

National News

CIA ineptness in East revealed

"Stasi Files Reveal CIA Two-Timers," was the title of a front-page article in the Sept. 12 *Washington Times*. "Most East Germans," reported the *Times*, "recruited by the CIA as spies since at least the early 1950s were double agents secretly loyal to the Stasi intelligence service." The assessment is part of a top-secret CIA report based on an analysis of Stasi files.

According to the *Times*, "The double agents helped the Stasi—which worked closely with the Soviet KGB—learn the identities of CIA officers and the nature of the U.S. agency's operations, one intelligence official said. They also gave the CIA false intelligence."

It is not clear whether the CIA report is an admission of a counterintelligence failure or an attempt to damage-control some of the more explosive details surrounding the Iran-Contra affair. *EIR* has been the only publication so far to expose the working relationship between the CIA, Oliver North, and East German intelligence official Alexander Schalck-Golodkowski, the former head of the East German export company IMES who oversaw all weapons transactions from the East bloc, including shipments arranged by the CIA for the Contras.

Pro-drug Schmoke wins mayoral reelection

Kurt Schmoke, the drug legalization advocate, won the Baltimore Democratic Party mayoral primary Sept. 13—effectively winning reelection. The results were a testament to the political vacuum and the destruction of the traditional constituencies of the Democratic Party.

John Ascher, running on a platform associated with Lyndon LaRouche, had denounced Schmoke as "morally incapable of governing any city, at any time," because of his support for dope legalization. Ascher received 1,000 votes (1%) and came in fifth

in a field of eight contenders.

Only about 30% of the total registered voters voted in the election, meaning that Schmoke was elected by approximately 10% of all those of voting age in Baltimore.

The campaign was characterized by pathetic attacks on Schmoke by the two leading contenders in the race, former mayor Clarence "Du" Burns and former States Attorney William Swisher. Burns meekly mentioned Schmoke's wanting to debate the issue of drugs while Swisher highlighted Schmoke's call for tougher criminal laws in all of his commercials with the sound of a jail cell closing. The local news media was filled with stories of how area voters were put to sleep by the election campaign, which was reflected by the sparse attendance at some of the more publicized campaign events. The media blacked out the Ascher campaign.

George Bush said to be another Herbert Hoover

"Bush is in a comparable situation to Herbert Hoover at this point in his reelection process," noted senior British America correspondent Alastair Cooke in a commentary on BBC Sept. 15. Cooke has been BBC Washington correspondent since 1934, and is regarded as being close to the British Foreign Office.

Cooke continued his analogy by noting that in the period 15 months before the 1932 U.S. elections, Hoover was enormously popular, seen as a world leader who was dealing with complicated foreign problems in Europe; he was not then blamed for the U.S. domestic economic problems, and the Democrats appeared sure losers. But then, Cooke recalled, the Democrats seized on the idea of sticking a label to the growing "shanty towns" of unemployed which had grown up outside Washington and other cities. They labeled them "Hooverilles," the press picked it up, and from then on it was "Herbert Hoover's depression."

Similarly today, Cooke said, George Bush is enjoying enormously high popularity in the polls, especially on foreign policy. He is not yet seen as responsible for the

nation's growing economic problems, and the Democrats appear doomed to another disastrous presidential race. "But between now and November 1992 we can expect that this domestic economic situation will increasingly become the albatross around Bush's neck. We will see growing domestic discontent even erupting into riots all more and more directed against the man in the White House, George Bush."

Noriega trial opens with tainted jury

U.S. District Judge William Hoeverler completed selecting a jury in the Miami, Florida trial of Panamanian leader Gen. Manuel Noriega on drug-trafficking charges Sept. 14, by refusing to rule jurors off the panel who showed bias and prejudice against the accused.

Hoeverler permitted someone to remain in the jury pool who spoke out saying, "I know Noriega for violation of human rights." Hoeverler said, "There will be nothing about this case that has anything to do with politics. The case will be tried exactly according to the evidence."

The prosecution opened its case alleging that Noriega benefited financially from the Medellín Cartel drugs which were allowed to pass through Panama, and that Carlos Lehder, the former head of the cartel, would confirm this. According to *Newsday*, Lehder, now serving a life sentence in U.S. prison, has agreed to testify under the witness protection program. Lehder reportedly signed an agreement with the U.S. government on Sept. 13 in which the U.S. has agreed to ease the terms of Lehder's life sentence. He will be released much earlier, but how much earlier is not reported.

Environmentalists on junk mail ecology costs

The ecology lobby's "junk mail" was the subject of a segment on ABC News on Sept. 10. Anchor Peter Jennings pointed to the

loss of millions of trees every year as junk mail floods the nation's mailboxes. Only 10% is ever read and only 5% is responded to, said Jennings. So who's the greatest culprit? "Ironically, the environmentalists account for a large percentage of the junk mail, which is killing the nation's forests," Jennings said.

