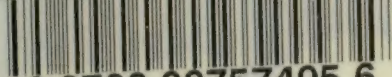


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# OCTOPUS

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### Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro

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REVISED EDITION  
Kenn Thomas & Jim Keith



# THE OCTOPUS

Secret Government and the Death of Quality Civilization

Kenn Thomas and Ron Keith

First Press

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Feral House  
PO Box 39910  
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[www.feralhouse.com](http://www.feralhouse.com)  
[info@feralhouse.com](mailto:info@feralhouse.com)

Author Kenn Thomas' Steamshovel Press can be accessed at  
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# THE OCTOPUS

Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro

Kenn Thomas and Jim Keith



Feral House

"Facts are but the Play-things of lawyers—Tops and Hoops, forever a-spin.... Alas, the Historian may indulge no such idle Rotating. History is not Chronology, for that is left to lawyers, —nor is Remembrance, for Remembrance belongs to the People. History can as little pretend to the Veracity of the one, as claim the Power of the other—her Practitioners, to survive, must soon learn the arts of the quidnunc, spy and Taproom Wit—that there may ever continue more than one life-line back into a Past we risk, each day, losing our forbears in forever—not a Chain of single Links, for one broken Link could lose us All—rather, a great disorderly Tangle of Lines, long and short, weak and strong, vanishing into the Mnemonick Deep, with only their Destination in common."

—The Revd Wicks Cherrycoke, *Christ and History*<sup>1</sup>

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1. From *Mason & Dixon* by Thomas Pynchon.

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## ◀ Acknowledgements ▶

Danny Casolaro developed a body of research that inspired and affirmed the work of many researchers and writers in the last decade of the twentieth century. The author would like to acknowledge that community and salute its continued growth.

Many of its members can be found in the footnotes of this book. All deserve great credit for saving and furthering the shattered remains of Casolaro's research. Special lifetime thanks go to my late partner Jim Keith, co-author of the original edition of this book and the great popularizer of conspiracy culture critique, and our mutual late comrade, Ron Bonds of IllumiNet Press. Connected now by their suspicious early deaths to the Octopus mystery, their spirits no doubt reside now with Danny Casolaro, the great conspiracy writer that neither met.

X. Sharks DeSpot and Judy Miller also deserve credit for their research help. Credit for the original edition also still goes to Raleigh Muns, for that last little bibliographic note, and to Jim Martin of Flatland Books for his continued support. A nod for the subsequent help, support and promotional favors goes to Greg Bishop, Rob Sterling and Acharya S, and readers of my magazine, *Steamshovel Press*. The great psychogeographer, extranationalist, Guy Debord biographer and novelist Len Bracken contributed the most to the revised edition of this book.

Timothy Leary's dissipated structure, as always, has an ongoing impact. Outside of all that, I have had as inspiration two of the finest children in the world, Sara and Simon, and my beautiful companion, Jennifer Crets.

### **Jim Keith's acknowledgements, from the first edition:**

This book is for Verity and Aerika, and for the Keith and Angell clans.

Great thanks to Bob Sonderfan for kindnesses too numerous; for the Saturday night spetznaz; and to Ron and Nancy Bonds.

The authors would particularly like to express their gratitude for the patience of publisher Adam Parfrey, who has Satan's patience for contracts.

## ◀ A Note on Sources ▶

The surviving notes of Danny Casolaro provide part of the basis for this book's examination of his research. After Casolaro's death, his brother, Dr. Anthony Casolaro, originally gave the notes to ABC's *Nightline* program in order to allow six journalist acquaintances of his brother a chance to review his leads. Tony Casolaro then turned the papers over to Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE), an office in the University of Missouri School of Journalism in Columbia, Missouri. That office still makes the papers available to researchers.<sup>1</sup> The collection includes court documents, a newsclipping file, tour guides and annual business reports that pertain to Casolaro's investigations, and what remained of his handwritten notes. These did not include any papers that Casolaro had with him the night he died.

Wide-ranging sources of information supplement this scarce record of the life, investigative work, and death of Danny Casolaro. These include: affidavits filed by arms merchants and convicted felons; mainstream and non-mainstream periodical sources, including some that publish messages received from channeled aliens, others notorious for their far-right connections, lite-left leanings, and radical chic pose; unattributed sources on the Internet; anonymous *samizdat*; participants in Casolaro's investigation; peripheral players; researchers who knew Casolaro; and researchers whose work expanded on the Octopus thesis. While some might question the credibility of some of these sources—as, indeed, some questioned the credibility of Casolaro's own sources—the authors include them here because they illuminate the research in obvious ways.

Chapters in this book have been footnoted to encourage readers to track these sources and make their own judgments concerning credibility. Any readers with new information, corrections, or supplemental sources are encouraged to contact the author.

---

1. Griffin, Michael, "Key To Death, Mystery May Be Among Casolaro's Documents," *St. Louis Journalism Review*, Volume 22, Number 180, October 1992.

A good story allows a writer to go into himself and see how deep the place is from which his life flows. A great story, though, is as natural a possession as our lungs and spreads its roots into the depths of everything we love and everything we hate.

—J. Daniel Casolaro



Fifth-floor room at the former Sheraton Inn where Casolaro died.

## ◀ PROLOGUE:

# A Death in Martinsburg

Saturday, August 10, 1991, shortly after 12:30 p.m., a housecleaner working at the Sheraton Inn near Highway 81 in sleepy Martinsburg, West Virginia, knocked on the door of room 517. No answer. She slid her passkey into the hole and opened the door.

The bed was turned down, but looked unruffled, as if it had not been slept in. A man's clothing rested on the bed's foot. Glancing into the bathroom, the housecleaner spied blood smeared on the floor. She hurriedly called the main desk and told the assistant head housekeeper, Barbara Bittinger, to rush to the room.

Bittinger arrived quickly and ventured into the bathroom. The door and the shower curtain partially obscured her view, but she saw a half-empty bottle of red wine by the toilet, a cigarette ashtray by the tub, and then a piece of broken glass and gouts of blood splashed onto the wall.

A pair of pale, bony knees stuck out from the tub. She noticed two towels drenched in blood under the sink. Bittinger recalled, "It looked like someone had thrown the towels on the floor and tried to wipe the blood up with their foot, but they didn't get the blood, they just smeared the floor."<sup>1</sup>

The blood-filled bathtub contained the nude body of a blond man. Bittinger called 911.

---

1. Connolly, John, "Dead Right," *Spy*, January 1993.



J. Daniel Casolaro

## ◀ CHAPTER 1.

# Danny Casolaro

Minutes after Bittinger's call, Martinsburg city police and paramedics arrived. They determined that the dead man in the tub was a white male in his early 40s. They found a dozen deep gashes in his wrists, a shoelace around his neck, and two plastic wastepaper basket liners floating in the tub, as if someone had tried to asphyxiate him. When the paramedics lifted the body from the tub, a single-edged razor blade appeared, along with an *Old Milwaukee* beer can and a paper coaster.

On the bedroom desk sat an empty composition notebook, a legal pad with one page removed, and a Bic pen. The page from the legal pad lay nearby with a note written on it:

*To those who I love the most,  
Please forgive me for the worst  
possible thing I could have done.  
Most of all I'm sorry to my son.  
I know deep down inside that God will let me in.*

If these were the dead man's words, they were the last of his obscure writing career. A wallet found at the scene, filled with credit cards and a driver's license, identified the man as Joseph Daniel Casolaro of Fairfax, Virginia.

Danny Casolaro had published three books, and worked as a journalist of sorts, writing for tabloids and trade magazines. Now his work would be distinguished by a book he never finished, the ultimate political conspiracy thriller based on documentable fact, which he had started to call *The Octopus*.

The Octopus was Casolaro's name for a handful of spooks and power brokers in the intelligence community who manipulated public events as wide-ranging as the 1980 October Surprise that may have cost Jimmy Carter the presidency, and the BCCI bank scandal in the early 1990s. Like the tentacles of his metaphoric sea creature, the slashes in both wrists—eight on one side, four on the other—pulled Casolaro down into oblivion, ending his investigation into a power cabal whose involvement in a list of notorious contemporary political crimes he had documented in his book. Perhaps Casolaro erred in changing the book's title from *Behold, a Pale Horse*, taken from the Biblical admonition from *Revelation 6*: "Behold a pale horse and its rider's name was death."

Even as Casolaro focused his investigation on tracking software, his manuscript dealt with many connected crimes. It included contra war chemical and biowarfare weapons developed on the tribal lands of the Cabazon Indians of Indio, California, weapons possibly used in the October 23, 1983 blast at a compound in Beirut that left over 300 American and French military personnel dead. His research also looked at bizarre murders among the Cabazon Indians involving administrators of the tribal land; the privatization of CIA dirty tricks through the notorious Wackenhut security firm, the policemen for both the Cabazons and the mysterious Area 51, home of secret spy planes and rumored UFOs; Vietnam MIAs; corruption at Hughes Aircraft; the human genome project; even the Illuminati secret societies of the 18th century.

