

Jack his start as DeLay's financial godfather. His power grew as he became prime architect of DeLay's dictatorship over the House of Representatives. After repeated U.S. government probes and lawsuits failed to stop the criminal treatment of Marianas workers, DeLay blocked legislation that would have set American labor standards.

Abramoff was indicted and confessed to fraud in the 2000-01 takeover of the Florida-based SunCruz casino cruise lines, and to fraudulently obtaining a \$60 million purchase loan. To get the loan, Abramoff specified that he holds a \$1.4 million investment jointly with his father, in the parking lot of an Atlantic City gambling casino, the legacy of the Volpe-Bonanno days.

Eighteen days after defrauded former SunCruz owner **Konstantinos "Gus" Boulis** sued to get his money and recover control of the floating casinos, Boulis was gunned down Mafia-style. Reputed Gambino crime family associate **Anthony Moscattiello**, and two of his cohorts, have been indicted

as trigger men. After Abramoff took over, SunCruz paid over \$100,000 to Moscattiello.

Sources close to the case have told *EIR* that prosecutors' attempts to interrogate or even interview Abramoff, five years after the killing, have been blocked under ambiguous and baffling circumstances, despite his obligation under a Federal plea agreement to cooperate with all investigations.

The problem may stem from the potential international political fallout were Abramoff to open up about the sources and destinations of the mammoth cash flows at stake in control of SunCruz.

The murder-case source told *EIR* that probers are looking closely at the angle of money laundering. "Tens of millions of dollars cash per month" went through the SunCruz casino boats, offshore, away from regulators and law enforcement, which according to the source, might motivate the hiring of Mafia-connected people like Moscattiello to help launder the money.

Abramoff, the Russian Mob, And Israel

The set of e-mails published by Senate investigators, cited above, between Jack Abramoff and his Israel-based paramilitary agent Shumuel Ben Zvi, actually consisted of a three-way dialogue involving also some furtive Russian figures who have paid Abramoff millions.

Leaders of the Russian oil company NaftaSib, including NaftaSib Vice President **Marina Nevsakaya**, were collaborating on acquiring paramilitary and sniper supplies (Russian equipment or otherwise) for routing to Israel, which were to be paid for by looting American Indian gambling casino clients and falsifying accounting records, according to Senate Indian Affairs Committee exhibits of Nov. 2, 2005.

Abramoff's Russians loom large in the overall story of the Abramoff-DeLay money-laundering apparatus. NaftaSib paid for **Tom DeLay's** 1997 visit to Moscow, where DeLay worked alongside Abramoff and DeLay chief of staff **Ed Buckham**. These Russians subsequently paid about \$1 million through Caribbean cutouts, on behalf of Abramoff, to Buckham's political money laundry, combining political action committees for DeLay, Enron lobbying, and the Republican party front group, Family Action Network. Following the trip and these covert payments, DeLay agreed to allow Congress to proceed with the 1998 International Monetary Fund bailout of Rus-

sian finances, including a deal stopping taxation of private Russian oil companies.

Also in 1998, NaftaSib and its lobbyists (presumably Abramoff) worked with circles within the U.S. political, military, and intelligence community (including the American Security Council Foundation, identified with the late CIA deputy director **James J. Angleton** and neo-conservatives), to prepare the way for a U.S. visit of corrupt Russian leader **Viktor Chernomyrdin**. That NaftaSib lobbying was "part of the work of the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission," according to the Russian daily *Kommersant*, Aug. 20, 2004.

The frenzied looting of privatized post-Soviet Russia by billionaires and gangsters, facilitated by the personal alliance between Vice President **Al Gore** and sometime Prime Minister Chernomyrdin, reached a spectacular 1999 climax in the case of "Golden ADA": a Russian corporate entity used by the Russian "Mafiya," Chernomyrdin, and other high Russian officials, to loot huge public sums through stolen and smuggled diamonds and other gems.

The *Boston Globe*, Feb. 23, 2006, reported that Federal prosecutors are probing deeper into further work by Jack Abramoff for NaftaSib, in light of an additional \$2.1 million NaftaSib paid him through their Dutch front company, Voor Huizen, which ceased to exist days after Abramoff was forced to resign from his lobbying firm.

On March 1, 2006, the *Globe* reported that Abramoff and his Russian friends had set up a front company, First Gate Resources, to arrange for oil-drilling ventures inside Israel. Intrigues around this enterprise are discussed in the set of e-mails released by the Senate probers, alongside the paramilitary matters.—*Anton Chaitkin*