

National News

Agents confiscate drug-runners' property

U.S. federal agents have confiscated \$20 million worth of property owned in the United States by members of Colombia's Medellín Cartel of drug traffickers. The properties include a ranch in central Florida with 35 show horses, and two Florida apartment complexes with 300 apartments.

Using a law which permits the government to take control of goods gained from the proceeds of the sale of drugs, authorities also took possession of a condominium in Bal Harbor, a luxury house in Miami Beach, and other properties in the same city.

This is the first time the new law has been applied to the Medellín Cartel, one of whose chiefs, Carlos Lehder Rivas, is currently on trial in Florida for his drug-trafficking activity, and another of whom, Jorge Ochoa, is currently facing extradition to the United States from Colombia.

The investigation that led to the property seizures had been under way for two years, and will continue, an FBI spokesman stated.

'LaRouche trial' now set for Dec. 14

At a status conference the afternoon of Dec. 2, Boston Federal Judge Robert Keeton set Dec. 14 as the starting date for the main trial in *U.S. v. The LaRouche Campaign, et al.* The trial had been postponed while one of the defendants, CIA stringer Roy Frankhauser, was tried separately.

The jury will be called in on Dec. 14 for additional questioning with respect to the influence of publicity on them, and also questions of hardship.

Judge Keeton said that he will hold closing arguments and the jury charge in the Frankhauser case on Dec. 9, and will reserve Dec. 10 and 11 for any remaining pre-trial motions or other matters. He also demanded that prosecutor John Markahm pro-

vide him with a "candid" estimate of how long the trial will take, saying that Markahm's previous time estimates have fallen far short of the mark.

It's Acheson on Korea again

A senior Pentagon and State Department consultant has in effect repeated Dean Acheson's notorious 1950 statement to the effect that Korea "lies outside our defense perimeter." That statement by a secretary of state is widely credited with triggering the Korean War. North Korea's invasion of the south followed shortly afterward.

Now, Edward Luttwak, a senior consultant to both the Pentagon and the State Department, has written a lengthy article, titled: "Coming to Terms with the Post-Nuclear Age," which has appeared in the *International Herald Tribune*, London's *The Independent*, and elsewhere. The article presents to Moscow a list of areas where, if Russia invaded, there would be no, or "probably" no, U.S. nuclear response.

In a sense, Luttwak has gone even further than Secretary of State Dean Acheson's early 1950s speech. He not only listed Korea as safe Soviet prey, saying the United States would not respond with nuclear weapons to a North Korean invasion, but also Taiwan—along with the islands of Quemoy and Matsu off the Chinese mainland—and even the northernmost Japanese Island of Hokkaido!

"Given the acute vulnerability of Hokkaido to a non-nuclear invasion from nearby Soviet territory (the Kuriles and Southern Sakhalin), it is hard to believe that a U.S. President would authorize nuclear attacks against Soviet forces in response to a non-nuclear attack on Hokkaido."

If you imagine this, coming from a Reagan administration official, has the Japanese frightened, regarding "post-INF Europe," Luttwak's signal to Moscow is no less inviting, and no less frightening: "The apparent U.S. readiness to use nuclear weapons against a non-nuclear invasion has declined and will almost certainly continue to decline further," he wrote.

'Non-traditional' candidate could win

"A nonpartisan voting research group" has issued a pre-election warning that a "nontraditional candidate" with an "activist organization" could win most of the presidential primaries and "force himself on the party convention," Jack Anderson reported in his syndicated column on Dec. 4.

The "nonpartisan voting research group" turns out to be "The Voters Caucus," described by Anderson as "a task force of University of Utah professors." It is co-sponsored by the International Platform Association, "a group which distributes voter information to a grass-roots network of political columnists and broadcasters."

Reports Anderson, "Jack Anderson is the nonpaid president of the International Platform Association."

Anderson describes a "nontraditional candidate" as one with his own ideas and his own independent political machine. Like the many polls in which Lyndon H. LaRouche's name is carefully omitted, and "Undecided" thereupon comes out the winner, Anderson seems unwilling to mention LaRouche's name.

He focuses on the "nontraditional candidates" Jesse Jackson and Pat Robertson.

A similar pattern emerges in a recent Associated Press poll of the preferences of delegates to the party conventions. In the first such poll of this election race, the overwhelming majority of automatic delegates to the Democratic convention—mayors, congressmen, etc.—showed no clear preference.

Titan launch puts U.S. back in space

The successful launch of a Titan 34D rocket has given the United States a heavy-launch capability, "putting us back in space," as a military spokesman put it.

