

claimed to be unaware of the Arkansas situation—although it was described in the State Department’s own U.S. election newsletter issued that day—and he declared that “it’s not something that would be appropriate for discussion from this podium,” going on to talk about “some clear flawed processes that took place in Peru in terms of their election process.”

Jones persisted: “But couldn’t this still lead to accusations from many Latin American countries that it’s a case of the pot calling the kettle black?”

“You’d have to ask them that,” the spokesman demurred.

### ‘Democracy at Work’ in the United States

In fact, the State Department does comment regularly on the U.S. election process. Its Office of International Information Programs (the successor to U.S. Information Agency) publishes a weekly newsletter called *Election 2000 Campaign Spotlight*. The Department says that the newsletter is provided “to help explain to overseas audiences the 2000 election campaign in the United States,” and is circulated to

all U.S. embassies abroad. It provides information “that will help explain this complex but fascinating example of democracy at work.”

The May 24 issue contained the following item:

“—Primaries: Arkansas, Idaho, and Kentucky held their primary elections May 23, selecting Congressional candidates for the November general elections, and delegates to the Presidential nominating conventions, balloting that has become meaningless since Democratic Vice President Al Gore and Republican Texas Governor George W. Bush already have sewn up their respective nominations.”

A few days after the publication of the “meaningless” analysis, this reporter queried Stuart Gorin, the editor of the newsletter, about that analysis, and asked if he was aware of what had happened in the May 23 Arkansas Democratic primary, pointing out that “the 53,000 people that voted for Lyndon LaRouche, and against Gore, wouldn’t consider it so ‘meaningless.’” Gorin said that he intended to report the Arkansas results, and the fact that the Democratic Party is

## No My Lai Massacre Here, Sy!



Gen. Barry McCaffrey

In the May 22 *New Yorker* magazine, Seymour Hersh penned a 25,000-word attack against Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.), the Director of President Clinton’s Office of National Drug Control Policy, accusing him of directing a massacre of retreating Iraqi troops at the close of the 1991 Persian Gulf War. Hersh “documented” the purported Desert Storm carnage through interviews with dozens of U.S. military officers, all but one of whom have now written letters, complaining that they were misquoted in the Hersh piece. According to one source who spoke to *EIR*, but not for attribution, Hersh’s initial article was supposed to be an even longer piece, not only assailing McCaffrey personally, but assailing the Clinton Administration for its support for the ongoing anti-drug efforts in Colombia. For reasons unknown to the source, the original article was abbreviated, and focussed exclusively on the allegations of McCaffrey’s overzealous actions in Iraq.

On May 14, simultaneous with the release of the *New*

*Yorker* article, McCaffrey released a statement, in which he reported, “Five months ago, Seymour Hersh began an inquiry apparently seeking to attack the Administration’s proposed counter-drug assistance package for Colombia. However, the Gulf War allegations that he recycles were long ago investigated and fully cleared—a fact he is compelled to acknowledge in the article.”

“The incidents Hersh recycles were the subject almost ten years ago of no less than four complete investigations, including two which were separate, independently led and exhaustive—one by the Army Inspector General and the other by the Army’s Criminal Investigations Division. These events have also been the subject of a Congressional hearing, hundreds of news media accounts and several scholarly books. In every instance, all of these investigations and analyses have determined that these allegations were completely unfounded.”

McCaffrey noted that he had provided the *New Yorker* with 32 pages of answers to questions from Hersh, and had offered to provide a detailed briefing on the Administration’s National Drug Control Strategy, and the specific U.S. efforts to back up anti-drug police and military units in Colombia.

Several other sources noted the coincidence of the appearance of the Hersh article with efforts, led by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), to block emergency U.S. anti-drug aid to Colombia, and with the efforts of George Soros and others in the drug legalization lobby, to bring down the Fujimori government in Peru.

—Jeffrey Steinberg