

# Senate hearings touch on heart of LaRouche case

The April 21 appearance of Stuart Summit before the Senate Judiciary Committee began a line of investigation which has some of Vice President George Bush's backers very worried. In addition to being a serious liability for George Bush, the Summit appointment has opened up a new flank against the Justice Department's role in attempting to frame up Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche.

Bush's worries began when the former number two at the Justice Department, Arnold Burns, together with Criminal Division head William Weld and two of their key aides, resigned from the Department after their failed effort to oust Attorney General Edwin Meese and secure Burns's appointment as acting attorney general. Although the word being put out by Bush circles is that "Weld is a turncoat," many inside and outside Republican circles are still viewing the Burns-Weld caper as a Bush-camp power-play, aimed at cleaning out what are commonly described as "Reagan Republicans."

Unfortunately for Bush, after their ouster from Justice, Burns and Weld could not keep their mouths shut. Up through yesterday, at least, Burns and Weld were still vigorously pushing their campaign for Meese's ouster. Under these circumstances, the nomination of Burns's law-partner, Summit, to become a New York federal judge, has proven to be an embarrassment to the entire anti-Reaganite cabal, as well as Summit himself.

The barrage of orchestrated news-media attacks on Meese which followed the Burns-Weld resignations produced a counterattack in the *Washington Times* of April 11-12. The gist of the report, was that Burns had entered the Justice Department in early 1987 under a threat of potential criminal tax prosecution for his leading part in a system of offshore tax-shelters. According to the account, it was with Weld's help that the appointment of a special prosecutor against

Burns was blocked from inside the Justice Department. Investigations into the report leaked through the *Washington Times*, showed that there was a much bigger scandal than the *Times's* reports have indicated so far.

On April 19, three more former aides of Burns resigned from the Justice Department, amid rumors that at least one of them might become the subject of an inquiry into possible obstruction of justice. Then, the appearance of Burns's law-partner, Summit, before the Senate Judiciary Committee, yesterday, brought the issue of Burns's involvement in the Bahamas tax-shelter scam to the lead of the Senate's inquiry into Summit's background and associations.

Even then, Burns and Weld refused to shut up. On the same day, April 21, that the Senate committee began its public hearings on Summit's nomination, it was none other than Burns and Weld who met President Reagan at the White House, to continue pressing for Meese's ouster. It is not determined whether White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker was pleased as he reported that the President was fully behind Meese on the issue. On April 22, the orchestrated press campaign on Burns's behalf continued in the liberal news-media.

## **Burns and the LaRouche case**

The attempts to frame up LaRouche involve a large chunk of what President Reagan's Executive Order 12333 defines as the intelligence community, including Lt.-Col. Oliver North's dirty operations under the authority of Vice President Bush's Special Situation Group at the National Security Council. However, the prime movers behind the launching of the case were a 1983 cabal including Henry A. Kissinger and David Abshire inside the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB), and a second leg of the operation

launched by Arnold Burns and William Weld inside the Justice Department at the beginning of 1987, at the time of Burns's appointment as number two.

Again, one of Burns's problems is that some of his cronies can not keep their mouths shut.

The principal client of Burns's and Summit's law-firm is New York's Sterling National Bank, the dirtiest bank in the United States. The bank was created as part of U.S. organized-crime boss Meyer Lansky's syndicate, and has functioned as a key depository for leading New York families associated with Lansky's syndicate. It is also the key banking institution for the pro-drug-lobby organization known as the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

During 1986, the ADL began issuing published reports internationally, as well as inside the United States, bragging that it had been the architect of the attempted legal frame-up of LaRouche. Indeed, most of the key witnesses used by the government in securing the indictments have been exposed by evidence as active members of an organized conspiracy created by the ADL, and jointly coordinated by the ADL and the FBI. The ADL's bragging put the Justice Department's Arnold Burns into the spotlight in the case.

It becomes nastier and nastier. Both the ADL and Arnold Burns are implicated in efforts to block follow-up investigations in the case of convicted spy Johnathan Pollard. The key Israeli official credited with recruiting Pollard as a spy, is General Aviem Sella, whose wife was a leading ADL figure at that time.

