

So, Frank Wolf can be beaten! All we have to do is launch an all-out mobilization to tell the truth.

We have to tell the truth on the economy. People know the authorities are lying about a recovery, they know the infrastructure is collapsing—from roads to sewer systems. They know we need to *change direction* to rebuild our country again, and they will support our bold fight to do so. Just as our citizens rallied behind FDR's Bretton Woods system of 1945, they will rally behind LaRouche's new Bretton Woods system that stops speculation, and puts us on the road to long-term economic development.

We have to tell the truth about the justice system, about how the permanent bureaucracy at the Justice Department, some of it left from J. Edgar Hoover's day, has ripped up the Constitution in its pursuit of black elected officials, labor, and the LaRouche movement. There's a bill in Congress with more than 150 sponsors, which would finally penalize prosecutors for violating rights of citizens. We must fight for that bill, the McDade-Murtha bill, and for hearings exposing those abuses, centering on what former Attorney General Ramsey Clark has called the most extensive example of prosecutorial abuse he's ever seen—the LaRouche case.

And we have to tell the truth about Frank Wolf. Beneath that placid exterior . . . is a person who couldn't give a damn about his constituents, but follows a political agenda of religious and ethnic conflict set by the likes of British Lady Caroline Cox. (I know a political extremist when I see one.) [laughter]

Just as our President is about to forge a crucial strategic alliance with China to help world peace and prosperity, Wolf seeks to kill the deal.

Just as Sudan seeks to mend conflicts with its neighbors and create harmony within its nation, Wolf spreads hate propaganda against Islam and tries to impose sanctions that would cause genocide.

Wolf pushes the so-called Freedom from Religious Persecution bill. . . . Yet, he spreads lies about one nation after another, promotes wars, and supports draconian repression in the United States. As the cases of political prisoners Mike Billington, Anita and Paul Gallagher, and Larry Hecht show, in his home state of Virginia, Wolf has never objected to decades-long jail sentences, or political imprisonment. And I don't think he ever met an execution he did not like, here in the United States.

And while Wolf congratulates himself for balancing the budget, he votes for the bills that let HMOs treat our sick as the Nazis treated "useless eaters."

It's time we Democrats, and our fellow citizens, once again took up politics as the life or death matter it is. This coming period of crisis is going to determine whether we go into a period of depopulation and disease like the Dark Ages, or whether we reaffirm the principles of man and woman made in the image of God, upon which our republic, and civilization, are based. . . .

White House debunks GOP flap over Loral

by William Jones

In a highly unusual move, the White House has declassified internal correspondence and memos relating to the February 1998 decision to grant a waiver allowing Space Systems/Loral to launch a commercial satellite on Chinese Long March rockets. This move was made in an effort to expose as a hoax the Republican claims that the Clinton administration, for alleged pecuniary reasons, "had looked the other way," as technology has been transferred to upgrade the Chinese missile program.

The whole incident centers on an alleged "technical violation" by the Loral company in its investigation of an explosion in 1996 of a Chinese Long March rocket that was carrying one of its satellites. Although the explosion seems to have been caused by a low-tech problem involving soldering on the Long March rocket, portions of an analysis of the accident by Loral engineers may have been revealed to the Chinese. If this did occur, it may have been a violation of the stringent regulations governing these matters. Although the violation became the subject of a Justice Department investigation, the inquiry remains in its preliminary stages. Two years after the alleged violation was discovered, there has not even been a grand jury convened to examine the charges.

Nevertheless, when the Clinton administration was preparing to give Loral an additional waiver in February 1998, concerns were expressed by a top official in the DOJ Criminal Division, that issuing a waiver to Loral now would make it difficult to get a jury to convict them of the previous violation, were that case ever to go to trial. This, in spite of the fact that Loral had been issued two additional waivers since the alleged 1996 incident, without any concern being raised that violations might occur. The waiver for the rocket that crashed in 1996 had in fact been issued by President George Bush.

