

National News

Camden, N.J. files for bankruptcy protection

Mayor Milton Milan of Camden, New Jersey filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection on July 20, to protect his city from demands by the state government that Camden allow state auditors to control the budget process of the city.

Because Milan refused the state takeover, one-tenth of the Camden annual budget—\$15 million in state aid payments—was being withheld from the city, wire services reported. City Attorney John Misci, Jr. and Mayor Milan say that the strings attached to the state money “were deemed too high a price to pay.” According to Misci, “The mayor said he’s not going to yoke the residents of this city for generations to that type of punishment.”

Georgetown expert seeks U.S. shift on Balkans

Stan Burnett, a Georgetown University analyst with a past career in the State Department and USIS abroad, called for a U.S. policy shift on the issue of Balkan reconstruction, to include rebuilding Serbia, and emphasizing the importance of a Russian role in the Balkans. He was interviewed by Ennio Caretto of the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera*, published on July 26.

Burnett comments on the recent escalation of atrocities against the Serbian population in Kosovo, saying that “the problem is not military . . . but political. Severe measures must be immediately taken to prevent the spiral of revenge from taking off.” NATO, Burnett says, must put pressure on the Kosovo Liberation Army. He calls for “proceeding united in the economic and civilian reconstruction of Kosovo.” When the journalist remarks that there is an agreement to rebuild Kosovo, but no agreement on Serbia, Burnett replies: Agreement “must be reached there as well. I have heard a dozen definitions of humanitarian aid for

Belgrade which would be legitimate.”

Burnett, says the article, “holds it as indispensable that the Russians participate in stabilizing the Balkans.”

Burnett praises the behavior of the Italian government during the war, and criticizes NATO’s conduct of imposing decisions on member countries and selling them publicly afterward as “consultations.”

Retired officers hit Naval Academy curriculum

Gerald Atkinson, Commander U.S. Navy (ret.), decried the influence of the Frankfurt School and London’s Tavistock Institute upon the Naval Academy curriculum, in a commentary in the *Washington Times* on July 25. *EIR* “wrote the book” on these two culturally pernicious institutions, and our exposés have circulated widely.

Atkinson referred to a speech made recently by retiring Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Charles Krulak, who used the opportunity to attack some of the curriculum at the Academy that has been introduced under the heading of “political correctness,” a curriculum characterized by Krulak as “full of theoretical classes and seminars . . . mumbo jumbo about Freud, Kant, and utilitarianism.”

Although Krulak’s comments didn’t receive any media attention, Atkinson wrote that Krulak was right on the mark. Atkinson referred to a new “character development program” instituted at the Academy, in which midshipmen are broken down in groups of about 15, led by a “facilitator.”

“It sounds benign,” Atkinson said, “but unfortunately it is right out of Kurt Lewin’s methods of how to ‘brainwash’ individuals in a peer pressure environment where a ‘trained’ facilitator can work his or her ‘magic.’ This type of ‘leadership’ training is taken from the Tavistock Institute, Kurt Lewin’s National Training Laboratory (NTL) at MIT, and the ‘change agent’ movement at the University of Michigan in the early 1970s—which so destroyed our public schools.”

Referring to a recent essay by a female

Academy midshipman on the “Tailhook” sex scandal, Atkinson continued: “The essay is a classic example of Critical Theory straight out of the teachings of the ‘cultural Marxist’ Frankfurt School. . . . The midshipman uses the writings of the 19th-century philosophers Immanuel Kant, Jeremy Bentham, and John Stewart [sic] Mill to evaluate Tailhook 91. Of course, Kant was the founder of the ‘dialectical movement’ which led to Georg Wilhelm Hegel, whose philosophy led to Karl Marx, the father of ‘dialectical materialism,’ the progenitor to Josef Stalin’s communism. . . .

“The midshipman is but a pawn in a very dangerous game being played by the counterculture revolutionaries of the Boomer generation. In their midlife years, this elite has come to power in every American institution. As in all other institutions, they are destroying the U.S. military. It is another step in the long march through our American institutions.”

Apollo 11 experiment still returns data

During their little more than two hours on the Moon 30 years ago, the Apollo 11 astronauts left some scientific experiments on the surface of the Moon, one of which is still returning invaluable data, according to a press release from NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) on July 19.

The one experiment that the astronauts left that doesn’t require any power, is the Lunar Laser Ranging Experiment, which is still functioning perfectly today. It is a checkerboard mosaic of highly reflective surfaces. Scientists from around the world have used the reflectors on the lunar surface to study both the Earth and the Moon. On a regular basis, the McDonald Observatory Laser Ranging Station in Texas, and the Observatoire de la Côte d’Azur in France, send a laser beam through an optical telescope to hit one of the reflectors. By measuring the time it takes for the light to return to Earth, scientists have learned about an astonishing array of dynamic characteristics of both the Moon and the Earth.