To his friends, Danny Casolaro was, above all else, the ultimate "nice guy." He came from a well-to-do background in McLean, Virginia, the hub of the intelligence community that preoccupied his adult attention. His father had been a successful obstetrician. Although his Catholic Italian family had experienced its share of tragedies—a congenital heart defect took one of Danny's five siblings, an infant, and an older sister died of a drug overdose in Haight-Ashbury—Danny grew up with the good things in life. By all reports, he was a congenial, open-minded and trusting soul with few serious worries. At age 20, he left Provident College to search for treasures of the Incas in Ecuador. When he returned, he settled into a marriage that lasted thirteen years and produced one son, Trey (J. Daniel Casolaro III). He lived in a \$400,000 home on three acres in Fairfax City, Virginia, where he kept horses. He played the piano. His literary tastes ran along the lines of Jack Kerouac and the Beats; he was an Elvis Costello fan.

Danny Casolaro had achieved only modest success in his chosen profession of writing. The magazines and tabloids he wrote for were as varied as his research: *Washington Crime News Service*, *Home and Auto*, *Providence Journal*, *Washington Star*, *The National Enquirer*, and the *Globe*. His published books,



seemingly towering triumphs to a novice writer, did not provide him much in the way of financial rewards. His novel, *The Ice King*, a Hemingway-like novel about mountain climbing, had been published by a vanity press. He also published a short story collection, *Makes Me Think of Tall Green Grass*, and worked on two films, *Rain For A Dusty Summer* and *To Fly Without Wings*, the latter narrated by Orson Welles. According to one source, “Danny wasn’t an investigative reporter. He was a poet.”<sup>1</sup>

The first piece of Casolaro’s life to pass into conspiracy lore was that a mysterious informant may have supplied him with the last bit of evidence he needed to prove the existence of his Octopus cabal. Just prior to leaving for Martinsburg, Casolaro warned his brother, “If anything happens to me, don’t believe it’s an accident.”<sup>2</sup> According to friends and family, little in Casolaro’s disposition or behavior could have led to suicide. The gashes in his wrists were too deep to be self-inflicted. The suicide note was unconvincing. The discovery of his body, the rush to autopsy—without the consent of family—and the quick cleaning of the murder site increased suspicions.

Something in Casolaro’s Octopus research quite likely led to his murder.

---

1. James Ridgeway and Dough Vaughan, “The Last Days of Danny Casolaro,” *Village Voice*, October 15, 1991.

2. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 33.



The Promis software made by Inslaw, the Institute for Law and Social Research.

## ◀ CHAPTER 2.

# PROMIS Breaking

After a brief return to college, Danny Casolaro picked up stringer work for various tabloids and magazines. He eventually found his way to *Computer Age Publications*, which reported daily on the personal computer trade. Casolaro stayed there for ten years, eventually becoming part-owner. He sold his stake in the company in 1990. Unfortunately, friends said Casolaro had vastly underestimated the value of the newsletter, and had sold it for far less than it was worth.<sup>1</sup>

In early 1990, Danny Casolaro was on the make for a new beginning. He was looking for a great story, something he could sink his teeth into, something that would catapult him toward the monetary rewards he desired. A friend and fellow worker in the computer magazine business, Terry Miller, suggested that Casolaro look into a developing scandal involving software made by a company called Inslaw, the Institute for Law and Social Research. After discussing the case with one of the company's founders, William Hamilton, Casolaro felt like this might just be the right project.

The Inslaw case began in 1982, when the US Justice Department granted Hamilton's company ten million dollars over three years to adapt a computer program to the needs of US attorneys in tracking criminal cases from office to office. The program was called Prosecutor's Management Information System, or PROMIS. Hamilton explained that, as a former member of the super secret National Security Agency (NSA), he and his wife Nancy developed PROMIS with funding from the government's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA).

After the LEAA funding was phased out at the end of the Carter administration, the Hamiltons converted Inslaw into a for-profit business, with the government's knowledge and approval. Hamilton had sent a letter to the Department of Justice requesting they waive any rights to the enhanced version of PROMIS, and on August 11, 1982, a lawyer for the Department responded, ver-



Bill and Nancy Hamilton



Elliot Richardson

ifying that Inslaw had the rights to any privately funded enhancements added to the public domain version of PROMIS.

The PROMIS program was developed for the purpose of tracking individuals pursued or prosecuted by the Justice Department, and included the vital capability of interfacing with other databases.

As Hamilton explained his situation, Casolaro must have grown increasingly aware of the pot-boiler possibilities inherent in this story. PROMIS was the Maltese Falcon of a conspiracy web into which Hamilton had fallen. Hamilton made it clear to the computer-savvy Casolaro that the enhancements he had made to PROMIS were not minor. Early enhancements enabled the software to be run on other, less-powerful computer systems than the original, including IBM, Wang, Burroughs, and Prime; later enhancements—the ones taken by Justice—allowed it to run on a DEC VAX minicomputer.<sup>2</sup>

If Hamilton sounded bitter when he talked about the deal he had struck with the government, he had his reasons. The 1982 agreement with the Justice Department, through which Inslaw was to be paid \$10 million for placement in US prosecutor offices and enhancements for seventy-four smaller department offices, would have been just the beginning of PROMIS' applications. Hamilton estimated that the demand for the software might eventually exceed five billion dollars. In place of that watershed business, Hamilton received a decade-long legal battle.

The problems began after Inslaw delivered the modified PROMIS to the Justice Department. First, payments to the Hamiltons were suspended. Next, the Department accused Inslaw of overcharging. By February of 1985, the Justice

Department had withheld almost two million dollars from Inslaw. When it became obvious that the Justice Department was not going to honor its contract, the company's attorney, former US Attorney General Elliot Richardson, renowned for his role in the Watergate scandal, advised the Hamiltons to sue. In June 1986, the Hamiltons took Richardson's advice and filed suit.<sup>3</sup>

As the lawsuit progressed, the Hamiltons learned about secret dealings behind the scenes at the Justice Department relating to Inslaw. On St. Patrick's Day, 1987, the first of several whistleblowers stepped forward. Anthony Pasciuto, the deputy director of the Justice Department's Executive Office for United States Trustees, secretly met with the Hamiltons, and told of pressure from Thomas Stanton, the director of his office, to get Trustee officer William White and others to liquidate Inslaw. Pasciuto also said that Cornelius Blackshear, the US trustee in New York, knew what Stanton was doing, and that he had talked about the pressure on Inslaw to US Court of Appeals Judge Lawrence Pierce. Blackshear, under a deposition by Inslaw's lawyers, confirmed his statements to Pasciuto, but the following day met with a representative of the Justice Department and recanted in a sworn affidavit, saying that Pasciuto had confused the Inslaw case with another one. After offering his testimony, Pasciuto listened while White, his superior in the Department, denied the statements that Pasciuto said had been made to him. In anger and frustration, Pasciuto also recanted. Despite this, Pasciuto lost his job two days after he testified. A Justice Department memo recommended his dismissal, saying, "...but for Mr. Pasciuto's highly irresponsible actions, the Department would be in a much better litigation posture than it presently finds itself in."<sup>4</sup>

Even though Pasciuto had changed his story, the federal bankruptcy judge hearing the case, Judge George F. Bason, accepted Pasciuto's original testimony. The judge also noted that White had recently joined a law firm practicing in bankruptcy matters, and that his future with the firm might have been jeopardized if he had muddied the water with the US Trustee's Office. Bason made the observation that Cornelius Blackshear had also offered "two different versions of the same event," and that the first version, which confirmed Pasciuto's original testimony, was the most credible. In September, 1987, Judge Bason ruled on *Inslaw vs. the United States of America*, finding the government guilty of trickery, deceit and fraud. He ruled that that the US Department of Justice had stolen the PROMIS software.

Judge Bason stated that officials of the Justice Department had attempted to bankrupt Inslaw through an "outrageous, deceitful, fraudulent game of cat and mouse, demonstrating contempt for both the law and any principle of fair dealing." Judge Bason also wrote to Attorney General Edwin Meese, suggesting that an outside official be appointed to review the evidence because of evidence of



Attorney General Richard Thornburgh

Attorney General Edwin Meese

perjury by officials in the Justice Department. Meese did not answer the letter.<sup>5</sup>

On February 2, 1988, Judge Bason ordered the Justice Department to pay Inslaw approximately \$6.8 million in licensing fees, and an additional near \$1 million in legal expenses. Bason postponed his assessment of punitive damages. An appeal was upheld by US District Court Judge William B. Bryant.<sup>6</sup> Judge Bason's assessment of punitive damages against the Justice Department never came.

