

# National News

---

## Gingrich eager for Starr report on Clinton

Although House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has been cautious about the possibility that the House of Representatives will receive an impeachment referral from independent counsel Kenneth Starr, in private, Gingrich is telling his GOP colleagues that impeachment proceedings will help this year's Republican election campaigns, according to the *Washington Post* on April 4.

"Does anyone doubt we're going to have this material in two months?" Gingrich is reported to have asked his colleagues in a closed-door meeting on March 31. According to the *Post's* sources, Gingrich indicated that he would welcome such a report from Starr.

Gingrich has been promoting the idea of creating a special, select committee to handle an impeachment inquiry, but in a letter released on April 3, sixteen Republican members of the House Judiciary Committee asked Gingrich to reject the idea of a select committee and leave it to the Judiciary Committee, arguing that to break with precedent by creating a select committee "could easily be misinterpreted as partisan maneuvering."

---

## Coretta King meets with Reno to find assassin

Coretta Scott King, along with members of her family and others, met with Attorney General Janet Reno for two hours on April 8, to present new evidence of a conspiracy in the April 4, 1968 assassination of her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "New witnesses have come forward who have never been investigated," Mrs. King said after the meeting. She said Reno listened "very sympathetically," and promised to get back to her around her request for the creation of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, modelled on that of South Africa.

Mrs. King was accompanied by former UN Ambassador Andrew Young, and for-

mer D.C. Delegate Walter Fauntroy. Fauntroy, as the District of Columbia delegate to the House of Representatives, helped to lead a Congressional investigation of the King assassination, and came to believe in the innocence of James Earl Ray.

Lyndon LaRouche told the international radio broadcast "EIR Talks" on April 9, that "there's no question that the story which Ray told, has great verisimilitude.

"Now, it's also known that the Reverend Martin Luther King was targeted by J. Edgar Hoover. Now, that means more than most people would think. J. Edgar Hoover, of course, was this tyrant who was sitting on top of the FBI for many years, since the 1920s. He was a very nasty character. He was also a racist. He was a key member of the Kappa Alpha Society, which is . . . the academic running-dog of the Ku Klux Klan. . . . There are many people in the Justice Department, particularly in the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, who still, to this day, are racists. The key man behind Kenneth Starr, for example, Hickman Ewing, is a known racist, with an untarnished record, shall we say, as a racist.

"And Martin Luther King was targeted by Hoover. He was killed. If you look at the circumstances of the operation, the proposition that Ray was the shooter of King, is absurd."

---

## Reno mum on action vs. Oregon euthanasia law

During her April 2 press briefing, Attorney General Janet Reno responded to a question about whether the Justice Department would take action against Oregon's legalization of "physician-assisted suicide." Reno told reporters: "What we've tried to do is to make sure that everybody has an opportunity to be heard. I am now anticipating some decision-memos giving the different perspectives of the Department so that I can take final action. I have reviewed the memos. I have considered the arguments. And now I'm waiting for specific recommendations."

The Oregon law permits doctors to prescribe drugs in lethal dosages for patients

who are alleged to be terminally ill, in order to commit suicide. "Compassion in Dying," the organization that wrote the law and led the campaign for its passage, provides the recipe, usually an overdose of barbiturates, for successful "suicides."

But, because of the Drug Enforcement Administration classification for barbiturates, under Federal law, any physician who prescribes barbiturates is under scrutiny from the DEA, which allows access to controlled substances only for legitimate medical purposes. When Oregon voters passed the suicide initiative in November, the DEA concluded that barbiturates for suicides was a misuse of Federally controlled drugs, and it would review the matter.

Anti-euthanasia advocates hope that a Federal intervention would be as effective against the suicide law in Oregon, as it had been against the phony "medical marijuana" initiative in California. Nonetheless, at least two people have died under Oregon's euthanasia law.

---

## Professor elaborates on legal lawlessness in Va.

Washington and Lee University law professor William Geimer gave a statement to the LaRouche movement's weekly newspaper *New Federalist* on April 4, elaborating on his charges, reported on March 27 in the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, that the Virginia Attorney General's office runs a "death squad" in its death row operations. Geimer was asked to elaborate on what he meant by a "death squad."

"As I also said—and it wasn't published—whether you oppose the death penalty in all cases or not, the only difference between a murder and a lawful execution is the law. So, if the law breaks down, and the law about who is supposed to be sentenced to death and who isn't, under the law, and the limitations are ignored in the name of politics, then an execution is on the same plane as a street-killing.

