

EIR Feature

Irangate, the secret government, and the LaRouche case

by an EIR Investigative Team

In November 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas by multiple snipers acting in complicity with the “secret government” of the United States, which included McGeorge Bundy and William Bundy of the National Security Council. The death of Kennedy, and the ensuing failure to publicly expose those who had ordered and abetted his assassination, were stepping stones on the way to the creation of the secret government’s present lawless, authoritarian police-state regime in the United States. After the Kennedy assassination, a number of well-known U.S. public figures, including Earl Warren of the Supreme Court, Allen Dulles, the former director of the Langley, Virginia-headquartered CIA, and future President Gerald Ford lent their names to a blatant and incredible coverup, issued under the aegis of President Johnson’s Warren Commission.

Reestablishing truth and legality against the lies and distortions of the Warren Commission was made more difficult by the death and disappearance of scores of possible witnesses, starting with the liquidation of the accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, by the organized crime figure Jack Ruby. Although the *Warren Commission Report* was soon recognized, especially in Europe, as an insult to the intelligence of any serious adult, the attempts to set the historical record straight by more honest investigators, such as former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison, never succeeded in bringing those responsible to justice.

In the years after the Kennedy assassination, thoughtful observers of the American political scene have been aware of a massive increase in the power of a behind-the-scenes, unconstitutional secret government (or, alternatively, “invisible government” or “parallel government”) which actually controls the actions of the visible elected officials. Public awareness of the secret government has been enhanced above all by the activities of the leading principled political opponent of the secret government inside the United States, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Over 20 years, LaRouche has waged an implacable struggle to expose and dismantle the machinery of the invisible government, seeking to restore the processes of government as mandated by the U.S. federal Constitution.



The secret government's assault on LaRouche, during a raid of companies operated by his associates, on Oct. 6-7, 1986. Here Eduard Spannaus, LaRouche's legal aide, is attempting to persuade officials to produce a search warrant—one day after the raid began—and to allow defense attorneys to observe the illegal search. The latter request was denied. Spannaus was jailed, along with LaRouche and five other defendants, on Jan. 27, 1989.

Stuart Lewis

Exemplary for this are LaRouche's attacks on Henry Kissinger, a public figure who has also represented one of the leading operatives for the secret government forces. The secret government, for its part, has recognized in LaRouche the leader of the anti-totalitarian opposition, the only figure with the intellectual and programmatic stature to become the fixed pole around which a national resistance against the CIA fascist gangsters of the invisible government could be assembled. The same invisible government officials who are most deeply implicated in Iran-Contra gun-running and drug-running and the Irangate coverup, are precisely the ones who have taken part in illegal "enemies' list" operations against LaRouche and his political co-thinkers.

These officials include the late Director of Central Intelligence William Casey, Oliver North, Gen. Richard Secord, Oliver Revell of the FBI, Leo Cherne of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Project Democracy ideologue Roy Godson, Bush vice presidential advisers C. Boyden Gray, Donald Gregg, and others. Without an overturning of the frameup verdicts against LaRouche and his friends, a return to constitutional legality in the United States is impossible. This will require a thorough probe of the office staff and files of former Vice President Bush, now President of the United States. Full disclosure must be the watchword.

Part of the dismantling of the secret government is the freeing of LaRouche and his associates, one of whom, Ro-

chelle Ascher, has been sentenced to 86 years in jail for the alleged crime of soliciting political loans. LaRouche himself was convicted on spurious conspiracy charges in the federal court in Alexandria, Virginia on Dec. 16, 1988. On Jan. 27, 1989, LaRouche was given a draconian 15-year sentence by Judge Albert V. Bryan, Jr.

Secret government widely recognized

The existence of an illegal secret government has been widely recognized. Sen. David Boren (D-Okla.), the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, used these phrases in several interviews in January 1987 after his committee had completed a preliminary inquiry into the Iran-Contra scandal. The *New York Times* referred to the "Project Democracy" conspiracy of the CIA, the Marine Corps, and the National Security Council mentioned in the notebooks of Lt. Col. Oliver North, as a "private, secret government" in its leading editorial of Feb. 17, 1987. This secret government is increasingly recognized as a powerful, sinister force, responsible for covert operations, assassinations, political coups d'état, psychological warfare, gun-running, and drug-running in many countries around the world.

The perpetration and coverup of the Iran-Contra scandal bears many ominous similarities to the coverup of the Kennedy assassination. The real nature of Iran-Contra was shielded from public view by the presidential commission appointed by Reagan and composed of former Texas Sen.

John Tower, former Maine Senator and Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, and retired General and former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft. The Tower board, in its report submitted in February 1987, totally ignored the pervasive role of then-Vice President Bush and his personal staff in Iran-Contra operations, while ludicrously assigning all blame to Reagan's White House chief of staff, Don Regan. Some believe that Bush intended to reward Tower for his services and inextricably bind their political destinies by appointing Tower to head the Pentagon, with results that are known. There then followed the lengthy congressional hearings of summer 1987, organized by committees chaired by Senators Dan Inouye (D-Hi.) and Warren Rudman (R-N.H.), and by Representatives Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.) and Richard Cheney (R-Wyo.), respectively. After the failure of the Tower nomination, Bush was able to place Cheney in command at the Pentagon—suggesting that complicity in the coverup is the indispensable qualification for the post.

Then there is the trial of Oliver North in U.S. Federal District Court for the District of Columbia, presumably to be followed by the trials of Adm. John Poindexter (North's NSC superior), invisible government gun-runner and retired general Richard Secord, and arms dealer Albert Hakim. These cases are being prosecuted not by the U.S. Department of Justice, but by the office of the special Independent Counsel (or Special Prosecutor), Lawrence Walsh. During the conflicts between North's defense lawyer, Brendan Sullivan, and the Justice Department, about the degree to which classified and secret documents may be used by North's defense, Attorney General Richard Thornburgh, an asset of the Mellon family of Pennsylvania, has repeatedly intervened to narrow the scope of the inquiry and prevent far-reaching revelations that might incriminate Bush or others. Even so, documents released in the North trial on April 6, 1989, have once again implicated Bush in direct participation in illegal arrangements by which the Reagan-Bush administration offered increased foreign and military aid to a dozen or more countries, in exchange for a commitment that those countries deliver part of the increase to the Contra drug-runners in Nicaragua.

Also in parallel to the Kennedy coverup is the slaughter of witnesses and accomplices. Over 20 persons with established or suspected connections to Iran-Contra operations have died over the past several years. Numerous persons with links to Irangate have been indicted on various accusations, in many cases transparent frameups. The coverup of Irangate involves the large-scale liquidation of invisible government assets, variously belonging to the Langley-headquartered Central Intelligence Agency, Project Democracy, and other components, who have been compromised.

In the aftermath of the Iran-Contra scandal, the invisible government has reared up the Bush regime which, unless present trends are radically altered, is likely to preside over the further transformation of the U.S. internal regime from the level of an authoritarian police state to one of a full-blown totalitarian fascist nightmare. This is likely to be accom-

panied by a further worsening of the drug plague, exacerbated by the activities of the invisible government and its foreign allies. Further, despite the "peace in our time" propaganda of the U.S.-U.K.-U.S.S.R. condominium which the secret government has favored, the Kissingerian "balance of power" policies in vogue under the Bush administration have astronomically increased the probability of regional wars in the Middle East and other areas which in turn could lead to a new world conflict.

A British policy choice

The worst misunderstanding that could impede insight into the U.S. secret government would be to regard it as an exclusively or even primarily national phenomenon, or to focus on the narrow question of alleged "illegalities" as such. The directions of politics, economics, and strategy which dominate the U.S. secret government's deliberations are to a decisive degree determined by the policy choices of the elite of Great Britain and of the other countries that were once part of the British Empire. In May 1982, at the height of U.S. assistance to the U.K. in waging the Malvinas War in violation of the Monroe Doctrine, Henry Kissinger, the most celebrated foreign policy operative of the secret government, solemnly acknowledged that he had been a British asset throughout his career.

At a lower operative level, the various coverup investigations into Iran-Contra seem to present the United States as acting primarily in cooperation with Israel in support of the pro-Iranian policy of the circles around Gen. Ariel Sharon. While these Israeli connections are huge and real, the attention given them has tended to mask a deeper level of truth: The "geopolitical" conception behind the arming of Iran derives from British strategy.

The policy of overthrowing the Shah of Iran and bringing Khomeini to power pursued by the Canadian-trained Carter National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski was nothing but a version of plans circulating in the British Foreign Office under the designation of the "Bernard Lewis Plan" for the partition and balkanization of the area from the Middle East to India and Bangladesh. The patrons of the Iran policy turn out to be a group in the British House of Lords including Lord Cayser, Lord Victor Rothschild, other assets of the Duke of Kent's Scottish Rite Freemasonry, and their factotum, Tiny Rowland.

If one examines the control wires on the canonical Israeli participants in Irangate (like the late Amiram Nir, David Kimche, Al Schwimmer, and Yacov Nimrodi), more often than not one will discover a more or less direct link to Tiny Rowland and his proprietors in the circles around the British Royal Family.

