. 2, 1987.

U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani, concerned he might have stumbled onto a sanctioned government operation, got the go-ahead to prosecute last spring from Attorney-General Edwin Meese, Secretary of State George Shultz, and the CIA, according to the *Washington Post*.

But the prosecution is now being reassessed in light of the Justice Department's "Iran-gate" investigation, according to Giuliani.

The 17 defendants were charged last April with plotting to sell more than \$2 billion in U.S. heavy weapons to Khomeini's Iran. They are now trying to use the unfolding Irangate revelations to bolster their claim that they were operating on behalf of the United States all along.

Said lawyer William Kunstler: "Obviously, the right hand [of the government] did not know what the left hand was doing."

Dole supports scuttling of SALT

Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) told President Reagan Dec. 3 that he fully supports his decision to scuttle SALT II, and will seek a Senate vote on the treaty, if other members of Congress try to force the Reagan administration to comply with the treaty.

In a letter to Reagan, Dole said that the President's decision to exceed the treaty's limits "sends precisely the right message to the Soviet Union: that we will take whatever steps are necessary to insure our national

security and will respond vigorously to Soviet violations of any arms-control agreement."

He said he was "deeply disturbed that some in Congress have indicated their intention to try to vitiate the B-52 conversion decision, or otherwise force compliance with SALT II, through legislation. Should any such legislative effort be made," he wrote, "it would be my intention to seek instead that the Senate formally consider ratification of the SALT II treaty itself."

Weinberger 'horrified' at Contra aid scheme

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger was "horrified" to learn that profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran were funneled to the Contras. "I was horrified" after learning about this aspect from Attorney-General Edwin Meese last week, Weinberger told reporters Dec. 2 in Paris.

"It's totally the wrong thing to do in my opinion. . . . I think it's proper that the Contras be supported, but not in that way, [rather] by appropriation from the Congress."

Weinberger reported that the Defense Department, acting on the President's order, transferred weapons to the CIA so that they could be sold to Iran. But he insisted that he was not aware of the National Security Council operation to conduit the profits to the Nicaraguan Contras.

Myerson tied to New York S&M club

A lurid S&M (sado-masochism) club scandal has erupted in New York City, tied to Mayor Koch's director of cultural affairs (and former "constant companion") Bess Myerson. Newspapers have featured pictures of Myerson, a former Miss America, with her boyfriend, Charles Capasso, a construction company owner who has been linked to the Gambino organized-crime family.

Myerson has been accused of giving lucrative rental variances to an "artist" named Steven Baker for a "studio-residence" at 25 East 4th Street. Baker's neighbors are up in arms because he has been running two "S&M" clubs at the location for five years: the "Club O" and the "Eulenspiegel Society," the latter being described as "a non-profit organization for those interested in S&M and dominance."

Such sex clubs are notorious for being beneficially owned by mafia families.

Myerson is publicly defending the slushy deal with Baker, stating, "We certify that he is professionally engaged in the arts. We do not discuss the quality of that art, and we don't interfere in the creative process."

According to the *New York Post*, "Activities at the Eulenspiegel Society this month included a transvestite workshop."

Jersey welfare poor to work in casinos

The New Jersey Department of Human Services and the Atlantic City Casino Association are developing a plan to transfer up to 1,000 people from the state's welfare rolls to the Casino Association payrolls.

The program is the brainchild of state Sen. William Gormley, who says that the idea came to him when he was a member of Governor Tom Kean's transition team.

The types of jobs are not specified, but the state alleges that within two to three years, \$7 million in state aid and food stamps would be saved.

AMA out to justify euthanasia stand

The American Medical Association has tried to justify euthanasia by carrying out an "opinion poll," whose results were released Nov. 27. The AMA has taken a formal stand in favor of such murder of patients in the past.

The poll allegedly showed that nearly three out of four people favored "withdraw-

ing life support systems, including food and water, from hopelessly (terminally) ill or irreversibly comatose patients if they or their family request it."

Seventy percent of those surveyed said they would be willing to pay more taxes to keep Medicare afloat.

New York mayor defends sex ed

Mayor Ed Koch of New York defended a new sex education reference book available to New York public school children that contends that anal and oral sex "pose no health risks."

