

National News

Judge bars secret FBI evidence

A Federal judge ruled on Oct. 20 that the use of secret evidence to detain immigrants to the United States violates the due process clause of the U.S. Constitution. This is the first such ruling invalidating the provision of the 1996 anti-terrorism act, which permits the use of classified evidence in immigration proceedings. The provision has been used in about two dozen cases, all of which involved Arab or Muslim immigrants.

Hany Kaireldeen, a 31-year-old Palestinian who entered the United States in 1990, has been held for 18 months in a New Jersey jail. The FBI claimed that he had hosted a terrorist meeting at his house in 1993, prior to the World Trade Center bombing on Feb. 26, with Nidal Ayyad, one of those convicted for the bombing. The FBI also claimed that Kaireldeen had threatened the life of Attorney General Janet Reno.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge William Walls said that the government had made no effort to produce witnesses, either in public or *in camera*, to support its allegations, and that the FBI's unclassified summaries of evidence were "unreliable," forcing Kaireldeen to fight "anonymous slurs of unseen and unsworn informers." Kaireldeen, on the other hand, had presented documentation and more than a dozen witnesses to counter the FBI charges. He asserts that the allegations against him came from his vindictive ex-wife, who now lives in Egypt.

The government is appealing the ruling.

UAW fights for more manufacturing jobs

At the AFL-CIO convention in Los Angeles on Oct. 10-14, the United Auto Workers union, which opposed the federation's endorsement of Al Gore, pushed through a resolution, "The American Economy in a New Century," which calls for a return to a manufacturing-based economy and an end to policies based on financial speculation. Motivating the resolution at the convention, UAW

Vice President Elizabeth Bunn said that manufacturing jobs are the "ladder to the American Dream for millions of Americans, and we are consciously kicking that ladder away."

The resolution reflects an ongoing, growing fight in the AFL-CIO leadership, between the John Sweeney-led push for recruitment of union members in the services sector (he comes from the Service Employees International Union, SEIU), and anger at the lack of attention to loss of manufacturing jobs by the manufacturing, building trades, and teamsters unions, whose traditional membership base, including financial resources, are threatened. This was also a factor in the fight over the Gore endorsement.

The resolution states: "America's manufacturing sector is facing a crisis. Over the past 20 years, more than 2.5 million manufacturing jobs have been lost, and the manufacturing share of total private employment has fallen from 28.5% to 17.5%. . . . Job losses have been caused by events in international financial markets triggered by the activities of currency speculators and by speculative excesses in foreign stock markets. These events are, in part, the result of policies that have inappropriately liberalized international movements of financial capital."

The resolution then denounces the "wrong-headed conventional wisdom that asserts we have entered a post-industrial era in which manufacturing jobs no longer are essential to the nation's economic future. Nothing could be further from the truth."

McCaffrey slammed in Britain by dope lobby

U.S. drug policy adviser Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.) visited Britain at the end of October, reportedly to brief the British government on his approach to the "war on drugs." On the occasion of his arrival, the Oct. 23 London *Guardian* published an attack on him by the disreputable leftist "spook" Duncan Campbell.

Campbell denounces McCaffrey for stating that smoking marijuana has no beneficial medical effects; for claiming that marijuana is the "gateway" to use of stronger drugs; and for stating that the homicide rate

in Holland is greater than that in the United States, because of Holland's liberal approach to drugs.

Campbell comes to the defense of financier George Soros, who has funded ballot referenda in American states for legalizing the "medical use" of marijuana—a foot in the door to full legalization. He quotes two pro-drug British campaigners, Paul Lewin of Common Sense for Drug Policies, and Danny Kushlick of Transform. Kushlick tells the *Guardian* that McCaffrey is "a dangerous man. He is denying people access to basic harm-minimization treatments and that is causing deaths. If he's here to tell us of his initiatives, it's the last thing we need."

Rep. Sensenbrenner pulls out of Sino-U.S. meeting

Anti-China ideologue and House Science Committee chairman Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisc.) announced on Oct. 21 that he would not be attending the Sino-U.S. Science Policy Seminar on Oct. 24-27 in Beijing, and telephoned National Science Foundation Director Rita Colwell to pressure her to cancel the meeting.

Sensenbrenner referenced the Oct. 19 Federal indictment of McDonnell Douglas, Inc. and the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation for allegedly transferring "sensitive" U.S. technology to a Chinese military factory. He also expressed outrage that the Chinese Embassy in Washington and the Chinese media "broke a news embargo" and made public statements about the meetings the week before between members of the U.S. Congress and of the Chinese National People's Congress. In fact, the public comments made by the Chinese about the meetings had simply stated some of the concerns of the Chinese legislators, such as the issue of U.S. theater missile defense (TMD) and pending legislation on Taiwan.