Executive Orders 12333 and 12334

The present foreign and domestic reign of terror by the secret government was made possible by President Reagan's issuance of Executive Orders 12333 and 12334, both signed

on Dec. 4, 1981. These two Executive Orders allowed the creation of a complex of secret activities by private agencies effectively beyond the reach of the public law. Under the provisions of these Executive Orders, numerous U.S. allies, such as Panama, have been illegally subverted, the government of the Philippines overthrown, and foreign governments, including the U.S.S.R., the U.K., and Israel were able to take control over parts of U.S. policymaking.

The foremost example of the growth of lawless private intelligence functions under Executive Order 12333-4 has been "Project Democracy," whose name derives from President Reagan's speech delivered in the London Guildhall in 1982. The idea for Project Democracy originated at the meeting of the Trilateral Commission in Tokyo, Japan on May 31, 1975 which, among other things, discussed the Zbigniew Brzezinski-Samuel P. Huntington-Michel Crozier-Joji Watanuki "ungovernability of democracy" thesis, and also chose Jimmy Carter to be the next President of the United States. In the autumn of 1983, Congress created by law the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) as a private foundation, financed by congressional appropriation of public funds through the State Department and the United States Information Agency. The NED by 1987 was functioning as a private or ersatz CIA, funding 250 political projects, destabilizing the Philippines, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, Panama, Colombia, and getting implicated in running drugs and guns. Project Democracy's program has nothing to do with everyday notions of "democracy," but rather prescribes a pro-Soviet, malthusian-ecologist universal fascist corporate state dominated by international cartels. Kissinger and Walter Mondale were founding members of the NED board, along with the heads of the Republican and Democratic parties. The board of the NED has thus been compared to a "Grand Council" of secret government fascism.

Oliver North's notebook and flow charts detailed a money-laundering, drug-and-arms-trafficking and covert actions capability which North referred to as "Project Democracy." This Project Democracy and the NED are substantially identical. Yet, the United States Congress, controlled by the secret government and blackmailed by the omnipresent FBI secret political police, has refused to cancel the funding of the lawless Project Democracy.

CIA old boys' networks

The foot soldiers, mercenaries, adventurers, soldiers of fortune, pilots, arms dealers, roustabouts, and other players who populate the Iran-Contra operational stage tend to be drawn from the CIA old boys' networks. For example, the personnel and activities of the Theodore Shackley-Thomas Clines network have been detailed in court papers prepared by the Christic Institute of Washington, D.C. for a federal lawsuit against the Shackley-Clines "Enterprise." While details of the Christic lawsuit may be erroneous, the following general lines are alleged in numerous published accounts: The old boys' networks in question represent CIA covert

Contras and drugs

In the summer of 1986, a government witness known under the pseudonym of "Wanda Doe" told the U.S. government she had seen a cargo of guns taken off a C-123 cargo plane of Southern Air Transport and replaced with a cargo of cocaine on various occasions at the airfield in Barranquilla, Colombia. Although the witness was sponsored by Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, the witness's testimony was rejected in September 1986 (along with her request for FBI protection) by then-Assistant Attorney General William Weld, who initiated and sponsored the federal witchhunt prosecutions against LaRouche and his friends. The testimony in question would have gone far toward establishing the role of the CIA in drug smuggling in cooperation with the Medellín Cartel of Jorge Ochoa, whose drugs, according to other accounts, were being landed at the Homestead Air Force Base in Florida.

On Oct. 5, 1986, a C-123 cargo plane operated by Southern Air Transport was shot down over Nicaragua by Sandinista military action as the plane was flying weapons to the Contras. The plane had been owned by Barry Seal, a pilot for the Ochoa Medellín Cartel before he was murdered some time before. Although the pilot of the plane, Wallace Sawyer (whose flight log put him in Barranquilla on precisely the days cited by Wanda Doe), was killed, another crew member, Eugene Hasenfus, survived, and was captured by the Sandinistas. A telephone number found in Hasenfus's personal address book turned out to be the phone of Felix Rodriguez, alias Max Gomez, a well-known agent of the CIA. Rodriguez/Gomez, in turn, was in direct contact with Donald Gregg, the national security adviser in the office of Vice President Bush.

North flew to El Salvador to supervise the coverup. Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams tried to get right-wing Gen. Jack Singlaub to say that the Hasenfus flight was part of Singlaub's Contra aid operations. Deputy Attorney General Stephen Trott, now a federal judge, told FBI Director William Webster (now CIA director) and Webster's deputy Oliver Revell to "delay" the investigation of Southern Air Transport. At the same time, Admiral Poindexter of the NSC made the same request of Attorney General Edwin Meese: to "delay" the investigation of Southern Air Transport because the airline was involved in "sensitive missions" in the Middle East, obviously including running arms to Khomeini. All of this gave Gregg and others in Bush's office the chance to cover their tracks.

operations capabilities which have developed through tunnel operations in West Berlin in the early 1960s; drug-running in Indochina during the 1960s and 1970s; drug-running and assassination in the Caribbean; and gun-running and drug-running in North Africa, the Middle East, and Iran during the last three decades. One typical operation of these networks was Air America, the CIA proprietary airline that transported drugs in Laos and the rest of Indochina during the Vietnam war era. A surprisingly large number of the pilots who carried out Iran-Contra deliveries during recent years are veterans of Air America. That capability is still around in the form of Southern Air Transport, the CIA airline that delivered arms to the Contras, and Contra drug shipments into the United States. The Contras themselves are best seen as yet another drug-trafficking permutation of the CIA old boys' networks.

One highly publicized sample of illegal weapons trade run by the "Enterprise" is of course the Terpil-Wilson gun-running to Libya, for which Edwin Wilson was given a 52-year sentence in federal prison. The weapons deliveries to Libya were conduited through a firm called Egyptian American Transport and Services Corporation (EATSCO), a company which was owned by General Secord and (49% of the shares) by a company owned in turn by Thomas Clines. Secord's career had been endangered in 1982 by the Terpil-Wilson scandal, but he had been saved through the intervention of Deputy Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci, who overrode the advice of the Pentagon's general counsel to fire Secord, because he considered Secord's capabilities "a key point in our relations with the Middle East." Secord was chosen by Maj. Gen. James Vaught as his deputy for the second 1980 attempt to free U.S. hostages in Iran. Carlucci, a top official of Sears, Roebuck, had been instrumental in the Kissinger "reform" in the Portuguese Empire during the middle 1970s, while ambassador to Lisbon. Carlucci has been described as "if not the heart, then at least a vital organ, like the liver or the stomach, of Project Democracy."

Other creatures inhabiting the interface of Shackley-Clines with the Pentagon include Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage (too dirty to face confirmation hearings for a proposed post as Bush's Assistant Secretary of State for Asian Affairs, and therefore still ensconced at the Pentagon), and Erich von Marbod, the former chief arms sales official at the Pentagon, who was also investigated in the framework of Terpil-Wilson affair. Carlucci liked von Marbod so well that he took him along as virtual chief of staff when he returned to Sears, Roebuck. Von Marbod now represents the aerospace firm LTV Corp. in Europe.

FEMA and the 'parallel government'

The principal policy commitments of the Project Democracy secret government can be summed up schematically, as follows:

a. The establishment of the Khomeini dictatorship in Iran, and the unleashing of the Iran-Iraq war, as stepping

stones to the implementation of the Bernard Lewis "arc of crisis" plan for the entire Middle East.

b. Contra gun-running and drug-running in the Americas. Relevant evidence on these points has been systematically suppressed by the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice, and then ignored by the Tower and congressional investigations (see box).

c. To establish a fascist, totalitarian regime in the United States.

Aspects of this last-mentioned effort have come into the public domain on the edges of the Irangate scandal, in regard to Oliver North's involvement with the controversial national crisis emergency plan drafted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Apart from legitimate functions of FEMA in the event of war or natural disasters, it is clear that the aspect of its mandate calling upon FEMA to ensure "continuity of government," makes it a prime instrument for cold coups, creeping coups, and other illegal seizures of power and suspension of constitutional guarantees under the cover of various emergencies. This story will be detailed in an upcoming report in *EIR*; for present purposes, it suffices to point out that one member of the "continuity of government" aspect of the FEMA apparatus is one Buster Horton. Nominally a high-level bureaucrat of the U.S. Department of Agriculture charged with "emergency preparedness and readiness," Horton turns out to be the primary liaison of the USDA to FEMA, one of two officials to be so designated.

Other members of the "continuity of government" function of FEMA have been Oliver North himself, as well as Oliver "Buck" Revell, the Executive Assistant Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In part through documents obtained from the U.S. government under the Freedom of Information Act, it is known that Revell is the operations officer in charge of an interagency sub-group of the U.S. government known as the "Get LaRouche task force," whose task is to coordinate infiltration, harassment, frameups, and possible assassinations against Lyndon LaRouche and his political friends.