Israel's Dec. 23, 1987 arrest of a second figure, Shabtai Kalmanowitch, as a Soviet spy, not only bears upon the arrival of Pollard's stolen U.S. secrets into Moscow; a cross-grid of the operations of Pollard and Kalmanowitch inside the United States, places numerous former civilian officials of the U.S. Department of Defense in the target-area of search for the "Mr. X Committee" responsible for placing Pollard in the position to steal enormous masses of U.S. secret information.

This list of subjects of this search for the "Mr. X Committee" includes figures associated with the sponsorships of two key background figures, Richard Mellon Scaife and the co-authors of the January 1988 *Wohlstetter Report*, former Defense Department civilian official Fred Iklé and RAND Corporation-linked "old boy" Albert Wohlstetter. Others linked, among a list now totaling to about 10 key figures who must explain themselves and their doings, include former civilian Defense Department officials Noel Koch and Richard Perle, and former Henry A. Kissinger and Alexander Haig adviser Michael Ledeen. On the list of Scaife's clients are included Tufts University's Yuri Ra'anan, and Roy Godson's circle of such figures as John Rees, Josef Bodansky, and USIA official Herbert Romerstein.

The special significance of the persons on the Scaife listing, is that these, together with Soviet defector and suspected KGB plant Stanislav Levchenko, are at the center of

U.S. intelligence's debriefing of putative Soviet defectors and other key counterintelligence functions of the Executive Order 12333 apparatus.

So, among their other embarrassments, Burns finds himself in the milieu of circles long notorious for their targeting of LaRouche, circles highly placed in the defense and intelligence apparatus which are also subjects of follow-up inquiry in connection with the Pollard and Kalmanowitch espionage cases.

The efforts of Bush's circles to disown William Weld as a turncoat, will not suffice to free Bush of great embarrassment in this case. Rumors aside, there are too many well-prepared dossiers floating around which tend to lend strong credibility to a Bush-campaign link to the antics of Weld in particular. Bush's reluctance to take a forthright public stand on Meese's side in the Meese-Burns conflict, is feeding the energies going into supplementing generously the present content of existing dossiers.

There is a lot of very damaging evidence to be pieced together; Bush's permitting the Reaganite faction of the Republican Party to continue to suffer the abuse of Burns's crowd, is opening old wounds from 1979-80 and later. If the Burns vendetta against Meese continues, the bones of many skeletons might be pieced together to an effect Bush would regret.

## Campaign implications

The Burns faction's continued targeting of Meese is seen in leading Democratic circles as inevitably weakening the chances of Bush's election. Many of the Democratic Party bosses are smelling the chance of victory in November.

These Democratic bosses are worried. The Republicans could sink Dukakis if the Bush machine were to unveil some relevant information about the financial politics of Massachusetts over the past dozen years, and organize the customary rumor-campaign respecting Dukakis' deeper personal background. The bosses must decide whether there is a greater liability in trying to build credibility around the vacuous Mr. Dukakis, or taking the risk of dumping the leading candidate, to let a brokered Democratic convention produce a less vulnerable nomination.

Whatever the Democratic bosses decide about Mr. Dukakis' political future, they are generally agreed upon increasing the troubles of Mr. Bush.

In part, what happens to Mr. Bush between now and November, will be affected by those and similar rumblings inside both major parties. It is likely that whatever conniving of this sort occurs, the results will injure Bush's candidacy immensely.

What makes Bush's looming problems likely to surface, is the ongoing international financial crisis. Bush has pledged his campaign to a commitment that Treasury Secretary James Baker III will hold off any new major break in the financial crisis until after the November 1988 election, now an unlikely

prospect. The Democratic bosses know that about the time CBS's Dan Rather makes a slip of the tongue, to say "Herbert Hoover, I mean Bush," George is in deep kimche.

In the course of major crises, it is often the case that events beyond the control of political bosses and court decisions dispense long-overdue justice, a judgment from which there is no appeal. If someone has the occasion to write a future book on how George Bush was defeated in 1988, the author of that book will almost certainly refer to this principle of Greek tragedy.

## The brokered convention is still on the front burner

by Mel Klenetsky

Michael Dukakis' 51-37% victory over Jesse Jackson in the New York primary, did not open the way for a Dukakis steamroller to the July National Convention of the Democrats. On the contrary, Dukakis' weaknesses as the Democratic Party standard bearer were confirmed, and there is ample evidence, in the aftermath of the April 19 New York race, that the brokered convention is very much a live option.

