

North campaign: Bush's insider is in trouble

by Nancy Spannaus

George Bush's inside man is in trouble in his race for the U.S. Senate in Virginia. That's Oliver North, who served as Bush's flunkey during his stint at the National Security Council, carried out illegal acts ranging from skimming of funds to supervising the import of planeloads of drugs into the United States, and who is a leader of the drive to return the Bush-men to power.

Polls still portray North as running at least neck-on-neck with Democratic incumbent Sen. Charles Robb for the Nov. 8 election. Also on the ballot is independent Republican Marshall Coleman, who is being sponsored by sections of the Republican Party who find North's filthy career too much to swallow. In early September North declared he couldn't see how he could lose, but Senator Robb is accurate when he says the campaign is coming "down to the wire."

The reality is that North's sordid career of lying and drug-trafficking is beginning to saturate the Virginia environment. One million leaflets from the Defeat that Son-of-a-Bush Committee, buttressed by hundreds of radio ads, 11 billboards, and prominent displays of bumper stickers and pamphlets, have helped create a political climate where North is afraid to take questions from unknowns. A prominent article in the *Washington Post* about an anti-Ollie song being played in an ad by congressional candidate William Jones has accelerated North's paranoia. The millionaire populist is now playing the game of hiding from the press, claiming they are distorting his record.

To the contrary, most of the media has covered up for North's real record of lying and crime, and it was Colonel North's own statements—such as denying that President Clinton was his commander-in-chief—which got him in trou-

ble. But North is desperate to recoup his image as the anti-Establishment hero. At this point, he's afraid his \$15-\$20 million campaign budget may not be enough.

No outsider

Oliver North never was an anti-Establishment outsider, despite the beliefs of millions of American dupes. At the National Security Council he was a flunkey for Bush, who supervised his work on how to scrap the Constitution under certain conditions, and Henry Kissinger, who ran the Central American Commission. He continued to work closely with Bush in his operations with the hostages and with the Contras, operations which were provably treasonous to these United States.

The detailed story has been told by the SOB Committee in its pamphlet "Defeat Ollie North, That Son-of-a-Bush," and in numerous articles in the *New Federalist*. But a review of North's funders provides even more evidence of his role as a cat's paw for certain sections of the Establishment.

North's Contra operations were funded by some of the wealthiest elite families in America, families who also bankroll the World Wildlife Fund and other institutions of environmentalism and genocide. As outlined in an extensive article which appeared in the Oct. 10, 1994 issue of *EIR News for Loudoun County*, these families include:

- 1) Arthur Windsor Arundel of The Plains, Virginia, a rabid environmentalist worth at least \$70 million, who held a least one special fundraiser in Middleburg, Virginia for North's Contra operation;
- 2) Alice du Pont Mills of northern Virginia, a multimillionaire funder of the misnamed "family planning" move-

ment, who feted North at her estate; and

3) the Ohrstrom family, including Richard Riggs Ohrstrom and his sister Magalen Ohrstrom Bryant of Middleburg, who are worth over \$250 million and are on the record as funders of the radical zero-population growth movement, and of North's intelligence fronts.

There is myriad other evidence of North's status as "insider." He was not only defended by the law firm of the consummate insider Edward Bennett Williams, when he was indicted, but he continues to have such a relationship to the firm, that half of the contributors to his campaign for the Republican Party nomination for Senate came from the law firm of Williams and Connolly.

Also in on the ground floor of support for Ollie's Senate campaign were many Bush insiders from Florida and Texas, including Martin Allday of Austin, Texas; Robert Holt of Midland, Texas; John Whitney Payson of Hobe Sound, Florida; and James Bastian of Miami, Florida.

Profiteer, not patriot

Up until a couple weeks ago, the major media was giving North an almost totally free ride, and opponent Robb had hardly laid a finger on him. Finally, on the weekend of Oct. 15, the story of North's Swiss bank accounts broke in the Hearst newspapers.