This was standard operating procedure. In the case of these waivers, both the State and Commerce departments must make their recommendations. A memo from National Security Council Deputy Counsel Newell Highsmith notes that both "State/DTC and Commerce confirmed that they would not typically delay licensing based on the existence of an investigation." Were an indictment issued, the waiver would have been withdrawn. If a violation had indeed occurred, it was not clear that it was intentional, and in cases like this, the presumption of innocence until otherwise proven, retains its relevance. State Department policy was that absent an indictment, the waiver should proceed.

When the waiver was granted, there was still a further step that had to be taken by the Commerce Department before an export license could be issued. Since this process would take 90 days, it was considered by officials as an additional safeguard. Were an indictment to develop out of the pending DOJ investigation, the administration could withdraw the waiver and take punitive steps against Loral.

Without the waiver, however, the deal could have been cancelled by the Chinese. Loral needed roughly 14 months lead-time for a launch with the Chinese Long March rockets, because of the safety concerns. Gary Samore, the National Security Council's top proliferations expert, commented on Feb. 11, "By the time we finish tinkering with this, the Chinese will cancel the contract." And yet, more was at stake than simply a satellite contract. The cooperation in this area had become a vital part of the strategically important U.S.-China relationship. This was expressed in a note by Highsmith after discussions with William Lowell of the Defense Security Agency. "Blocking could damage bilateral relationship," particularly cooperation in the area of arms sales and non-proliferation, Highsmith wrote.

But damaging the U.S.-China relationship had indeed become the goal of key Republican lawmakers. In the case of the 1996 crash, they have continually claimed that technology was transferred to China which could help them in their missile guidance system—a total fabrication. Hearings are now being organized to investigate the charges. With the demise of the Soviet "threat," these Cold Warriors are seeking a new "enemy image" against which they may harangue in order to lure gullible souls to give them their votes in November.

A Reagan-Bush policy

Ironically, the policy of allowing China to launch U.S. satellites was actually promulgated in 1988 during the Reagan administration. It was during this period that a very rigorous policy was worked out to prevent any of the satellite technology from benefitting any Chinese weapons program. U.S. observers accompany the satellite from transport to launch, and strictly control access by Chinese personnel. Although President Reagan did not grant a waiver in the short time left in his term, President Bush did—nine times.

Republican advocates of the "China-bashing" have also had to distort the facts surrounding the decision to transfer jurisdiction for initiating such commercial satellite launches from the State Department to the Commerce Department, again claiming "crass" economic motives on the part of the White House. This transfer, which would take satellite launches off the State Department-controlled Munitions List and put them in the dual-use technology category (controlled by the Commerce Department), was consistently sought by President Bush during his term in office. In 1996, legislation to that effect (the Export Administration Act of 1996) was introduced by Toby Roth (R-Wisc.), and passed in the House of Representatives. The legislation became somewhat moot, a

White House official pointed out, when the White House indicated to Roth that it would move for Executive action to expedite such a procedural change.

Nevertheless, every satellite waiver must still have the clearance of the State and Commerce departments. In the case of the most recent February 1998 waiver, over which Republicans are drumming up their new "red scare," State, the Defense Department, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency had all given a clear "thumbs up." In addition, the administration took the precaution of soliciting the views of the Justice Department, in light of its pending investigation. Although concerns were expressed by an Deputy Assistant Attorney General regarding the effects a Presidential waiver would have on any jury sitting in judgment on the 1996 incident—were this slow-moving case ever to get that far—this was not deemed an impediment serious enough to throw into confusion the entire U.S.-China cooperation in this area.

Under normal conditions, the whole affair would have been written off as a tempest in a teapot. But, in the highly charged atmosphere generated by the British-steered Republican assault on the Presidency, these games of political brinkmanship count for more than the overriding national security and economic interests of the United States embodied in the Clinton policy of engagement with China.

**"Long before Paula Jones,
long before Monica Lewinsky,
there was a conscious decision, made in
London, that there would be a full-scale
campaign to destroy Bill Clinton,
and to destroy, once and for all,
the credibility of the office of the
Presidency of the United States."**

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.



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