"It's not just the Attorney General's pathetic little group of people there, who use every technicality and who misstate the facts

**A MARYLAND BILL** to impose sanctions against Nigeria was defeated in the Senate on April 7. Opposition was mobilized by Nigerian businessman Lawrence Fejokwu, and associates of Lyndon LaRouche. Lawrence Freeman, a Baltimore-based correspondent with *EIR* who has visited Nigeria several times, submitted testimony against the bill.

**THE 'CHRISTIAN Alliance for Israel'** is planning a 50th anniversary celebration of Israel's statehood, by holding a mass rally of up to 18,000 evangelicals, to be addressed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over April 29-May 3, in Orlando, Florida.

**OLIVER NORTH** ranted against President Clinton's trip to Africa, in the April 1 *Washington Times*, saying that Clinton "implicitly blames the Reagan administration for the Cold War battles fought on African soil. Does he think no one here remembers that Fidel Castro's legions were the mercenaries of the Soviet Empire in Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique?" (At the time, North's Bush-directed operations were buying East German weapons to arm "anti-communist" and "Islamic fundamentalist" mercenaries.)

**THE UNHUMAN RIGHTS Commission** issued a report on April 3, calling for a moratorium on further executions in the United States, and stating that some U.S. states carry out executions in an "arbitrary and discriminatory manner," in violation of the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The report opposes the execution of juveniles, the retarded, and the mentally ill.

**RICHARD MELLON SCAIFE'S** "ties to ultraconservative factions of the American and British intelligence communities," were exposed in the *Seattle Post Intelligencer* on April 1. Few publications other than *EIR* have noted that connection; only *EIR* has reported Scaife's role in funding both the "Get LaRouche" and "Get Clinton" operations.

and distort the records to try to get people executed. It's also that the court system has broken down in Virginia, so that the rule of law, the limitations on the death penalty which were so important to being able to have a death penalty at all reinstated in '76, are just ignored in Virginia.

"This little arm of the AG's office, they took offense to the term 'death squad,' but I don't know what else you could call them. They use every technicality, and they distort, and they speak in very nasty, uncivil, unlawful-like terms in the pleadings and briefs and things that they write.

"So I have no regret about the use of that term. It's just that they're not alone. They're just a part of the breakdown of the law in Virginia."

## Wisconsin ends welfare, but there are no jobs

In an interview with NBC's "Today" show on March 31, Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson (R), whose Wisconsin Works pioneered the slashing of welfare in America, declared the end of welfare in his state. Beginning April 1, every adult judged able to work will be cut off, and those who aren't ready to work (including mothers of children six months or older) must perform some kind of job training or community service to earn their checks. A similar inflection point will soon be reached in all 50 states, as the 1996 Federal welfare reform legislation works its way around the country's state-run programs.

Thompson lied that the average job in Wisconsin for welfare recipients pays \$6.30 (minimum wage is \$5.15); at 25% above poverty level, he said, there's no problem for a mother to support three children on that \$13,000-a-year gross income.

However, a recent study by the University of Wisconsin, reported in the London press, which has tracked 25,000 single parents who had been on welfare, found that in a 15-month period, 18,000 of them had worked at least once, holding 42,000 separate jobs. But only 7% had earnings equivalent to \$20,000 a year, and only 39% were earning

\$10,000 a year or more—the minimum wage. A third had no recorded earnings at all.

A *Washington Post* study released on March 23, showed that tens of thousands of families are being forced off welfare as punishment for not complying with tough new rules, many of these because they are too illiterate or sick to understand the regulations. The study found that, in Indiana, more than half of the 14,248 cases closed in a three-month period last year were a result of sanctions. In Florida, 27% of the 148,000 cases closed in the second half of 1997 were because of sanctions. In a Utah pilot program, half the sanctions ordered were imposed in error, often when a caseworker didn't detect that a recipient suffered from mental illness or some other problem.

## Book assails destruction of Classical education

A new book, *Who Killed Homer? The Demise of Classical Education and the Recovery of Greek Wisdom*, makes a powerful correlation between the collapse of Classical training among American students, and the destruction of the educational system itself. The book, by Victor David Hanson and John Heath, points out that, in 1994, only 600 university graduates were awarded degrees in the Classics, out of 1 million total undergraduate degrees.

The *Washington Post* review on March 29 called the book "a blistering indictment not just of administrators, who must meet the bottom line, but of Classicists themselves, who ignored the developing crisis over the past 30 years" by withdrawing into what the authors term "obscurantist" scholarship, saturated with French post-structuralism and post-modernism. Hanson and Heath assail the degradation of Western culture by politically correct campus "trend, cant, and fad." "Our own Founding Fathers," Hanson and Heath remind us, "helped establish an American 'cult of antiquity' . . . To walk through Washington, D.C. is to experience Graeco-Roman institutions, architecture, sculpture, and city-planning at first hand."