

# National News

## Wirth pushing politics of global 'chaos theory'

Some members of President Clinton's administration, typified by Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs Timothy Wirth, who spoke on the subject in July, believe that "chaos" is the greatest threat to national security, according to a commentary by Jeremy Rosner in the Aug. 14 *Washington Post*. "A new view argues that the overriding threat is global 'chaos'—a virus of disorder fed by environmental damage, overpopulation, poverty, refugee flows, ethnic conflict, and failed states. The argument goes this way: With the Soviet empire gone, the new systemic threat to all U.S. security stems from the global rash of small-scale conflicts," wrote Rosner. "Wars and humanitarian disasters in Africa, Haiti, Bosnia, the Mideast, and elsewhere may seem to spring from local tensions, but the larger-scale forces of chaos are at work," according to this theory.

"These forces deepen scarcity, spawn extremism, and raise tensions. . . . Thus, programs aimed at sustainable development, population control and environmental protection should be moved to the fore of our national security priorities."

The theory "undervalues moral accountability," Rosner continued. "To be sure, the Clinton administration generally has not embraced the chaos thesis. . . . National Security Adviser Anthony Lake and other key officials" have dismissed the idea.

## OSI victims sue to overturn Holtzman law

On July 1, several individuals, assisted by the American-Ukrainian Political Action Council of the United States (Aupacus), filed suit in federal court in Washington, D.C. to enjoin the Department of Justice, the DOJ's Office of Special Investigation (OSI), the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Attorney General Janet Reno from further denaturalization or deportation proceedings under the Holtzman Amendment.

According to the weekly *New Federalist* of Aug. 22, the lawsuit challenges the constitutionality of the Holtzman Amendment, which established the OSI as the official "Nazi-hunting" organ in the DOJ, and the "OSI's manipulation of Soviet-produced evidence in its zeal to prove that its targets were Nazi 'war criminals,' and OSI's direction of a campaign to bring such 'war crimes' prosecutions in a selective and improper fashion against eastern Europeans."

Aupacus issued a release, according to which the plaintiffs also assert that the OSI's actions "violate numerous provisions of political, civil, and human rights provisions under international law." This is the first time such arguments have been raised.

The plaintiffs are relatives of individuals who have been persecuted by the OSI, including some who have been unconstitutionally deported and sent to their deaths. Heinz Bartsch, Anu Linnas, and Wolfgang Schiffer are children of OSI victims. Katharina Tittung and Anna Schiffer are the wives of two of OSI's targets. Shirley Waterman's fiancé, Hans Breyer, is currently facing deportation. Three of Breyer's children are also suing, as is Marianne Rudolph, daughter of NASA rocket engineer Arthur Rudolph, and Konstanty Z. Hanff, who was unsuccessfully targeted by OSI after he had exposed a Soviet spy operation.

## De facto, parole no longer exists in Virginia

The draft legislation for Gov. George Allen's plan to end parole in Virginia, called Proposal X, was presented on Aug. 16 to the Commission on Parole Abolition and Sentencing Reform, whose members include George Bush's former Attorney General William Barr and LaRouche prosecutor Henry Hudson. The proposal would eliminate parole and call for nonviolent offenders to serve sentences in as many as 10 new work camps to be built, according to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. However, terms for such offenders will not be cut to make room for violent criminals.

Parole has de facto already been ended, with the new parole board having cut parole grants to 5% of those eligible, down from

over 40% just last year. The result is that the prisons and jails are crammed to bursting, with officials citing a real threat of riots. "We can't keep stuffing bodies into buildings . . . we're afraid we're going to have a riot or deputies will be injured," said John Jones, executive director of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association.

## Wilder continues to attack North

Independent senatorial candidate and former Virginia Gov. Doug Wilder (D), has continued his attacks on Republican senatorial candidate Oliver North for his role in Contra drug-trafficking. Wilder is the only one of the four candidates for the seat held by Sen. Chuck Robb (D) to take on North on this fundamental issue. In the Aug. 13 *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Wilder is reported to have "attacked his Republican opponent for allowing pilots carrying arms to the Contras in Nicaragua to smuggle drugs." Wilder was speaking at a Veterans Care Center in Salem. On Aug. 14, the daily reported that Wilder invoked North's Iran-Contra convictions during an appearance on the steps of the Fredericksburg City Hall on Aug. 13.

Meantime, the Virginia Fraternal Order of Police gave their endorsement to North after a debate between him and independent Marshall Coleman, the former GOP state attorney general. The endorsement was not surprising: The FOP buys its bullet-proof vests from the Virginia company North formed after retiring from the Marines.

Finally, neo-con William F. Buckley called on conservatives who find North distasteful to swallow their pride and support him, because the GOP needs to stack the Senate.

## Conservative questions Starr appointment

The first slight break in Republican and "conservative" glee at the appointment of Kenneth Starr to replace Whitewater inde-

pendent counsel Robert Fiske, came from Bruce Fein, a Heritage Foundation-aligned columnist for the *Washington Times* on Aug. 16.

