

National News

Lamm says he will 'autopsy' medical care

Former Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm, in Richmond, Virginia, to deliver a lecture at the Richmond Academy of Medicine's monthly meeting, said that he's been trying to conduct an "autopsy" of the U.S. medical care system, which he says costs too much. Lamm, while governor of Colorado, once said that old people should die and get out of the way because they use up too many resources.

Lamm blames the nation's health care system costs on high malpractice premiums and the fact that doctors order or perform unnecessary tests to protect themselves from being sued; excess facilities, including unused hospital beds and too many pieces of equipment such as mammography units; excess numbers of operations and procedures, not absolutely necessary; and public expectations that medical professionals can do practically anything, the May 15 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported.

Setback for Minnesota 'get LaRouche' effort

Philadelphia Common Pleas Court Judge John Herron on May 14 granted a motion to prevent the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Hubert "Skip" Humphrey from getting all bank records for the Constitutional Defense Fund (CDF) from May 1989 to the present. The decision comes in the ongoing fight to prevent the "Get LaRouche" task force from succeeding in its latest fishing expedition. CDF has helped coordinate the defense of supporters of Lyndon LaRouche.

Judge Herron narrowed the scope of two search warrants requested by the Philadelphia district attorney on behalf of Humphrey's office, to only those records that pertain to a CDF contributor Jane Young, one of two alleged "victims" named by a Minnesota investigator. A civil case involving Young in Minnesota was settled months

ago. Judge Herron's ruling shuts off any further attempts in Pennsylvania to obtain the names of contributors to LaRouche-associated organizations.

At the hearing, the district attorney disclosed that a Philadelphia bank, Provident National, had turned records directly over to Minnesota investigator Richard Munson on Jan. 30, 1991, bypassing his office, despite the fact that the issue of producing records was still being litigated. Munson's actions, in which records were obtained in violation of Pennsylvania law, were deemed an improper search by the district attorney.

Herron ordered the district attorney to demand that the records be returned or he would consider granting a hearing on misconduct and for sanctions.

Supreme Court limits Fourth Amendment

Fourth Amendment protections against illegal search and seizure were further limited by the Supreme Court in a May 13 ruling in *County of Riverside v. McLaughlin*. The Court said police can hold persons arrested without a warrant for up to 48 hours before a probable cause hearing is held.

A dissent by Justice Antonin Scalia, who was joined by Justices Thurgood Marshall, Harry Blackmun, and John Paul Stevens, pointed out that the ruling throws out the common law basis for the Fourth Amendment in order to accommodate bureaucratic interests of the government.

Scalia, who has previously backed limiting the Fourth Amendment rights of "criminals," wrote, "Hereafter a law-abiding citizen wrongfully arrested may be compelled to await the grace of a Dickensian bureaucratic machine, as it churns its cycle for up to two days—never once given the opportunity to show a judge that there is absolutely no reason to hold him, that a mistake has been made. In my view, this is the image of a system of justice that has lost its ancient sense of priority, a system that few Americans would recognize as our own."

In 29 of 50 states, police had been obliged to present a detainee to a magistrate

for a probable cause hearing within 24 hours, and that rule is generally followed nationwide. The County of Riverside, California which routinely holds people for days without a hearing, argued that it is the convenience of the state, not the rights of the citizen, which should shape the rule.

Hostages may be Bush's Watergate

Conservative columnist Kevin Phillips asks if the delay in the release of the American hostages, allegedly engineered by the Reagan-Bush campaign until after the 1980 elections, is "Bush's Watergate?" in a commentary in the May 12 *Los Angeles Times*.

Phillips hints that choosing Quayle as his vice president was impeachment insurance for Bush: "And the biggest problem comes if Bush, a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, was influenced by the thought that if some revelation about the Iran-Contra scandal, a Noriega drug-money link or some other possibly impeachable secret dealing ever came to light, Congress would shrink from any action to install J. Danforth Quayle."

The political victory of the Gulf war could be tainted if Hostagegate reveals that the '80s and '90s "turn out to be a seamless web of GOP secret Middle East dealings." Phillips ends, "It may be a long shot, but backstage events in the Middle East, and what Bush knew about them, could dramatically rewrite the '92 political campaign."

Sagebrush revolt aims at environmentalism

A sagebrush rebellion is erupting in the western part of the United States, which, the May 16 *Washington Post* warns, is a mass movement against the environmentalists and the greens in the U.S. government.

