

# National News

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## Right to organize wins one

On Jan. 3, the prosecutor for King County, Washington announced to the court that the charges of criminal trespass against Paul Glumaz, an associate of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, were being dropped. Glumaz had been arrested at the U.S. Post Office in the town of Woodinville in September by the county sheriff following a complaint by the postmaster.

Glumaz was not charged with soliciting nor with election campaigning. Therefore, his lawyer Tim McGarry argued that Glumaz was within his rights under the First Amendment to distribute literature, a right upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Kokinda v. United States*. The question of selling or soliciting was raised neither by the prosecutor nor by the defense.

The prosecutor had offered a plea bargain which would have had Glumaz plead guilty, be fined court costs, and be forbidden to go to that post office for one year. When that was rejected, the prosecutor offered to drop the charges in exchange for court costs and a year prohibition against distribution. When that offer was rejected in court, the prosecutor dropped the charges.

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## EIR files FOIA on October Surprise

In court papers filed Jan. 10, a group of EIR researchers charged that the government's continued stonewalling on the release of documents concerning the "October Surprise"—especially those concerning the roles of Cyrus Hashemi and J. Stanley Pottinger—is a government coverup of "treasonous activity."

The researchers filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit in 1987 when six government agencies refused to release documents; the latest brief is in response to the government's motion to dismiss the case based on its claim that the documents so far released are the only ones that can be released without "damage to national secu-

urity" or causing an "unwarranted invasion of privacy."

In opposing the government's claims, the brief explains that it is an improper invocation of the "damage to national security" exemption if it is used by a government agency simply "to prevent embarrassment."

The brief argues that "the essence of the 'October Surprise' allegation is that members of the Republican Party, including the current President of the United States, conspired with Iranian officials through intermediaries to delay the release of the American hostages in Iran until after the 1980 presidential election was held. Since this alleged activity could be viewed as treasonous, it is difficult to imagine any revelations which could be more embarrassing to the government than information tending to support . . . such allegations."

The brief also points out that claims to privacy must be weighed against the public's right to know how its government functions. "The public interest in disclosure may override even the strong privacy interest belonging to a person suspected of criminal or other wrongful activity. . . . This is surely the case here where . . . the public interest concerns whether high government officials properly performed their duties in a matter which involves everything from terrorism to possible treason."

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## State Department caught in 'big lie'

The Jan. 10 *New York Times* admitted that a wild, nasty attack on Germany—that Chancellor Helmut Kohl had used the word *Sieg* to refer to German policy on Croatia, and was following in the footsteps of Adolf Hitler—which was featured in the Jan. 7 *New York Times* and *International Herald Tribune*, was a lie. The paper admitted that its story had "placed great stress on this report from a United States State Department official."

The original author of the article, David Binder, claimed that in his statement that the early recognition of Croatia and Slovenia was a "great victory for German foreign policy," Kohl had used the German word *Sieg* in favor of the milder *Erfolg*, which

translates to "success" in English. A State Department official told Binder that "Kohl may have proclaimed the first German *Sieg* since 1945," i.e., since Hitler was proclaiming that Germany was about to launch its final *Sieg* against the allies. The charge was a fabrication.

The origin of the anti-German hate propaganda is the perceived threat by the Anglo-American elite to their system of world order established at Versailles.

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## Martinez said funneling money to Bush campaign

National drug-control policy chief Bob Martinez, the former governor of Florida, is reportedly involved in channeling money from Florida to the Bush campaign.

This story, which appears to be just the tip of the iceberg, became public when Martinez's chief of staff, William Smith, spoke up. He was fired in early January. According to the Jan. 9 *Washington Post*, "Martinez has used his White House office and a top personal aide to route more than \$63,000 in campaign refunds from his 1990 Florida gubernatorial race to Republican Party officials for the Bush-Quayle reelection campaign, according to Florida campaign records and internal drug policy office documents."

Martinez claims that he was overcharged by television stations during his Florida gubernatorial campaign, and now he is just getting a refund that could amount to \$500,000.

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## Supreme Court to review two key cases

The Supreme Court announced Jan. 10 that it will take up two cases with profound ramifications for the U.S. constitutional system and international law. The first will determine whether religious and other groups have a constitutional right to distribute literature and solicit at airports. This stems from a split ruling of the Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals which allowed operators

of the three major airports in the New York City area to ban religious groups from seeking donations.

