

# National News

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## 'Hit-man' Ewing eulogized Starr victim McDougal

Hickman Ewing, the deputy to Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr who pressured James McDougal into changing his testimony to incriminate Bill Clinton, delivered a eulogy at a graveside service for McDougal on March 13 in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. McDougal died of a heart attack on March 8, while being held in solitary confinement.

"I'm here today to give tribute to Jim McDougal as a man, a man who was a very colorful man, who lived a very interesting life," Ewing said. Ewing said that he often talked to McDougal three times a week, after McDougal was sent to prison about 18 months ago.

Some suggestion of the means by which Ewing, described in the article as an "evangelical Christian," worked McDougal over, is suggested by Ewing's disclosure that he and McDougal had both read the book *I Was Wrong* by former televangelist Jim Bakker, who cites his conversations with Watergate plumber—and infamous "prison born-again convert"—Chuck Colson.

Although McDougal had no immediate family, some relatives objected to Ewing's speaking as inappropriate. "The pressure of being put in jail, the confinement and the humility of being put in prison—it killed him," said one relative.

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## Clinton urges stronger engagement with China

President Clinton briefed the press on the reasons behind his decision to move up his forthcoming trip to China from November to June, during a March 13 "photo op" with visiting Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai. "Ambassador [James] Sasser and other advisers of mine have been arguing for months—literally, for months—that I should move up the trip to China. . . . I felt that, after listening to them, that they were probably right. . . . that our relationship with China is so important that we needed to try to build on it and make some more progress."

The ostensibly ideologically opposite

D.C. dailies, Sun Myung Moon's *Washington Times* and Katharine Graham's *Washington Post*, responded to the President's announcement by blaring "revelations" of "secret negotiations" between China and Iran for the transfer of "hundreds of tons of material used in enriching uranium to weapons grade." Such an exchange would contravene the October agreement between Presidents Clinton and Jiang Zemin, which included a Chinese pledge to halt assistance to Iran's nuclear programs, which, in turn, allowed the administration to lift a ban on sale of U.S. nuclear reactors to China.

In fact, as the President described to reporters, Beijing investigated information regarding low-level discussions "about the possibility of some transfers which would have been inconsistent with that agreement. We followed through on it. The Chinese followed through on it and kept their agreement to the letter. So, I think that the revelation in the paper this morning is further support for the proposition that we should be engaged with China. This Prime Minister [Chuan Leekpai] and other Asian leaders who are friends of the United States have urged us to build a stronger constructive partnership with China."

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## BAPAC charges Starr with 'subpoena abuse'

The Los Angeles chapter of the Black American Political Association of California (BAPAC) urged the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the City Council to join with them in adopting a resolution "clearly stating" that Kenneth Starr "should resign his position as Special Prosecutor," in a statement on March 13. At a press conference the previous week, BAPAC had demanded Starr's resignation.

The BAPAC resolution points out: "Instead of protecting the Constitution, Kenneth Starr has chosen to abuse his subpoena powers. This abuse is . . . an attempt to harass those persons who choose to exercise their constitutionally protected right of free speech."

Last year, BAPAC had set things in motion on the Contra drug-running scandal with a press conference and resolutions after

the *San Jose Mercury News* came out with revelations that the George Bush-Oliver North Contra funding operations, had included introducing crack-cocaine into U.S. cities. BAPAC was successful in getting resolutions passed by the Los Angeles City Council, the County Board of Supervisors, and the cities of Pasadena, Inglewood, Long Beach, Compton, and Carson. It is planning to do the same with the Starr resolution.

The LaRouche weekly *New Federalist* is regularly distributed at BAPAC meetings, and LaRouche associates spoke at its state convention last year.

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## Washington area put on heightened terror alert

Some public tours of the Pentagon were abruptly cancelled on March 11, after the FBI informed Pentagon officials that there was "a heightened alert status" over "possible terrorist activity aimed at installations in the National Capital Region." The FBI did not elaborate the warning, but Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood told Associated Press, "We've been notified by the FBI of possible terrorist activity in the next couple of days." According to AP, security was being tightened on the Washington Metro subway system.

Among other concerns, April 19 marks the fifth anniversary of the Waco massacre, and the third anniversary of the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. Nor should it be forgotten that, from the moment that President Bill Clinton was inaugurated, the British launched a "strategy of tension" terror war against the United States, that included more than 17 threats or attempted attacks on the President and members of the First Family or the White House grounds.

In the context of the FBI alert, it should be also noted that the March 11 London *Times* reported that on March 10, as the President was near New York's JFK Airport, Air Force One disappeared from all radar screens for 24 seconds. At no time was Air Force One in any danger; however, the Federal Aviation Administration has ordered a probe to determine what went wrong with the radar system.

