

Soros's pro-drug con-game is drawing bipartisan fire

by Jeffrey Steinberg

In a display of bipartisan anger that is most unusual in Washington these days, Clinton administration National Drug Policy Director Gen. Barry McCaffrey, Drug Enforcement Administration Director Thomas Constantine, and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), all blasted billionaire speculator George Soros for bankrolling the recent drug legalization ballot initiatives in California and Arizona. At Senate hearings on Dec. 2, the administration officials joined Republican Senators Hatch and Jon Kyl (Ariz.) in slamming Soros for using misleading advertising tactics, millions of dollars in out-of-state soft money, and other corrupt means, to secure victories for Arizona's Proposition 215 and California's Proposition 200 on Nov. 5.

The California proposition legalizes the "medical" use and production of marijuana, and provides only the most vague and open-ended definitions of "medical use." It does not even require written certification of the "medical" diagnosis and prescription of marijuana use. The Arizona proposition goes even further—authorizing the same "medical" use of all Schedule I illegal drugs, including marijuana, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and LSD—on the basis of equally vague standards.

According to sources in Washington, D.C., the Clinton administration has been joined by an interdenominational alliance of religious leaders, to plan out a systematic campaign to roll back the two propositions, and to prevent any other states from passing similar ballot initiatives, whose slick wording conceals the fact that they are, to all intents and purposes, legalizing all forms of addictive and mind-altering drugs.

Further, sources close to the White House have reported that President Clinton is furious at the con-game that was run on voters in California and Arizona, and holds Soros person-

ally responsible for the effort. Indeed, as this magazine has documented for the past two years, George Soros has poured at least \$20 million into the drive to legalize drugs in the United States; and the eastern European branches of his Open Society Fund, regularly stage seminars and expensive conferences to peddle the legalization of drugs under the guise of provoking "debate" over how to "reform" the anti-drug effort.

At the Senate hearings, DEA chief Constantine reported that there are already 25 other states that have been targeted by the Soros apparatus for similar legalization ploys.

The Queen's banker

Sources in the City of London and elsewhere have confirmed to *EIR* that George Soros, the principal financier of the dope legalization movement in America, is a personal banker to Queen Elizabeth II, through his offshore Quantum Fund, an investment fund that handles the private fortunes of a "discreet" clientele of some of the world's wealthiest—and most corrupt—figures. (For profiles of Soros, see *EIR*, March 22, 1996 and Nov. 1, 1996.)

A protégé of the same Rothschild family retainer who bankrolled the career of indicted trafficker and drug-money launderer Robert Vesco, Soros has poured tens of millions of dollars in tax-exempt funds into the drive to pauperize and culturally destroy the nations of the former Warsaw Pact. In the United States, Soros's Open Society Fund is principally associated with three projects: the full legalization of all dangerous narcotics, the peddling of the "right to die" euthanasia movement, and the use of "human rights" as a means of destabilizing sovereign nation-states, especially those showing the most promise in economic development. Arieh Neier, who heads Soros's Lindesmith Center, the hub of his drug-legalization effort, is the former head of Human Rights Watch, the

Soros-bankrolled group that has provided critical support to such narco-terrorist bands as Peru's Shining Path, and the Zapatistas in Mexico, by labeling any efforts to combat their drug and terror campaigns as "human rights abuses." Soros has also backed some of the "democracy" destabilization efforts in Asian countries that are doing battle against the drug traffickers.

Media blacked out opposition

From the outset, the Dec. 2 Senate hearings minced no words in blasting Soros and his cronies, for their deception campaign to bamboozle the American public into signing on to drug legalization, by phony appeals to medical treatment. Senator Hatch began by describing the Soros effort: "Today we will hear how the philanthropists of the drug legalization movement pumped millions of dollars in out-of-state soft money into stealth campaigns designed to conceal their real objectives, the legalization of drugs. We will review some of their deceptive advertisements, and we will learn the true threat these soft-headed campaigns pose to America. . . . Advocates of the California and Arizona medical marijuana measures have achieved through disingenuous tactics what they could never have achieved openly." Hatch added, "We invited Mr. Soros to appear today, as well as several other organizers and financiers of the California initiative, but they were unwilling to attend."