In November, 1987, Judge Bason threw out a motion by the Justice Department for the liquidation of Inslaw. A month later, Bason received word that he would be denied reappointment to the bench. The judge became one of four out of 136 federal bankruptcy judges to have been denied reappointment in the previous four years. The decision was made by a four-person merit selection panel that had been appointed, in obvious conflict of interest, by Judge Patricia Wald, who had previously been employed by the Justice Department. Outrageously, Bason's position was filled by S. Martin Teel, Jr., a Department of Justice lawyer who had represented the IRS in its audits of Inslaw and had recommended liquidation of the company.<sup>7</sup>

In March, 1988, Pasciuto, the man who had recanted his earlier testimony about Department corruption, decided to come clean. In a letter from his attorney, Pasciuto described Justice Department actions designed to destroy Inslaw, quoting a statement by Robert Hunnecutt of the Department's finance offices, that "people in the US Attorney's offices don't like Inslaw," and that invoices from the company were among those designated never to be paid.<sup>8</sup>

In August, 1989, the behavior of the Justice Department with regard to

Inslaw had gained such infamy that the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Jack Brooks of Texas, began an investigation with a letter to Attorney General Richard Thornburgh. Thornburgh questioned the need to reinvestigate, but promised full cooperation. As the investigation proceeded, however, he seemed to do all in his power to thwart it. At first Thornburgh refused to appear before the committee or to surrender Justice Department files relating to the case. This forced the Judiciary Committee to subpoena almost five hundred documents. Thornburgh finally relented and released the files, although one source in the House of Representatives alleged that approximately twenty of the files were missing.<sup>9</sup>

In December, 1989, Inslaw attorney Richardson submitted a writ of mandamus to the US District Court in Washington, D.C. asking for the government to intervene with the appointment of an independent investigator to further pursue Inslaw's allegations, now supported by a court ruling, about the theft of PROMIS by the Justice Department. Richardson stated that, "Attempts to acquire control of PROMIS were linked by a conspiracy among friends of Attorney General Meese to take advantage of their relationship with him for the purpose of obtaining a lucrative contract for the automation of the Department's litigating divisions."<sup>10</sup>

This was where the case stood when William Hamilton and Danny Casolaro talked on the phone. Casolaro found Hamilton's story interesting, particularly since it dealt with one of his interests, computers. Casolaro took the bait, but only when Hamilton started telling him about Michael Riconosciuto.

- 
1. "Autopsy Backs Suicide Ruling," *Washington Times*, Aug. 16, 1991.
  2. "Area Writer Investigating..." *Washington Post*, 8/13/91; Fricker, Richard L., "The Inslaw Octopus," *Wired 1.1*, premiere issue, 1993 p. 80.
  3. Mahar, Maggie, "Beneath Contempt: Did the Justice Department Deliberately Bankrupt Inslaw?," *Barron's National Business and Financial Weekly*, March 21, 1988.
  4. Martin, Harry, "Federal Corruption," *Napa Sentinel*, March 12, 1991.
  5. Martin.
  6. Martin.
  7. Mahar.
  8. Mahar.
  9. "Was Writer the Victim of a DC Conspiracy?," *The Boston Globe*, August 14, 1991.
  10. Bleifuss, Joel, "Software Pirates," *In These Times*, May 29–June 11, 1991.

## ◀ CHAPTER 3:

# Michael Riconosciuto

Jeff Steinberg worked as an aide to Lyndon Larouche, the perennial presidential candidate notorious for conspiracy views about the English empire. Steinberg had put Bill Hamilton in touch with Michael James Riconosciuto, a 44-year-old denizen of the shadowy world of covert operatives. Riconosciuto first called Hamilton on May 18, 1990, and talked with him for two and a half hours, spinning a gossamer of connections that added startling new dimensions to the Inslaw case.<sup>1</sup> Riconosciuto, in hundreds of collect telephone calls to Hamilton, revealed inside knowledge of the government conspiracy to steal PROMIS from the Hamiltons. He stunned Hamilton further when he told him that he had personally modified the PROMIS software as research director of a joint venture of the Cabazon Indian tribe of Indio, California, and the nation's third largest private security firm, Wackenhut.

Riconosciuto revealed that part of his job in the modification of the software had been to create a "back door access" for spying into the files of its users.<sup>2</sup> These users included Great Britain, South Korea, Japan, Jordan, Canada, Israel, Egypt, Canada, and Iraq—Bill Hamilton tallied the figure at "as many as eighty-eight countries"—for use in such activities as the tracking of terrorists.<sup>3</sup>

According to Riconosciuto, Attorney General Edwin Meese had provided PROMIS to Dr. Earl Brian and Peter Videnieks from the Department of Justice, who had then supervised the Wackenhut/Cabazon project to copy the program.<sup>4</sup>

Riconosciuto initially had been excited by the software. He told one interviewer: "...this package worked, OK? I mean it really and truly worked. And when I got my first copies of it and ran it up, I was dumbfounded. I have a statistical exercising package where I can put computer software and/or hardware, and/or hardware/software systems through their paces, and I can determine at which point it will become unreliable... And here again, you have to realize that



we were on the threshold of a whole new era with bio-technology and with information technology. Earl Brian had some backing, and he was going to buy out some well placed start-up companies that already had a running start, and then he was going to pump money and talent and the right connections into them, and make them go...”<sup>5</sup>

Riconosciuto was not the only one to extol the virtues of PROMIS. Harry Martin of the *Napa Valley Sentinel*, while editing several defense publications, believed that an Israeli software package which he tested utilized PROMIS, and had the capability to “[deal] with the complete military structure, and who’s who and what’s what. I mean, it even got down almost to the number of shoelaces: how many handguns—everything... It gets into numbers and details. And that’s what this software has this tremendous power to do.”<sup>6</sup>

The theft of PROMIS, according to Riconosciuto, wasn’t all that was going on at the Cabazon Indian Reservation. The Cabazon/Wackenhut venture included the production of advanced weaponry, including biological weapons, and fuel-air explosives (FAX), a new technology supposedly the equal of some nuclear weapons in explosive power. Riconosciuto claimed to have been involved in the production of the fuel-air explosives in collaboration with Gerald Bull of Space Research Corporation, an arms dealer who designed the “supergun,” and was murdered in Brussels, Belgium in 1990.<sup>7</sup>

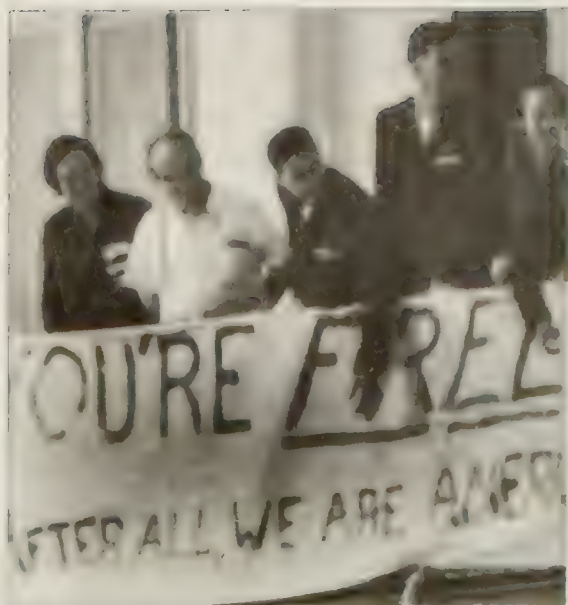
Riconosciuto dropped additional bombshells on Hamilton. He maintained that Meese had provided Brian with PROMIS as a pay-off on a favor. Riconosciuto made the dramatic allegation that William Casey, outside counsel to Wackenhut prior to his work in the Reagan administration, had hired him and Brian in 1980 to facilitate the now infamous “October Surprise,” in which the Reagan administration allegedly paid the Iranians not to release American hostages until after his election. Riconosciuto claimed that he and Brian had paid the Iranians forty million dollars in bribes. The PROMIS software, so Riconosciuto said, was Brian’s payment for his participation.<sup>8</sup> Riconosciuto also claimed that he had been instrumental in exposing the Nugan Hand bank scandal; that he had met “the Jackal,” the famed international terrorist; and that he had made a tape recording of a clandestine meeting with William Casey that he was holding as an “insurance policy” on his life.

Could he be believed? At least some of what Riconosciuto said could be corroborated. The Cabazon-Wackenhut joint venture did exist from 1981 to 1983, and Riconosciuto was involved with it, at least in some capacity.<sup>9</sup> A report from a task force of the Riverside County, California Sheriff’s Office also placed Earl Brian (“with the CIA”) and Riconosciuto at a weapons demonstration put on by the Cabazons and Wackenhut.<sup>10</sup>

Amazingly, even Riconosciuto’s allegations about Brian’s involvement in the so-called October Surprise could also be verified, at least to a degree. Brian had told several persons that he planned a visit to Paris the weekend of the October



Michael Riconosciuto



The October Surprise hostage.

Surprise meeting(s), and Ari Ben-Menasche, who claimed to be present at the Paris meeting(s) said “I saw Brian in Paris.”<sup>11</sup>

Shortly after Hamilton was contacted by Riconosciuto, Hamilton told Casolaro about his new source. By late 1990, according to his friends, Casolaro spoke of little else. He immediately set about investigating this new informant’s background. What he learned only complicated the matter.<sup>12</sup>

Casolaro discovered that Riconosciuto had been a gifted child whose science projects, including the construction of an argon laser, had enabled him to work as a research assistant to Dr. Arthur Schalow, the Nobel laureate. Other things in Riconosciuto’s past had a shadier aspect. After leaving Stanford University, Riconosciuto migrated to Haight-Ashbury in San Francisco, where he went to work on an underground newspaper. Riconosciuto told Casolaro that he had acquired some photos that the newspaper had published which showed a narcotics agent having sex with an underage girl, and because of this the narc had framed Riconosciuto on drug charges. In 1973 Riconosciuto was sent to prison for two years for manufacturing psychedelic drugs.

