

In the 1950s, Liebman was introduced to Buckley and the two men became partners for life. In addition to his commercial clients, Liebman's PR firm reportedly also received money from both the CIA and the State Department for special agit-prop projects during the Cold War. In the early '60s, for example, Liebman teamed up with soldier of fortune and Chicago police department informant Robert K. Brown, in running mercenary recruitment and fundraising operations for anti-communist rebels in the Congo. It was a dry run for the 1980s Iran-Contra secret parallel government program.

In 1962, Viguerie became executive secretary of YAF, and he and Liebman moved their offices to Washington, D.C. After working for the 1964 Goldwater for President campaign as a publicist, Viguerie set up his own Capitol Hill firm, Richard A. Viguerie Company (RAVCO), in December 1964. According to one published account, he hired Kelly Girls to hand-copy the names of all of the Goldwater contributors who had donated more than \$50, and he gathered up the mailing lists from the string of conservative causes and front groups he and Liebman had done work for in recent years. In 1965, Viguerie was dumped from YAF, and, according to several accounts, he pilfered the YAF mailing list as he was walking out the door, adding to his now formidable list of fundraising targets. But Viguerie's formal departure from YAF only placed him into an even more pivotal position within Buckleyland.

Liebman, Viguerie's first mentor, was soon off to London, where he wrote a string of plays extolling the homosexual life-style, and had his own share of strange encounters in the Piccadilly sex and drug scene (Liebman recounted some of these escapades in his 1992 autobiography, *Coming Out Conservative*). Liebman returned to the United States in 1975, in time to help Robert K. Brown launch *Soldier of Fortune* magazine, and to launch the career of another gay future Reaganaut, Terry Dolan.

Viguerie, on the other hand, found himself a new mentor, direct marketing expert Edward N. Mayer, Jr., and began picking up clients—all from the stable of young conservative politicians who had cut their teeth in YAF. In 1965, Viguerie also got his first contract to do fundraising work for the Reverend Sun Myung Moon's several front groups. Moon would show up again and again as Viguerie's fairy godfather, every time he got into financial trouble.

In 1968, Viguerie bagged a fundraising contract with George Wallace's American Independent Party Presidential campaign. The next year, in a special election, he managed the fundraising direct mail operations for Phil Crane, winning him the Republican nomination and a seat in the U.S. Congress. Crane was the first of a crop of "Conservative Revolution" radicals to enter the Congress, filled with the ideas of the Mont Pelerin Society of free market ideologue Friedrich von Hayek.

By 1971, Viguerie had figured out that direct mail fundraising has another advantage: The vast majority of the money

raised goes to the direct mail firm—not to the cause. That year, to give just one example, Viguerie raised \$1.2 million for a group called Citizens for Decent Literature. He kept 84% of the money.

In 1973, Viguerie was hired to retire the 1972 campaign debt of the George Wallace Presidential campaign. The recommendation to bring in Viguerie came from Morris Dees, who had been milking the Democratic Party with the same direct mail fundraising schemes employed by Viguerie (Viguerie had been approached by the 1972 George McGovern campaign to fundraise, and had referred them, instead, to Dees). Dees would later surface as the head of the Southern

## Media blackout of the real stories

With the media cartelized and under their thumb, the Club of the Isles has the ability to black out even major news events, and/or, through selective reporting and outright cover-up of facts, to falsify current history in a way that, unfortunately, seems plausible to the average citizen. Here we present brief case studies on this media manipulation on issues of vital strategic importance.

### Mubarak's accusation of London as a source of world terrorism

A sequence of hourly news reports on Sunday, Nov. 23, 1997, on National Public Radio broadcasts, shows a flagrant pattern of news tampering and blackout. Beginning in the morning, NPR, which heavily uses news feeds from the BBC, reported on a press conference that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak made at Aswan, in which he cited London, by name, as a center for harboring terrorists, in particular those who had killed 62 tourists at Luxor, only five days earlier. Over the course of subsequent hourly broadcasts, this story was changed to add the United States as co-responsible, which President Mubarak did *not* say. Then the story was changed to *omit* any mention of London at all; then dropped. Here is the sequence:

9 a.m. EST: NPR, as the second leading news item, reports that President Mubarak has accused *London* of harboring the terrorists responsible for the Nov. 17 mass shootings of tourists. The radio broadcast notes that this is not the first time that Mubarak has singled out London.

