

Bush-league sleaze: Who's who behind the VP's candidacy

by Scott Thompson

Public documents listing George Bush's top campaign officials give further evidence as to why a Bush presidency would be a disaster for the United States and the world. These documents reveal that the vice president's patrons include senior representatives of those Boston and Wall Street banking interests whose incompetence has destroyed the U.S. economy, and whose policies are responsible for the financial bubble that popped in the Oct. 19 "Black Monday" stock market crash.

Moreover, these documents show, Bush's backers include spokesmen for the treacherous corporate interests that are pushing the suicidal INF (intermediate nuclear force) Treaty as an acceptable price for their trade deals with Moscow. Bush's coalition also includes: the old Meyer Lansky syndicate—giving one more reason as to why Bush's task force on drugs failed so miserably; and the foreign and domestically based oil corporations that put Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini in power, and support him still.

Who's who

The following are officially listed organizers or major funders of the Bush campaign.

- **Mrs. Charles Z. Wick**, wife of the U.S. Information Agency director. Often described as "Nancy Reagan's best friend," Mary Ann Wick teamed up with then Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in repackaging Soviet operative Armand Hammer into becoming a key adviser of the Reagan presidency. More than anyone, Hammer is responsible for Reagan's Munich-like signing of the INF Treaty. Mrs. Wick is on record as a recipient of several hundred thousand dollars in Hammer funds for "charitable work"; her husband is the top Reagan administration peddler of the line that we can trust Gorbachov, and has publicly described the Russian dictator as "sweet." Under Wick's administration, the USIA has promoted the greatest absurdities, like claiming Gorbachov's glasnost and perestroika represent the restoration of capitalism, while silencing the more sober assessment of Moscow's ambitions previously broadcast by the USIA's Radio Free Europe. Wick recently authorized a joint U.S.-Soviet board to censor views hostile to either power, for example, views potentially broadcast by the USIA, or published in print media such as this magazine, as a means of ensuring that oppo-

sition to the INF treaty would be suppressed.

- **Nicholas Brady**, chairman of the blueblood Wall Street investment house Dillon Read. Brady chaired the Reagan commission charged with "investigating" the Oct. 19, 1987 stock market crash. This commission had the task of explaining away the crash as somehow unimportant, lying that it is not a consequence of Reagan-Bush economic policies, and preparing the U.S. government to bail out bankrupt Wall Street banking firms. The commission's recently released conclusions make the insane proposal that the Federal Reserve hyperinflate in response to any threat to the financial system.

The son of the founder of the U.S. section of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, a freemasonic society penetrated into the Catholic Church, Brady acts as liaison to that section of the Western European noble families which backs Bush. He is also close to Paul Volcker, the Carter-appointed Federal Reserve chairman who wrecked our economy by hiking interest rates to double digits.

- **Donald Kendall**, chairman of Pepsico. Kendall pioneered the vast increase in U.S.-Soviet trade deals underlying the Nixon administration's détente policy, with the assistance of former Nixon adviser and current Secretary of State George Shultz. Kendall, with his longtime associate Armand Hammer, has worked to tear down U.S. military capabilities through his patronage of the "peace movement," while advocating high-technology sales to Russia. The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council founded by Kendall and Shultz is leading Wall Street's rush to sell anything to Moscow at any cost.

- **Armand Hammer's Occidental Petroleum.** Occidental's political action committee has given \$5,000 to Bush's campaign, according to the Federal Election Commission. Along with Oxy, top figures in the Texas oil crowd plugged into Bush include Robert Mossbacher, associated with Bush since the days when the Brown Brothers Harriman investment house and the family of the *Washington Post's* Katharine Meyer Graham financed Bush's Zapata Oil. Other oil interests behind Bush include the Hunt family and Pennzoil (the successor firm of Zapata), and Atlantic Richfield. It was this combination, together with their allies in British Petroleum, which helped install the Ayatollah Khomeini into pow-

er, and ran the arms trade to Iran made famous by Irangate.

In 1986, Bush traveled to Saudi Arabia, where he strong-armed the Saudis into decreasing oil production, contrary to their previous policy. Bush and the oil cartels worked to raise the price of oil, and thus raise Iran's revenues, thereby increasing Iran's arm purchases and military power (see *EIR*, Jan. 15, 1988, page 60). Tied to these interests is Theodore G. Shackley, the CIA deputy director under Carter, who now directs various oil-trading proprietaries. Reputedly a Bush campaign dirty trickster, Shackley can boast many current and past associates who are implicated in the Iran-Contra scandal—not excluding Bush's executive assistant, Donald Gregg, also a long-time CIA hand.