Casolaro didn’t buy Riconosciuto’s statement that he was innocent of the drug charges. His notes stated flatly that “Mike sold dope through Phyllis.” (Phyllis remains unidentified.) Casolaro told Bill Hamilton he didn’t totally buy into Riconosciuto’s wild stories. Nonetheless, Riconosciuto provided leads Casolaro was determined to follow.

Casolaro ran down the leads, phoning person after person around the country, spreading his net further as he developed new contacts. A complicated case of computer thievery was turning into something closer to a Robert Ludlum

thriller. Casolaro started to spend a lot of his professional life on the telephone. Each of Riconosciuto's leads seemed to connect to another. Danny Casolaro began to sense that he was on the trail of the conspiracy story of the century.

By the beginning of 1991, Casolaro was heavily involved with the Inslaw case. One contact supplied by Riconosciuto was a man named Alan Standorf, who worked at the secret military electronic listening post at Vint Hill Farm, near Manassas, Virginia. Standorf supplied Casolaro with classified information and, in order to quickly return the materials to avoid detection, Casolaro set up high-speed commercial duplicating and collating equipment in room 900 at the nearby Hilton Hotel.

Danny Casolaro may not have known what he was getting into when he began the investigation of PROMIS and the conspiracy tributaries that ran from it. But the truth was brought home to him on January 31, 1991, when Alan Standorf's body was found on the back floor of his car at the Washington National Airport. Standorf had been murdered by a blow to the back of his head.<sup>13</sup>

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1. Corn, David, "The Dark World of Danny Casolaro," *The Nation*, Oct. 28, 1991, pp. 511–516.

2. Corn, p. 513.

3. Broadcast on WBAI-FM, New York, Pacifica Radio Network, September 20, 1991.

4. "The Com-12 Briefing," *Phoenix Liberator*, March 23, 1993, p.17.

5. WBAI Broadcast.

6. WBAI Broadcast.

7. "CIA Computer Genius Alleges Massive Conspiracy," *Technical Consultant*, Dec/Jan 1991, p. 7.

8. Corn, p. 512.

9. "Worldwide Conspiracy or Fantasy?" *Seattle Times*, August 29, 1991.

10. Stich, Rodney, *Defrauding America*, Diablo Western Press, Alamo, California, 1993, p. 83.

11. Fricker, Richard L., "The Inslaw Octopus," *Wired*, premiere issue, 1993.

12. James Ridgeway and Dough Vaughan, "Worldwide Conspiracy or Fantasy?" *Seattle Times*, August 29, 1991, p. 34.

13. Stich, p. 407; *Contact*, May 10, 1994, p. 19.



US Justice Department agent Peter Videnieks.

## ◀ CHAPTER 4:

# “Danger Man”

Bill Hamilton convinced Michael Riconosciuto to tell his story on the record. On March 21, 1991 Michael Riconosciuto filed a sworn affidavit on the Inslaw case. He began by stating that US Justice Department agent Peter Videnieks had threatened him if he cooperated with a House Judiciary Committee investigation of Inslaw.<sup>1</sup> The following text of the affidavit provides a toe-hold for Danny Casolaro’s research:

I, MICHAEL J. RICONOSCIUTO, being duly sworn, do hereby state as follows:

1. During the early 1980s, I served as the Director of Research for a joint venture between the Wackenhut corporation of Coral Gables, Florida, and the Cabazon Band of Indians of Indio, California. The joint venture was located on the Cabazon Reservation.
2. The Wackenhut-Cabazon joint venture sought to develop and/or manufacture certain materials that are used in military and national security operations, including night vision goggles, machine guns, fuel-air explosives, and biological and chemical warfare weapons.
3. The Cabazon Band of Indians are a sovereign nation. The sovereign immunity that is accorded the Cabazons as a consequence of this fact made it feasible to pursue on the reservation the development and/or manufacture of materials whose development or manufacture would be subject to stringent controls off the reservation. As a minority group, the Cabazon Indians also provided the Wackenhut Corporation with an enhanced ability to obtain federal contracts through the 8A Set Aside Program, and in connection with Government-owned contractor-operated (GOCO) facilities.

4. The Wackenhut-Cabazon joint venture was intended to support the needs of a number of foreign governments and forces, including forces and governments in Central America and the Middle East. The contras in Nicaragua represented one of the most important priorities for the joint venture.

5. The Wackenhut-Cabazon joint venture maintained close liaison with certain elements of the United States Government, including representatives of intelligence, military and law enforcement agencies.

6. Among the frequent visitors to the Wackenhut-Cabazon joint venture were Peter Videnieks of the US Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., and a close associate of Videnieks by the name of Earl W. Brian. Brian is a private businessman who lives in Maryland and who has maintained close business ties with the US intelligence community for many years.

7. In connection with my work for Wackenhut, I engaged in some software development and modification work in 1983 and 1984 on the proprietary PROMIS computer software product. The copy of PROMIS on which I worked came from the US Department of Justice. Earl W. Brian made it available to me through Wackenhut after acquiring it from Peter Videnieks, who was then a Department of Justice contracting official with responsibility for the PROMIS software. I performed the modifications to PROMIS in Indio, California; Silver Springs, Maryland; and Miami, Florida.

8. The purpose of the PROMIS software modifications that I made in 1983 and 1984 was to support a plan for the implementation of PROMIS in law enforcement and intelligence agencies worldwide. Earl W. Brian was spearheading the plan for this worldwide use of the PROMIS computer software.

9. Some of the modifications that I made were specifically designed to facilitate the implementation of PROMIS within two agencies of the Government of Canada; the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS). Earl W. Brian would check with me from time to time to make certain that the work would be completed in time to satisfy the schedule for the RCMP and the CSIS implementations of PROMIS.

10. The proprietary version of PROMIS, as modified by me, was, in fact, implemented in both the RCMP and the CSIS in Canada. It was my understanding that Earl W. Brian had sold this version of PROMIS to the Government of Canada.

11. In February 1991, I had a telephone conversation with Peter Videnieks, then still employed by the US Department of Justice. Videnieks attempted during this telephone conversation to persuade me not to cooperate with an independent investigation of the government's piracy of Inslaw's proprietary PROMIS software being conducted by the Committee on the Judiciary of the US House of Representatives.

12. Videnieks stated that I would be rewarded for a decision not to cooperate with the House Judiciary Committee investigation. Videnieks forecasted an immediate and favorable resolution of a protracted child custody dispute being prosecuted against my wife by her former husband, if I were to decide not to cooperate with the House Judiciary Committee investigation.

13. Videnieks also outlined specific punishments that I could expect to receive from the US Department of Justice if I cooperated with the House Judiciary Committee’s investigation.

14. One punishment that Videnieks outlined was the future inclusion of me and my father in a criminal prosecution of certain business associates of mine in Orange County, California, in connection with the operation of a Savings and Loan institution in Orange County. By way of underscoring his power to influence such decisions at the US Department of Justice, Videnieks informed me of the indictment of these business associates prior to the time when that indictment was unsealed and made public.

15. Another punishment that Videnieks threatened against me if I cooperated with the House Judiciary committee is prosecution by the US Department of Justice for perjury. Videnieks warned me that credible witnesses would come forward to contradict any damaging claims that I made in testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, and that I would subsequently be prosecuted for perjury by the US Department of Justice for my testimony before the House Judiciary Committee.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Michael J. Riconosciuto

(Signed and sworn to before me this 21st day of March 1991—Notary Public)

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1. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 38.

## CHAPTER 5:

# Earl Brian

Following the lead of Riconosciuto's revelations, Danny Casolaro took a long look at a man named Dr. Earl Brian. Riconosciuto claimed that this man, along with Peter Videnieks, had headed the alleged Wackenhut/Cabazon project to alter the PROMIS software. Casolaro eventually developed a dossier on Brian.

Brian was a high-profile individual who had been a combat physician during the Vietnam War. He reportedly worked in an air support unit for the Operation Phoenix political assassination program, a well-known covert action program to wipe out the Viet Cong in Vietnam. After his return to the States, Brian became Secretary of Health and Welfare in California, under Governor Ronald Reagan. In 1974, Brian had resigned his cabinet position to go into private business, which Casolaro learned had allegedly included arms deals with the Shah of Iran. Brian's company Xonics had been cited by the Security and Exchange Commission for illegal commissions and for issuing press releases with bogus information meant to boost stock prices.

