

# National News

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## Soviets sending crooks to U.S.A.

The Soviet KGB, Moscow's official intelligence agency, has been systematically sending criminals into the United States to build up an organized crime *cum* intelligence network, the *Los Angeles Times* reported Feb. 17. The story of the "Russian mafia" based in the New York City area and its connection to the KGB was first made public by *EIR* in 1983.

The *Los Angeles Times* reports on the case of Russian emigré to Israel Shabtai Kalmanowich, an Israeli intelligence figure now under arrest as a KGB agent, as an example of how the KGB routinely "salts" the ranks of Jewish and other emigrés with its agents. It also reports that Russian authorities have consistently refused to give arrest records of Russians seeking to emigrate to the United States.

The State Department routinely waives its normally stringent requirements where Soviet Jews are concerned, thereby making infiltration of professional criminals easier. Once established in the United States, these Soviet criminal networks serve as an infrastructure for more specialized KGB operatives.

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## Noriega has files on George Bush?

"We were given access by General Noriega to files which contain political dynamite—files which could affect the upcoming presidential election in the U.S. and the positions of other nations," said Raymond Takiff, one of the lawyers for Panama Defense Forces chief Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. Noriega has been indicted on drug-related charges in a Miami court, but he charges that the indictment is part of a U.S. plot to destroy the sovereignty of Panama and its army as an institution. As if to confirm Noriega's counterclaim, Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams offered to have charges

against Noriega dropped in a Feb. 18 meeting with Panamanian President Eric Delvalle, if the President would send Noriega and his associates into exile.

Takiff made his remarks upon arrival in Miami. The *Boston Globe* said the lawyer "threatened to use the file 'if we have to.'" He declined to elaborate, but the *Wall Street Journal* ran the story from the standpoint that George Bush is the subject of the file.

Bush's opponents have been "floating rumors for some time that he had some embarrassing links to General Noriega. . . . However, there has been no evidence."

The *Journal* mentions charges that Bush used Noriega to warn Fidel Castro about the U.S. invasion of Grenada in October 1983, that Bush was CIA director in 1976-77, at a time that Noriega was on the payroll, and so forth.

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## Bush is intelligence community choice

"Such friends as I hear from, tell me that down the line, when the boys get together and decide on the presidential candidates, the chances will be in favor of Bush, even if Bush loses primaries before then," declared aging CIA operative Miles Copeland from his Oxford, England home Feb. 12.

"Just about all the old agency people, and all the old State Department people, who are now retired, say that anything besides Bush will make things even worse for the United States than they already are."

He added, "One of the main concerns in all this, is who will *advise* the President. The President is just the chairman of the board. Reagan has surrounded himself with people who are totally ignorant about world affairs. Bush, everybody thinks, will be different."

According to a senior British intelligence source, "George Bush is liked by the American liberal establishment precisely because he is not impressive. They want a President who can be manipulated, and they want Bush because he can be manipulated. Better, in their view, someone like Bush

than a strong President with a mind of his own."

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## Nixon endorses Ted Kennedy

Former President Richard Nixon has lent his name to building up Sen. Edward Kennedy as a possible Democratic "draft" nominee for President, in the likely event that there is no clear winner for the nomination when convention time comes around.

"The least discussed but most logical candidate for a draft is Edward Kennedy," writes Nixon in a feature in the Feb. 14 *Sunday Times* of London. Given Kennedy's age, Nixon claims, 1988 would be his last time for a good run.

"His greatest strength would be the character issue, both its negative side, and especially its positive side. No one will ever forget Chappaquiddick. The question is whether the American people have forgiven him for it. If the media hound Kennedy over that tragic accident 19 years ago, they might well help him rather than hurt him. . . ."

"On the plus side, drafting Kennedy would bring the still-potent magic of the Kennedy name to a party that had been demoralized by six months of fruitless campaigning. . . . Kennedy's eloquence could bring the party together."

In this piece, Nixon repeats his forecast that, if there is a recession, "Any one of the Democrats will win." But, he says, most economists now believe a recession is "not likely," which, if true, would require the Democrats, in his view, to come up with a "charismatic candidate" like Kennedy or Cuomo.

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## Reagan 'war on drugs' to get even worse

William Weld, assistant attorney general in charge of the Criminal Division at the Jus-

tice Department, has announced a "major shift" in the administration's strategy for avoiding a real war on drugs. The administration, which has avoided prosecuting drug-money laundering banks, will cover up for this by stressing prosecution of individual drug users.