It is therefore highly significant that Buster Horton was also the foreman of the jury in Alexandria, Virginia which returned a verdict of guilty on all counts of accusation against LaRouche and six other defendants in Alexandria. Horton is reported to possess a very high-level security clearance (possibly at the Q or cosmic levels) which allows him to have access to top-level NATO secret documents. It is clear that the presence of an intelligence community representative of this level in a jury represents a police-state intervention that by itself must overturn the verdict rendered. Counting Horton, six members of the Alexandria jury owed their daily bread to the U.S. government, either as direct employees of federal agencies, or as the dependents of federal agencies. One of FEMA's official functions is to administer "coordination mechanisms among elements of the federal law-en-

forcement community.”

The increased preparations for a “creeping coup” or “cold coup” around the NSC-FEMA apparatus is otherwise coherent with the overall profile of the Bush “crisis management” regime. The personnel of the Bush administration are experienced government bureaucrats of the Nixon, Ford, and Reagan administrations, motivated by the will to power in much the same terms as it was evoked by the irrationalist philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche: Their purpose in life is to exercise power for its own sake, as distinct from the desire to carry out a mission or accomplish a task. Regarding themselves as the most eminent group of administrative professionals ever assembled, they are pervaded by the arrogance of power, although at the same time their other-directed caution gives them an air of timidity in public pronouncements. They intend to continue the bankrupt policies of the past 20 years with a vengeance, and instinctively resort to bureaucratic sanctions and repressive police-state measures against those who might seek to challenge their “agenda.” Since they are barren of ideas, they remain immobile in a vacuum of real policy. Hence, they are highly suggestible through the intervention of certain outside forces who know what they want, as in the case of Kissinger and his British and Soviet backers.

The Bush administration thus offers the caricature of Bonapartism, of a regime which desires to use the repressive powers of police, courts, bank seizures, forced bankruptcies of businesses, and of course the forces of the omnipresent intelligence community to keep order when that order is constantly undermined by the economic and strategic policies the regime itself espouses. Popular protests against austerity, the collapse of social services, and social injustice are to be crushed by resort to emergency measures. A reign of prosecutorial terror by the Department of Justice targets black elected officials and other leaders, trade unions and trade union officials, Eastern European, Asian, and other anti-Communist ethnic groups, religious leaders representing independent funding and an independent political base, farmers stricken by the austerity imposed by the grain cartel, defense contractors and other high-technology industrialists (framed up especially under the pretexts of environmental violations), and even secondary financier interests subject to triage as losers.

The families

Although Ronald Reagan was a sometime informant for the FBI, George Herbert Walker Bush is the first President who was officially an agent of the CIA, and its director at that. On a deeper level, the underlying structure of the Bush regime reflects a faction of patrician families of the Eastern Anglophile Liberal Establishment who have maintained a mutual benefit alliance for most of this century during a period of over three generations, as exemplified by the golfing activities of Sen. Prescott Bush, NSC director Gordon

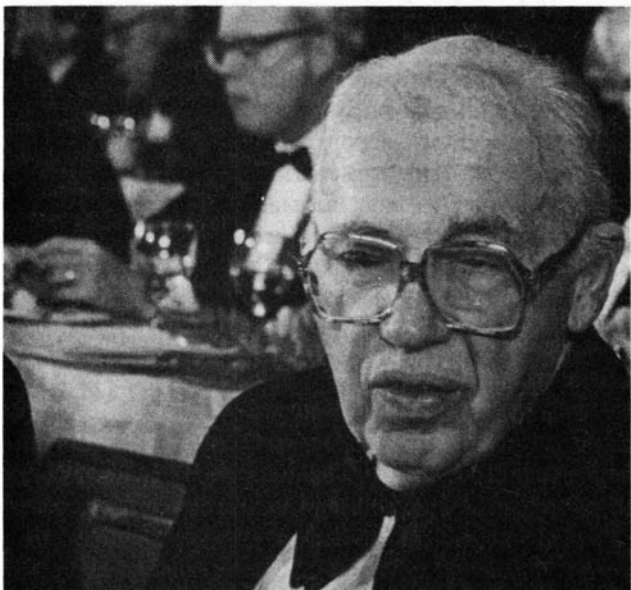
Gray, and Paul Moore. These family names include:

1) **Bush.** The family pedigree is Brown Brothers, Harriman, the New York investment bank for which Prescott Bush of Connecticut was a valued asset on the Senate Finance Committee after he was appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1952. Brown Brothers, Harriman is the most prominent U.S. investment bank representing the interests of the Anglo-Soviet Trust; members of the firm have included W. Averell Harriman, Roosevelt’s ambassador to Churchill and Stalin, and later the controller of Harry Truman; David Bruce of the OSS, CIA, and State Department; and Robert Lovett, who chose the members of President Kennedy’s cabinet. George Bush, like his father, attended Yale University and was a member of that university’s most exclusive secret society, Skull and Bones (also known as the Russell Trust). Skull and Bones selects 12 seniors from each graduating class; examination of recent membership lists establishes that being “tapped” for Skull and Bones is the royal road to dominant positions in the CIA and the State Department: Members have included William Buckley of the National Review, William Sloane Coffin, William Bundy, W. Averell Harriman, and others. Bush was also a member of the Bilderberger Group and the Trilateral Commission. When George Bush set out to make his personal fortune in the Texas oil fields, the venture capital required was provided by the Meyer family, whose holdings include Katharine Meyer Graham’s *Washington Post*. Bush was at one time on the board of Eli Lilly Corporation, a pharmaceutical concern implicated with the mass hallucinogenic substance and social engineering experiments of the CIA known under the heading of “Project MK-Ultra.” Bush’s brother Prescott has become a potential new Billy Carter through his influence-peddling trip through the Far East in advance of the President.

2) **Baker.** The Texas law firm of Baker and Botts represented the railway interests of E.H. Harriman, the father of Averell. James Baker III, son of a partner in Baker and Botts, appears as the Secretary of State for Bush.

3) **Gray.** C. Boyden Gray was George Bush’s resident lawyer for eight years when he was vice president and is now the White House counsel who writes the answers President Bush recites when he is grilled on his role in Irangate. His father, Gordon Gray, was the first assistant secretary of the Army installed by President Truman under the 1947 National Security Act, ran covert operations in 1951-52, and headed the National Security Council under Eisenhower from 1958 to 1961. From 1961 to 1977 Gordon Gray was on the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, supposedly a group of private notables who advise the White House, and currently a power base for Kissinger.

Gordon’s father had been the chairman of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, one of the American branches of the British-dominated world tobacco cartel embodied in British-American Tobacco of London. The Gray family has been powerful in the tobacco-growing state of North Carolina. The



The late Director of Central Intelligence William Casey. He and George Bush reportedly flew to Paris in October 1980 for secret negotiations with Iranian officials, to delay the release of U.S. hostages until after the presidential elections.

Gray family thus owns at least a large part of Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, the pillar of the tobacco lobby in the U.S. Congress and ranking Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Clayland Boyden Gray (C. Boyden Gray or Boy Gray), aged 45, a 1964 Harvard University graduate, had a moment of embarrassed publicity early in the Bush presidency when it turned out that he had failed to place his holdings in Summit Communications, a family company, in a blind trust, as required by the White House ethics rules that Gray is expected to enforce. Gray diverted attention from himself by making public the fact that James Baker III, during his entire tenure at the Treasury, had held onto hundreds of thousands or perhaps millions of dollars worth of Chemical Bank stock.

Boyden Gray has been caught several times falsifying the public record about the involvement of Bush and of his office staff in Iran-Contra. Gray was the principal public apologist for the suppression of Bush aide Craig Fuller's notes on the meeting of Bush with Amiram Nir in Jerusalem on July 29, 1986. These notes were deleted from the Boren Committee report of January 1987 for "diplomatic" reasons, according to the State Department. In December 1987 Gray admitted that Bush had "inadvertently" issued an "incomplete" chronology on the dealings of Bush and his office with the Contras. The suppressed facts included two trips by Bush's then-national security adviser, Col. Sam Watson, to Honduras to tour Contra camps located there. In May 1988, Gray admitted that even the revised chronology of Bush's activities had failed to mention a meeting of Col. Watson in his office with Felix Rodriguez (Max Gomez), General Secord, and Col. Robert Dutton, an aide to Oliver North, on June 25, 1985.

Rodriguez/Gomez was the CIA case officer for the Contra supply effort, and his telephone number had been found on the Hasenfus plane. Records also show meetings of Vice President Bush and his adviser, Donald Gregg, with Rodriguez/Gomez. Boyden Gray was the contact man in Bush's office for Gary Howard and Ron Tucker, who functioned as intermediaries for Bush's relations with the Aspin brothers, Col. David Walker's KMS (a Project Democracy asset appearing on Oliver North's flow chart), and other Iran-Contra participants, and who played a role (see below) in the frameup of Lyndon LaRouche.

4) **Brady.** The great-grandfather of the Secretary of the Treasury was an Irish Catholic who allied with the Aldrich, Widener, Bryan, Payne, and Whitney interests to build a fortune in street traction (trolley car) operations. Nicholas Brady's father was a member of Vincent Astor's The Room, a private intelligence service and his uncle formed the American sub-branch of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, more recently subservient to the wishes of J. Peter Grace, William Casey, and the late Edward Bennett Williams.

