

New from the Roy Cohn file: Why 'Dirty Dick' Morris 'never had any qualms'

An exposé of the criminal machine sponsoring President William Clinton's disloyal adviser Richard S. "Dirty Dick" Morris, was commissioned by Lyndon LaRouche, printed in the *New Federalist* newspaper, and first distributed to White House staff members on June 28. The *New Federalist* article, making public the close family and political relationship between "Dirty Dick" Morris and organized crime manager Roy Cohn, made waves within the Clinton administration—where Morris is widely despised. A shaken Dick Morris put out the word to his friends, that they should say the exposé had been inaccurate in alleging a close tie between Dick Morris's father, New York attorney Eugene J. Morris, and Eugene Morris's first cousin, the infamous Roy M. Cohn.

A reporter for the *Washington Insider*, seeking to establish the unassailable truth of the matter, met with Dick Morris's father, Eugene J. Morris, on July 15, and interviewed him for two and a half hours. That interview, covering a wide range of Morris-Cohn family affairs, has been made available to *EIR*.

Dick Morris is bitterly resented by Clinton loyalists for coldly working for the most reactionary enemies of the President, feeding them dirt on the President and encouraging their attacks on him, even while Dick Morris himself was employed as Clinton's chief campaign strategist. In the interview, Eugene Morris attempted to explain his son's attitude: "Dick has never had any qualms. He got that from me. I represented terrible reprobates." Eugene Morris described these "terrible reprobates" as real estate gangsters whose affairs he managed.

The Morrises' fortune and powerful connections have been built upon criminal enterprises protected by the master of organized crime, Roy M. Cohn.

Eugene Morris emphasized that the LaRouche-commissioned exposé had *greatly understated* the closeness of his relationship to Cohn. Eugene, who was born in 1910, stated that his own father had deserted his mother, and that as a young boy he had moved in with his mother's family, the Cohns. Eugene's uncle, Bronx judge and political boss Albert Cohn, became Eugene's "surrogate father." *Eugene knew Albert's son, Roy M. Cohn, as a younger brother, virtually from the moment Roy was born in 1927, until Roy died of AIDS in 1986.* Roy's "meteoric" career—his fascistic role as Sen. Joe McCarthy's chief counsel and goad, his sponsorship by the

Dulles brothers and Thomas E. Dewey, his perverted intimacy with FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover, and his feared potential for deploying assassins—paved the way for Dick Morris. In the interview, Dick's father proclaimed himself "the last surviving Cohn."

In 1935, when Roy was eight years old and Eugene was about 25, Albert Cohn set up Eugene in a law practice. In 1947, when Roy Cohn first came out of Columbia University Law School at age 20 (too young to practice law), *Eugene started Roy's career* by taking Roy into his firm as a junior associate; that same year, Eugene's son Dick was born. Roy Cohn soon got his first job outside of the family, as a junior prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's office in New York.

Dick's mother, Terry Morris, entered her own career as a magazine writer by acting as a flack for Roy Cohn. Her "first significant article," according to Dick's father, puffed Roy's prosecutorial prowess in a counterfeiting case, thus "launching her career." Cohn's fame grew when he prosecuted Julius and Ethel Rosenberg for espionage and they were executed.

Establishing protection

Roy Cohn went on to greater fame, and ultimate disgrace, for his daring corruption as the manager of Joe McCarthy's inquisition. But the brothers John Foster Dulles and Allen Dulles, their political creation Thomas E. Dewey (respectively, U.S. secretary of state, CIA director, and New York governor), and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, had all become Roy Cohn's patrons. The Dulleses and Dewey, controllers of the Republican Party, arranged in 1957 that Cohn be placed in the old-line Manhattan law firm Saxe, Bacon, which Cohn soon took over and made his base.

By the mid-1960s, Cohn was the leading lawyer, fixer, manager, and protector of Italian and Jewish mobsters. The Cohn apparatus controlled magazine and newspaper circulation, the selection of judges, real estate rackets, and many other corruptible aspects of public life which were of interest to the powerful. The Dulleses and Dewey had started it all by putting the British Empire's Canada-to-U.S. smuggling and murder arrangements of the 1920s bootleg era under strict new management. As a special prosecutor, Dewey had jailed Charles "Lucky" Luciano, leaving Luciano's partner Meyer Lansky in charge at the crime apex. Dewey later

released Luciano to Italy, and he and Lansky then built the modern heroin trade.