Brian also was involved in a scandal involving the confiscation of computer tapes with the records of 70,000 California state welfare files. These tapes were later discovered at the University of Southern California. After an unsuccessful campaign for a Senate seat, Brian joined the USC faculty.<sup>1</sup>

During the Reagan administration, Brian served as an unpaid chairman of a Reagan task force on health care cost reduction, reporting directly to Attorney General Ed Meese. Brian also served with Meese on a "pro-competition" committee.<sup>2</sup> Further associations of Brian and Ed Meese had come out during Meese's confirmation hearings, when Meese had admitted that his wife had borrowed \$15,000 from an advisor, Edwin Thomas, to buy stock in Brian's company. Meese had not listed the transaction in his financial disclosures. Brian headed Infotechnology, Inc., a powerful New York holding company which controlled UPI, the Financial News Network, and the Learning Channel.<sup>3</sup> If these connections led far afield from Inslaw, others dovetailed neatly. Hadron, Inc. was



also controlled by Brian. Hadron, Inc. had suddenly taken an affluent turn—after being \$12 million in the red—upon Meese’s ascendancy to the office of Attorney General. The company now subsisted on government revenues, including a \$40 million contract with the US Department of Justice.

The name Hadron, Inc. rang a bell with Bill Hamilton. Hamilton eventually realized that Inslaw’s difficulties may have begun as early as April 1983. Hamilton had been in his office when he received a telephone call from Dominic Laiti, the chairman of Hadron, Inc. Hamilton recalled Laiti telling him that Hadron, Inc. was trying to corner the market on law enforcement software, and that “they had purchased Simcon, a manufacturer of police department software—and Acumedics, a company that provides computer-based litigation support services for courts.” Now Laiti was offering to buy Inslaw from Hamilton in order for Hadron, Inc. to obtain the PROMIS software. According to Hamilton, when he turned down the alleged offer, Laiti bragged of his powerful contacts in the Reagan administration, and told him “we have ways of making you sell.”<sup>4</sup>

Within 90 days of the date of the alleged Laiti call the deal between Inslaw and the Justice department began to unravel.<sup>5</sup> A little research also showed that Peter Videnieks, prior to overseeing the PROMIS contract for the Justice Department in 1981, had been in charge of three contracts between the US Customs Service and Hadron, Inc.<sup>6</sup> In light of the links between Earl Brian, Peter Videnieks, and Hadron, Inc., suddenly Dominic Laiti’s “ways of making you sell” threat took on more substance.

Many of Riconosciuto’s claims about Brian were backed up by information in the following March 21, 1991 affidavit filed on behalf of Inslaw by Ari Ben-Menasche.<sup>7</sup>

I, ARI BEN-MENASHE, being duly sworn, do hereby state as follows:

1. Between August 1977 and September 1987, I was employed by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)/Military Intelligence External Relations Department.

2. In my above capacity, I had contacts with the Office of the Israeli Prime Minister’s Anti-Terrorism Advisor.

3. In 1982, the Israeli Prime Minister’s Anti-Terrorism Advisor was Rafael Eitan.

4. In a meeting that took place in December 1982 in Mr. Eitan’s office in the Kirya in Tel Aviv, Israel, Mr. Eitan told me that he had received earlier that year in the United States, from Mr. Earl Brian and Mr. Robert McFarlane, PROMIS computer software for the limited use of the IDF’s Signals Intelligence Unit for intelligence purposes only. Mr. Eitan stated on this occasion, and on earlier occasions as well, that he had special relationships with both Mr. Brian and Mr. McFarlane.



Earl Brian



Ari Ben-Menashe

5. This meeting took place in the context of a visit by a foreign dignitary. During a break in the meeting, Mr. Eitan took me aside and gave me the above facts to relate to my superiors so that Mr. Eitan's office could take credit for the introduction of the PROMIS computer software into IDF's Signals Intelligence Unit.

6. I hereby certify that the facts set forth in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT

Ari Ben-Menashe

Signed and sworn to before me this 21st day of March, 1991.

Lexington, Kentucky, was the temporary home of Ari Ben-Menashe, a former Israeli intelligence officer who had moved there after his acquittal in New York on arms trading charges. The federal government had accused Ben-Menashe of conspiring to sell three transport planes to an undercover federal agent. He spent a year in prison awaiting trial, but when he finally came to trial, the jury acquitted him after he brandished a diplomatic passport as evidence that his activities had been sanctioned by Israel, and documents showing that the planes in question actually belonged to the Israeli government.

Ben-Menashe became talkative when he left prison. He claimed to have been personally involved in billion-dollar weapons deals between Iran and Israel, part of the latter's plan to exacerbate Iran/Iraq tensions. He verified Riconosciuto's

assertions that PROMIS had been sold to foreign intelligence agencies and traded through back-channels that developed over the October Surprise and Iran-contra operations, and that Earl Brian had been involved. As a special intelligence consultant to the Israeli prime minister in 1989, Ben-Menasche maintained that a Chilean arms manufacturer told him that he had been a go-between in Brian's deal to sell PROMIS to Iraqi intelligence. Two years prior to that, according to Ben-Menasche, he attended a meeting in Tel Aviv where Brian claimed that the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency all used PROMIS, and then gave the software to Israeli intelligence.

Even with this independent corroboration, Earl Brian continued to deny any connection with Riconosciuto and Ari Ben-Menasche. He insisted that he had only read about Inslaw in the papers, although the company's founders continued to insist that Brian's company had tried to acquire it in 1983.<sup>8</sup>

Then Richard Babayan, an Iranian arms dealer in prison awaiting trial on securities fraud, corroborated Ben-Menasche's statements, connecting Brian to the sale of the software to Iraq and South Korea. In an affidavit dated March 22, 1991, Babayan swore:

I, RICHARD H. BABAYAN, being duly sworn, do hereby state as follows:

1. During the past several years, I have acted as a broker of sales of materials and equipment used by foreign governments in their armed forces, intelligence and security organizations.
2. In the capacity described in paragraph #1, I attended a meeting in Baghdad, Iraq, in October or November, 1987, with Mr. Abu Mohammed of Entezamat, an intelligence and security organ of the Government of Iraq. Mr. Abu Mohammed is a senior ranking official of Entezamat and a person with whom I had extensive dealings over the previous three years.
3. During the aforementioned meeting with Mr. Abu Mohammed, I was informed that Dr. Earl W. Brian of the United States had recently completed a sales presentation to the Government of Iraq regarding the PROMIS computer software. Furthermore, it is my understanding that others present at Dr. Brian's PROMIS sales presentation were General Richard Secord, of the United States, and Mr. Abu Mohammed.
4. In early to mid-1988, in the course of subsequent visits to Baghdad, Iraq, I was informed that Dr. Earl W. Brian had, in fact, provided the PROMIS computer software to the Government of Iraq through a transaction that took place under the umbrella of Mr. Sarkis Saghanollan, an individual who has had extensive business dealings with the Government of Iraq since the late 1970s in the fields of military hardware and software. I was also informed that the

Government of Iraq acquired the PROMIS software for use primarily in intelligence services, and secondarily in police and law enforcement agencies.

5. During the course of the visits described in paragraph #4, I also learned from Mr. Abu Mohammed that the Government of Libya had acquired the PROMIS computer software prior to its acquisition by the Government of Iraq; that the Government of Libya had by then made extensive use of PROMIS, and that the Government of Libya was highly recommending the PROMIS software to other countries. I was informed that the high quality of the reference for the PROMIS software from the Government of Libya was one of the principle reasons for the decision of the Government of Iraq to acquire PROMIS.

6. In the capacity described in paragraph #1, I attended a meeting in early 1988 in Singapore with Mr. Y.H. Nam of the Korea Development Corporation.

7. The Korea Development Corporation is known to be a cutout for the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA).

8. I learned from Mr. Y.H. Nam during the meeting described in paragraph #6 that the KCIA had acquired the PROMIS computer software, and that Dr. Earl W. Brian of the United States had been instrumental in the acquisition and implementation of PROMIS by the KCIA.

9. In the capacity described in paragraph #1, I attended a meeting in Santiago, Chile, in December, 1988, with Mr. Carlos Cardoen of Cardoen Industries. During this meeting, I was informed by Mr. Cardoen that Dr. Earl W. Brian of the United States and Mr. Robert Gates, a senior American intelligence and national security official, had just completed a meeting in Santiago, Chile, with Mr. Carlos Cardoen.

10. I hereby certify that the facts set forth in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.  
Richard A. Babayan

Further corroboration for the illegal sale of PROMIS would come from former agent of the United States' Defense Intelligence Agency, Lester Knox Coleman III. In *Trail of the Octopus*, an examination of his work in the DIA, Coleman claimed that as a surveillance consultant to the Cypriot Police Force Narcotics Squad (CPFNS), he witnessed CPFNS officers unpacking software from boxes marked "PROMIS Ltd, Toronto, Canada," for use in the police agency's recently centralized database. Although it seemed unlikely that such secret dealings would be so trumpeted, the story supported Riconosciuto's allegations that Earl Brian had sold it to the Canadians.