5) **Pierce.** This is the family of First Lady Barbara Bush, and claims to descend from U.S. President Franklin Pierce. Her father, Marvin Pierce, worked in publishing, holding high positions with McCalls, Time-Life, and Cowles. The First Lady's brother, Scott Pierce, from 1975 to 1983 was president of the Wall Street brokerage firm E.F. Hutton when that company was caught by federal investigators in a check-kiting scheme that earned E.F. Hutton over \$250 million. Scott Pierce and the other officers of E.F. Hutton escaped prosecution, possibly because John Walker, Bush's cousin, was at that time the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement.

Even the evidence in the public domain argues that George Bush and his advisers were active participants in every phase of the operations lumped under the heading of Iran-Contra. The following is a summary of some of the principal leads which attribute Irangate responsibility to George Bush, Boyden Gray, Craig Fuller, Donald Gregg, Col. Douglas Menarchik, Col. Sam Watson, and others closely associated with Bush.

The 1982 crisis-management directive

President Reagan's National Security Decision Directive 3 on Crisis Management, as expounded in a memorandum dated May 14, 1982, and signed by then-NSC Director William Clark, a hitherto classified document, was made public by the Congressional Iran-Contra Committee in the late winter of 1988, and has been largely disregarded by analysts and researchers. In the early months of the Reagan administration, it had been announced that Vice President Bush would become the leader of the White House crisis staff.

According to the memorandum, a Special Situation Group was constituted inside the White House, under the chairmanship of the vice president. This was the crisis-management

staff that would become the operative center of the government in the event of a major crisis or confrontation: The SSG would play the role of the Executive Committee or EX-COMM under President Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. Then, as the document signed by Clark shows, on May 14, 1982 a Crisis Pre-Planning Group (CPPG) was added to the SSG in order to deal with the responsibility of planning crisis options in advance of the outbreak of the crises themselves. The CPPG was placed under the authority of the number two officer of the NSC (during 1985, for example, Admiral Poindexter).

According to the flow chart under "NSDD-2 Structure for Central America," it appears that the Special Situation Group and the Crisis Pre-Planning Group are auxiliaries to the National Security Council (President, Vice President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Treasury, Attorney General, assisted by the NSC Director) and the National Security Planning Group (NSPG), a somewhat larger group, including President, Vice President, Secretaries of State, Defense, Director of Central Intelligence, U.N. Ambassador, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, White House Counsel, NSC Director and Deputy Director, plus some others. But in reality, Vice President Bush, partly because of his extensive CIA experience, seems to have made himself into a super-Director of Central Intelligence, assuming direct control over a significant part of the ongoing special operations and covert operations of the Reagan administration, including the arming of Iran and the provision of military supplies for the Contras, as well as the suppression of criticism against these policies.

Two details of these documents should be noticed in passing. First, none other than Oliver North was the NSC officer in charge of organizing the first meeting of the CPPG on May 20, 1982. Second, the CPPG, in addition to representatives from State, Treasury, Defense, CIA, and Joint Chiefs of Staff, also consists of a representative from the Office of the Vice President.

The role of the vice president's personal representative in the CPPG is of very timely importance. On April 6, 1989, a document was made public in Washington in the context of the trial of Lt. Col. Oliver North in the U.S. Federal District Court which represents a series of stipulations which the U.S. government, as well as the Special Prosecutor, have agreed to accept as facts in response to a demand from North's defense. The purpose of this document is to avoid the release of the underlying classified papers in which the statements made, but presumably also much more information, are revealed. The politically most interesting aspect of these stipulations is located in paragraphs 51, 56, 57, 63, 77, 78, 79, 90, and 91 of the document in question, and bears on the role of Vice President Bush in a series of *quid pro quo* or "incentive" aid arrangements undertaken by the United States with a series of governments, especially in Central America.

During the time in which U.S. military aid to the Nicar-

aguan Contras was outlawed under the Boland Amendment and the Pell Amendment, the Reagan administration attempted to maintain military support to the Contras by offering other countries increased or accelerated aid deliveries with the understanding that a part of the increased aid would be forwarded to the Contras. This would allow the Contras to be serviced without obtaining the approval of the U.S. Congress. At the center of the bargaining over these incentive deals is Honduras, the country from which the majority of the Contras were operating against Nicaragua. Vice President Bush met with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Córdova in March 1985, and with his successor, President José Simón Azcona, in January 1986. The careful drafting of the stipulations does not establish whether or not Bush knew that he was participating in an illegal incentive deal. But Bush's plausible denial is removed, once we remember the structure of the CPPG and its vice presidential representative cited above.

Thus, we read in the stipulations:

"51. At a February 7, 1985 meeting of the Crisis Pre-Planning Group attended by Admiral Poindexter, Don Fortier (NSC), Ray Burghardt (NSC), Michael Armacost (DoS), Fred Iklé (DoD), Nestor Sanchez (DoD), Clair George (CIA), Alan Fiers (CIA), VADM Arthur Moreau (JCS), and Lt. Col. North, among others, the CPPG principals agreed that a Presidential letter should be sent to President Suazo of Honduras and to provide several enticements to Honduras in exchange for its continued support of the Nicaraguan Resistance. These enticements included expedited delivery of military supplies ordered by Honduras, a phased release of withheld economic assistance (ESF) funds, and other support."

The CPPG was in agreement that transmission of the letter should be closely followed by the visit of an emissary who would verbally brief Suazo on the "conditions" attached to the expedited military deliveries, economic assistance, and other support. The CPPG did not wish to include this detail of the *quid pro quo* arrangement in written correspondence.

"52. On February 12, 1985, North proposed that McFarlane send a memo to Shultz, Weinberger, Casey, and Vessey informing them of the recommendation of the CPPG that expedited military deliveries, economic funding and other support should be offered as an incentive to Honduras for its continued support to the Nicaraguan resistance. The memo stated that this part of the message should not be contained in a written document but should be delivered verbally by a discreet emissary."

Based on our knowledge of Clark's memorandum of May 14, 1982, we know that Bush had a representative at the CPPG and would have been fully briefed on the unwritten part of the *quid pro quo* plan. The stipulations strongly suggest that the "discreet emissary" involved was none other than George Bush. We can thus read between the lines of the following:

"58. When Vice President Bush met with President Sua-

The dead: Cui prodest?

The following is a preliminary and incomplete list of the deaths that have occurred within the framework of the Iran-Contra scandal and coverup:

- 1) **William Casey**, U.S. Director of Central Intelligence, died in early 1987.
- 2) **Amiram Nir**, Israeli Mossad agent; met Bush in Jerusalem; died in crash of light plane, Mexico, December 1988.
- 3) **Donald Fortier**, National Security Council Staff.
- 4) French General **René Audran**, killed by terrorists Jan. 26, 1985. General Audran was engineer of armaments and head of the international department at the French Defense Ministry. According to the Babra report, he was knowledgeable about the arms shipments to Iran of the Luchoire Company, and may have been trying to stop them.
- 5) **Herbert Amry**, Austrian Ambassador to Athens, Greece; death attributed to heart attack in July 1985. Amry had told a commission of inquiry in Vienna that field guns sold to Greece by the Austrian company Voest-Alpina were being channeled to Iran.
- 6) **Heribert Apfalter**, General Director of the Austrian state-owned armaments company Voest-Alpina, death on Aug. 26, 1987 attributed to heart attack. Apfalter was

stricken several days before scheduled testimony before the Austrian government commission of inquiry into Voest-Alpina artillery shipments to Iran.

7) Austrian arms dealer **Alois Weichselbaumer**, death in Linz on Feb. 8, 1989 attributed to heart attack.

8) Swedish Prime Minister **Olof Palme**, assassinated on Feb. 28, 1986. Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, former prime minister of Iran, told the Swedish daily *Aftonbladet* on Nov. 3, 1987: "Olof Palme was murdered because he knew about, and wanted to investigate, Sweden's weapons and gunpowder deals with Iran."

9) **Cyrus Hashemi**, the Iranian arms dealer and U.S. CIA and Customs agent exposed by *EIR* in 1979; Hashemi died in July 1986 of a case of acute leukemia.

10) Italian General **Licio Giorgieri**, assassinated by terrorists on March 21, 1987 in Rome. On Nov. 6, 1987 *La Stampa* of Turin connected the murders of Palme, Giorgieri, and Audran with illegal arms dealings with Iran. *La Stampa* said that Giorgieri and Audran had close working relations.

11) Rear Adm. **Carl Algernon** of Sweden, who is alleged to have fallen to his death beneath the wheels of a Stockholm subway train on Jan. 15, 1987. Algernon was the War Materiel Inspector of the Trade Department of the Swedish Foreign Ministry, in charge of issuing export licenses for weapons shipments. He died a few days before scheduled testimony concerning the illegal Bofors arms sales to Iran.

12) **Uwe Barschel**, ex-governor of the state of Schleswig-Holstein in the Federal Republic of Germany. Barschel was found dead in a bathtub of the Beau Rivage

zo, Bush told Suazo that President Reagan had directed expedited delivery of U.S. military items to Honduras. Vice President Bush also informed Suazo that President Reagan had directed that currently withheld economic assistance for Honduras should be released; that the United States would provide from its own military stocks critical security assistance items that had been ordered by Honduran armed forces; and that several security systems underway for Honduran security forces would be enhanced."