The *Washington Post* reports that groups such as People for the West "have struck a chord among rural westerners" by

opposing ecological fanaticism. This "was powerfully illustrated earlier this year during public hearings on the Greater Yellowstone 'vision' document, a federal effort to preserve the region's ecological integrity. 'I went to a meeting in Bozeman [Montana] and there were 700 people there,' recalled Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Robert Barbee. 'You can't imagine the virulence of the outcry. . . . I was Saddam Hussein . . . a communist, everything else you could think of. One lady got up there, jaw quivering, used her time to say the Pledge of Allegiance, then looked at me and called me a Nazi.' "

"This is a political phenomenon going on in the West and I've never seen anything like it," former Oregon state legislator William Grannel told the paper. The *Washington Post* claims the "sagebrush" rebellion "is the development of an overarching philosophy to counter what critics have dubbed the 'anti-human' bias of groups such as the Sierra Club. Industry advocates who once couched their arguments solely in economic terms now speak of 'man's place in the ecosystem' and the obligation to use natural resources for the betterment of mankind."

Carter says Bush adviser behind October Surprise

Former President Jimmy Carter said he believed that it was Donald Gregg, an adviser to George Bush, who was key in efforts by the Reagan-Bush campaign to delay the release of American hostages from Iran until after the 1980 elections, the so-called October Surprise.

In an interview in the May 16 *Village Voice*, Carter was asked who he suspects was responsible for leaking information from his administration to the Reagan-Bush campaign, as the negotiations were ongoing with the Iranians to obtain release of the hostages.

"I'm not prepared to name names, but there were some—there was one particular, key member of my National Security Council who stayed on and worked full-time for Vice President Bush." Asked if he meant Donald Gregg, who was Vice President

Bush's national security adviser and now "happens to be the current ambassador to South Korea," Carter replied, "Yes."

Carter speculated that Gregg, while still a member of his administration, joined with a number of former CIA officials who were fired by Carter's CIA director Stansfield Turner. "We tried to clean up the CIA," Carter said. "It had been shot through with people that were later involved in the Iran-Contra affair. . . . We knew that some of the former CIA officials were loyal to Bush and not particularly loyal to me and Stan Turner."

Maglev-mobile tours Pennsylvania

A "Maglev-mobile" sponsored by the Schiller Institute crossed the state of Pennsylvania May 13-16, to mobilize support behind an economic recovery program for America based on infrastructure investments. The tour followed the route of the Philadelphia to Pittsburgh magnetically levitated train line, as proposed four years ago by the Pennsylvania High Speed Rail Commission of the state legislature.

Tour organizers elaborated the "Productive Triangle" proposal of economist Lyndon LaRouche for rail-centered investments in Europe, in order to dramatize the failure of America to build basic economic infrastructure.

Elected officials, trade unionists, and businesses, were briefed, and the tour garnered media coverage, including in the *Altoona Mirror*. Officials were urged to call for 1) high tariffs to protect the internal U.S. economy, and allow our industries and farms to get back on their feet; 2) low-interest government credits, to rebuild infrastructure, including high-speed rail, and to finance a high-technology export program to developing countries; and 3) a reform of the international monetary system, including comprehensive debt reorganization and forgiveness with the U.S. and globally. It also called for pressure on the U.N. Human Rights Commission to investigate the human rights violations by U.S. government agencies in the case of LaRouche.

● **ROBERT GATES**, deputy national security adviser, was named by President Bush May 14 to replace William Webster as head of the CIA. According to press accounts, Bush made the decision after polling members of Congress and concluding that the confirmation hearings would not be turned into a partisan forum for reviving the Iran-Contra scandal.

● **INVESTIGATORS** Robert Gettlin and Len Colodny charge that the Watergate scandal was a "silent coup" against the presidency. They published their book, *Silent Coup*, simultaneously in the United States, France, Britain, and Japan and released it May 12.

● **POVERTY** and unemployment were believed by 68% of 779 Mount Pleasant residents interviewed by the *Washington Post*, to be the cause of riots in that neighborhood of Washington, D.C. in May.

● **BISHOP VACHE**, of the Episcopal Church of Richmond who has called for a halt in U.S. aid to Israel until it stops its abuse of Palestinians, told the May 13 *Richmond Times Dispatch* that modern Israel is like a person who, having been abused as a child, becomes a child abuser in maturity.

● **MASSACHUSETTS** Gov. William Weld has introduced of convict labor for construction and repair work at the capitol building in Boston, the birthplace of the American Revolution. Inmates get \$2 a day. The building trades union staged a protest rally May 15. "Slaves had jobs," Massachusetts Building Trades Council President Leo Purcell said in an interview. "Is that what we're talking about now?"

● **A \$100 FINE** was meted out to John Schuchardt, the man who embarrassed President Bush by praying aloud for peace in his Kennebunkport church on Feb. 17.