

National News

'Independent' blasts deconstructing of U.S.

The May 5 issue of the London *Independent* devotes two articles to attacking the rage for "deconstructionism" and "political correctness" (PC) that has swept the United States. One, by Bryan Appleyard, comments on ideas of Australian-born art critic Robert Hughes, whose book *Culture of Complaint* has attacked both the left-wing "politically correct" movement and its conservative counterpart, for driving the United States toward "cultural suicide."

Appleyard summarizes Hughes's attack on "deconstructionism" as follows: "The present becomes a historical autocracy, dictating standards, interpretations and even facts. We have no need to be humble before the past because we make it up as we go along. Here PC meets the deconstructionist wave that has swept American academia. There are only versions of the world, competing discourses, and since that is all there is, there is no final jury that can indict any single interpretation."

However, in distinction to Hughes, Appleyard maintains that political correctness may well be "the logical outcome of liberalism rather than its perversion."

The second piece, by U.S. correspondent Rupert Cornwell, focuses on "the lunacies of political correctness," as represented by the University of Pennsylvania campaign to discipline Jewish student Eden Lefkowitz for screaming "water buffalo" at black women students who were making too much noise outside his window. Cornwell says that the school's effort to make Lefkowitz undergo a seminar in "racial sensitivity," is reminiscent of "what was once known in the old Soviet Union as 'political re-education.'"

FDIC seizes Zenker farm machinery in vendetta

Hettinger County, North Dakota Deputy Sheriff Gilbert Mayer seized machinery from the farm of Vern and Kay Zenker on May 6 on orders from the Federal Deposit

Insurance Corp. (FDIC) officer Dennis Adams in Chicago. The FDIC is the receiver for the defunct First State Bank of Regent, whose president, Paul Richter, has been convicted of fraud and deceit in at least one civil suit. The Zenkers successfully fought efforts to seize their farm earlier by joining with the Food for Peace organization to expose FDIC collusion with unscrupulous international banks to loot family farms.

"The Zenkers are the victims of fraud perpetrated by their former banker," declared a Food for Peace representative. "Richter was making fraudulent loans to farmers, and the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) was guaranteeing these loans with taxpayers' money."

"Richter was in cahoots with Minneapolis banker Carl Pohlrad . . . [who] bought many of these fraudulent loans knowing they were deliberately programmed to fail. Pohlrad then cashed in the guarantee with the federal government, and got paid off in full, plus interest. In the Zenker case, the FmHA handed about \$258,000 of taxpayers' money over to Rabobank of the Netherlands."

"The courage of the Zenker family in publicly fighting this fraud caused a lot of other farmer-victims to step forward," the representative said. "As a result, two U.S. congressmen called for a moratorium on farm foreclosures and an investigation of guaranteed loan fraud. A resolution calling for a congressional investigation of bank fraud passed the North Dakota House of Representatives, and was co-sponsored by 25 state legislators in South Dakota."

Brit backs Kennan on balkanizing United States

The London *Financial Times's* Michael Prowse called George Kennan's new book, *Around the Cragged Hill: A Personal and Political Philosophy*, "wonderfully refreshing," in a review that appeared on May 10. Prowse gave high praise to one of Kennan's main suggestions, which, he says, is "too bold to be taken seriously in Washington." The Kennan plan is for "the division of the U.S. into 12 largely self-governing republics, such as 'New England,' the 'Old South,' the 'Northwest,' and so on. He argues that the U.S., along with the former

Soviet Union, China, India, and Brazil, is a 'monster country,' ungovernable because it is simply too big and diverse to be run from a single capital city. The states, on the other hand, are mostly too small to become viable independent units."

Prowse continued, Kennan "claims the false premise in all domestic debates—be it health care, drugs, abortion, or whatever—is that any one policy either could or should suit all parts of the continent. Virtual dismemberment is the only long-run solution; it would have the advantage, he says, of allowing southern regions to merge into Latin America. (Actually this idea does have some support: In the Pacific Northwest pundits have pondered the feasibility of hiving off a few states and creating a separate country called 'Cascadia'.")"

Fireworks over 'gays' in N.Y. Israel Day parade

Question: When can't a rabbi march in the Israel parade? Answer: When she's a lesbian.

The backbiting was ferocious over the May 9 New York City parade for Israel's 45th anniversary. An agreement had been reached by parade organizers to allow homosexuals to march under the banner of the reform Zionists, but only if they kept the agreement secret. Then the lesbian rabbi of Beth Simchat Torah talked about it to the *New York Times*—so the deal was off.

The uncloseted homosexuals were banned from the main event, and had to march in their own parade.

According to the *New York Post*, New York's politicians were in a wild scramble for the most politically advantageous appearances:

Gov: Mario Cuomo, Mayor David Dinkins, City Council President Andrew Stein, and Republican mayoral candidate Rudolph Giuliani marched in the main parade, and also stopped by the homosexual Congregation Beth Simchat Torah to pay their respects.