Later, in mid-January 1986, Colonel North "prepared talking points for a meeting between Admiral Poindexter, Vice President Bush, and Honduran President Azcona. North recommended that Admiral Poindexter and Vice President Bush tell President Azcona of the need for Honduras to work with the U.S. government on increasing regional involvement with and support for the Resistance. Poindexter and Bush were also to raise the subject of better U.S. government support for the states bordering Nicaragua."

Also in mid-January 1986, the State Department sent Bush national security adviser Donald Gregg a memo for

Bush's meeting with Azcona. "The memorandum alerted Gregg that Azcona would insist on receiving clear economic and social benefits from its cooperation with the United States." John D. Negroponce was the U.S. ambassador to Honduras in 1985, and attended the meeting of Bush and Suazo; Negroponce is now the Bush nominee to be ambassador to Mexico.

If Bush was the "discreet emissary," this raises the question of offenses under the Boland and Pell amendments. In the President's news conference of April 7, 1989, it was clear that the tactical decision had been made in the White House, on the advice of C. Boyden Gray, to stonewall on the "discreet emissary" issue, refusing to discuss under the pretext that the North trial is *sub judice*. But even in his thrice-repeated refusal to comment on the issue, Bush nevertheless managed to lie, asserting that the matter had already been examined for any special significance by the congressional Iran-Contra investigating committees and by the Special Prosecutor. Even one member of the Tower Commission, former Senator Muskie, stated that the material in question

Hotel in Geneva, a traditional meeting point for those involved in the illegal arms trade with Iran. In May 1987 Barschel had survived a suspicious airplane crash. Just before his death, Barschel had traveled to the Canary Islands to meet with Saudi Arabian arms merchant Adnan Khashoggi. Barschel's body contained five different kinds of tranquilizers or sleeping pills, and presented the characteristic signs of a Freemasonic ritual killing.

13) **Stefan Ruedell**, death attributed to suicide on Oct. 29, 1987. Ruedell had reportedly been spying on the SPD leadership in Schleswig-Holstein on behalf of the Christian Democrats; his death is thus linked to that of Barschel.

14) **Hans-Joachim Knack**, death attributed to heart attack on Nov. 9, 1987. Knack, the undersecretary of the Interior Ministry of Schleswig-Holstein, was about to testify before a state parliament committee in Kiel on the Barschel affair.

15) **Rashid al Jarrah** of Saudi Arabia, death attributed to heart attack (the victim was 25 years old) in Lugano, Switzerland, Oct. 12, 1987. He was part of an arms trading ring that operated in Italy, Lebanon, and Yugoslavia. Rashid al Jarrah worked with the Swiss-Hungarian Peter Jenney, who has in turn been implicated in the Iran arms deliveries of the Italian company, Borletti.

16) Col. **Gerald Clarke**, head of G-2 Army Intelligence for the U.S. Southern Command in the Panama Canal Zone, with oversight for the entire Caribbean and Central American region. Clarke died on Feb. 28, 1989.

17) Gen. **Gustavo Alvarez** of Honduras, killed in early 1989. General Alvarez had knowledge about support operations for the Contras in Honduras, perhaps including

the *quid pro quo* incentive operations set up by "discreet emissary" George Bush.

18) **Glenn Souham**, President Reagan's European coordinator of the board of advisers on private sector initiatives, killed in Paris after arranging deliveries of East bloc weapons for the Contras.

19) **Barry Seal**, a.k.a. Adler Berriman Seal, Contra mercenary pilot who turned DEA informant but was denied proper security protection.

20) **Steve Carr**, another Contra mercenary who knew too much. He was found dead from a drug overdose.

21) A Contra footsoldier known only as **David**, who witnessed CIA drug cargoes transiting the Costa Rican ranch of John Hull. After revealing what he knew to two U.S. journalists, "David" was tortured and killed by Hull's retainers.

22) **William Buckley**, CIA station chief in Beirut, Lebanon, who was taken hostage and later tortured to death by his pro-Iranian captors. Buckley was deeply involved in Iran-Contra weapons trafficking; he shows up in the circles around Michael and Leslie Aspin; Heinrich Rupp reported to Buckley when he was flying for the CIA in the Middle East. Why was he singled out for death from among the hostages held in Lebanon?

23) **Abbie Hoffman**, 52-year-old American radical whose last major published writing targeted Bush's role in Iran-Contra, died April 12, 1989 of an overdose of sedatives.

Finally, **Robert McFarlane**, the former Reagan National Security Adviser and special secret envoy to Tehran in 1986, survived an alleged suicide attempt.

is new and constitutes something of a "revelation." Mark Belnik, the former counsel for the congressional committees, stated that the Capitol Hill probers had not examined the *quid pro quo* dealings.

According to the stipulations, at least 11 countries were offered *quid pro quo* deals to secure aid to the Contras. These included: Israel, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, China, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, and three others, possibly in Asia or Europe.

Bush's meeting with Amiram Nir

In the preliminary report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence signed by Senators Boren and William Cohen (R-Me.) on Jan. 29, 1987, page 32, we read:

"On the same day [July 29, 1986], Vice President Bush was given a briefing in Jerusalem by Mr. [Amiram] Nir. The Vice President attended the meeting at the suggestion of Lt. Col. North, according to a memorandum dated a week later by an official who was present at the briefing. Nir indicated he was briefing the Vice President at the request of Prime

Minister Peres. He conceded the problems encountered in the program, but argued that the Iranians with whom they were dealing were ones who could 'deliver.' He also discussed the problem of the sequence of release of additional hostages. According to the memo, the Vice President made no commitments and gave no direction to Nir. Apparently in response to the approval of President Reagan, the HAWK parts reached Iran on August 3."

The memo in question is the one by Craig Fuller that was suppressed. The *Washington Post* of Jan. 9, 1987 published a front-page picture of Amiram Nir with the caption: "Israeli Met Bush About Deal." Relevant paragraphs are as follows:

"White House officials also disclosed yesterday that Vice President Bush met last July with Amiram Nir, a key Israeli official on the arms sales, while Bush was in Jerusalem. Nir made it clear to Bush that the arms shipments were meant, at least in part, to lead to freedom for the American hostages. He told Bush that some elements in Iran were resisting the release of all the hostages, apparently seeking to use the remaining captives as leverage for additional weapons ship-

ments from the United States.

“An informed source familiar with the meeting quoted Nir as saying, ‘If all the hostages came out, the relationship [between Iran and Israel and the United States] might die, and the relationship was going to grow if we could demonstrate our good intentions by providing weapons.’”

Nir is close to the truth here: The policy of the secret government has always been to encourage the taking of U.S. citizens as hostages by Iran, starting in 1979, because the existence of the hostages furnishes a rationale for making arms deliveries to Iran, which, although they represent the firm policy of the invisible government, cannot be explained to public opinion in any other way. The *Post* account goes on:

“Nir, chief counter-terrorism adviser to then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres, met Bush at the King David Hotel on July 29, the officials said. Nir, who had become the key Israeli middleman in the arms dealings with Iran at the beginning of 1986, was advocating continued U.S. arms shipments to Iran to win freedom for the remaining hostages.

“Bush met with Nir at the behest of Lt. Col. Oliver L. North of the NSC staff, who was the chief contact between Nir and the U.S. government. Bush was initially reluctant to hold the meeting, and telephoned Poindexter in Washington to express that reluctance. But he could not get through to Poindexter, and spoke instead to North, who apparently persuaded Bush to meet Nir, in part because both the NSC and Peres wanted such a meeting to take place.

“One source said notes of the meeting indicate that Bush did not tell Nir whether the United States would continue the arms shipments to Iran, but that there were ‘doubts and reservations’ about the effort. A well-informed source said these doubts were shared by Bush; an account of the meeting was sent to North. It is not known whether Bush discussed it with Reagan.”

The meeting with Nir was perhaps the biggest specific liability in the attempt to shield Bush from the blow-back of Iran-Contra, and Bush has remained hysterical on this issue. The meeting with Nir was the issue that detonated one of the most celebrated events of the 1988 presidential campaign, the live interview of Bush by Dan Rather on the CBS Evening News of Jan. 25, 1988. A crucial sequence of this clash was as follows:

Rather: Mr. Vice President, thank you for being with us tonight. A member of your own staff, Mr. Craig Fuller, has verified and so did the only other man there, Mr. Nir, Mr. Amiram Nir, who is the Israelis’ top anti-terrorist man—those two men were in a meeting with you, and Mr. Nir not once, but three times underscored with you that this was a straight-out arms for hostages. . . .

Bush: What they were doing . . . read the memo . . . read the memo . . . what they were doing. . . .

Rather: Now how do you reconcile . . . I have, sir. . . . How can you reconcile that you were there, Mr. Nir under-

scored three separate occasions that it was an arms for hostages swap, and told you you were dealing with the most radical elements in Iran. You were dealing straight away with the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Bush: I was told what they were doing, and not what we were doing, and that’s the big difference, and then I expressed my concerns and reservations about that. That has been testified to under oath by Mr. Poindexter.