Briefly

● **PRESIDENT REAGAN** has decided to approve the sale of stinger missiles to Bahrain despite congressional threats of a legislative ban on the sales, "in an attempt to reassert executive prerogatives," wrote columnists Evans and Novak Dec. 2. "The administration's greater purpose here is to prove the United States . . . can still assist [its friends] with open military aid instead of being forced into covert operations," they quoted a "Reagan policymaker."

● **A CONCERT** of extraordinary nature took place on Dec. 4 in Boston. It was the first American solo recital of Norbert Brainin, principal violinist of the legendary Amadeus Quartet, with Günter Ludwig, a leading German pianist. The concert, which included sonatas by Mozart, Brahms, and Beethoven, was dedicated to Mr. Brainin's good friend, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

● **KUWAIT** has approved a U.S. request to station a floating base in Kuwaiti waters, the *Washington Post* reported Dec. 2, contradicting the newspaper's own reports of Nov. 29, saying the request had been rejected. The base will house barges, equipped with attack helicopters, fast patrol boats, Army and Navy commando teams, and intelligence units.

● **'UNDECIDED'** is still the biggest vote-getter in New Hampshire at 50%. A random poll of 283 Democratic voters by the *Manchester Union Leader* showed "Undecided" way ahead of Michael Dukakis, who ran second with 28%, and of third-placer Paul Simon, who "surged forward" to 9%. Five months ago, Simon scored only 1%. Lyndon LaRouche was not included in the poll.

● **A BOMB** exploded outside of Lawrence Livermore Laboratories Nov. 28, leaving a two-foot crater in a parking lot and shattering windows at the lab. The FBI is investigating to determine if the blast was in fact directed at the lab, site of important work on the Strategic Defense Initiative and other defense programs.

After a secret countdown, a giant Titan 34D carrying a classified Defense Department satellite blasted off on Saturday, Nov. 28, at 10:27 p.m. from Cape Canaveral. The launch lighted up the sky for miles.

It put some smiles on the faces of Defense Department officials, for whom the launch was the end of the long "dry spell" that began with last year's string of space disasters, following the explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger.

The classified payload was thought by "space experts" to be a satellite to provide early warning of enemy missiles.

"We are really back in business now," said Col. Lawrence Gooch, commander of the Eastern Space and Missile Center at Patrick Air Force Base, near Cape Canaveral. "We're going to be very busy around here from now on."

Reagan renews pledge on SDI

President Reagan, even as his summit with Mikhail Gorbachov approached, continued to vow that the United States will see through the development and deployment of Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) systems—the program to which the Russians remain the most hostile.

In a speech at the Heritage Foundation Nov. 30, the President called SDI "a cornerstone of our security strategy for the 1990s and beyond," and vowed, "We will research it, we will develop it, and when it is ready, we will deploy it."

The statement seems to contradict repeated statements by other administration officials close to the arms control process that delay in deployment, of at least seven years, had already been agreed to with the Russians, as the only way to get a "Russian signature" on the proposed treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) in Europe.

But the President called on the Russians to "stop holding strategic offensive missile reductions hostage to measures that would cripple our research and development of SDI," adding that the Soviets had expended

more than \$200 billion to develop and deploy their own "Red Shield" ABM system.

He described the Soviet radar installation at Krasnoyarsk as "part of an early warning and tracking system" that indicates that the Russians "may be working toward a breakout" from the 1972 ABM Treaty.

AIDS tests for CIA and immigrants

Aliens applying for legal status in the United States under the new immigration law began to be tested for the AIDS virus on Dec. 1. Immigration and Naturalization officials announced the action one day earlier.

Immigrants who test positive for the virus will be denied entry into the United States, except in rare cases in which waivers may be granted.

Seasonal farm workers who are applying for admission under the Special Agricultural Worker Program must also take the AIDS tests.

Another program of AIDS testing in the United States has also begun, according to syndicated columnist Jack Anderson. He reports that the Central Intelligence Agency "has begun routine testing of applicants, employees, and their families to identify carriers of the deadly virus."

In a memo sent out earlier this year warning agents to be careful about sexual contacts, 15 "highest risk" countries were identified by the agency. They were: Haiti, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, West Germany, the Central African Republic, Congo, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The CIA is testing:

- 1) Applicants for employment.
- 2) Employees and their dependents over age 18 who have physical examinations for official purposes.
- 3) Those recommended by a staff physician; persons who received blood transfusions from 1978 through the spring of 1985, such as hemophiliacs.
- 4) "Selected other individuals."