According to Coleman, the database had been installed by Link Systems, Ltd., described by Coleman as a US government “cut-out,” established to fulfill a contract with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. Further investigation by Coleman revealed that these were bootleg copies of PROMIS, “made without the knowledge of Inslaw, to which a ‘backdoor’ software routine had been added. No matter how securely the front door might be barred with entry codes and passwords, American operators, holding the key to the secret back door, could break into the PROMIS systems operated by Cyprus, Egypt, Syria, Pakistan, Turkey, Kuwait, Israel, Jordan, Iran and Iraq whenever they wished, access the data stored there and get out again without arousing the slightest suspicion that the security of those systems had been breached...”<sup>9</sup>

In 1992, Ari Ben-Menashe published a memoir of his career in international arms trading called *Profits of War*. In it, he explained his understanding of William Hamilton’s NSA background in establishing spy posts against the North in Vietnam, where he computerized a Vietnamese-English dictionary and began developing early versions of PROMIS, according to Ben-Menashe.<sup>10</sup> “The program he was developing would have the ability to track the movements of vast numbers of people around the world. Dissidents or citizens who needed to be kept under watch would be hard put to move freely again without Big Brother keeping an eye on their activities.”<sup>11</sup> Elaborating on his sworn statement, Ben-Menashe explained that some officials working for the Reagan administration had hoped to use the Israelis to sell PROMIS to intelligence and police agencies throughout the world. Ben-Menashe quoted Rafi Eitan, the anti-terrorism advisor to the Israeli PM mentioned in the affidavit, as saying “We can use this program to stamp out terrorism by keeping track of everyone. But not only that, we can find out what our enemies know, too.”<sup>12</sup>

Ben-Menashe also gave some description of how he envisioned the PROMIS software might work: “Using a modem, the spy network would then tap into the computers of such services as the telephone company, the water board, other utility commissions, credit card companies, etc. PROMIS would then search for specific information. For example, if a person suddenly started using more water and more electricity and making more phone calls than usual, it might be suspected he had guests staying with him. PROMIS would then start searching for the records of his friends and associates, and if it was found that one had stopped using electricity and water, it might be assumed, based on other records stored in PROMIS, that the missing person was staying with the subject of the investigation. This would be enough to have him watched...” Ben-Menashe also detailed PROMIS’ notorious “back door,” which allowed Israeli access, via modem and coded passwords, to the files of any foreign intelligence service using PROMIS.

Details about how PROMIS works, why it made such a prize for Earl Brian, were and remain sparse and vague. In a newsletter produced as part of a database on intelligence literature and personalities called *Namebase*, author Daniel Brandt argues that Ben-Menashe's chapter on PROMIS compromised an otherwise "frequently believable" book and should have been deleted. Brandt states that "a 'back door' to get around password protection is easy for any programmer,"<sup>13</sup> and it explained why the intelligence community might be interested in peddling it to foreign governments. "Please note, however, that you still need physical access to the computer, either through a direct-connect terminal or a remote terminal through the phone lines, in order to utilize a back door. Ari Ben-Menashe wants us to believe that foreigners allow technicians from another country to install new computer systems in the heart of their intelligence establishments, and don't even think to secure physical access to the system before they start entering their precious data.

"Then he claims that PROMIS ... can suck in every other database on earth, such as those used by utility companies, and correlate everything automatically...I don't like to see whistleblowers like Ben-Menashe needlessly discredited by their own high-tech gullibility."<sup>14</sup>

One person who might have had a view of how PROMIS works was Charles Hayes. Newspapers identified Hayes as a salvage dealer in Pulaski County, Kentucky, near the temporary home of Ari Ben-Menashe in Lexington, who purchased \$45 worth of surplus computer equipment from the government in July 1990. The equipment included 13 terminals, nine printers, two cartridge module drives, 19 backup cartridges and two central memory units—equipment that had been used by the US Attorney's office since 1983 to maintain information via PROMIS on the witness protection program, informants, office employees, and outstanding grand jury cases. In August, when federal officials discovered that a weak magnetic screwdriver had failed to purge this information from the equipment adequately, two FBI agents dispatched to make inquiries of Hayes were kicked out.<sup>15</sup> Three days later, Hayes began to cooperate with the US Attorney's office, denied that he had possession of any information that might have been on the equipment, and invited an inspection. Inspectors discovered that the serial numbers of the two cartridge modules that Hayes claimed were the ones he bought did not match the numbers of the modules the Justice Department had sold.<sup>16</sup> Hayes then claimed he had sold the modules, but did not name the purchasers until after federal officials filed a lawsuit.<sup>17</sup> Justice Department attorneys later claimed that Hayes had indeed tried to sell the secret information to an undercover informant, but criminal charges were never filed.<sup>18</sup> The case led to a

congressional investigation of computer security; the Justice Department now tosses rather than sells its extra data storage devices.

Even Bill Hamilton did not have a firm grasp on the workings of the full, modified PROMIS system. In a 1992 interview, he maintained that it could run on “any UNIX machine, Hewlett Packard UNIX, RISC 6000, AT&T, AS400 under its own operating system and on mainframes under MVS,” that it was comprised of 88 program modules and that the source code—replete with the Inslaw name throughout the code commentary— was kept by any government that had it. When asked how a foreign country could modify the source code without discovering the back door, Hamilton was cryptic: “I don’t know what’s meant by the back door. What we’ve been told is that not only the software was sold, but computers with extra chips...What the chips do, we’ve been told, the extra chips, is to broadcast the data inside PROMIS to satellites owned by the NSA ... but we don’t know enough about it as they’ve never shared anything with us.”<sup>19</sup> This possibility neatly bypasses objections that physical access is required for a back door to work.

Ari Ben-Menashe claimed that Earl Brian’s company Hadron sold PROMIS to Jordan as a test for the back door. Hadron technicians installed PROMIS for Jordanian intelligence in Amman, connecting it also to the computers of the city’s public utilities, IBMs sold to Jordan in the late 1970s. From a small apartment in Amman, a Mossad-connected importer/exporter used PROMIS “to find out everything about everybody—as well as to tap into Jordan’s military secrets,” downloading it all to disks and passing it on to his contacts whenever he left the country.

With the help of Wackenhut and the Cabazons, according to Ben-Menashe, the US developed its own version of the back-door and the US and Israel began looking for a neutral company through which it could sell the program to foreign intelligence services. The company chosen for the task was Degem, a computer firm with offices in Israel, Guatemala and the South African Bantustan homeland. It had been taken over for the purpose by Robert Maxwell, the publishing mogul who drowned under mysterious circumstances in 1991.<sup>20</sup> Through Maxwell’s Degem, working in tandem with Brian’s Hadron, the software found a home with the military regime in Guatemala, where it tracked leftist insurgents. “Even if they traveled under a false name, various characteristics, such as height, hair color, age, were fed into roadside terminals and PROMIS searched through its database looking for a common denominator. It would be able to tell an army commander that a certain dissident who was in the north three days before had caught a train, then a bus, stayed at a friend’s house, and was now on the road under a different name. That’s how frightening the system was.” According to Ben-Menashe, PROMIS

was used in South Africa to track and squelch the organizers of a strike among the black coal miners via their mandatory identity cards.<sup>21</sup> Degem also sold PROMIS to the Soviet Union and the system was utilized by its GRU intelligence service at least until the coup against Mikhail Gorbachev.<sup>22</sup>

Ben-Menashe had one more footnote to add to the PROMIS story in his memoir. He claimed that because of Inslaw, an attorney, Leigh Ratiner of the Washington law firm Dickstein and Shapiro, was forced into early retirement in an agreement that forbade him to practice law for five years. This happened shortly after Ratiner began representing Inslaw for the firm. According to Ben-Menashe, this also happened after Dickstein and Shapiro received a \$600,000 transfer from a CIA-Israeli slush fund for the purpose of getting Ratiner off the case, via Earl Brian.<sup>23</sup>

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1. Fricker, p. 79, 80; Linsalata, Phil, "The Octopus File," *Columbia Journalism Review*, Nov–Dec 1991, p. 76.

2. Fricker, p. 78. Earl Brian's role in the PROMIS theft was spelled out explicitly by Inslaw lawyer Elliot Richardson in the *New York Times* in 1992. Richardson was the attorney general who actually stood up to Richard Nixon's corruption during the Saturday Night massacre. Brian sued over the *New York Times* article and lost. Richardson had written the article to encourage investigation of the case, but Brian used the opportunity to start a nuisance libel suit. On November 29, 1995, the New York Court of Appeals dismissed Brian's claim and declared that Richardson's assertions came under free speech protections.

Although never prosecuted over the PROMIS allegations, Brian survived only one more year after the libel suit before other past shady deals began to catch up with him. In October 1996 a California jury convicted him of Federal bank fraud, conspiracy and lying to auditors. Prosecutors charged that Brian had drafted documents to conceal losses of the Financial News Network and United Press International, for whom he served as chief executive, in order to obtain \$70 million in bank loans for his other concern, a biotechnology firm called Infotechnology.

3. Mahar.

4. Mahar.

5. Bleifuss, Joel, "Scandal Gates," *In These Times*, September 18–24, 1991.

6. Bleifuss.

7. Linsalata.

8. Goddard, Donald, with Lester Coleman, *Trail of the Octopus: From Beirut to Lockerbie*, London: Bloomsbury, 1993, p. 198.