Scientists from JPL report that over the years, they have determined that the Moon is receding from the Earth at a rate of about 1.5 inches per year. Measurements have shown that the Earth's land masses are gradually changing, after having been compressed by the great weight of the glaciers in the last Ice Age. Laser-ranging has provided such precise data about the Moon's orbit that analyses of solar eclipses can now be made as far back as 1,400 BC. And, we have learned that the Earth's atmosphere, tides, and core cause changes in the length of the day, varying about one-thousandth of a second over the course of a year.

Virginia prosecutor lets Robertson off the hook

Virginia Attorney General Mark Earley declined to prosecute televangelist "Diamond Pat" Robertson for fraudulent fundraising practices, quietly announcing this decision in June, according to a July 15 report by Bill Sizemore in *The Virginian Pilot*.

As *EIR* reported in 1997, Robertson made fraudulent fundraising appeals, in raising tens of millions of dollars for his organization. Money raised on behalf of "Operation Blessing," supposedly to provide aid to poor Africans, financed airplanes flying missions for Robertson's own African diamond-mining venture.

The Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs, after a year-long investigation, recommended that Robertson be prosecuted for violations of the state's charity laws against deception and fraud. The agency's report was made public in July in response to a Freedom of Information Act request by *The Virginian Pilot*.

Despite the state's findings, the Attorney General's Office stated that, though there was "no doubt" that Robertson misled his television viewers on the African airplanes' activity, there was "no evidence" that Robertson acted "with reckless indifference as to their veracity," that is, that he intended to defraud donors.

During Earley's 1997 election campaign for the office of Attorney General, Pat Rob-

ertson gave Earley \$35,000, the largest single donation from any individual.

Defending himself in the diamond scandal, Robertson wrote that his operations in Zaire (now called Congo) were undertaken on President George Bush's request. He said that he told Zairean leaders to turn over financial powers to international bankers and hand over mineral rights to foreign cartels, and that if they refused, "Zaire would be plunged into chaos."

RAND Corp. analyst ridicules Cox Report

The RAND Corp.'s senior East Asia expert, Jonathan Pollack, was scheduled to give a public briefing on July 21, to denounce the Cox Report, Tom Plate reported in a *Los Angeles Times* commentary on July 21, titled "Cox Report Was 'An Exercise in Amateur-hour Paranoia.'" The Report, released in May by the House Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China, charged that the P.R.C. was stealing U.S. military secrets. The committee chairman is Rep. Chris Cox (R-Calif.).

In a prior interview, Pollack told Plate: "The report was an unbelievable rush to judgment. I find myself bemused by it—and deeply disturbed. . . . It is particularly weak on the nuclear espionage issue, the most important one. Who did what to whom is very unclear in its spotty narrative. There are too many unhedged judgments, too many unexplained statements. As a serious document, it simply does not cohere. One has to conclude that the committee knew the answers it wanted before it started out. If it were a PhD thesis at RAND, I'd flunk it."

Pollack decried the fact that the report sets up anyone of Chinese ancestry in the United States to be viewed as a spy.

Plate, a teacher at the University of California at Los Angeles, suggests that for such reasons, the American people should be as upset over the Cox Report as the Chinese are.

WILLIAM REHNQUIST, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, led a sing-along of the Confederate marching song "Dixie," at the 4th Circuit Judicial Conference in June. "The song is offensive to African Americans," said Brent O.E. Clinkscale, a black South Carolina lawyer. "I think it's nostalgic for slavery."

A SCIENTIST whose 1992 study linking high-voltage power lines to cancer contributed to public fears, was found to have faked his data, and has left the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, according to the *Chicago Sun-Times* on July 24. The Federal Office of Research Integrity concluded that Richard P. Liburdy had tossed out data that did not support his conclusions.

MICHAEL FORBES, a Republican Congressman from New York, switched his affiliation to the Democratic Party, in the first such defection since the Republican conservative revolutionaries seized control of the Congress in 1994. He said that the GOP has fallen into the "hands of extremists."

SHUTTLE COMMANDER Eileen Collins said on July 20, at a ceremony honoring the Apollo 11 astronauts, that there are no technical reasons that we could not go back to the Moon; that what is required is the will to do it. She challenged the American people to renew their commitment to an Apollo-type space exploration effort.

GEORGE W. BUSH is being accused of campaign finance violations by the election watchdog group Texans for Public Justice, and by rival Republican candidate Steve Forbes, for "bundling contributions" and plotting to circumvent the \$1,000 per contributor limit imposed by the Federal Elections Commission, the *Washington Post* reported on July 20.