With the notes of the meeting suppressed, one might turn to Mr. Amiram Nir for an explanation of what went on in that meeting, and whether there were more meetings, as has been suggested.

Unfortunately, dead men tell no tales, and Amiram Nir died in the mysterious crash of a light plane in Mexico in December 1988. The question of *Cui bono?* leads us to the CIA and perhaps to the White House, unless one posits a calculated provocation by the British to create bad blood between the Israelis and the United States, which seems less likely.

Brenneke’s testimony in the Rupp trial

Another complex of revelations that could do great damage to Bush involves statements made by former CIA operative Richard J. Brenneke in a post-conviction hearing in the federal bank fraud trial of Heinrich Rupp, a CIA pilot and gold dealer resident in Aurora, Colorado. The statement by Brenneke was made in the chambers of U.S. District Judge Jim R. Carrigan on Sept. 23, 1988.

Heinrich Rupp is a Swiss-born pilot employed at one time by Air America who was in the service of the Saudi Arabian Royal Family, flying King Fahd and Prince Faisal on various travels. He flew for the CIA in the Middle East and Indo-China, starting in the early 1960s. He was later a pilot for William Casey and McFarlane on trips to Cyprus, Zurich, and Central America. He was also employed by Lake Resources, the Secord-Hakim front. Rupp was convicted of bank fraud on Sept. 15, 1988 in a case stemming from the failure of the Aurora Bank of Aurora, Colorado back in 1985. Rupp kept silent during his trial and refused to give interviews, but later broke his silence in an interview granted to reporter Sue Lindsay of the Denver *Rocky Mountain News*. Rupp was also subjected to a psychiatric examination while in prison, a move that was designed to discredit and humiliate him.

Brenneke’s thesis is that Rupp has been framed up by the Bush forces to discredit and intimidate him, in order to prevent him from telling what he knows. According to Brenneke’s statement in chambers, Rupp flew Bush and Casey to Paris in October 1980 as part of the Reagan-Bush campaign effort designed to prevent the release of the U.S. hostages held in Iran before the U.S. presidential election: “On the 19th of October Mr. Rupp brought Mr. Bush, Mr. Casey and a number of other people to Paris, France from the United States, for a meeting with Iranian representatives,” according

to Brenneke. Brenneke recounted that the meetings in question had been held in Paris at the Hotel Crillon and the Hotel Florida on Oct. 19 and 20, 1980. Bush was in Paris for a limited number of hours, and after the meetings returned to the United States. Rupp flew Casey on to Frankfurt for further meetings. According to Brenneke, those present at the Paris meetings, of which he was an eyewitness, were: a) Vice President Bush, b) William Casey, then chairman of the Reagan Campaign, c) Donald Gregg, CIA officer for 28 years and at that time an official of the Carter National Security Council, d) Richard Allen, later Reagan first NSC chief. e) Iranian arms dealer and U.S. Customs Agent Cyrus Hashemi, f) a representative of Hashemi Rafsanjani in Teheran. g) Manucher Ghorbanifar, Iranian arms dealer, and h) Col. Robert Benes, an officer of French intelligence specializing in the Middle East.

According to Brenneke, the result of this meeting was an agreement by the Reagan campaign to commit the United States to deliver \$40 million worth of weapons to Iran, in exchange for the freeing of the U.S. hostages at a time specified by the Reagan campaign.

Former President Jimmy Carter has said in interviews that he received reports after late summer 1980 that the Reagan campaign was dealing with the Iranians to delay the release of U.S. hostages. Former Iranian Prime Minister Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, now living in France, has stated that he knew that Khomeini was considering a secret deal with the Reagan-Bush campaign in late September 1980.

The Bush campaign denied the Brenneke-Rupp allegations. The records of the Bush campaign show that the vice president was in Philadelphia on Oct. 18, 1980, and met with newspaper editors at 1:55 p.m. That was followed by an appearance at Widener University and, allegedly, a speech in Delaware County, Pennsylvania at 8:40 p.m. Bush was then scheduled to proceed to Washington, D.C. that night, and had no events on his schedule until a speech on the evening of Oct. 19 before the Zionist Organization of America in Washington.

News stories written and published in October 1980 describe Bush's speech at Widener University on the evening of Oct. 18, and his remarks to the Zionists on the following evening, but do not account for the intervening 24 hours, according to research by Sue Lindsay of the *Rocky Mountain News*.

Rupp later told Sue Lindsay that he had flown six passengers in a BAC-111 belonging to Saudi Prince Mohammed Fahd Azis from Washington National Airport via Gander, Newfoundland to Paris Le Bourget, leaving in the evening of Oct. 18, 1980 and arriving in Paris at 11 a.m. local time on Oct. 19. Rupp is 100% certain that Casey had been a passenger in his plane, and he is 98% sure he saw Bush waiting on the tarmac near a Grumman Gulfstream.

Rupp was sentenced to 41 years in federal prison, although there are indications he may be released sooner. In October-November 1988, at the height of the election cam-

paign, he was held incommunicado at a federal medical center. If Rupp is still alive today, it is probably because of deposits of very incriminating documents which he seems to have stashed in secure locations outside of the United States. Rupp has said that he considers himself a "political hostage." According to some sources, the contents of Bush's Paris meetings are in the hands of Alexandre de Marenches, the former top official of the French intelligence services.

Barbara Honegger is reported to be preparing a book-length study of these matters, among others. This may include reports that the Desert One rescue mission to free the hostages from their Teheran bondage failed as a result of sabotage motivated by the desire to deprive Carter of the political benefit of a successful rescue.

Richard J. Brenneke, who testified in favor of Heinrich Rupp, made other allegations damaging to President Bush during the course of 1988. Brenneke, born in 1941, holds advanced degrees in philosophy, had ties to Canadian intelligence and the Mossad, and was a contract pilot for the CIA's Air America in Indochina during the Vietnam era. He also flew for the CIA in Ibero-America. In the 1970s Brenneke worked for the U.S. Customs Service in an operation allegedly designed to expose customs agents complicit in drug-running.

Brenneke says he was involved after 1983 in CIA-Mossad operations to deliver weapons from the Soviet bloc to the Contras and to the PLO. This included arms shipments from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, which were arranged in liaison with officials of George Bush's office. On the return runs, the planes were often loaded with illegal narcotics. Brenneke's business associates in Germany included Klaus-Dieter Lensch and Fritz Mänard. In May 1988 Brenneke began to tell his story in high-profile television interviews in *Newsweek*, ABC and CBS News, CNN Crossfire, and Larry King Live. When he testified before the Congress on these matters, Brenneke was vilified in a hysterical outburst by Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, and was also slandered by Mark Hosenball.

Brenneke says that he was also a part of the Bofors howitzer shipments to Iran.

The presence of Soviet bloc weapons obtained directly from the Soviet bloc for the Contras is an established fact. Oliver North once boasted that he had obtained weapons from Poland in order to fight against communists in Central America. An example of this dealing was the cargo of the Danish ship, the *Pia Vesta*, which was seized by Panama in the summer of 1985 with 200 tons of Soviet-made arms on board bound for the Contras. The arms had been sold by the East German state arms trading firm to reputed CIA arms trader David Duncan.

Brenneke asserts that he was in contact with Donald Gregg and Lt. Col. E. Douglas Menarchik in the office of George Bush, as well as with White House trade official Ralph Johnson, Felix Rodriguez/Gomez and H.R. Jones of the CIA (in constant touch with Bush's office), and Ariel Ben Menashe

and Guatemalan station chief Pessah Ben-Or of the Mossad, who both had instant access to William Casey. Ben-Or put Brenneke in touch with Donald Gregg.

Brenneke says that when he called Donald Gregg to complain about the amount of drugs being shipped on the Contra supply missions, Gregg threatened him with the Justice Department if he ever were to disclose the operations that he had witnessed.

Brenneke's account is filled with familiar names: John Hull, whose ranch in Costa Rica he visited; Robert Sensi of Republicans Abroad and various operations in Central America; John Hotrich Delaroque, French CIA businessman now residing in St. Tropez, one of the defendants in the April 1986 Bar-Am sting operation; Bernard Veillot, the French CIA arms dealer also indicted with Bar-Am; and Robert Benes, the formerly posted by French intelligence in Damascus, Syria.

Herman Moll

On April 22, 1986, a group of international arms traders was arrested in New York and Bermuda on charges of attempting to smuggle illegal weapons. They included Israeli General Bar-Am, Samuel Evans (Adnan Khashoggi's London lawyer), Herman Moll (a German national now living in London), Bernard Veillot, and John Delaroque. The arrests were the result of a sting operation of the United States Customs Service organized with the help of informer Cyrus Hashemi, a suspicious Iranian weapons dealer who worked as a provocateur for U.S. Customs. Hashemi had been denounced in 1979-80 in the pages of *Executive Intelligence Review* for sending arms to the Ayatollah. On Jan. 4, 1989 the U.S. Department of Justice dropped the case and all charges against the defendants, saying that it had been impossible to find witnesses ready to contradict the claim of the accused that the arms deal with Iran had been approved by the U.S. government. Some of the codefendants went to Israel and met there with Amiram Nir.