The Cohn machine took over the *New York Law Journal*, which, by decree of Roy's father and other judges, had become the official daily newspaper of the legal profession. In his interview with the *Washington Insider* reporter, Eugene Morris said that he had been in charge of the *Law Journal*'s weekly real estate law column for some 25 years beginning in 1965. He wrote every column himself, he said, and each column was awaited by real estate owners as the last authoritative word.

The *Law Journal* was a classic "setup," linking the sewer with the centers of official power. A certain Jerry Finkelstein had been an assistant to Dewey in the phony organized-crime prosecutions in the 1930s. This Finkelstein, who became Roy Cohn's client and business associate, bought out the old *New York Law Journal*. While Mafia dons such as the Gambino family and Joe Bonanno made Cohn's East Side office their New York clubhouse, Finkelstein and Eugene Morris dispensed Cohn's "authoritative" advice to New York lawyers, judges, and public officials. Finkelstein's son James married the granddaughter of mobster (and Cohn client) Lewis Rosenstiel, Lansky's old partner whose bootleg empire became Schenley's liquors.

In the recent disclosures about the sordid affairs of the trio of Rosenstiel, Cohn, and J. Edgar Hoover, Rosenstiel's widow complained that she had discovered her husband in bed with Roy Cohn. He made light of it as "a client getting closer to his lawyer," but she retorted that his *other lawyer*, Governor Dewey, had not gone to bed with him.

'Negro removal,' and a fateful murder

Eugene Morris got his money and built the family's connections through an enterprise which brought terrible suffering to New York's most vulnerable residents. His son Dick was simultaneously trained as a cold-blooded political operative, in transforming that dirty enterprise into the nation's business.

Eugene Morris told the interviewer that a "tax lien shark" named Max Donner was typical of his clients around the time Dick graduated from Columbia. Morris and those he managed would be informed that a landlord or homeowner was behind on his real estate tax payments. Morris and company would acquire from the authorities the right to collect the taxes owed, along with a large interest penalty. The money would roll in from collection or foreclosure and resale.

Through this and other varieties of building-flipping, real estate gangsterism has devastated the poorer New York neighborhoods. A clique of gangster lawyers and financiers loots buildings and investors by usurious mortgage lending to slumlords who can't make the payments and gut the building, then the lenders foreclose and do it again with new "owners." Or, the gangsters buy buildings, take second mortgages on them, use the loans to buy still other buildings, and don't

repay the loans or maintain the buildings. The owner and lender then both go into bankruptcy, and may keep going after being bailed out by the government. Rats bite tenants, while the human rats are protected by a corrupted legal system.

Eugene Morris ascended to the top of the urban renewal game, bitterly known as "Negro removal" by its victims. Neighborhoods are degraded into slums, then anti-poverty programs remove the poor people, and subsidized speculators build office towers or luxury high-rise apartments in place of affordable housing. Poverty is thus solved!—for the speculators. Dick's father became the lawyer, strategist, and spokesman for these swindlers, on a global level.

In 1957, Dewey and then-U.S. Solicitor General J. Lee Rankin arranged with Britain's Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip to create a globalist lawyers' group known as World Peace Through Law. Eugene Morris told the *Washington Insider* interviewer that he was himself "very close" to J. Lee Rankin. In the 1960s, Morris was put in charge of the group's Urban Renewal section. Morris, representing the Cohn apparatus, himself formed other secretive Anglo-American lawyers organizations. Eugene met often in London with the top British real estate operators, who had to be salivating at the increasingly hot New York prospects.

The 1963 murder of President John F. Kennedy was soon followed by a deep degradation in America's political outlook, away from the national commitment to progress, and by a criminalization of business and investment. Leading this debasement was a political coup centered in New York City, in which Eugene Morris's son played his first role as "Dirty Dick."

Toward a criminal economy

Allen Dulles and his friends presided over the official Warren Commission inquiry into the John Kennedy assassination. Commission counsel J. Lee Rankin supervised every detail of the inquiry, aided by his assistant Norman Redlich. The resultant cover-up (claiming that the assassination "wasn't political") was almost universally disbelieved, but was not overturned.