The story dates back to 1987, when Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh was looking into North's "private" financial dealings around arming the Contra army. What investigators discovered, in addition to private contributions to North's "Enterprise" fronts, were two Swiss bank accounts. One was the B. Button account, which was set up for the education of North's children, and the other was the "Enterprise" account. Both still exist, although they are "frozen." Although the Enterprise account is in the name of Albert Hakim and Gen. Richard Secord, North is named as the sole beneficiary in the event the other men were incapacitated.

When North was questioned about the Swiss accounts on Oct. 17, he said, "I had no interest then, I have no interest now, and I will have no interest in the future in anyone's overseas bank accounts."

Citing the fact that North's home phone number and his wife's code name are both *still* listed on the \$200,000 investment account, Senator Robb suggested that after the election, North should be investigated for perjury, since "I can find no other way to explain the discrepancy . . . than that he lied."

In fact, North's wife had consulted with Willard Zucker, the financial manager of the "Enterprise" account, and North's own notes indicate he knew of that. He has also failed to take any action over the last seven years to de-link himself from the accounts by simply removing his name.

There are other indications that North may have already profited from the Swiss bank accounts. According to the Walsh report, the lieutenant-colonel had the use of an enormous amount of cash, which investigators believed may have

come from withdrawals from these accounts. There were "more than \$1 million in unaccounted-for cash withdrawals by Secord." Nor would it be possible to account for the withdrawals, since North destroyed the ledger in which the accounting was made.

In a statement issued Oct. 17, Senator Robb—whose own considerable wealth comes from his marriage to the daughter of former President Lyndon B. Johnson—asked if North was a patriot, or a profiteer. Robb cited the Swiss bank accounts and reports of skimming from the arms sales to Iran. "But that story doesn't begin to tell the story of Oliver North's profiteering," Robb said. "His illegal escapades have made him wealthy."

Honor, or dishonor

North has consistently argued that everything he did in relation to Iran and the Contras was done to "save lives," and win the revolution against communism. To this end, he has purchased TV ads with testimonials from hostages who were freed, allegedly due to his efforts. The latest, released on Oct. 18, features former Beirut hostage David Jacobsen, who says, "If it wasn't for Ollie North, I would never have seen my family again."

The ad is a poignant emotional appeal, and considered effective, especially coming as it does after a week of attack ads on Robb's alleged sexcapades and parties at Virginia Beach. Both sets of ads, however, are based on lies.

As North's boss Robert McFarlane has documented, the total picture shows that, while North got three hostages released, three more were taken. In addition, the collaboration with the hostage-takers resulted in other untold evils, including the prolongation of the war between Iran and Iraq. "You do not save lives if you engage in negotiations over hostages, sell arms to terrorists, or skim off money that belongs to the federal government," Robb said in a statement on Oct. 19. "By negotiating with terrorists over hostages, you place every American overseas at risk."

North also does not mention that, while he was allegedly seeking to defeat the communists, he was spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on weapons he was receiving from the communists in East Germany and elsewhere.

The drug charges

By far the most damaging charges of particular crimes by North, however, have come from the SOB Committee. They involve his having been on top of the Contra supply operation, which brought planeloads of cocaine into the United States, and led to millions of dollars of drug monies being pocketed by these "patriots." While the most detailed charges have been made by Celerino Castillo, a former agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration, they are broadly backed up by testimonies in an official Senate report, by North's own notebooks, and by information available to this newsservice going back to at least 1986.

North tries to dismiss the charges by saying that he's the most investigated man on the planet, and that the lack of an indictment means he's clean. But he has been stung sufficiently to issue a press statement, dated Oct. 5, on the SOB Committee's accusations, which he erroneously claims to be being promoted by Robb's campaign as well. I quote:

"These drug charges have been peddled by a gentleman named Cellerino [sic] Castillo who was let go by the Drug Enforcement Administration and whose tall tales have been consistently denounced by the former and current heads of the DEA (see the following statement by former DEA head Jack Lawn). Even Clinton's DEA disavows the scurrilous remarks of Mr. Castillo. For once, at least, Robb disagrees with Clinton on something!"