● **Max Fisher**, Michigan "businessman." Fisher, the co-chairman of the Bush finance committee, is a senior figure in the Meyer Lansky syndicate, and has been involved in organized crime since he worked as a bagman in the 1930s for the Purple Gang (see the 1985 book, *Dope, Inc.*). Fisher formed the National Jewish Coalition of the Republican National Committee in the first Reagan administration. The NJC's founding treasurer, Ivan Boesky, has been convicted of stock manipulation on behalf of Wall Street firms tied to the Lansky syndicate. Many of these same firms also support Bush.

Ironically, Max Fisher was one of the chief "fixers" behind the dual Presidency proposal at the 1980 Republican Convention in Detroit, which would have shoved aside George Bush as vice president for a Reagan-Ford ticket. Now, Bush has made his peace with this "Dope, Inc." kingpin, while directing the President's spectacularly unsuccessful "War on Drugs."

● **Scott Pierce**, brother of Bush's wife Barbara. Pierce was president of the E.F. Hutton brokerage house in 1982 when Hutton was caught in a complex \$4.35-billion scheme to write checks in excess of funds on deposit in 400 U.S. commercial banks. Charges against E.F. Hutton for this illegal operation had been pending since 1984, but on Nov. 15, 1984, E.F. Hutton chairman Robert Foman met with then-Attorney General William French Smith and his assistant Stephen Trott to delay indictment. Trott extended the grand jury six months, but later claimed that the luncheon had nothing to do with his decision. On May 7, 1985, fifteen Senate Democrats sent a letter to Attorney General Edwin Meese condemning him for "blatant failure to find individual liability" in the prosecution of E.F. Hutton, after E.F. Hutton got a slap on the wrist—a \$2 million fine—for its crimes, while its senior officers, including Pierce, escaped indictment. E.F. Hutton's ties to heroin-money-laundering for the Sicilian mafia (the Pizza Connection case), and its involvement with the New England Patriarca mafia family, were also ignored by the Reagan-Bush administration. The administration head of enforcement for the Treasury in charge of such matters was John Walker, George Bush's cousin.

● **George S. Moore**, the former president of Citibank and director emeritus of W.R. Grace. An international or-

ganizer for the Bush campaign, Moore is a former partner in White, Weld, the family banking firm of Assistant Attorney General William F. Weld, which was involved in drug money laundering via Switzerland. Among his current investment jobs is that of "international adviser" of the Organización Diego Cisneros (ODC), a holding company worth an estimated \$3 billion. Members of the Cisneros family of Venezuela were named in the July 20, 1984 issue of the Venezuelan magazine, *Resumen*, as "up to their elbows" in dope-money laundering in Florida.

● **George Klein**, co-chairman with Max Fisher of the National Jewish Coalition. Klein is a member of the Bush Finance Committee. As president of Park Tower Realty, a New York real estate firm, Klein is a partner with Prudential Insurance Company in developing a \$1.2 billion office complex as part of the 42nd Street redevelopment project known as Times Square Center. The *Village Voice* recently reported that he is the focus of an investigation in a major bribery and influence-peddling scheme in connection with the center.

● **Henry Kravis**, New York businessman. He is a member of the Bush National Finance Committee. According to *The Economist*, Kravis's firm of Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts, "pioneered leveraged buy-outs of large industrial companies" through junk bonds and other fast money schemes. From 1985 to 1987, KKR spent \$18 billion on three firms, in deals financed through Drexel, Burnham, Lambert, a firm now under investigation by the U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan for stock market manipulation.

● **John M. Hennessy** is chairman and CEO of Crédit Suisse First Boston, Ltd. He co-chairs the George Bush for President Finance Committee Abroad. CSFB dominates the \$150 billion per year "Eurobond" market, the biggest haven for dirty money in the world. Crédit Suisse was caught red-handed in 1985 in a multibillion-dollar money laundering scheme directed out of the staid offices of the First National Bank of Boston, the flagship institution of the Boston Brahmins' Bank of Boston Corporation. The case was handled by then U.S. Attorney William Weld, whose family fortune is interlocked in a partnership with CSFB. Weld collapsed 1,163 separate documented cases of criminal felony, involving \$1,218,682,281 in hot money, into a one count indictment—for which Bank of Boston was fined a slap-on-the-wrist \$500,000 in a plea bargain. During the same period, Weld began spearheading a politically motivated legal witchhunt against Lyndon LaRouche, the most outspoken U.S. political opponent of drugs.

● **Clark Randt, Jr.**, the Hong Kong-based representative of the super lawfirm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, which is the family firm of Paul Ziffren, another Los-Angeles-based crony of Armand Hammer. Ziffren served as the chairman of the California Democratic Party under Edmund G. "Pat" Brown's tenure as governor of the state. Randt thus typifies the bipartisan, rotten, machine behind George Bush. He is the Asian organizer for the Bush campaign.