Lawyers for the National Resources Defense Council and another ecology group who were interviewed, were defensive. The segment concluded with the observation that, in their efforts to cut down their junk mailing, the ecologists are selling their lists to other groups, to make money, and are thus in fact increasing the flood of junk mail.

District considers hiding cause of death

The Washington, D.C. City Council is considering legislation that would conceal from the public the deceased's cause of death, the Sept. 9 *Washington Times* reported.

The bill would revise the city's death certificates, issuing them in two parts: a pronouncement of death, and a medical certification of cause. The first part would be available for the public record. The second, listing the cause of death, would be made available only to physicians, police, and the federal government.

The bill would also authorize hospice nurses, rather than physicians or medical examiners, to make a death pronouncement at home.

The *Washington Times* reports that the bill has been prompted by "privacy concerns of the families of people who have died of AIDS-related illnesses." But the advantages of the legislation for the secret government and the euthanasia lobby are significant.

Columnist points to Democrat's ties to BCCI

Columnist Warren Brookes pointed out that Sen. John Kerry's (D-Mass.) hearings into the Bank of Credit and Commerce Interna-

tional (BCCI) scandal have the earmarks of a careful coverup, since he has failed to call financier David Paul as a witness.

Paul was the controller of CenTrust, a savings and loan which will cost more to bail out than Keating's Lincoln Savings and Loan collapse, and which was a principal conduit of BCCI money into the U.S. and Democratic campaign committees, Kerry's included.

In testimony before the House Banking Committee on Sept. 11, Democratic Party powerbroker Clark Clifford denied that he knew that BCCI secretly controlled First American Bankshares, the *Washington Times* reported. Clifford, who was chairman of the First American until his recent resignation, did not convince some members of the committee. Rep. Toby Roth (R-Wisc.) commented to Clifford, "You have been in bed with BCCI for 10 years and you say all you got was a backrub."

The not-so-veiled reference is to Sen. Chuck Robb (D-Va.), who denied that he had an extra-marital affair with a former Miss Virginia, but admitted they shared a hotel room where she gave him a "back-rub."

William Weld seizes Chelsea, Massachusetts

Massachusetts Gov. William Weld has implemented his plan for the bankrupt municipality of Chelsea, adjacent to Boston. Weld has used emergency powers granted by the state legislature to abolish the office of mayor, reduce the board of aldermen to an advisory capacity, and appoint a "czar" to administer austerity cutbacks in the poverty-ridden neighborhood. "I'm just waiting for the tanks to roll into the streets," Alderman Jim Mitchell told the Sept. 13 *Boston Herald*.

Chelsea, like other Massachusetts municipalities, is unable to raise taxes because of Proposition 2½, passed in 1980, which forbids tax increases not approved by voters. Its \$9.5 million deficit in a \$40 million budget has provoked school closings and municipal shutdowns. Weld's czar, James Carlin, is now empowered to set municipal budgets and re-open municipal contracts, with no input from any elected body.

Briefly

● **'GOVERNOR Moonbeam,'** former California Gov. Jerry Brown, has sought advice on his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination from Jude Wanniski, considered the founder of "supply-side" (aka voodoo) economics.

● **U.S. PRISON** conditions have declined over the last 10 years while Soviet prisons have improved, the human rights group Helsinki Watch said in a report released at a conference in Moscow in mid-September. The two nations are the "superpowers" of incarceration, holding over 1 million prisoners each, it said.

● **L. DOUGLAS WILDER** of Virginia, the first elected black governor in the U.S. since the Civil War, announced Sept. 13 that he will run for the 1992 Democratic presidential nomination. Conceding that he is the "longest of long shots," Wilder said his campaign seeks to make "America greater than it is."

● **GEORGE BUSH**, who said earlier this year that only ill health would prevent him from running for reelection, pronounced himself in "perfect health" Sept. 13 following a medical checkup. According to the Sept. 14 *Washington Post*, the Bush campaign plans to spend \$26 million in the primaries alone—even though Bush has no Republican challenger.

● **JIMMY CARTER** recently told a Democratic Party politico that the forthcoming book by former National Security Council staffer Gary Sick on the October Surprise, contains "explosive" new revelations implicating then-Vice President Bush's adviser Donald Gregg in the delay of the release of U.S. hostages from Iran, Evans and Novak reported.

● **VICE PRESIDENT** Dan Quayle, in Nigeria Sept. 13, the first stop of his tour of several African nations, rejected any debt write-off for the desperately poor and disease ridden African nations. "The debt must be paid," he insisted.