In an interview granted to the *Middle East Insider* of March 11, 1989, Moll described the operation as straight CIA from the very beginning: "We knew and were told by the agents in Paris that George Bush was the head and the main organizer of all these deals." Moll says that Brenneke was involved as a close friend of William Casey, and also "confirmed that the deals were sanctioned by the CIA and George Bush." "Bush was 100% behind the deals." "He was one of the main organizers behind it. If this were to come out, it would automatically lead to an impeachment."

After six months spent in jail, Moll is trying to find a way to sue the U.S. government for false arrest. He has recently published a book entitled *The Broker of Death*.

Robert Sensi

CIA agent Robert Sensi was arrested in Great Britain in 1986 while working for a company called Cyrus Engineering. In March 1988 Sensi was convicted in a U.S. Federal

District court of defrauding Kuwaiti Airlines of some \$2.5 million. Sensi's defense was that the money had been assigned to him as part of the payment for a shipment of TOW missiles to Iran arranged by Col. Oliver North. Sensi was convicted and given a short sentence. According to the British journal *Private Eye*, during Sensi's trial the jury was shown pictures of the defendant together with William Casey, Ronald Reagan, and George Bush. Sensi was the boss of Republicans Abroad, and had been preparing the Bush campaign among contributors residing outside of the United States starting in 1985. Sensi was to that degree, like so many other CIA agents, a political friend and ally of Bush. Sensi said that he had also met with William Wilson, the U.S. ambassador to the Vatican and Reagan's close friend and confidant, who may have been told of the Iran-Contra operations directly by the President, whom he met every Christmas at the Annenberg estate in Palm Springs, California. Another of Sensi's contacts is a certain Habib Moallem, an Iranian arms trader. Sensi claimed that the money from Kuwaiti Airlines had been deposited in the account of a company owned by Moallem. Moallem, according to Sensi, had also held meetings with William Wilson.

At the Aspin arms smuggling trial in London's Old Bailey, discussed below, the argument of Michael Aspin and of other defendants was that Habib Moallem had been an integral part of their dealings with Casey, North, Secord, Ghorbanifar, and William Buckley.

A final interesting detail reported by *Private Eye* was that Sensi had organized a meeting between Vice President Bush and several other persons, but that meeting had to be canceled when one of the persons who was to have participated, the international arms trader Jens Jensen, was publicly implicated in the Iran-Contra scandal.

Howard, Tucker, Halloran, Aspin

On May 24, 1988 Michael Aspin, Eric Matson, and William Harper were convicted in London's Old Bailey criminal court on charges of attempting to defraud the Iranian government by taking money for a shipment of anti-tank missiles which never existed. Michael Aspin, who was sentenced to six years in jail, based his defense on the assertion that he was working with Oliver North, that the CIA and the U.S. Customs Service knew about the planned weapons deal, and that the missiles did indeed exist. The three were arrested when Swiss middlemen in the deal, after having made a down payment, called in the police in 1986 and accused Aspin and the others of being con men. Michael Aspin is a former associate of Edwin Wilson.

Michael Aspin's brother, Leslie Aspin of Norwich, England, who describes himself as a CIA agent, in a statement prepared for the U.S. Iran-Contra congressional investigation, says that this operation got off the ground in June 1984 when he was personally contacted by CIA director William Casey, who asked the Aspins to help in arranging shipments of TOW missiles to Iran. Aspin worked together with British



Adm. John Poindexter, former national security adviser, was a key player in the Special Situation Group, set up under Vice President Bush's chairmanship in 1985.

licensed arms dealer Ben Banerjee. Aspin visited the U.S. Embassy in London's Grosvenor Square, where he was advised to contact Oliver North, General Secord, Robert Owen (one of North's assistants), and David Ginman. Later he met with retired U.S. Army officer and CIA agent Otto Schaller in Germany. Aspin met in Zurich with North, CIA Beirut station chief William Buckley, Manucher Ghorbanifar, Col. Robert Earl (another assistant of North), arms dealer George Rachele, and others. Aspin's statement also describes contacts with Dr. Habib Moallem of Iran, and with Robert Sensi of Republicans Abroad.

The trial of Michael Aspin and his codefendants was the result of a sting operation run with the cooperation of the U.S. intelligence community. The Aspin case is indeed part of a series of such sting operations conducted in Great Britain primarily through the activities of three persons: Americans Gary Howard and Ron Tucker, and investigative journalist Paul Halloran of the muckraking intelligence leak-sheet, *Private Eye*.

Howard and Tucker are on the surface two deputy sheriffs from Midland, Texas. Now, Midland, Texas is not just an American small town like any other. Midland, Texas is the company town owned lock, stock, and barrel by George Bush; it is practically Bush's fiefdom. Members of the local police force in the company town of the former Director of Central Intelligence are therefore very special persons. Both are unquestionably agents of the CIA. On a second level, Howard and Tucker are "sting operatives" or "bounty hunters" working with and for the U.S. Customs Service. Under U.S. law, if an informer or provocateur provides a tip to the Customs which results in the seizure of a contraband shipment, the informer is entitled to claim a reward based on the value of the goods eventually seized. But although Howard and Tucker are passionately interested in money, their stings and entrapments are also guided by a political target selection process. These operations are a part of the routine CIA policing of the gun-running scene, and they are of course essential when it becomes necessary quickly to liquidate a whole phase of dirty operations, such as in the Irangate coverup.

As for Halloran, he is a New Zealander who has written for *Private Eye* for about ten years. He has been working together with Howard and Tucker since at least 1981. The first joint Howard-Tucker-Halloran sting was directed against British arms dealer Ian Smalley, who gave Howard and Tucker a check for \$1.6 million in payment for 100 M-48A5 U.S. main battle tanks. Howard and Tucker kept Smalley's money, had him arrested, and claimed a gigantic reward. But when Smalley was put on trial in late 1983, with Howard as the main witness for the prosecution, he was acquitted, and the jury foreman stated that he had been outraged when he heard the evidence, and he thought the U.S. government owed Smalley an apology.

In the Smalley case, Howard and Tucker operated through a front called Losto Limited, registered in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. More recently, they have used a front called Peregrine International, created in 1982, for their operations. The other partner in Peregrine International is a certain Maj. Richard Meadows, a veteran of the Carter administration's failed effort to free the U.S. hostages held in Iran in spring 1980. According to sources, Peregrine worked together with a British company called KMS ("Keeny Meeney Services," which appears on Oliver North's Project Democracy flow chart), which in turn is run by a British mercenary called Col. David Walker.

Another sting carried out by Howard-Tucker-Halloran in Britain targeted arms dealer Eric Magee of Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. Howard approached Magee with an offer of 60 radar valves, items in heavy demand by the Iranians because they are required by U.S.-built Hawk missile systems. Magee agreed to pay Howard over \$2 million for the radar valves, but the Iranian group with which Magee was dealing decided to send its own representative to Texas to inspect the valves which Howard said were stored there. The Iranian representative turned out to be Victor Fonseca, a Portuguese soldier of fortune. Fonseca went to Midland, Texas and was taken to an airport warehouse, where he was offered eight crates loaded with gravel. Then television crews appeared and Fonseca was arrested by Midland sheriff and Howard-Tucker associate Gary Painter, another creature of the Bush family interests. Later, Fonseca was released because there was no evidence that he had committed any crime.

In the case of the Aspin brothers, Howard carried out his standard approach, offering radar valves of Hawk missiles which the Iranians were seeking on the world market. In the course of this transaction, it proved necessary to post a "performance bond" of \$4 million, demanded by the Iranians from foreign arms dealers to prove that they are serious. The following is an exchange between Aspin and Howard from a wiretapped phone conversation that was played for the jury in the Old Bailey:

Aspin: What bank will it be from, Gary?

Howard: One of the Chases.

Aspin: It's being worked officially now, is it?

Howard: No, it's being worked unofficially. We can't play this kind of game officially to my knowledge.

Aspin: You mean you are getting the support of your government?

Howard: You have got it.

Aspin also had numerous phone and face-to-face conversations with Halloran. In one, according to the London *Sunday Times* of April 10, 1988 Leslie Aspin says that Halloran "kept reassuring me that it wasn't a sting because I'd said that, if it was, I'd get him by the throat and choke him."

It is important to underline that Howard and Tucker are no ordinary con men. Their company, Peregrine International Associates, was in contact with Gen. Sam Wilson, former director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) who was also a special adviser to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger on covert operations. Peregrine was also in contact with Col. Wayne Long, a senior officer of a secret military intelligence group called the Foreign Operations Group. According to Howard, Peregrine International operations were based on permission and instructions given in advance from CIA, State, and Defense. Some of the Howard-Tucker operations were planned in cooperation with the U.S. Army Delta Force. This included operations against Iran.