9. Valentine, Douglas, *The Phoenix Program*, New York: Avon Books, 1990. Valentine notes that the Phoenix program of assassination and torture utilized a “Big Mack” computer system to develop documentation “that directs the territorial intelligence system to quantitatively and qualitatively evaluate” the Viet Cong infrastructure (VCI)—in other words, tally body counts. “Statistical evidence of success so pleased the Washington brain trust,” according to Valentine, “that additional computer systems were quickly introduced. In March 1969 the National Police Evaluation System went on line, recording ‘police assignment data’ for analysis and ‘counter-measures.’” In 1970 Big Mack’s bilingual replacement, the Big Mack Special Collection Program, shifted the burden of reporting and accountability to the RVN Territorial Intelligence System. In January 1970 the VCI Neutralization Information System was inaugurated to record all anti-VCI operations. The National Police Criminal Information System (NPCIS) was implemented in April 1970 to track VCI who were held beyond ‘statutory limitations.’ Designed to ‘interface’ with a Chieu Hoi [amnesty program] ‘tracking system,’ which aided province security committees in the ‘post-apprehension monitoring of released VCI,’ NPCIS was also compatible with the VCI Neutralization and Identification System, which stored in its classified files ‘a history of the VCI member from the time of his identification to his neutralization.’”

Phoenix program police system upgrades happened at roughly the same time that the St. Louis Police Commission upgraded to the REJIS system at the behest of Bill Hamilton’s older brother Alan. According to researcher C. D. Stelzer, Alan Hamilton held the position of secretary of the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners from 1967 to 1970 and had worked for the city police computer system since 1964. Like his brother, he had also worked with the NSA. After his service as secretary to the St. Louis Police Commissioners, Alan Hamilton worked for an information system tied to the FBI’s mainframe, where he lobbied hard for the use of the first public version of PROMIS.

10. Ben-Menashe, Ari, *Profits of War*, Sheridan Square, New York, 1992, p. 130.

11. Ben-Menashe, p. 131.

12. In 1995 Microsoft announced that the new version of its Windows software, *Windows ‘95*, would include an Internet interface with the capability of reading the user’s hard-drive directory and reporting it to Microsoft. Eerily reminiscent of the PROMIS back door, such transmissions ostensibly could only happen voluntarily when the user registered the software electronically.

13. Brandt, Daniel, “Cyberspace Wars,” *Namebase Newslines* No. 2, July–September 1993.

14. Baker, David L., “Computer Records Accidentally Sold,” *Lexington Herald-Leader*, September 1, 1990.

15. Baker, David L., “Buyer Says Agents Didn’t Find Computer With Secrets,” *Lexington Herald-Leader*, September 5, 1990.

16. “Buyer of US Computer Files To Be Disclosed,” *Lexington Herald-Leader*, September 6, 1990.

17. Baker, David L., “US Says Pulaski Man Tried To Sell Secrets,” *Lexington Herald-Leader*, September 22, 1990.

18. Interview with Bill Hamilton, *Technical Consultant*, Volume 2, Issue 2, August–September, 1992.

19. Maxwell's body was found floating in the ocean near his yacht, the *Lady Ghislaine*, off the Canary Islands on November 5, 1991. He had not been seen for hours preceding his death. These types of rumors, of connections to Mossad and other international spy groups, had long circulated about Maxwell, and his publishing empire's finances had come under official review. Nevertheless, Spanish authorities concluded that Maxwell died of a heart attack, although he had no history of heart disease. Maxwell's daughter Ghislaine said the family was satisfied with the investigation, but his sons, widows and lawyers insisted that the death was accidental, perhaps with an eye toward Maxwell's \$35.8 million insurance against accidental death. ("Maxwell's Mysterious Death Raises More Questions," *MIN Media Industry Newsletter*, No. 47, Vol. 44, November 25, 1991.)

One of the forensic specialists who worked on the autopsy later noted that a perforation under Maxwell's left ear could have been caused by an injection of a lethal substance. Labor Party MP George Galloway openly speculated in the British House of Commons that Maxwell was murdered because "dead men tell no tales." Britain's PM John Major was even moved to deny publicly that British intelligence was investigating Maxwell's finances after his death. By 1995, however, Britain's Serious Fraud Office had spent \$13.9 million tracing Maxwell's web of over 400 companies (Reuters, 2/15/95), resulting in charges against Maxwell's financial advisors, Larry Trachtenberg and Robert Bunn, and his two sons, Ian and Kevin, for defrauding pensioners. A second charge of conspiring with his father was brought against Kevin Maxwell, age 36. The charge claimed that months before the elder Maxwell's death, he and his son used other pension assets and shares in another Israeli company, Scitex Corporation, to illegally raise money for other Maxwell companies (Reuters, 5/26/95). The collapse of Maxwell's empire—which ultimately led to son Kevin standing in the unemployment line and widow Elisabeth unsuccessfully fishing for a publisher to handle her memoir—began well before he died, lending credence to the suicide theory.

20. Oddly, Charles Hayes of Chicago, a member of a congressional delegation, was sent on a fact-finding tour to Johannesburg at the exact moment the world's second largest platinum mine fired 20,000 black workers to end a walk-out in January 1986. The mine was located in the homeland of Bophuthatswana, northwest of Johannesburg ("South African Platinum Mine Fires 20,000 Blacks Over Strike," *Lexington Herald Leader*, January 7, 1986.) In December of that year, attorney Charles Hayes, who would later buy the loaded Justice Department computers, was involved with a gemstone smuggling operation in Brazil with links to Kentucky. He represented one of the Brazilian corporations indicted by the US over the smuggling. (White, Jim, *Courier-Journal*, September 6, 1990.)

21. Ben-Menashe, p. 141.

22. *Ibid.*

The body of Alfred Alvarez, shot in the head with a .38 caliber bullet, burned in the desert heat for a day. It sat in a wooden chair behind Alvarez's house in a yard on Bob Hope Drive in Rancho Mirage, located in Riverside County. Police discovered the body along with those of two others, friends of Alvarez. Six months later, police broke open a door to a condo on Kearny Street and discovered the dead body of Paul Morasca, hog-tied by a telephone cord noosed around his neck and his curled legs. Morasca had strangled slowly as his legs uncurled. Three days later, Mary Quick, a 63-year-old school-teacher and head of the Women's auxiliary of American Legion Post 509 in Fresno, was killed by a shot to the head as she approached the Legion Hall. Investigators came to believe that all three murders were connected.<sup>1</sup>

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1. Littman, Jonathan and Taylor, Michael, "Bizarre Murders Puzzle Cops," *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 30, 1991.

## CHAPTER 6:

# Indio

For a time, Danny Casolaro focused his investigation on the collaboration between Wackenhut Corporation and the Cabazon Indian tribe. The clues provided by Riconosciuto, Casolaro looked deep into the Cabazon angle and watched the connections branch out. From the theft of the PROMIS software, the trail led to the October Surprise, to Ed Meese and Earl Brian, to the Cabazon reservation and to points beyond. The connections kept multiplying. Casolaro made plans to visit the reservation, but never did.<sup>1</sup>

The Cabazon tribe has only thirty members, making it one of the country's smallest tribes. Its desolate, three-and-a-half mile desert reservation is located near Indio, California, in the Coachella Valley outside of Los Angeles, to the Salton Sea's north. The tribe was as destitute as the land it owned until the arrival from Florida in 1978 of Dr. John P. Nichols, a white-haired and bearded Burl Ives lookalike. By the early 1980s, Nichols had transformed the Cabazon landscape into an enormous casino operation, replete with a power plant and housing developments. It became a center for international business, particularly in the weapons and security trade. In his notes, Casolaro calls John Philip Nichols "flaky—beyond a reasonable scope of achievement." He also calls him "a dangerous man." Nichols had been described by others variously as a charlatan and a spook, but a man with an obvious talent for writing successful grants. A Cabazon chairman, Art Welmus, described the tribe's predicament when Nichols came on the scene: "When you don't have nothing and you can't get grants, you're last on the totem pole. Where can you get a start?"<sup>2</sup> After Nichols had taken control, Welman remarked, "It's all controlled by outside forces. These poor Indians are brainwashed. They don't want to lose the money they're getting."<sup>3</sup>

The origins of grantsman Nichols' Svengali-like hold over the Cabazons remain as obscure as the job history on his résumé. Nichols depicted himself as

an expert in “socio-health and economic-development planning” with twenty-five years experience. He also cited credentials as an ordained minister and Ph.D., with twenty years of employment by Pro Plan International, a company involved in economic development. Other jobs listed on Nichols’ résumé included stints as a Milwaukee brewer and labor organizer, a mental health program director in Kentucky, Wisconsin and Michigan, and manager of a Coca-Cola plant in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The résumé included a number of falsifications and items conveniently left out. According to his claimed alma mater, the Philateia Theological Seminary of the Free Protestant Episcopal Church in London, Ontario, Nichols never earned a doctorate in theology. As a labor organizer, he had been arrested for mishandling union funds and was later picked up on a fugitive warrant.

