

Mark Richard and the moles in the Justice Department

Part 2 by Joseph Brewda

A certain holdover from Ramsey Clark's days at the U.S. Justice Department, current Assistant Attorney General Mark Richard, has accumulated vast bureaucratic powers respecting matters of state. These include oversight over the national security section of the Criminal Division, which handles all intelligence issues; international litigation, which is charged with all liaison with foreign law enforcement; the Office of Special Investigations, which maintains unique ties with the Warsaw Pact secret services under the cover of "Nazi hunting," and the fraud unit, which has specialized in politically motivated dirty tricks of the sort currently being run against Lyndon LaRouche.

The striking feature of Richard's career is less that he has acquired such powers, than that he has used them in ways demonstrably hostile to the national interests of the United States. An honest investigator who reviews Richard's career from the time he joined the DoJ fraud unit in 1967 is forced to the conclusion that, if Richard is not a Soviet agent, then he must be controlled by a Western network deliberately aiding Moscow.

Richard is a member of a network which was established during the tenure of Johnson administration Attorney General Ramsey Clark. Clark has since emerged as a darling of the Soviet media for his worldwide efforts to extend Soviet military power. Other members of this ring include: Philip Heymann, now at Harvard Law School, who ran the Carter Criminal Division; former Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D-N.Y.), now Brooklyn District Attorney, who created the OSI; former Assistant Attorney General Stephen Trott, now a California judge; and former Reagan administration Criminal Division director William Weld, now a Dukakis activist.

The real Watergate conspiracy

Whatever else the "Watergate" scandal may have been used for, the Senate Watergate investigation and accompanying media extravaganza forced a reorganization of the Justice Department in ways disastrous to U.S. national security. It was during this period that Richard and others in his ring began their rise.

The Watergate reform drive was directed by Harvard law professor Archibald Cox, who used his appointment as Watergate special prosecutor to torpedo the Nixon presidency; Nixon Attorney General Elliot Richardson, a longtime Boston blue-blood crony of Cox; Philip Heymann, a top investigator for the special prosecutor; and young Harvard law graduate William Weld, who was then getting his start as deputy minority counsel to the Senate Watergate committee, under Richardson's patronage. Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman's histrionics as a member of the House Judiciary Committee were also essential.

One of the more important features of Watergate was its use to reorient the Justice Department from traditional concerns to "white collar crime," "official corruption," and "international fraud." This began in 1973, when Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach created a Major Violators unit at the Fraud Section. Mark Richard was its first head.

This institutional shift was consolidated by President Gerald Ford's Attorney General, Edward Levi, who engineered the first major Justice Department reorganization since Ramsey Clark. In 1975, Levi empaneled a White Collar Crime committee charged with redesigning the Criminal Division. It was to set up a new gestapo. On its recommendation, Levi formed a new Public Integrity Section at the division—nominally to handle "official corruption"—and an Office of Public Responsibility, to monitor and police Justice Department personnel; and, he elevated Mark Richard to run the Fraud Unit. OPR's chief from its inception has been Michael Shaheen, who had been Richard's predecessor as Department of Justice liaison to the intelligence community.

Simultaneous with these developments, the FBI formed its first white collar crime section, which grew rapidly to become one of its major dirty-tricks units. All organizations formed during this period combined to direct the Carter administration's "Abscam" gestapo-style investigations, which imprisoned politically targeted U.S. congressmen and senators on trumped-up fraud charges. If it were not for these frame-ups, which completely terrorized Congress, it would be doubtful that that institution would have acted as treason-

ously as it has in the period since.

One key figure involved in this Department of Justice reorganization was Levi's Criminal Division head, Richard Thornburgh, now the Attorney General of the United States. One of Thornburgh's first acts, upon assuming office in September, was to promote Richard to a specially created post, "Special Assistant to the Attorney General" on criminal matters, and yet, maintaining all of his existing functions.

The sagacious investigator will observe, that for all of the ostensible emphasis on "white collar crime" and "official corruption," there was an explosive growth of drug trafficking, and of drug money laundering by "reputable," very "white collar" banking institutions, immediately after these Watergate reforms. William Weld's cover-up for the Bank of Boston, after it was caught laundering over \$1.2 billion in illicit funds, merely typifies this network's very consistent failure to deal with its formal mandate. What it has done, while protecting drug-trafficking and money-laundering networks to the detriment of the national security, is to target and destroy constituency-oriented political machines.