Democratic mayoral candidate Herman Badillo and Congress of Racial Equality "conservative" Roy Innis marched for Israel, but refused to visit the homosexual synagogue.

Former Mayor Ed Koch marched only with the gay Zionists, and boycotted the "bigoted" mainstream.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R) couldn't decide what to do, so he used the excuse of Mother's Day to spend the Sunday with his mother.

A Catholic columnist at the *Post* ridiculed Dinkins and Stein for marching for Israel after having boycotted the St. Patrick's parade over the exclusion of a homosexual contingent.

Oakland council passes anti-Pike resolution

The Oakland, California City Council unanimously passed a resolution calling for the removal of the Albert Pike statue in Washington, D.C. early this month. Albert Pike, a Confederate general, was a founder of the Ku Klux Klan. The statue commemorating him was erected by the Scottish Rite Freemasons, of which Pike was a leading member, in 1901 and is maintained by the federal government. Its removal has become an international *cause célèbre*, largely due to the efforts of associates of Lyndon LaRouche.

The Oakland resolution, introduced by Nate Miley, read in part:

"Whereas, it is the sense of this Council that a statue which represents one who advocates mass murder, terrorism, kidnapping and torture, designed especially to disenfranchise and re-enslave newly freed African-Americans should not be honored with a memorial. . . .

"Be it resolved: that the City Council of Oakland, California urges the President of the United States to remove the statue of Albert Pike, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, as requested in the resolution of D.C. Councilmember William P. Lightfoot. . . ."

Walt Disney was FBI agent, Nazi supporter

"Mickey Mouse, a Nazi storm trooper? Donald Duck, an FBI informer?" So begins a May 6 Reuters wire, reporting on a forthcoming biography, *Walt Disney, Holly-*

wood's Dark Prince, by Marc Eliot. A similar report on the book appeared the same day in the *New York Times*. Reuters further reported Eliot's charges that Disney was a Nazi sympathizer who attended many Nazi Party meetings and rallies during the 1930s.

According to the *New York Times*, Disney was made a "full Special Agent in Charge contact" of the FBI in 1954—usually a trusted informer who could provide transportation and equipment as well as public relations services for the Bureau. Eliot claims that he found the evidence in 570 pages of heavily censored government documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. The *Times* added that its own investigation left "no doubt that the material submitted by Mr. Eliot is authentic."

Space command ignorant of Russian SDI offer

At the annual meeting of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in early May, Air Force Gen. Charles Horner, the head of the U.S. Space Command, gave an impassioned plea for more emphasis on ballistic missile defense. During the Gulf war, he related, when missiles were shot down, the debris fell back on the defenders. What is necessary, he said, is wide-area defense, which is only obtainable from space. When people object that they don't want weapons in space, Horner said, he tells them that "the weapon in space is the warhead on the ICBM, not the interceptor." "Other countries need ballistic missile defense, too," he stressed, and stated that there had been discussions between Yeltsin and Bush on joint defense; but he didn't know about talks with Clinton. He said that there should be a layered defense for ballistic missiles and denounced efforts to trade off ground and space systems.

When asked by *21st Century Science & Technology* Associate Editor Marsha Freeman for his evaluation of the recent Russian proposal for a joint SDI experiment, Horner said that he had never heard about the offer. However, he stated that he thought there should be close work with the Russians without the worry of technology transfer, since we would not hold each other's nations at risk if there were a joint defense.

Briefly

● **THE ENERGY DEPT.** issued a list of "accomplishments" for the first 100 days of the new administration. The 22-page document written in "greenspeak," boasts of Secretary Hazel O'Leary's "money jar," into which anyone who uses "bureaucratic acronyms" in her presence must donate a quarter. Also, classes on "diversity" will be added in the workplace curriculum.

● **LEONEL HERRERA** was executed in Texas on May 12. Herrera's *habeas corpus* appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, based on new evidence proving his innocence, was denied Jan. 25 in a ruling that held that innocent persons who have been convicted of murder may be executed without violating the Constitution.

● **MARIO CUOMO** signed an agreement last month with the Oneida Indians, allowing New York State's first gambling casino to open this summer in New Rome, Oneida County. The agreement comes at a time when the area faces heavy job losses because operations at nearby Griffiss Air Force Base are being reduced. Gambling proponents claim the casino agreement will create more than 2,000 jobs.

● **MARY SUE TERRY**, who is being groomed as Virginia's next governor, is best suited to be a mortician, according to a "career aptitude test" she took in high school, a recent profile in the *Washington Post* reported. She apparently also showed a youthful talent for tobacco spitting and castrating pigs. Unmentioned is the fact that as state attorney general, she presided over so many executions that she was nicknamed "Bloody Mary."

● **THE HEMLOCK** Society in Washington State has started a group called "Compassion in Dying," which provides help to the allegedly terminally ill to kill themselves. Their "help" is based largely on the practice of "Dr. Death" Jack Kevorkian in Michigan.