The second case in effect will be a ruling on the legality of the notorious Thornburgh Doctrine. The Court will consider whether U.S. agents can abduct foreign criminal suspects from their homeland. Specifically, the case involves the Drug Enforcement Administration's kidnaping of two Mexican suspects in the murder of DEA agent Enrique Camarena. The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the U.S. breached its obligations under a 1978 extradition treaty and ordered a lower court to conduct an analysis that would virtually assure the men be returned to Mexico.

## McCarthy calls for closing down FEC

Former senator and Democratic presidential candidate Eugene McCarthy called for "closing down the Federal Election Commission," in a press statement Jan. 6.

"The Federal Election Commission has no popular mandate to ask for any more taxpayer funding," said McCarthy. "When less than 20% of the American taxpayers are showing support for the matching fund system, it's really not a time for the FEC to be asking for more money. Rather, it's a time to admit that the system has failed, and that at no time has there been more than 28.7% of the taxpayers willing to contribute to matching funds."

McCarthy, who opposed the creation of the FEC in the 1970s, said, "We said [then] that the cure being proposed was much worse than the existing malady. Time has demonstrated we made the right call at that time. Will we have to wait another 20 years to reverse a bad idea?"

"All the historical evidence informs us that it is dangerous to have the federal government intervening in the people's right to choose those who will govern."

McCarthy also brought up the prospect of mass protests at the Democratic National Convention and warned party officials against the politics of exclusion. "Is the party forgetting so soon the lessons it should have learned from the 1968 debacle?"

McCarthy states that there were two major lessons the party should have learned from the events in 1968: "The first was that we needed to listen to what the voters, both Democratic and independent voters, were telling the party leaders in the primaries.

"The second was that the party leaders needed to maintain a fair and open primary system, as well as a fair and open caucus system, which would reflect voter sentiment and rational voices."

McCarthy, who has been denied ballot status by the Democratic Party chairman in Florida and elsewhere, said that there are already some disturbing trends that the party may be forcing some people outside the tent again. "Does the party really prefer exclusion to inclusion?"

## U.S. responsible to feed the world, says magazine

The world's food supply is precariously short, despite the depressed commodity markets, warned the editorial of the Dec. 26 *AgriNews*. It stated that agriculture has been battling overproduction since the end of World War II, but this is over. It reported that the 1991 harvest dropped by 86 million tons, the largest single year drop ever recorded.

"Famine, civil wars and strife, and economic collapse have pushed millions of people in parts of Africa, the former Soviet Union, and the newly free people of the Eastern bloc to the edge of starvation," the editorial warned.

The editorial reported that food shortages in the Third World left "wealthy nations—including the United States—with the responsibility of providing emergency food aid to these people."

The editorial attacked "experts in the U.S." who say it's better not to provide food aid and let people die until the population drops to the point where individual nations' food-producing capability matches its population. "A population that prides itself on its Christian ideals surely cannot allow this to happen," it stated.

The editorial called for an end to the set-aside and other production limiting programs. "We face the great challenge of feeding the world's ever-increasing population."

## Briefly

● **ROBERT GATES**, the new head of the CIA, has set up a so-called "Openness Task Force" which is recommending that more public interviews, speeches, and public testimony to Congress be encouraged to make it appear more accessible to the public, the Jan. 12 *New York Times* reported.

● **AN INDIGENOUS** Peoples Day to replace Columbus Day was declared by Berkeley, California city officials Jan. 10. Activists attacked the evangelization of the New World. "We believe in the indigenous way of life," John Curl, of Berkeley Resistance 500, said.

● **MASSACHUSETTS** has joined 44 other states in removing hospitals from state regulation, including caps on charges the state has maintained on hospitals since 1975. Critics say this will result in 15-20 hospitals closing. House Health Committee chairman John McDonough said Jan. 3 the plan will push up health care costs and lead to huge profits for the state's biggest insurers and health care corporations.

● **THE ORTHODOX** Church "could become overnight the fifth or sixth largest faith group in America," Alexander Webster, editor of the newsletter at the Orthodox Studies Project at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, was quoted in the Dec. 29 *National Catholic Register*.

● **PAT BUCHANAN** is "campaigning as if he really wants to win," according to the Jan. 9 *Washington Post*. Tony Fabrizio, Buchanan's former campaign manager, told the *Post* that Buchanan would "be a loyal soldier" if he lost and would "campaign aggressively for George Bush."

● **THE 'POPULATION** explosion" was featured in the December 1991 *Rotarian*, the magazine of the Rotary Club. Extremist Paul R. Ehrlich, author of the discredited 1968 book *The Population Bomb*, called for the birth rate to be brought below the death rate "as soon as possible."