North is lying again. The charges are not coming just from Castillo, and he has not been denounced. Mr. Castillo has a disability pension from the DEA, having retired in 1992, and he has a record a mile long of reports on drug-running by Ollie's Contra pilots, going back to 1985. The DEA has run a coverup operation from then on.

In fact, Castillo had a chance to respond to the North defense on Oct. 19, when he attended a luncheon in Merrifield, Virginia, which was being addressed by North's brother. If Lawn honestly didn't see his reports, Castillo said, other officials of the DEA certainly did, as the testimony of David Westrate, number three at the DEA, to the Kerry Committee shows. North's brother had to resort to the defense made famous at Nuremberg: Ollie, as a military man, was only following orders.

This claim doesn't sit too well with a lot of other military men, who see Ollie North as having brought dishonor to their calling. They insist that the oath Marines, and other military professionals, take is to the U.S. Constitution, not their "boss." And in North's case, as his recent statement about his commander-in-chief shows, it is not clear who he actually thinks his boss was, or is.

Danger to the nation

Anyone who has looked at the matter closely, has to realize that Ollie North represents a danger to the United States as a whole, not only because of his atrocious record, but also because of his current commitments to a virtual insurrection against constitutional government. North is committed to gaining power by any means necessary, from feigning piety, to spending money, to intimidating or avoiding opponents.

Once in power, North can be expected to show the same respect for the constitutional responsibilities to our nation and its future as he did before—none. He'll endorse free trade, protect the big-time drug traffickers, carry out racist policies, and threaten to incarcerate (or worse) any opponent who gets in his way. It's clear that many Virginia voters of both parties realize this. It's not yet clear that it's enough.

Oregon's Hemlock vote: national turning-point

Linda Everett

Euthanasia, in its many guises as death with dignity, physician-assisted suicide, or the nihilist notion of "life not worth living," thrives wherever nations face the grueling confluence of economic collapse and cultural pessimism. The Netherlands is one example, with its twin calamities of health care rationing and the "medical" treatment of mentally or physically ill or elderly patients with lethal injections and drug overdoses. On Nov. 8, the people of the state of Oregon are likely to vote for a statewide ballot initiative that would make similar "medical" treatment legal there. Entitled the "Oregon Death With Dignity Act," ballot Measure 16 would allow physicians to prescribe lethal drugs or suicide kits to any "capable" adult resident of Oregon who has been diagnosed as "terminally ill" and who requests the drugs to end their life.

Oregonians will attempt to review the Death With Dignity Act and its reputed safeguards in Oregon's 200-page voters' pamphlet. But it is ludicrous to believe that a proposal that aims to destroy the underlying premise of western medical science, namely, upholding the inviolability of human life, can offer *any* safeguard against abuse. Consider *one* Measure 16 safeguard that calls for physicians to determine if a patient 1) has a terminal disease, 2) is capable, and 3) has made the request for lethal drugs voluntarily. How do you verify if the patient seeking suicide is not depressed, if those making the determination believe that a terminally ill patient's wish to die is totally different from the suicidal intent of those without terminal illness? Doctors Herbert Hendin and Gerald Klerman, in the January 1991 *American Journal of Psychiatry*, state: "95% of those who kill themselves have been shown to have a diagnosable psychiatric illness in the months preceding suicide." Most physicians are not trained to recognize depression, but a league of pro-death doctors, "ethicists," social workers, and psychologists have pronounced that suicide for some is "ethical," even "rational." Why bother looking for depression? Those trained to treat chronic pain know that when individuals with physical problems become chronically depressed, they believe their pain has much increased and seek relief. Under Measure 16, that relief would be suicide.

What about "voluntary" choice for suicide? Hendin and Klerman say that "the overwhelming majority of the termi-