

National News

Dems launch drive to draft Iacocca

A group of top Democratic Party figures met the weekend of April 5 to map out a strategy to draft Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca as the party's presidential nominee in 1988. Iacocca is a registered Republican.

Organized by Washington lobbyist Terry M. O'Connell II, the "Draft Iacocca" drive is a response to the Illinois election victory of candidates associated with Lyndon H. LaRouche, who is now the front-running presidential candidate.

Those involved in the effort include former top aides to Jimmy Carter, Ted Kennedy, John Glenn, and Walter Mondale. Commented Lee Atwater, a political adviser to George Bush, on the "Draft Iacocca" drive: "It says that there's a vacuum" in the Democratic Party. "They don't even have a bona fide front-runner."

Iacocca, a protégé of Robert S. McNamara at the Ford Motor Company, took over Chrysler in 1978, with the supposed mission of saving it from bankruptcy. In fact, this was an operation by Felix Rohatyn of New York's Lazard Frères bank to cheat Chrysler's workforce of \$1.5 billion in wages, to cheat the company's suppliers of several hundred million, to cheat the taxpayer of millions in bailout money, while destroying half of the company's production capacity and throwing 100,000 workers on the unemployment lines.

Ted Turner sets deal with Georgii Arbatov

Broadcast magnate Ted Turner has signed a contract with the Soviet state television network, and has begun broadcasting Soviet TV over the U.S. Cable Network News, and vice versa.

Steve Coleman of WTBS-TV, a Turner affiliate, boasted, "We have the first independent network broadcasting—on a limited basis, inside the U.S.S.R., other than Voice of America." The deal was arranged

by Georgii Arbatov of Moscow's U.S.A. and Canada Institute, and Bob Wuffer, president of WTBS.

Turner's recently formed not-for-profit Better World Society, based in Washington, has on its board Arbatov, Jimmy Carter, and Prince Sedruddin Aga Khan of Geneva. Turner's closest associates in shaping his empire are now reported to be: Better World Society President Russell Peterson of the Global Tomorrow Coalition, a confidant of Britain's Prince Phillip; Lester Brown of the malthusian World Watch institute; and Jacques Costeau of the environmentalist Costeau Society.

According to Carol Rosin of the Institute for Security and Co-operation in Space, a Soviet front-group in Washington, "Turner is working to link up Moscow with Europe and the rest of the world." She is producing special broadcasts on the need for arms control and against the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Will dope lobby's Weld take a top job at DoJ?

Information leaked to the *Washington Post* April 4 indicates that U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts William Weld may replace Stephen Trott as chief of the Justice Department Criminal Division. The post opened as Deputy Attorney General Lowell Jensen announced that he will leave for a federal judgeship in California. The *New York Times* says that Weld may move directly into Jensen's spot. The Department of Justice officially denies that any decision has been made.

A Weld appointment to the DoJ would endanger whatever remains of President Reagan's War on Drugs. In February 1985, Weld let the Bank of Boston off the hook with a \$500,000 fine for \$1.2 billion in currency-transaction violations. The chairman of the President's Commission on Organized Crime commented that the small bills the bank had dealt in were undoubtedly the proceeds of drug deals.

But this did not bother Weld, whose family's financial interests are closely tied with the bank's foreign clientele. The largest of the bank's unreported transactions in-

volved Crédit Suisse of Zurich, which has been the Weld family bank since Weld's father David was an investment banker and chief executive officer for the Wall Street firm of White Weld and Company.

Weld's office has run a fishing expedition against Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, with a 17-month-long grand jury investigation which has harassed LaRouche supporters, but produced no evidence of wrongdoing, and no indictments.

Canon West: Let ADL go after LaRouche

"We can't respond to them," Canon Edmund West of the Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Divine commented, when asked his views on the Illinois primary victory of LaRouche Democrats Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild. "It would dignify them by our, or the Queen's, denial of their charges. That's what the Anti-Defamation League is best equipped for. That's what they exist for, to do something about this sort of thing. But *not* the Church. Cardinal Bernadin and the Episcopal Archdiocese of Chicago are very concerned. But they'll never say anything publicly against them—that's the ADL's job, that's their purpose."

Canon West's imperial attitude toward his towel boys from the ADL is nothing new. In 1978 West told an investigator that he would respond to exposés by LaRouche and associates of the role of the British oligarchy in the international drug trade, by "sending the Jews against them." Following this, the ADL launched a campaign—continuing to the present day—to "prove" that LaRouche's criticism of the British aristocracy was "really" disguised anti-Semitism.