Forging the Soviet link

Simultaneous with the Watergate reforms, Elizabeth Holtzman, Edward Levi, and Henry Kissinger, soon to be aided by Philip Heymann and Mark Richard, set into motion the worst Justice Department development since World War II: the agreement to accept Soviet "evidence" in the U.S. legal system. This link has been crucial to the ever-expanding influence of the KGB and other foreign intelligence agencies inside the U.S. government. The cover for this breakthrough was the Soviet black-propaganda line that the United States was harboring "Nazis."

Prior to 1973, alleged "Nazi war criminals" illegally resident in the United States were not investigated by any special unit at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), but lumped together with all alleged violators of immigration statutes. There was no reason to do otherwise; the official estimate of the number of such fugitives was tiny, and these were aged or dying, even if guilty.

But an inspired Congresswoman Holtzman saw it otherwise. First, her shrill cries on the House floor forced the reorganization of INS to deal with this new-found problem, 40 years after the war's end. By 1979, Holtzman's hoax had successfully forced the creation of an entire new unit at the Justice Department, the Office of Special Investigations. Although it dealt with civil immigration matters, the unit was placed under then-Criminal Division director Philip Heymann, at Holtzman's insistence, and under the personal direction of Deputy Assistant Attorney General Mark Richard. Former OSI chief Alan Ryan praised Richard as doing more than anyone else to create the unit.

What is unique about OSI is not simply that its formation was only justified by a Soviet propaganda hoax. It is also the only Justice Department unit solely dependent on Warsaw Pact "evidence" for the targeting of U.S. citizens. For such

reasons, OSI officials, including the unit's overseer, Mark Richard, are constantly traveling to the U.S.S.R., or allied countries, to meet Soviet "prosecutors" and other intelligence officials.

This aspect of the OSI would not have come to pass except for a 1974 decision by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to authorize the U.S. State Department to approach the Soviet Foreign Ministry on the subject of U.S.-resident "Nazis." The decision was taken two weeks after Watergate forced President Nixon from office. On Jan. 7, 1976, Kissinger drafted a memorandum ordering expanded official collaboration with Soviet authorities regarding their accusations against U.S. citizens. Attorney General Edward Levi simultaneously ruled that the Department of Justice would accept Soviet "evidence" against Soviet targets.

This Kissinger-Levi operation was prepared as far back as 1971, when Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz, a Holtzman crony, traveled to Moscow to meet with the Soviet Procurator General's (prosecutor's) office, allegedly on issues of Jewish prosecution. Dershowitz's team, which included several local and federal prosecutors, reported back to Kissinger upon their return. The team, which went to Moscow several times, functioned as a Kissinger back-channel relating to the disastrous SALT talks.

Beginning in 1974, Holtzman, fresh from her victories in Watergate, began regular travels to Moscow to meet with the same office on "Nazis."

Why Holtzman? Her mother, Filia Holtzman, the former chairman of the Hunter College Russian Department, had gone on several pilgrimages to Russia to study Bolshevik cult writer Maxim Gorky. Holtzman herself had been a leader of the Brooklyn anti-war movement in the 1960s, around the time that Brooklyn College Law School graduate Mark Richard was joining the Justice Department. And finally, Holtzman had been Ramsey Clark's law partner in New York.

Not everyone at the State Department, or throughout the U.S. government, was naive as to the implications of Kissinger and Levi's decisions. Faced with Holtzman's demands to collaborate with Moscow back in 1974, State Department official Linwood Holton protested, "Our only recourse would be to request the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs to locate alleged eyewitnesses. . . . [But] we would have no way to verify the credibility."

Holton's worries came to pass beginning in 1979, when Mark Richard began driving U.S. citizens out of the country based on Soviet charges, including SDI missile scientist Dr. Arthur Rudolph. Not accidentally, one of the main figures demanding such expulsions, was anti-SDI activist Ramsey Clark, who has regularly traveled to Moscow to meet with Soviet officials targeting American citizens, including Lyndon LaRouche. (Any investigator could have predicted the where-and-when of U.S. legal actions against LaRouche, simply by examining the attendance roster and timing of such Moscow events.)

To be continued.