

National News

Clinton plans 1998 visit to India

President Bill Clinton is planning a visit to India in 1998, an Indian parliamentary delegation touring the United States was told. Members of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans told the eight-member all-party parliamentary delegation from India, led by Mr. P. Upendra, that Clinton is planning a visit next year, and suggested that the Indian Parliament could consider setting up a body similar to the caucus to promote Indo-American relations.

The delegation met U.S. Reps. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) and Bill McCollum (R-Fla.), co-chairmen of the 88-member caucus, and Stephen Horn (R-Calif.). Indian Ambassador Naresh Chandra was also present. The delegation also had a separate meeting with Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-N.Y.). The delegation was also told that Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House International Relations Committee, plans to visit India and he would be meeting the Dalai Lama at his headquarters in Dharamsala.

Talbott: new 'Silk Road' is good news for U.S.

"The consolidation of free societies stretching from the Black Sea to the Pamir Mountains will open a valuable corridor along the old Silk Road between Europe and Asia," said Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott on July 21. Talbott was speaking at the Central Asia Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, on the theme: "American Policy in the Caucasus and Central Asia."

"The Euro-Atlantic community is evolving and it's expanding," he said. "It stretches to the west side of the Atlantic and to the east side of the Urals. The emergence of such a community represents a profound break with the past for all the peoples involved, but for none more than those of the Caucasus and Central Asia, who have for so much of

their history been subjected to foreign domination. Today they have a chance to put behind them forever the experience of being pawns on a chessboard as big powers vie for wealth and influence at their expense. For them, genuine independence, prosperity and security are mutually reinforcing goals. And the United States has a stake in their success. . . .

"The consolidation of free societies at peace with themselves and with each other, stretching from the Black Sea to the Pamir Mountains, will open up a valuable trade and transport corridor along the old Silk Road between Europe and Asia. Now, that's the good news. But the ominous converse is equally true. If economic and political reform in the countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia does not succeed, if internal and cross-border conflicts simmer and flare, then the region could become a breeding ground of terrorism, a hotbed of religious and political extremism, and a battleground for outright war."

HMOs poised to kill D.C. Medicaid patients

The Washington, D.C. City Council temporarily killed a measure on July 21 that would have given four health maintenance organizations the exclusive right to treat Medicaid patients in the district. None of the four has offices in the part of the district where 60% of the Medicaid patients live. The measure was expected to come up for another try later in the week. On July 18, Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad, Minister of Health for the Nation of Islam and director of Washington's Abundant Life Clinic, outlined for *New Federalist* how the planned reorganization of Medicaid into HMOs will deprive up to 80% of the district's poor residents of access to medical care.

The city contracts with the managed care organizations were negotiated in secret by Paul Offner, who was formerly Sen. Daniel "Benign Neglect" Patrick Moynihan's point man for health finance issues. The contracts would award the four MCOs \$800 million, whether or not they treat patients, "saving" the District an estimated \$200 million a year.

A recent survey found that a similar contract in Baltimore resulted in treatment for only 18% of the potential Medicaid recipients last year.

When Dr. Muhammad sought to be named to the provider panels of the four MCOs, he was never contacted or, in the case of Prudential, turned down, although he is one of only six medical practitioners in the part of D.C. that services 60% of the Medicare population.

Florida court rejects doctor-assisted suicide

In another closely watched challenge to state laws that protect vulnerable populations, the Florida Supreme Court ruled on July 17 that the state constitution does not protect a patient's right to a doctor's aid in committing suicide. The 5-1 decision reverses a lower court ruling in January that upheld the claims of three terminally ill patients and a Hemlock Society "doctor," who said the state's law against assisted-suicide violated the privacy clause of the state constitution.

The national euthanasia lobby thought Florida gave them a good chance of defeating such anti-assisted-suicide laws, because Florida is one of only four states that have adopted a strong, free-standing right-to-privacy clause in their state constitutions. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented the patients who brought this suit, such clauses hold personal autonomy as paramount over state "intrusions."

Valenti explains butcher Museveni to Minnesotans

"Museveni Should Be Stripped of U Honors," read the headline over a commentary in the University of Minnesota campus paper, by LaRouche organizer Phil Valenti. In his article, Valenti, who has spearheaded a campaign for the Hubert Humphrey Institute at the university to revoke awards made to Uganda butcher, President Yoweri Museveni

ROBERT GELBARD, assistant secretary of state for the implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia, told the Senate European Affairs Committee on July 17 that "it is time for Radovan Karadzic to be delivered to The Hague [War Crimes Tribunal] and for the Republika Srpska government to function on the basis of the rule of law. Until that happens, Republika Srpska will be denied its share of the considerable international reconstruction assistance presently available to Bosnia."