California plans new AIDS tests

Dr. Kenneth Kizer, director of California's Department of Health Services, announced on April 4 that he will present to the state

legislature a comprehensive program to combat Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. The plan is the result of a year-long study, and calls for state health officials to be given the authority to conduct mandatory testing "when there is a compelling public health need to do so."

Kizer's study predicts that AIDS cases in California will rise from over 4,000 this year to 30,000 by 1990. He proposes almost \$8.5 million in additional funds for AIDS research and public education during the coming year, bringing the department's total AIDS-related spending to more than \$17 million.

Kizer recommends that mandatory AIDS tests be allowed for the criminally insane and mentally ill, and in communities where a sudden increase in AIDS has been observed by public health officials.

A statewide citizens' committee, Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee (PANIC) is petitioning to put an initiative on the ballot in the coming primary elections, which would require that the same public health measures used to combat communicable diseases like tuberculosis, be applied to AIDS.

NBC denies it has a special link to Moscow

NBC representative Mary Lou O'Callahan said it was "utterly ridiculous" when asked by *EIR* if the network's coverage of Lyndon LaRouche had been influenced by its business relationship with the Soviet government. She also claimed that there was "nothing extraordinary" about NBC's dealings with Moscow—despite the fact that NBC is known to have struck an agreement with Moscow more than two years ago to "change the perceptions of the American population about the Soviet Union," as one of the principals put it.

NBC-TV prides itself on being a propaganda outlet for the Soviet Union. In January 1985, the network trumpeted this fact in a full-page ad in the *New York Times*, which gloated that then-Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko had first told of his will-

ingness to meet with President Reagan in an interview with NBC.

NBC reached an agreement with the Kremlin in September 1984 to broadcast the evening news direct from Moscow. The network's high-level Soviet ties were confirmed by a Russian expert at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). "They seemed to have a lot of political cooperation in high places, probably up in the Central Committee. . . . Obviously, some fairly senior NBC executives were involved in working this out."

Los Angeles supervisor to 'investigate' NDPC

County Supervisor Michael Antonovitch has ordered his Human Rights Commission to launch a witchhunt against the National Democratic Policy Committee, in illegal collusion with the Anti-Defamation League. The ADL claims tax-exempt status, and has so far failed to file officially as a political action committee devoted to opposing candidates for political office who endorse the views of Lyndon LaRouche.

According to his office, Antonovitch's commission will release a report on the NDPC immediately prior to the June Democratic primaries, which will be based on assorted published attacks on LaRouche by Greg Rose, sometime FBI stringer, whom the FBI itself dismissed as a "pathological liar."

At a press conference April 9 at the Los Angeles Press Club, Khushro Ghandhi, the West Coast director of the NDPC, suggested that if members of the press wanted to investigate the "journalistic" credentials of Mr. Rose, they could find him in Oxford, Ohio, living under an assumed Islamic name.

Antonovitch's aide, Dawson Oppenheimer, attempted to reply to Ghandhi: "We have called for the investigation because the LaRouche candidates are infiltrating the two-party system. . . . We are in close contact with the Anti-Defamation League." Ghandhi retorted, "This is the grossest form of McCarthyism—you have no factual basis for your charges whatsoever."

● **'THREE-FOURTHS** of all adults have some problem with the credibility of the media and one-fifth of all adults deeply distrust the news media," a survey commissioned by the American Society of Newspaper Editors has revealed. According to a report on the survey, "There was widespread feeling that there is political bias in newspapers and skepticism as to whether papers are fair to other candidates after they've endorsed one candidate on the editorial page."

● **MARIO CUOMO**, the governor of New York, has decided that he will not "actively pursue" the Democratic presidential nomination, and will run for re-election as governor in 1986, according to the *New York Post* April 7. One source told the *Post* that Cuomo is hoping that "political lightning" will strike and somehow lead to his being "drafted for President."

● **THE ILLINOIS TRIBUNAL**, which describes itself as a newspaper for the "forgotten voter" of Illinois, was inaugurated on April 14 by the national-circulation newspaper *New Solidarity*. Its editorial states, "If Abe Lincoln were alive today, he would be the leading candidate on the LaRouche Democratic slate, and Adlai Stevenson would be denouncing Abe Lincoln just as Adlai's great-grandfather opposed Lincoln 120 years ago."

● **EVANGELIST** Pat Robertson has announced that his Christian Broadcasting Network is selling its three TV stations, canceling its toll-free telephone number, and laying off 42 employees because of financial problems. CBN executives had projected that contributions would increase 22% this year, but the increase has only been 7% so far. Robertson blames the drop on declining oil prices (since many of CBN's major donors work in the oil industry), and on his presidential bid.