10 a.m. EST: NPR reports that President Mubarak has accused *Britain and the United States* as culpable in harboring the terrorists responsible for the Luxor atrocity.

Poverty Law Center, an outfit linked to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which professes to defend minorities from persecution. Dees has been accused of racial bias and of defrauding his contributors, using the standard direct mail tactic of siphoning off the vast majority of money to cover overhead costs and salaries of his "public interest" law firm.

In 1973, Viguerie also went to work for Sen. Jesse Helms's (R-N.C.) Congressional Club. The following year, he linked up with Paul Weyrich, a man he had first come to know in the Wallace campaign. By now, the Viguerie, Weyrich, Howard Phillips, Morton Blackwell, Terry Dolan combine was being referred to as the "New Right." During

this period, they set up a string of new front groups, from the Coors family-funded Heritage Foundation, to the magazine *Conservative Digest*.

Viguerie described the reaction from some more traditional conservatives: "Between 1974 and 1978, the New Right received a lot of criticism from other conservatives who felt that we were wasting our time and dividing the resources of the conservative movement by moving in new directions and starting new publications, new political action committees, new research foundations, and new public interest law firms. They were greatly concerned about our massive use of technology such as computerized direct mail."

11 a.m. EST: NPR reports that President Mubarak has accused *Western powers*, of harboring the terrorists responsible for the atrocity.

12 a.m. EST: NPR drops the story altogether.

### **The LaRouche 1996 vote**

In the 1996 Presidential primary campaign, despite the fact that Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was on the ballot in 26 states, and garnered nearly 600,000 votes—far more than many other prominent primary candidates—his campaign was completely blacked out of the national television, radio, and print media, to the point that the standard media line was that "President Clinton ran unopposed" for the nomination.

LaRouche averaged 6.5% of the vote in the states in which he was on the ballot, and received well over 10% of the vote in a number of those races—far more votes than were captured by the widely publicized bids of Republicans Lamar Alexander, Phil Gramm, Bob Dornan, and Pete Wilson. Had LaRouche received proportional media coverage, his vote totals would have increased significantly, and his input into the Presidential policy debate process would have shaped a very different kind of national election, one that would have, in all likelihood, led to a larger Clinton victory, and a possible Democratic Party sweep of both Houses of Congress.

The fact that a candidate who had fully qualified for Federal matching funds, had received some 175,000 votes in California alone (Ralph Nader, the Green Party candidate, who received significant nightly news coverage, got only 20,000 votes), and had aired four nationwide, prime-time, half-hour TV campaign broadcasts, received *zero* mass media news coverage, says volumes about the top-down control the media exerts over what the American public is allowed to know.

### **Bush's role in Contra drug-smuggling**

On Aug. 18-20, 1996, the *San Jose Mercury News* in

California published an important three-part series, revealing that members of a Nicaraguan Contra organization, the National Democratic Front (FDN), had bankrolled the war against the Sandinista regime in Managua by dumping tons of crack cocaine onto the streets of Los Angeles. The *Mercury News* story, by investigative reporter Gary Webb, provoked an angry reaction from the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *New York Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the rest of the media cabal.

But, the real story behind the *Mercury News* scandal was the dimension of the Los Angeles Contra-cocaine tale that never appeared in the pages of the *Mercury News*: the role of Vice President, and, later, President George Bush, in supervising the cocaine-for-guns operations in Central America that placed segments of the Federal government in bed with the Colombian cocaine cartel.

The Bush role in the Contra-cocaine business was a perfect instance of rock-solid news. The government documents specifying Bush's role in the Central America program, were all declassified, and publicly available at the Library of Congress and the National Archives. There were thousands of pages of court transcripts, FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration affidavits, and other legal evidence of the Contra-cocaine links. Yet, no news organization apart from *EIR* saw fit to break the story as a high-priority item.

(As reported in last week's *EIR*, the recently released second volume of the CIA Inspector General's report on charges of CIA involvement with Contra drug smuggling, fully confirms the original story reported by this news service—namely, that the smuggling took place under direction of operatives linked to Bush's networks in the National Security Council and other agencies, and was not under CIA control; in fact, under Executive Order 12333, the drug-smuggling operations were protected from normal reporting procedures.)