THE HOUSE passed a bill on July 8 that overturns a decision by the Clinton administration to allow financial transactions by U.S. entities with the governments of Sudan and Syria. Sponsored by Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Bill McCollum (R-Fla.), the bill was voted up 377-33.

COLUMBIA/HCA, the predatory for-profit hospital chain and managed care company, was served with 35 federal search warrants for its facilities on July 16. According to media reports, the warrants appear aimed at catching Columbia in a fraud scheme with respect to overcharging for Medicare.

HERBERT BRYANT, the oligarch who wanted to set up a private military in Loudoun County, Virginia (complete with armored vehicles that stood ready to join the October 1986 Waco-style assault against Lyndon LaRouche), had his 1994 conviction upheld for impersonating a federal official and for making false statements to law enforcement, by the federal appeals court in Washington, D.C., on July 8.

OSAMA BIN LADEN, the Saudi expatriate who finances "Islamic" terrorists, is under investigation by a Federal grand jury in New York, according to the July 17 *New York Times*. Federal agents are trying to follow a trail of money, which begins in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and runs through London and Detroit, into New Jersey and Brooklyn.

eni, explained: "The University perhaps was unaware of Museveni's commitment to mass violence and murder as a political weapon, as revealed in a 1969 paper he wrote as a Maoist student leader at the University of Dar Es Salaam:

" 'Political commissars,' Museveni wrote, 'many of them trained in Algeria between 1962 and 1964, agreed that the first obstacle to overcome before enlisting people's support, was to convince them that they could kill a European.'

" 'Once the people got to see a dead white man, killed by Africans, then the ball would have been set rolling,' Museveni wrote. 'Here in Mozambique it has been found necessary to show peasants fragments of a Portuguese soldier blown up by a mine or, better still, his head.' . . .

"The *Minneapolis Star Tribune* of June 24, 1994 reported that Land O'Lakes and other Minnesota corporations sponsored Museveni's trip to the Twin Cities in that year, and that these companies are 'active in Uganda.' Are the University and the Humphrey Institute protecting the interests of their corporate donors? Are they willing to condone genocide for the sake of their financial interests? Isn't it this type of mentality which made the Nazi Holocaust possible earlier in this century?"

Energy Secretary Peña to hold talks in Moscow

Energy Secretary Federico Peña, who left on a five-day trip to Moscow on July 19, told reporters on July 17 that his trip will "focus on two areas of vital concern to both our countries: reducing the threat posed by nuclear weapons and nuclear materials, and discussing energy policies and agreements that will make more energy resources available to both our countries." Peña was to meet with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov, Minister of Atomic Energy Viktor Mikhailov, and members of the Duma (parliament).

Peña's discussions will include topics on nuclear non-proliferation, laying the groundwork for an energy ministerial meet-

ing to be held in Moscow next year, and for improving business opportunities for American companies in Russia. Although there are existing bilateral agreements to jointly develop next-generation nuclear technologies, such as high-temperature reactors, the anti-nuclear bias of the top layers of the Energy and State departments has prevented such R&D programs from going forward.

Spannaus poll: Should Frank Wolf be knighted?

LaRouche Democratic Congressional candidate Nancy Spannaus polled the constituents in her Virginia district, asking whether her opponent, Frank Wolf, should be knighted for his service to the British Empire: "Congressman Frank Wolf is supposed to represent your interests in Washington, D.C. You should carefully consider . . . whether instead he deserves to join the ranks of Sir Henry Kissinger, Sir George Bush, Sir Caspar Weinberger, and a raft of other British assets, knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for their services to the British Empire."

Spannaus detailed Wolf's rank hypocrisy under the cover of "human rights," such as supporting the genocide in Africa of British agents such as Laurent Kabila, or backing the destabilization of China and the former British colony, Sudan. She said, "Wolf qualifies for that select company, because he serves on the International Board of Reference of Christian Solidarity International (CSI)—a British Intelligence front, supposedly concerned about 'human rights'—along with Lady Caroline Cox."

At the same time, " 'human rights' advocate Frank Wolf supports the barbaric death penalty . . . [and] has been silent on the frame-up of Britain's enemy, Lyndon LaRouche, and his associates, which occurred in his district.

"In other words . . . he has been a hypocrite on human rights, and a shameless Nazi-like budget-cutter of all programs to benefit working people, their children, senior citizens, and the unemployed, and there is no doubt whom he will protect when the financial meltdown forecast by LaRouche hits."