

National News

Newt eyed as abomination at FDR 50th memorial

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) was rebuffed in disgust by a number of prominent speakers, at an event held April 12 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in Warm Springs, Georgia. Gingrich has repeatedly attempted to peddle his New Age "no deal," by invoking FDR's 100 Days as a precedent for his own Contract with America.

Former President Jimmy Carter, who was presented with the Four Freedoms Award at the ceremony, declared, "As I listened to FDR's words and read the paper about the leadership on the Hill these days, it seems a travesty that some would claim the legacy of my President, Franklin Roosevelt." Anna Eleanor Roosevelt recited a speech of her grandfather's calling for "economic rights" for all citizens. This, she declared, not the "Contract with America . . . is the gospel. This is the good news."

John Kenneth Galbraith, former economic adviser to a long line of New Deal Democrats, added, "The notion that we're returning to the age of Herbert Hoover is something on which I'd leave Newt Gingrich to reflect."

California puts prisons ahead of universities

California will spend more on prisons this year than for its state universities, according to Geoffrey Long, the chief consultant to the State Assembly's Budget Committee. The once-prestigious University of California and California State systems have been steadily gutted by massive budget cuts imposed during the 1990s, as the state's revenues collapsed with the destruction of its industrial and agricultural base.

Gov. Pete Wilson (R), a leading backer of Newt Gingrich's Contract with America, has a penchant for prison labor which is adding to the toll. The *New York Times* re-

ported on April 12 that the effect of Wilson's "Three Strikes" law, imposing a huge additional number of mandatory life sentences, will only exacerbate an already desperate situation.

Over the last 15 years, the number of inmates has risen by 23,511 to 126,140, while the state has built 17 new prisons—the largest prison construction program in the nation's history. Fifteen more prisons would be needed by the year 2000, simply to keep inmate populations at the current level of 182% of official capacity of total prison space.

The nation-wrecking plotters at the RAND Corp. have projected that by the year 2002, if the three-strikes law were fully implemented, the Department of Corrections would consume 18% of California's budget, while only 1% would be left for universities. And by the year 2027, RAND projects that there would be 401,000 convicts in California—more than there are now in all of western Europe, Australia, Canada, Japan, and New Zealand combined.

ADL leader Murray Janus investigated for bribery

National Anti-Defamation League leader Murray Janus, also the former head of the Virginia ADL, is under investigation for bribery in a sexual harassment case in Virginia, according to a front-page report in the April 14 Richmond *Times-Dispatch*. Both the state police and a special prosecutor are on his tail. A prominent lawyer and reputed power-broker in state politics, Janus sponsored Roanoke Judge Clifford Weckstein and his blatant frameups of LaRouche associates in Virginia.

The *Times-Dispatch* reported that, at approximately the beginning of March, a woman came to the office of Janus and his law partner James A. Baber III. The woman, seeking legal assistance from Baber, reportedly said she could not manage to pay the required legal fee. At this point, it is alleged, Baber "sexually assaulted" her. It is then alleged that Janus offered her a bribe if she would refrain from pressing charges against his partner.

The woman went to the police. Reportedly wired with a concealed tape recorder, she then went back to Janus and allegedly received a \$10,000 check from him. According to the *Times-Dispatch*, Janus claims, "What transpired was a perfectly acceptable and legal settlement of an alleged civil claim."

EIRNS exposes Arundel's links to Lansky mob

The April 10 issue of *EIR News for Loudoun County*, the Loudoun County, Virginia weekly newspaper published by this news service, featured an exclusive exposé of new evidence tying Arthur Windsor "Nicky" Arundel, the publisher of the *Loudoun Times-Mirror*, to the networks of the Meyer Lansky gambling and murder syndicate.

Arundel played a key role in the "Get LaRouche" task force responsible for the illegal railroading into prison of Lyndon LaRouche and numerous of his associates, most of them Loudoun County residents. The exposé is the result of an investigation over several months into Arundel, who is also chairman of the Virginia Gold Cup steeplechase race, and promotes himself as one of the leading figures of the "hunt country" elite.

Public records and congressional testimony reveal that Arundel was prominently involved in the founding and operation of a Washington, D.C. bank, exposed in the 1960s as a piggy bank for the Lansky syndicate. Arundel served on the board of directors of the suspect bank, the District of Columbia National Bank (DCNB), wielding his share of authority over its policies and transactions over a 10-year period.

The exposé reveals the multiple links between DCNB and the Lansky-run mob, in particular to Lansky associates Bobby Baker, Eddie Levinson, and Benjamin B. Siegelbaum. It also details the connections between Arundel, Siegelbaum, and DCNB co-founder Max Kampelman, a protégé of former Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), whose entire political career was backed by Minnesota mob figure Isadore Blumenfeld, a.k.a. "Kid Cann," according to the release.