Rankin and his assistant Redlich then went to New York for "the revolution," serving as counsel and assistant counsel to John Lindsay, whom the Anglophile Republicans had installed as mayor in 1965. Rankin and Eugene Morris went to Switzerland together in 1967 to brief the British and their friends on the Urban Renewal bonanza they were generating.

Dick Morris graduated from Columbia in 1967, starting work as a researcher and propagandist for the Citizens Budget Commission (CBC), which was personally directed by the biggest international bankers and Eugene Morris's fattest real estate operators. CBC pressed for a radical restructuring of government, and a radical re-division of the economic pie. They argued that in the new lean era, the nation could not afford "lavish" public services, high wages, strong labor unions, or a unified urban political unit with its typically

uppity citizens.

Dick Morris was CBC's chief research analyst, as CBC crusaded for breaking unions and decentralizing New York government. Meanwhile, the old line African-American leadership was taken down in witch-hunts: for example, Adam Clayton Powell was purged from Congress, or the ouster of Manhattan Borough President Hulan Jack. The Lindsay-Rankin-Redlich regime brought in Ford Foundation President McGeorge Bundy's plan for race conflict, for which CBC wrote the propaganda. The school system was to be decentralized, so that ethnic groups would fight over their shares of the "inevitably shrinking budget."

Budget cuts closed fire department stations in the most vulnerable neighborhoods. Arson fires "cleared" vast areas, giving insurance windfalls to slumlords and a free hand to real estate speculators and gangsters of all types. Youth gangs were formed to sell narcotics for organized crime. Drug dollars poured into buying up New York buildings, as a money laundry. While violence and fear came to rule the streets, Dick Morris wrote CBC propaganda urging "more realistic" drug law enforcement, and advocating government dispensing of drugs as addict-therapy.

Roy Cohn's toy, Jerry Finkelstein, served as chairman of the New York Democratic Party in 1970-72. It was just then, while Dick Morris was still on the bankers' and landlords' payroll, that Dick began rising in Democratic Party politics. Eugene Morris told the *Washington Insider* interviewer that in the early 1970s, when Dick and his cronies worked in West Side Manhattan politics against local liberals such as Manfred Ohrenstein and Albert Blumenthal, the Dick Morris grouping was known on the street as "the junior Mafia."

Dick Morris learned to be the slickest spokesman for the post-Kennedy, post-industrial political gospel. The program was austerity and brutality for the poor, and unbridled freedom for the speculators and looters. As New York and the nation stumbled on into the roaring 1980s, Dick was promoted as the guru of "realistic" politics. In New York, urban squalor spread, but papa Eugene's real estate bubble made crooks (many of them Roy Cohn's nominees, such as Donald Trump) into billionaires. Perhaps the biggest score was made by the Bronfman family, partners of Lansky and Rosenstiel. The Bronfmans worked inside "Trizec" and other real estate organizations, as associates of the British Eagle Star group, the masters of drug money-laundering and global criminalization.

The split in the Jewish community

Dick Morris's exalted position within public life has been built upon many layers of subterfuge and corruption. A recent incident within the American Jewish Congress (AJC) is a case in point.

The AJC is publicly associated with the liberal, Democratic side of politics. Indeed, its Washington, D.C. office has been recently *chiefly concerned* with lobbying to defeat the

murderous Republican Party "welfare reform" program, or to bring about its veto by President Clinton. Its Washington office acknowledges Dick Morris as the enemy, trying to mislead the President into the disastrous course of reactionary, crush-the-poor policies.

Yet, on May 16, the American Jewish Congress, as a national organization, gave a secretive, private dinner in honor of Dick Morris. With hundreds of influentials in attendance, the AJC gave a "Justice Award" to Eugene J. Morris, with his son Dirty Dick serving as master of ceremonies and keynote speaker. The Washington office, helping in the fight for national sanity against Morris, was not informed, even after the fact, about this dinner.

At the Morris dinner, Norman Redlich—of the Dulles-Dewey apparatus, the Warren Commission, and the New York "gangsters' revolution"—set up a specious "law and social action" program in Eugene Morris's name. Redlich happens to be chairman of the governing council of the AJC, under the patronage of World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman, heir to the Meyer Lansky-Cohn-Rosenstiel arrangements. These reactionaries were spreading the essentially anti-Semitic lie, that "we Jews support Dick Morris." One Wall Street fat cat who attended the dinner summed it up for the *Washington Insider*: "Dick is moving the President away from the left."

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