The book, *Learning About Sex: A Contemporary Guide for Young Adults*, also covers subjects such as bestiality.

Koch said textbooks "shouldn't have to appeal to everyone. . . . They should be scientifically correct."

An attack on the whole sex education program, in which prescriptions for contraceptives can be dispensed by school health clinics, has been launched by John Hale, a New York attorney on close terms with the Catholic archdiocese of New York, headed by John Cardinal O'Connor.

Msgr. John Woolsey, joined by 50 members of other religious institutions, is also leading in the fight against the program.

Buckley demands U.S. exit from NATO

"Should the U.S. Exit from NATO?" is the cover headline of the current issue of William F. Buckley's *National Review*. The famous "conservative" has finally revealed his true colors, to deliver Western Europe to the Soviet empire.

The most "tiresome" arguments are employed to make the desertion of America's allies seem palatable to American conservatives, even downright principled.

Contributing editor Tom Bethell trots out Irving Kristol, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Henry

Kissinger, and other "decouplers" to demand a U.S. pullout from NATO. In one appeal to conservatives, Bethell compares Western Europe's dependency on U.S. defense subsidies to the poor welfare recipients' dependency on welfare payments! "Just as welfare dependency corrupts inner-city dwellers, so military dependency has corrupted our European allies."

He also claims that NATO's anti-communist purpose disguises "a collectivist principle . . . embodied in collectivized organizations." NATO, he writes, "should be thought of as a product of the times that produced not so much Senator McCarthy as the World Federalists, the U.N., UNESCO, and Americans for Democratic Action."

Pentagon assessing premature SDI moves

Pressure from Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) and "conservatives" linked to the Heritage Foundation in Congress has forced the Pentagon to assess deploying a near-term defense based on "High Frontier" technologies, the Dec. 3 *Washington Times* says.

Sen. Dan Quayle (R-Ind.) amended the Fiscal Year 1987 defense authorization bill to require the Pentagon to report to Congress what Strategic Defense Initiative technologies could be ready within the next 5-10 years—meaning to specify kinetic-energy as opposed to directed energy (laser et al.) weapons systems.

The study, due in March, is said to have the support of one key player in the Defense Department—undersecretary Fred Iklé. A Senate staffer told the *Times* that Nunn will add to the pressure, noting that he helped amend the defense bill to state that SDI's emphasis should be on the "realistic" goal of protecting U.S. missiles, not on protecting the population.

"You're going to see him pushing [SDI head] Abrahamson," said the staffer.

Nunn, as in all his policy commitments, is demanding the Kissinger-Brzezinski version of SDI, which, by protecting only missiles, essentially maintains the doctrinal framework of "Mutually Assured Destruction."

Briefly

● **ROBERT BYRD**, Senate Democratic "Grand Dragon," implied that Congress might force President Reagan to comply with SALT II, by voting to drydock and dismantle a Poseidon submarine. Byrd made his comments in a CBS-TV interview Nov. 30.

● **THE WASHINGTON POST** ran an article on Nov. 22 which misquoted Lyndon H. LaRouche to the effect that federal prosecutors have "got me," when what LaRouche actually said is "they've got nothing." The paper has since published a small correction, and a letter to the editor restating the correction.

● **ANTON CHAITKIN**, investigative reporter for *EIR*, will have his day in court. Chaitkin charges that *Washington Post* owner Katharine Graham murdered her husband to obtain control of the newspaper. He has sued the Commonwealth of Virginia demanding release of the records relating to Phil Graham's death. The judge rejected Commonwealth attorneys' plea to dismiss the case on technicalities.

● **U.S. ATTORNEY** Anton Valukas of Chicago has just announced indictments of two city aldermen and five others after an 18-month investigation into bribe-taking. In fact, it was entrapment. The chief witness is the same Michael Raymond used to entrap New York City officials by U.S. Attorney Rudolf Giuliani. Unfortunately for Valukas's case, "sting man" Raymond has just been accused of murdering three people in Florida.

● **ELIZABETH ROSE**, the senior citizen who is being persecuted for her support of causes associated with Lyndon H. LaRouche, began a national tour on Dec. 2, meeting with representatives of the Helsinki Commission and congressional aides in Washington, D.C. The legislative director of a Pennsylvania congressman told her, "You have the right to your ideas and to give your money to whomever you want."