Trying to resurrect the discredited charges of Chinese spying from the Cox Committee report of last spring, Sensenbrenner states in his release: "Frankly, I think the American public would be outraged to learn that their tax dollars were used to fund a seminar in China—with high-rank-

CONDOLEEZZA RICE, the top foreign policy adviser to George W. Bush, met with Russian officials in Moscow at the end of October, according to *U.S. News & World Report* of Nov. 1. "Bushies say Rice wasn't on a mission for the candidate, though our snoops say the guy was the talk of the meetings," the magazine adds. In an interview with the *Stanford Journal of International Relations* last spring, Rice said that she expects Russia to disintegrate in the short term.

MARTIN INDYK, the Australian-born Zionist lobby guru who is now U.S. Undersecretary of State for Near East Affairs, and who was formerly U.S. Ambassador to Israel, is going to return to his ambassadorial post, at the behest of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, the *Washington Post* reported in October. The article claimed that Barak had a close relationship to Indyk, and considers him a viable "personal channel" to President Clinton.

BILL BRADLEY, in a speech in Brooklyn on Oct. 21, outlined a \$10 billion program which he said would lift 7 million children out of poverty. His plans range from an unspecified increase in the minimum wage, to tax credits and after-school programs.

THE GORE campaign has hired Donnie Fowler, son of former Democratic National Committee Chairman Don Fowler, to serve as national field coordinator. The elder Fowler (or fouler elder) led the effort to exclude delegates pledged to Lyndon LaRouche from the 1996 Democratic National Convention, in violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

DICK MORRIS, former Clinton campaign adviser who was ousted in a sex scandal in 1996, took a swipe at Hillary Clinton, in the *New York Post* on Oct. 26. Hillary is going to "take the money . . . and not run" for U.S. Senate, he wrote, adding that she may yet be a target of criminal charges by Robert Ray, the replacement for "Get Clinton" prosecutor Kenneth Starr.

ing U.S. officials attending—at the same time China was engaged in a broad effort to gain our military secrets." He then threatens that the National Science Foundation's "sterling reputation" on Capitol Hill would be damaged by having the seminar. The House Science Committee authorizes the NSF'S annual budget.

D.C. nurses strike at Howard Univ. hospital

Howard University and Howard University Hospital health professionals, including 400 registered nurses, registered dieticians, pharmacists, and social workers, voted overwhelmingly to strike on Oct. 20. The strikers, represented by the D.C. Nurses Association (DCNA), are protesting chronic nurse understaffing and mandatory overtime. The strike was settled within 24 hours.

According to a spokesman for the association, "Nurses are being forced to care for too many patients. Pharmacists are unable to effectively dispense medications on a timely basis. Dieticians cannot address all of the nutritional needs that help patients heal properly, and social workers can't adequately prepare patients to go home on time." DCNA Local Unit Chair Mary Jones Bryant, BSN, RN, said, "The patients that come to Howard are severely ill with many complex problems. We know patient care is suffering here. There are too few people trying to do too much."

While all medical professionals routinely provide overtime care, especially in emergencies, mandatory overtime is now the national standard for hospitals to fill in for their permanent shortages in nursing staff. DCNA told *EIR* that forced overtime is routine at Howard.

The crisis at Howard, like all hospitals nationally, is caused primarily by managed care and cuts in Medicare hospital reimbursements. These have especially affected teaching hospitals, such as Howard, which has an international reputation for treating such diseases as sickle cell disease.

A DCNA spokesman told *EIR* that "Howard has a strong tradition and history. There is a lot of love for this hospital in the

nursing community and the African-American community, especially. However, the employees have been feeling very disrespected in last several years; there have been changes in administration, changes in what the sense of what the mission is." Three years ago, Howard University Hospital told employees that it was not doing well financially. "To support the mission of the Hospital, professional employees accepted a contract without wage increases." Since then, the cost of living has gone up 6%; and in last two years, managers received a 4% bonus and 4% raise in base pay; and the hospital "touts a balanced budget."

Senators voice concern over Lockerbie 'deal'

A letter from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi, confirming details of the handover of the suspects in the bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on Dec. 21, 1988, contained a secret annex, *The Scotsman* newspaper disclosed on Oct. 21. Three U.S. Senators, Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.), and Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), have written to U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright demanding that details of the annex be made public.

Under a comprehensive deal with Qaddafi, the Libyan suspects will be tried by three Scottish High Court judges on Netherlands' territory, but, on the specific demand of the Libyan lawyers, without a jury. The accused are currently being held in the Netherlands wholly under Scottish jurisdiction. The trial is expected to last as long as three years.

The annex is purported to be related to a deal not to pursue everyone alleged to be responsible for the bombing. The British Crown Office and Foreign Office have both issued statements denying that any deal had been made.

It is widely believed in Scotland that there was foreknowledge, within sections of British and U.S. security services, about what was going to happen, before the flight from Frankfurt, Germany to New York took off.