Briefly

● **WASHINGTON, D.C.** fell under the hammer of a five-member Financial Control Board on April 17, when President Clinton signed a bill putting the District under a regime of enforced austerity. The deficit-wracked District can now borrow as much as \$660 million this year from the U.S. Treasury to stay afloat—but will be required to eliminate its entire deficit within three to four years.

● **CONRAIL**, a major Northeast-Midwest freight carrier, is “considering the sale or abandonment of as much as 4,000 miles” of its 11,700 miles of railroad routes, said the *Wall Street Journal* on April 18. The proposal to further dismantle the nation’s already collapsing infrastructure comes out of what the *Journal* described as an “intense drive to boost return on assets to justify further investments.”

● **GOVERNOR PATAKI** of New York has directed the state’s social service agencies to deny emergency shelter to the homeless, unless they are participating in drug treatment and job training programs, searching for permanent housing, and avoiding drugs and violence. Ostensibly, the plan will save the state \$294,800.

● **NEW RULES** are being prepared to expand federal access to the personal financial records of U.S. government employees and contractors who have access to classified information, the *Washington Post* claimed on April 12. Pursuant to a review of the Aldrich Ames case, the proposed Presidential order would require agreement in advance that federal investigators can obtain and review bank statements, credit histories, and any documents related to foreign travel from persons holding such clearances.

● **ROBERT DOLE** of Kansas, the Senate Majority Leader, declared his candidacy for President on April 10 in Topeka. Dole promised to “rein in” the federal government, balance the budget, lower taxes, and turn welfare over to the states.

Bush endorses Warner’s Senate re-election bid

Former President George Bush on April 10 endorsed U.S. Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.) for reelection in 1996, at a \$500-a-plate fundraiser held April 10 at the Richmond Marriott Hotel, attended by 450 Republicans. Bush’s endorsement was widely reported as “controversial,” because Republican Party “regulars” are furious at Warner for campaigning against the Senate candidacy of Oliver North, who went down to defeat in the November 1994 election.

Bush’s backing of Warner may also have been intended to blur Bush’s own ties to North’s illegal gun-running and drug-smuggling operations, during Bush’s term as vice president. That bundle of dirty laundry was brought to the attention of voters all across Virginia during North’s losing campaign, through millions of leaflets launched by supporters of Lyndon LaRouche.

Virginia Republican Party Chairman Patrick McSweeney had asked Bush to spurn Warner’s invitation to address the fundraiser. The bash was reportedly hosted largely by business and financial leaders, or former members of the Bush administration, rather than by party activists. At a press conference preceding the event, Bush praised Warner for his active role in support of Bush’s genocidal war against Iraq.

Clinton answers question on financial reform

At his press conference April 18, President Clinton responded to a question by *EIR* correspondent Bill Jones on the instability of the international financial system and his primary concerns. Jones specifically referenced the Japanese finance minister’s recent “proposal regarding international financial reform, reform of the international system.”

The President responded:

“First, let me say that this is an issue which needs to be addressed, that it needs to be addressed in a very thoughtful way so as

not to further aggravate whatever conditions exist there. It is obvious that the integration of the global financial markets . . . has many advantages, that you can get money to places in a hurry, that places that have been underdeveloped can develop more quickly, and that you can develop the sophisticated trading relationships more rapidly, and that this is all a positive.

“It is also obvious that, as with almost every other element in the modern society that we live in, every force of integration carries within it the seeds of potential disintegration, of rapid unraveling.

“So last year, that’s why I asked the heads of the other G-7 countries, the other major economies, to devote a discussion this summer, when we meet in Canada, to this subject. We have been working on it, the Japanese have been working on it, the Canadians have been working on it, the Europeans have been working on it, and we will have a long talk about it this summer. We will do our very best to come up with sensible statements about where we go from here.”

McCain pushes full relations with Hanoi

U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who led the charge calling for bombing North Korea during the Korean crisis last year, turned up in Hanoi on April 11 and called for President Clinton to establish full diplomatic relations with Vietnam this year—or risk having the issue become ensnared in election politics. McCain’s trip followed the announcement that former President George Bush will speak in Hanoi in September.

The Clinton administration established formal ties with Vietnam last January by setting up a liaison office in Hanoi. McCain, as part of his recent Asian tour, was in Hanoi to accept the remains of U.S. MIAs from the Vietnam War.

McCain also criticized former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, who says in a new book that the United States should have pulled out of Vietnam in 1963. “I wish Secretary McNamara had not waited so long to reveal some of the facts that we all know,” he said.