In an interview with the *Baltimore Sun* in early February, Weld said he will ask all 93 U.S. Attorneys to start filing charges against individuals, with the primary targets to be cocaine users.

"There are groups of affluent professionals who think the use of cocaine is simply recreational," Weld commented. Drug users will be prosecuted under a federal law that makes simple possession of drugs a crime.

Weld envisioned prison sentences of up to one year for "yuppie" drug users—something the *Sun* criticized as ridiculous, when one considers the already overcrowded nature of the nation's prisons.

"If law enforcement sends the message that use is fine" while only going after suppliers, replied Weld, users are encouraged to believe that they are not part of the problem.

He outlined a strategy which he called "exemplary prosecutions," i.e., a series of highly visible cases that can be used for "a deterrent and ripple effect."

Weld's family financial firm has been implicated in drug-money laundering by *EIR* investigations. He was the U.S. Attorney in Boston at the time that Bank of Boston was caught laundering billions in drug money in 1985—but he reduced all 162 counts to a single count, and let the bank off with a \$500,000 fine.

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## Illinois Dems drop LaRouche ballot challenge

Illinois State Sen. Vincent Demuzio, chairman of the Illinois Democratic Party, announced Feb. 12 that he has abandoned efforts to strike Lyndon LaRouche's name from the Democratic presidential primary ballot in Illinois.

Demuzio, quoted in the *Chicago Tribune*, said he had instructed party counsel Joseph Cari to challenge LaRouche's nominating petitions "for largely symbolic reasons," but "acknowledged during the filing period that experience had proven the LaRouchies are careful and adept at withstanding ballot challenges."

Earlier this month, a Cook County Circuit Court judge upheld LaRouche's candidacy, but Demuzio and Cari threatened an appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court. In explaining his reversal, Demuzio said: "We made our point. We don't consider [LaRouche] to be a mainstream Democrat. It would be costly to continue the court fight, and we've got better things to do with our money for good Democrats."

Demuzio said the state party will spend about \$5,000 in each Illinois congressional district where a LaRouche candidate is running, on a direct-mail effort to alert registered Democrats to the identity of those he described as "renegades."

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, Demuzio's dilemma is that "any discussion of the LaRouche candidates is considered too much by mainstream Democrats. But if he doesn't talk about them, or take them to court, Demuzio could find himself and the party in an embarrassing predicament similar to that which occurred in 1986," when LaRouche candidates Hart and Fairchild won upset victories in the primary and became the party's nominees for secretary of state and lieutenant governor.

The *Tribune* also reports that "those two LaRouche disciples, Mark Fairchild and Janice Hart, are back this year. Fairchild who in 1986 defeated former State Sen. George Sangmeister for the lieutenant governor nomination, is challenging U.S. Rep. Frank Annunzio (D-Ill.) in the 11th Congressional District.

"Hart is one of four candidates in the heated Democratic primary race for clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court. . . . Sheila Jones, Midwest director and spokeswoman for LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee, is competing with State Rep. Carol Mosely Braun (D-Chicago) to become the Democrats' first black nominee for a county executive office—Cook County recorder of deeds."

## Briefly

● **A CABINET-LEVEL** secretary of science and technology has been proposed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The AAAS recommended that the next President consider creating the post, and appoint a science adviser during the transition period. Once selected, the adviser should play a role in the selection of those cabinet members and other officials who have a policy role on scientific issues, said the organization.

● **THE ADL** (Anti-Defamation League), the drug-mafia-linked organization, will issue a report to attempt to counter Lyndon LaRouche's growing influence in Ibero-America, ADL national chairman Burton Levinson told a meeting of the organization in Palm Beach. Levinson's announcement was made on the same day that George Bush addressed the meeting.

● **GREECE** and the United States have begun to negotiate a new agreement to replace the five-year U.S. base accord that expires on Dec. 31, 1988. A six-man team of U.S. negotiators arrived in Athens on Feb. 15. Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has threatened to close the bases, but a spokesman for U.S. Ambassador Alan Flanagan said he thinks "that the prime minister has decided—for reasons that are not entirely clear—that it would be wise to better relations with the United States."

● **MIAMI** U.S. Attorney Leon B. Kellner was the point man in stalling an investigation of Lt. Col. Oliver North's private supply operation to the Contras, eight months before the affair became an international scandal, said the Feb. 15 *Boston Globe*. According to recently declassified depositions, Kellner told his Assistant U.S. Attorney that his probe into Colonel North and company had to be slowed down because of "politics." The *Globe* said Kellner first conferred with Attorney General Edwin Meese.