According to sources, Howard and Tucker were couriers and intermediaries for money transfers (bagmen) for the U.S. National Security Council in certain kinds of covert operations. The sources cite the example of Howard and Tucker functioning as bagmen between the NSC and Col. David Walker's KMS. Sources say that the operations funded in this way included the attempted assassination of Lebanese Muslim leader Sheikh Fádllallah in March, 1985, which the sources say was carried out by KMS, which is made up for the most part of former officers of the British Special Air Services (SAS). KMS is also said to have provided security for the Saudi ambassador in Washington, Prince Bandar. That security is now being provided, according to sources, by another David Walker company, this time called Saladin. Walker is reported to be a longtime personal friend of former U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman. KMS is known to serve only those clients who are approved by the British Foreign Office, Defense Ministry, and MI-6.

Howard and Tucker against LaRouche

Given the established status of Howard and Tucker as U.S. government agents, it is indeed highly significant that they were also deployed, by their usual White House chain of command, against Lyndon LaRouche and his associates for purposes of infiltration and entrapment. According to documents that were released during the LaRouche trial in Boston, Massachusetts, during spring 1988, Howard and Tucker were asked by the CIA and the FBI to spy on LaRouche and his organization in October 1984.

Howard and Tucker were introduced to LaRouche associates through one Sergeant Frederick Lewis. Lewis had been

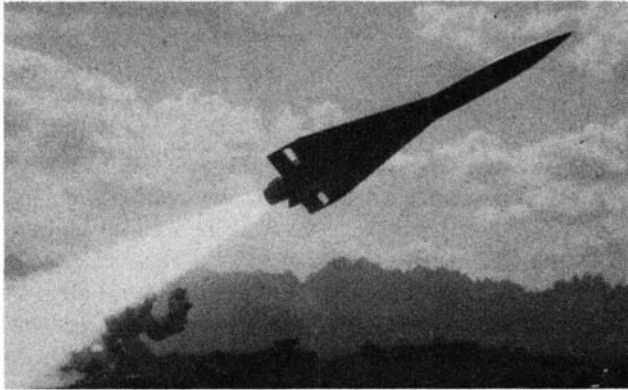
contacted by LaRouche representatives for possible hiring as a security consultant in the summer of 1984, during the kidnaping of Patricia Londoño in Colombia. Lewis was yet another military veteran-soldier of fortune with Special Forces training at Fort Bragg who had worked for the Howard-Tucker Peregrine International. Although Lewis was never hired, he proposed that a LaRouche representative be put in touch with Howard and Tucker. LaRouche security adviser Jeffrey Steinberg accordingly traveled to Dallas, Texas, to meet with Howard and Tucker. Shortly after this meeting, a series of FBI and CIA dispatches obtained under the Freedom of Information Act suggest that Howard and Tucker provided U.S. intelligence agencies with falsified accounts of their meeting with Steinberg, alleging that Steinberg had a \$20 million Swiss bank account and was interested in recruiting assassins for the purpose of killing drug traffickers of the Medellín Cartel in Colombia. These false reports could then become the pretext for continued investigations of LaRouche under Executive Order 12333. Various sources around the world have reported probes on the part of Howard and Tucker after late 1984 with the purpose of obtaining information damaging to LaRouche.

Howard and Tucker told FBI agents from the FBI's San Antonio and El Paso field offices that both CIA and FBI had asked them to penetrate the LaRouche organization.

In late 1984-early 1985, Howard and Tucker attempted to entrap LaRouche by requesting funds for the purpose of freeing Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov from his internal exile in the city of Gorky. Details of these operations are given in the *Washington Post* of March 27, 1988. The same project is also mentioned in *The Fulton County Daily Report* for May 16, 1988. The proposal to attempt to liberate Sakharov came from the lawyer of Howard and Tucker, F. Keith Adkinson.

Adkinson is a mysterious personality who inhabits the wilderness of mirrors of the intelligence world. Back in 1980, Adkinson was the head of an organization called Democrats for Reagan. Conservative Democrats likely to vote for Reagan represented precisely the political stratum most supportive of the presidential candidacy of Lyndon LaRouche in the primaries, so it can be assumed that Adkinson was already a political adversary of LaRouche in 1980. Adkinson was also a member of the transition team for the incoming Reagan administration at the Department of Justice.

Adkinson operates from a yacht which he keeps moored at a marina on the Potomac River near Washington. In spring 1988 he formed a new company called AZTEC (Advanced Zone and Tactical Evaluation Corporation), which purports to deal in anti-terrorism services. His partners include John McGraw II, a former Navy commando, explosives expert, and State Department consultant; and Thomas Hupp, a certified bomb technician and former participant in a strike force of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms of the U.S. Treasury. Adkinson, who hints broadly that he is a CIA agent in touch with other high-level CIA agents, admits that he



U.S. Department of Defense

The U.S.-built Hawk missile system. Radar valves for these missiles were much in demand by the Iranians in their weapons-shopping, via such channels as Howard and Tucker.

discussed actions against LaRouche at at least one meeting with Howard and Tucker in a meeting attended by other intelligence agents.

The keystone of the arch is provided by the next to the last paragraph of the *Washington Post* article of March 27, 1989:

“Later in May 1986, Howard, Tucker and Lewis said they met with Boyden Gray, the chief counsel to Vice President Bush, to discuss the alleged terrorist bases in Mexico.”

The reference to alleged terrorist bases in Mexico is spurious, and only obscures the central purpose of the visit of Howard, Lewis, and Tucker to the White House: They were obviously there to discuss further operations against Lyndon LaRouche and his friends. It was in connection with this line of inquiry that U.S. Federal Judge Robert E. Keeton of Boston on March 10, 1988 ordered a search of the file index of the office of Vice President George Bush in order to determine whether federal informants had infiltrated what the prosecutors call “the LaRouche organization” (see *Boston Globe*, March 11, 1988.) Earlier, the same federal judge had ordered a search of the files of the FBI, CIA, and NSC for the names of federal informants who had been deployed against LaRouche.

The order to search the office of Vice President Bush, at that time still engaged in the primary election campaign for the Republican presidential nomination, caused the invisible government to move to terminate the attempt to frame up LaRouche in Boston, since the issues of infiltration, entrapment, and other actions by government agents and even White House *agents provocateurs* had been introduced into the Boston record. In a flagrant exercise in forum shopping, the Boston trial was brought to an end after several weeks of hearings devoted primarily to prosecutorial misconduct, and it was arranged that no further days in court would occur prior to the November presidential election. LaRouche and six others were then indicted in October in the infamous “rocket docket” of Alexandria, Virginia, where a conviction was secured after the *in limine* decisions by Judge Bryan had ruled

out questions of government infiltration, provocation, and entrapment which were the essence of the entire case.

On Feb. 26, 1988 Lawrence Walsh, the Irangate Special Prosecutor, declassified and released to LaRouche and the other Boston defendants a secret cable which had been found in the safe in Oliver North’s National Security Council office in the Old Executive Office Building in the White House compound. This was a cable sent on May 5, 1986 by Gen. Richard Secord to Lt. Col. Oliver North. The cable had been transmitted over the special electronic scrambler of the National Security Agency. The cable reads in part:

“Lewis has met with FBI and other agency reps and is apparently meeting again today. Our man here claims Lewis has collected info against LaRouche—let’s see how polygraph goes. Rgds, Dick. BT”

In the meeting between the LaRouche Boston defense attorneys and the federal prosecutor, Assistant United States Attorney John Markham, Markham identified the “our man here” of this Secord to North despatch as Oliver “Buck” Revell, the number-two man of the FBI, and the leader of the “Get LaRouche” task force, as well as the FBI’s representative on the interagency working groups of the NSC which oversaw the entire Iran-Contra operation. Later, the government and certain journalists attempted to accredit the thesis that this had been an error, and that “our man here” was actually an assistant to Secord, one John Cupp.

Another central feature of White House-NSC operations against LaRouche deserves to be stressed. Although Oliver North reported to McFarlane and Poindexter as his immediate superiors in the NSC, he also reported to other officials on various phases of his activities. One of the most important of these was the CIA agent Walter Raymond. In a recent issue of the *Washington Times* the gossipy “Karen’s column” reports that “Lt. Col. Oliver North may have actually reported to Walter Raymond Jr., say insiders. . . .” The article says further: “Mr. Raymond, a career CIA veteran and director of operations who retired from the agency in 1983, is now assistant director of the United States Information Agency [the State Department agency which funds the National Endowment for Democracy]. That position was created for him in January 1987, after the Iran-Contra scandal broke. Mr. Raymond was quietly moved to USIA from the National Security Council where he held the title of special assistant to the president and director of international communication. He had been placed at the NSC by CIA Director Bill Casey and Don Gregg, our new ambassador to Korea, says an insider. While at the NSC he worked closely with Col. North.

“Interestingly, Mr. Raymond’s name appears on Ollie North’s calendar more frequently than that of any other White House employee, say insiders. . . . Senate aides were surprised recently to spot ex-CIA exec Mr. Raymond escorting USIA Director Designate Bruce Gelb on his courtesy calls to senators on the Foreign Relations Committee.”

As it turns out, Walter Raymond is also one of the leading officials active in the “Get LaRouche” task force.