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## Sierra Club splits over dispute on immigration

The *Washington Post* of March 7 reported on a growing controversy within the ranks of the Sierra Club, one of the oldest environmentalist organizations, with 550,000 members, over the issue of immigration. The Sierra Club, in early March, launched a mail referendum asking its members to choose whether to reverse a two-year-old board decision for the Club to "take no position" on U.S. immigration levels or policies. It appears that some Club members want the Club to formally oppose further immigration, which they allege contributes to "over-population."

But Executive Director Carl Pope said that if the Sierra Club were to favor reducing immigration levels, "we would be perceived as assisting people whose motivations are racist." Others cited "extremists acting from racial prejudice" as a reason to not take a position, citing as examples California Gov. Pete Wilson (R), and former Ku Klux Klansman David Duke, whose World Wide Web page, they pointed out, links environmental protection with "stopping illegal immigration and almost all legal immigration into America."

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## Egyptian diplomat teaches Washington Post a lesson

Ahmed Maher El Sayed wrote a letter to the editor of the *Washington Post*, which appeared on March 13, in response to a Feb. 25 story which reported on the CIA's evaluation of Islamic *fatwas* calling for attacks on Americans, issued by British-based and -run terrorist networks.

The Ambassador pointed out, first, that genuine "*fatwas* are religious opinions and interpretations issued by legitimate religious authorities." Therefore, they can be neither anonymous nor in conflict with Islam, which does *not* condone murder and attacks on innocent people. Second, he points out that the only person whom the *Washington Post* had mentioned as issuing a *fatwa*, is Britain's

own Afghansi moneybags Osama bin Laden, who is not a religious authority. Therefore, what Bin Laden says has no religious standing, but rather, the Ambassador writes, "are criminal instigations as much against his fellow Muslims as against other people. Thus, it is abusive to ascribe any religious character to them.

"I hope that the press and the authorities will be more careful not to confuse Islam with criminal activities of gangs who try to use the name of this holy religion to cover their despicable criminal intentions," the letter concluded.

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## Racism behind U.S. probe of Baltimore housing?

Daniel Henson, Baltimore's housing chief, charged on March 11 that racism might be behind a Federal decision to investigate the spending of Federal housing funds here. "Am I the only one who's noticed that the Inspector General has decided to go after three cities only — cities that are run by African-American mayors who happen to be Democrats?" Henson asked.

Speaking at a news conference, Henson said, "I've never claimed racism as being the reason why anybody does anything. But I'm just wondering if anybody else finds it curious. . . .

"This particular office of the Inspector General, if you go back before my time, has a history of doing just that; of going after African-American men in positions of authority in cities." Henson was responding to a report in the *Baltimore Sun* on March 8 that Susan Gaffney, the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is preparing to launch criminal investigations in Baltimore, San Francisco, and New Orleans.

Congress added \$9 million to Gaffney's budget last year, to begin investigations in several cities. Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-Calif.), who heads the subcommittee that handles the HUD budget, says Gaffney asked for the money, and picked the cities. She told the subcommittee that she plans to create an Urban Fraud Investigative Team with 20 investigators in each city.

**VIRGINIA** Democrats in the 10th Congressional District will hold a convention on May 16, rather than a primary, to choose their candidate, who will seek to unseat 18-year incumbent Republican Frank Wolf. Already last year, LaRouche Democrat Nancy Spannaus announced her availability to run against the Anglophile Hunt Country's "kept Congressman."

**CALIFORNIA** Democrat Lois Capp won a special election to fill the Congressional seat vacated by her late husband. The Republican candidate, a Conservative Revolutionist, got the GOP nomination over a moderate Republican, through a big-bucks intervention by Gary Bauer and the Christian Coalition, to the disgust of party regulars.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON** hosted a St. Patrick's Day meeting with all the parties to the Northern Ireland peace talks, including Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams and British special representative on Northern Ireland Mo Mowlam. He has also indicated that he might visit Ulster in May, when he attends the G-7 summit in Birmingham, England.

**OSAMA BIN LADEN**, the Saudi Daddy Warbucks for many of London's "Islamic" terrorists, faxed a threat to the U.S. embassy in Islamabad, according to Pakistan's *The News* of March 17. The threat stems from reported recent intensive FBI efforts to locate Bin Laden, who is believed to be in Kandahar, Afghanistan, under Taliban protection.

**SEN. ARLEN SPECTER** and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott introduced a non-binding resolution calling on the UN to form an international tribunal to try Saddam Hussein for war crimes. The resolution passed by 93-0. It was modeled on efforts by Baroness Emma Nicholson's British organization, INDICT, which was formed to create a war crimes tribunal against Saddam. Baroness Nicholson is a longtime crony of Baroness Cox and Lord Avebury.