Fein listed six reasons that Democrats use to attack the Starr appointment. Five of these—that Starr lacks prosecutorial experience, that he is an active Republican, that he intended to write an *amicus curiae* brief in the Paula Jones lawsuit against President Clinton, that no replacement of Fiske was necessary, and that the appointing judges were “Republican party shills”—Fein called unpersuasive. But the sixth, that Judge David Sentelle lunched with Sen. Lauch Faircloth (R-N.C.), while the appointment was pending, is “unanswerable,” writes Fein, and the appearance of partisanship should have prompted Sentelle’s recusal. Nonetheless, Fein concluded with the following convoluted solution: “Mr. Starr might consider resigning to create an independent counsel vacancy, and concurrently petition for reappointment by the two uncompromised judicial panelists.”

Fein’s column ran side-by-side with a commentary by one of the news media’s kept “liberals,” Harvard lawyer Alan Dershowitz, who charged that Judge Sentelle has contributed to making the U.S. Court of Appeals in D.C. “a hotbed of partisan politics,” and that Starr, who sat on that court, was “one of Judge Sentelle’s right-wing soulmates on that court.”

## Immigration panel wants worker registry

A Commission on Immigration Reform, headed by former Texas Rep. Barbara Jordan (D), has urged President Clinton to take immediate action in testing a program that would require all job applicants to prove their identities, according to the Aug. 4 *Washington Post*.

The commission, created by Congress in 1990, recommended the creation of a national computer registry of all persons, U.S.- and foreign-born, who are eligible to work. Employers would then be required to check the identities of job applicants against the registry by using either a new, more

secure Social Security card, a counterfeit-resistant driver’s license, or telephone verification system.

The proposal called for an immediate start to a pilot program of worker identity checks in the five states with the highest levels of immigration: California, New York, Texas, Florida, and Illinois. Immigration and Naturalization Service statistics show that of the estimated 4 million immigrants, 80% live in these states. Jordan said the commission was undecided about the best way to perform an identity check. The pilot program would be expanded nationwide after about three years.

The American Civil Liberties Union, Hispanic organizations, Chinese-American groups, Jewish groups, and immigration lawyers immediately expressed concern, saying the registry’s use could increase job discrimination against members of ethnic and racial minorities, and encourage invasions of privacy and system misuse for government surveillance.

## Cardinal O’Connor urges no abortion coverage

New York’s Cardinal John O’Connor wrote an open letter to President Clinton that appeared in the *Washington Times* on Aug. 9, urging him to drop abortion coverage from his universal health care plan. The Catholic bishops, said the letter, “have supported universal health care coverage since 1919.”

“But not a single one of the proposals . . . provides full health care coverage for unborn babies, the letter added. “All the semantic jargon in the world can’t turn abortion into ‘health care’ for the baby aborted. Death is the ultimate opposite of health. So to be universal, a health care plan must provide health care for the unborn, as well as for their mothers, not death for either.”

The bishop concluded, after encouraging Clinton not to “believe those who will blame the bishops” if the bill fails: “To demand that anyone pay for abortion who believes abortion is morally wrong is itself morally wrong, no matter who makes the demand. And . . . it’s the road to ruin for a meaningful health care bill. The people will not accept it, and they should not accept it. . . .”

## Briefly

● **DEMOCRATIC** Party chairman David Wilhelm resigned in August, effective after the November elections. Wilhelm had been effectively side-lined already by White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, who brought in Tony Coelho to run the Democratic National Committee. Wilhelm had displayed strident opposition to popular LaRouche Democratic candidates last spring.

● **RIVERBOAT GAMBLING** in the nation’s capital was sunk after the gambling lobby unsuccessfully threw \$62,000 to place an initiative on the Nov. 8 Washington ballot. Of 45,000 signatures, only one-third were from registered voters, and petitioners had been paid up to \$1.75 per signature.

● **FIFTY MILLION** boxes of Cheerios are being dumped under orders of the Food and Drug Administration, because they may have tiny traces of an unapproved but completely safe pesticide that was sprayed on the oats while in storage. The FDA determined that there was no health hazard, but issued the dumping order anyway, because “we didn’t want to send a signal . . . that it’s okay to violate the law as long as it doesn’t hurt anybody.”

● **MOSQUITOES** carrying eastern equine encephalitis, a rare but deadly disease, have been found in the Long Island, New York, community of Manorville, according to the *New York Times*. Suffolk County officials are spraying the area. The disease has a mortality rate of up to 70%. Environmentalist campaigns against pesticide spraying and for preserving swamps (known as wetlands) have created more breeding areas.

● **BALTIMORE’S** needle exchange program got off to a rocky start on Aug. 12, being run out of a converted mobile home which cruises the city’s drug-infested neighborhoods. The first two days, few people showed up to exchange their IV drug needles. The program, pushed by pro-legalization Mayor Kurt Schmoke operates under cover of fighting AIDS.