Massachusetts Governor Dukakis will get the Democratic nomination, only if George Bush appears in a very strong, unstoppable position going into the November election. Should the economy crumble, or should the various Justice Department scandals or the Iran-Contra scandal threaten Bush, then the Democratic Party would opt for a stronger candidate than either Dukakis or Jackson—hence the brokered convention.

The New York primary showed Dukakis' weaknesses in many ways. First, only 12% of the electorate came out to vote, even after Mayor Koch's endorsement of Al Gore and subsequent antics heated up the Black-Jewish issue. Dukakis' vote was clearly a negative vote, an anti-Jackson rather than a pro-Dukakis turnout. Ten percent of those who voted for Dukakis, according to an ABC News poll, said they would shift to Bush in November. The same poll indicated that two out of five voters voted for Dukakis for negative reasons, accounting for Dukakis' strong showing among Catholics and Jews.

Dukakis has 1,048 delegates, Jackson 842, Gore 405, Simon 172, and Undetermined 623. Dukakis needs 2,081 delegates to win the nomination. The undetermined category consists of the uncommitted votes and the delegates of those candidates who have fully dropped out of the race, such as Gephardt. If Simon and Gore fully dropped out of the race, instead of putting their campaigns on hold, then Jesse Jackson would get the lion's share of the at-large delegates that Simon and Gore won. Forty-seven of Simon's at-large delegates would go to Jackson, and zero for Dukakis. If Gore fully

dropped out, Jackson would get 43 of his at-large delegates, compared to 35 for Dukakis.

At-large delegates are statewide delegates, assigned through the State Democratic Convention or State Democratic Committee, after the primary, to balance out the affirmative action requirements of the party. Simon and Gore's decision to withdraw from campaigning, but remain in the race technically, might be seen as a pro-Dukakis decision. On the other hand, Simon and Gore may be staying in the race in order to play power brokers in an upcoming brokered convention.

Two examples show how live the brokered convention option is. In Oklahoma the Democratic state chairman, Bill Bullard, soon after the Dukakis victory and Gore's withdrawal announcement, called on all of the Gore delegates to form a Unity slate behind Dukakis. Oklahoma Senator Boren, a prominent figure in the Senate Iran-Contra hearings who was the first to describe the North-Pointexter operation as a "secret government," intervened and insisted that the Gore delegates go into the convention committed to Gore, not Dukakis.

Another large category of delegates is the superdelegates. One day after the Dukakis New York victory, the House Democrats selected 207 of their number who would form the Congressional superdelegates. Even with Dukakis' big win, these congressional delegates stayed publicly uncommitted rather than getting on a Dukakis bandwagon. Superdelegates consist of all of the members of the Democratic National Committee, the 25 Democratic governors, 80% of the Democratic House and Senate, and VIPs in the party such as former President Jimmy Carter. These 643 delegates are unpledged; they go to the convention with the option of voting for whomever they please.

Soon after the Dukakis victory, Democratic Majority Whip Tony Coelho from California called for Sam Nunn, the Georgia Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, to offer himself as a vice presidential candidate-plus. The plus was the secretary of defense position as well. Wall Street correspondent Al Hunt called for Nunn to be named vice presidential candidate and secretary of state, since that position, in Hunt's estimation, was even more important than defense. Arkansas Rep. Berryl Anthony and former Virginia Governor Robb joined in the draft Nunn chorus. Nunn, Sen. Bill Bradley, and New York's Governor Cuomo are the figures most cited to emerge in a brokered convention. Perhaps the big hubbub over Nunn is his bid, not for a vice president's slot under Dukakis, but the beginning of his drive in a brokered convention.

In any case, the Democrats may be looking for a brokered convention, should Bush weaken, but they also fear the uncontrollable nature of such a convention. The Democratic Party no longer has the machines to discipline its delegates. Party chairman Paul Kirk, months ago, proposed a pre-convention summit to select a candidate prior to July. In a brokered convention, wild-card candidates such as Lyndon H. LaRouche can surface and become a significant factor.