General McCaffrey told the committee that, long before Election Day, he had attempted to mobilize support from law enforcement officers and elected officials, including every former U.S. President; and, while he did receive unanimous support, he was unable to get even scant media coverage of the opposition to the "medical legalization" hoax. DEA administrator Constantine described the effort: "Opponents of the proposition, interestingly enough, are the American Cancer Society, the California Medical Association, the Glaucoma Research Foundation, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the California Narcotics Officers Association, and every single chief of police in the United States has filed a resolution in opposition. . . . Senator Kyl mentioned, and the general knows, we held a press conference and we had a resolution from 13,000 chiefs of police in opposition. We could not even get that on the evening news in Phoenix, despite having every prominent individual in the state."

In stark contrast, Soros and the other money-bags poured nearly \$2 million into a slick advertising campaign in California, and over \$1 million into Arizona. The Arizona initiative was sold as a "tough on crime" referendum, and never even mentioned the issue of medical legalization of dangerous drugs.

General McCaffrey captured the tone of the hearings, in concluding his prepared remarks: "I would ask that those billionaires and millionaires who funded this proposition be willing to purchase a major monument in Phoenix and Los Angeles and have their names inscribed on that monument

for all to see. If they think this is a success, then they will get credit for it ten years from now. If, ten years from now, they wind up with Needle Park in downtown Phoenix, I think we should all remember these people who funded this proposal."

In the lengthy question period that followed, General McCaffrey also tore into the lie that marijuana is a "medical treatment" for anything. He emphasized that the wording of the two referenda was very carefully crafted to create maximum chaos for state and federal law enforcement agencies trying to crack down on illegal narcotics. "Well, I think they were also very cunningly devised and put forward. The wording—you have to get the key words such as 'any other serious illness not defined.' And by the way . . . one of the medical advisers to Proposition 215 in California . . . puts up a list of other ailments for which marijuana is believed to be a remedy. It includes writer's cramp, corns on the toes, etc. So, you know, to some extent this is a Cheech & Chong show, not a medical issue," referring to the 1970s Hollywood stars who popularized marijuana use.

'Daddy Warbucks of legalization'

A broader attack upon the Soros apparatus is already under way. On Dec. 4, Joseph Califano, former secretary of the Army, and former secretary of health, education and welfare, who now heads up the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, wrote in the *Washington Post*: "Despite the battery of television spots in which office-seekers splattered each other with negative ads, false accusations, and slanderous innuendos, the Anything Goes Emmy for Political Hoodwink in 1996 does not go to a candidate. It belongs to the campaigns in Arizona and California to pass pro-drug legalization propositions, sold to voters as getting tough on violent criminals and offering compassionate care for the dying.

"And the award for best supporting role goes to billionaire George Soros, the Daddy Warbucks of drug legalization. He doesn't reside in either state, but he bankrolled both efforts." Califano made an impassioned plea for parents in the other 25 states now targeted by the Soros crowd for similar legalization ploys to wake up and take responsibility. "What about parents in states Mr. Soros and his colleagues have targeted for their next pro-legalization drive, if parents don't organize now to protect their children? Unlike parents in California and Arizona, they cannot claim ignorance as a defense."

Both General McCaffrey and DEA chief Constantine told the Senate hearings that the Clinton administration is holding regular strategy sessions to counter the Soros offensive. A good first step would be to get to the bottom of Soros's source of wealth; and to deprive him of the tax-exempt status he now enjoys—and abuses, pushing the spread of crime and cultural decay. Is he a front man for the \$521 billion a year illegal narcotics cartel, that *EIR* long ago labeled "Dope, Inc."? A full, public probe of Soros would go a long way to crippling the power of Dope, Inc.