Other facets of Nichols’ life also resisted a narrow reading of his background in “socio-health and economic-development planning.” Although he left the bottling plant after a year, Nichols spent ten more years in Chile, Bolivia, and Brazil. Although he played a significant role in organizing two million Marxist and Catholic voters into the leftist Chilean Evangelical Church,<sup>4</sup> he later bragged about his involvement in the murder of democratically-elected President Carlos Allende, as well as the attempted murder of Castro, under the orders of the CIA.<sup>5</sup> Later, Nichols denied that he ever made such statements. He characterized himself as “a simple social worker.”

Nichols also worked at one time as business partners with G. Wayne Reeder, an alleged CIA operative. Reeder was partners with Neal Bush, brother of George W. Bush, and defaulted on over fourteen million dollars debt to the failed Silverado Savings and Loan and San Marino Savings and Loan companies. During their association, Reeder was one of many people who provided Nichols the commodity he needed to succeed as a grantsman: contacts. Among many others, Uganda’s Idi Amin and Chilean president Eduardo Frei made the list, and police reports indicated that Nichols had business contacts in sixteen foreign countries.<sup>6</sup>

Whatever Nichols was, social worker, big money shmoozer or something else, he quickly took over the management of the Cabazon tribe and began building his empire in the desert. Benefits accrued to an operation based on Indian lands. The sovereign status of Indian lands grants certain advantages to investors, including tax advantages, relative freedom from government scrutiny, and the bypassing of legal regulations—such as environmental impact statements—which would be required on non-reservation lands. One of the first schemes Nichols put into action was the mail order sale of tax-free cigarettes from the reservation. This operation employed about ten Cabazon Indians in a non-air conditioned trailer. The Indians reportedly made about one hundred dollars a week for their work. The cigarette sales succeeded, and within two years



John Philip Nichols.



Alfred Alvarez.

the tribe branched out into the sale of tax-free liquor. The state of California stepped in this time, however, and sued and won for unpaid taxes on the liquor. From available records, it appears the back taxes were never paid. Similarly, Nichols' plans for a telethon, an Indian Olympics, the processing of coal and the importations of gold, and the development of a pharmaceutical firm all fell through—rankling tribal members, who charged that Nichols had manipulated tribal factions and brought in non-Cabazons to vote on these operations.<sup>17</sup> Nichols had bigger plans. In 1979 he put together the arms-manufacturing partnership between the Cabazon tribe and the Wackenhut Corporation, called Cabazon Arms. Wackenhut remains one of the world's largest private security operations and the third largest private prison contractor in the United States. Among numerous other operations, Wackenhut has supplied guards for US embassies worldwide, security for nuclear installations and test sites in the United States, and security-related enterprises in thirty nine countries around the world.

Wackenhut is a private detective agency founded in 1954 by former FBI man George Wackenhut and three ex-FBI friends in Miami, a hotbed of rightist political activity at the time. George Wackenhut had important political connections—Florida governor Claude Kirk and Senator George Smathers among them—and shared a predilection with J. Edgar Hoover for acquiring files on people. His connections helped build his agency into a powerful private police force with huge government contracts. Senator Smather's law firm hired guards from a Wackenhut subsidiary to work nuclear bomb test sites in Nevada and Cape Canaveral, a workaround to the federal law forbidding private detectives from working for the government. George Wackenhut's preoccupation with



George Wackenhut and wife Ruth.



Former Florida governor Claude Kirk George Wackenhut (center) and Grace Kelly's brother, Jack (right).

compiling files made the agency an extraordinary intelligence resource as well. Investigator John Connolly noted that “By 1965, Wackenhut was boasting to potential investors that the company maintained files on two and a half million suspected dissidents—one in forty-six American adults then living. In 1966, after acquiring the private files of Karl Barslaag, a former staff member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Wackenhut could confidently maintain that with more than four million names, it had the largest privately held file on suspected dissidents in America.”<sup>8</sup>

By then, almost half of Wackenhut's executive staff were former FBI members, two of whom had been senior officers of the division in charge of domestic intelligence. Current and past members of the Wackenhut board of directors included former CIA Deputy Director Frank Carlucci, former Deputy CIA Director Bobby Inman, former CIA Director Admiral William Raborn, and former FBI Director Clarence Kelly.

Michael Riconosciuto provided more names in the cast of characters that made up the history of Wackenhut: “Robert Jason, who is the group vice president of Wackenhut, has an interesting history. Robert Jason was vice president of International Telegraph and Telephone [ITT] ... During the Allende situation in Chile, he was the CIA station boss as well as vice president of ITT for Chilean operations. And his deputy station boss was Dino Pianzio. And John Philip Nichols was working under Dino John Pianzio at that time. Jason goes from ITT to Wackenhut. During the Carter administration, Robert E. Jason is Commissioner of US Customs for the entire Carter administration. As Commissioner of Customs, he has some interesting projects directly out of his office. One of them

was Fat Albert, the drug interdiction surveillance balloons ... the big balloons with radar and other sensors that were doing the aerial surveillance for drug smugglers flying in ... vendors supporting that project were wholly owned by Earl W. Brian. The contracting officer handling all of those companies was Peter Videnieks, out of the Bureau of Customs.... And this was a very large procurement. And Videnieks' job, as contracting officer, was to deal with industry.”<sup>9</sup>

To assist in the administration of Cabazon Arms, John Philip Nichols recruited Peter Zokosky, husband to the Mayor of Indio and the previous head of an ammunitions manufacturing company called Armtech. Under the impression that Nichols intended to start a similar arms manufacturing operation on the Cabazon land, Zokosky soon discovered himself “involved with drug dealers, schemers, contras and murderers.”<sup>10</sup>

In 1981, Nichols, Zokosky, and A. Robert Frye, a vice president of Wackenhut, travelled to Quebec in an attempted \$18 million dollar purchase of Valleyfield Chemical Products Corporation, a weapons propellant manufacturer. The deal went bust due to Canadian government objections. The trio then went to Indiana, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C., setting up the manufacturing of combustible cartridge cases and three hundred pairs of night vision goggles. Zokosky recalls that the goggles, at least, were intended to be sold to the Nicaraguan contras, and recalls a demonstration of the equipment for contra Eden Pastora (aka Commander Zero) at a police weapons range in Lake Cahuilla, California.<sup>11</sup> Powerful men were creating powerful schemes on the Cabazon Reservation, and that power could be used to stop those who might interfere with those schemes.

In 1982, Fred Alvarez, a Cabazon tribal leader, and two companions, were found murdered on the Indio reservation. Alvarez had been critical of Nichols' and Wackenhut's dealings with the Cabazon tribe,<sup>12</sup> and he had mentioned to friends that he had received death threats. Investigative reporter Virginia McCullough later came to believe that Alvarez had discovered that monies rightfully belonging to the Indians were being embezzled by the partnership called Bingo Palace Inc.<sup>13</sup> Alvarez knew what he was getting into, however. He had told the *Indio Daily News*, “My life is on the line. There are people out there [on the reservation] that want to kill me.”

According to Riconosciuto, “Alvarez was present at all the meetings, and he was gung-ho behind Nichols, and everything that was going on there. OK? We were all red-blooded Americans, and we believed in the things that were going on! The way things were shaping up with the Reagan Election Committee and the things that were being orchestrated made us all concerned. And Alvarez wrote a detailed letter to Ronald Reagan expressing his concern. All the details of the October Surprise hostage issue were outlined in the letter. I mean, in specifics.”



Linda Streeter-Dukic, Alvarez' sister, described early relations of Alvarez and the inner circle around Nichols as being amicable, but said that when he started objecting to some of the schemes coming down from Nichols and the other tribe leaders, they began to send him on business trips. One trip was to Denver, in June 1981, to attend a conference. Streeter says that, while in Denver, Alvarez was offered a large amount of money to carry drugs back to Indio, but had turned the offer down.

"When he got off the plane," she said, "the police grabbed him, threw him spread-eagle against a car and searched him and his bags." Alvarez's mother said that only Nichols and his son were aware of Alvarez's trip to Denver.<sup>14</sup>

On the morning of July 1, 1981, a meeting was scheduled by Alvarez with attorney and former Cabazon chairman Joe Benitez. The intended topic of discussion was how to oust Cabazon control from Nichols. When Benitez arrived at Alvarez's home in Rancho Mirage he found Fred Alvarez shot through the head as he sat in a chair. Alvarez's girlfriend and another friend were also nearby, shot dead.<sup>15, 16</sup>

The murder of Alvarez and his friends took place during a period when Nichols, Zokosky, and a Wackenhut associate named Bob Frye were travelling around the country on munitions business. Zokosky told reporter John Connolly, "I felt like they were stalling. We had no meetings scheduled."<sup>17</sup> Zokosky returned to Indio, and the following day the bodies of Alvarez and his companions were found. The day after that, Nichols returned to Indio. When Zokosky told Nichols about the murders, "Nichols seemed unaffected, like he already knew." Zokosky stated that Nichols, "... dialed a number and asked for Bob Frye. 'Alvarez has been murdered,' he said into the phone a few seconds later. After another few seconds, Nichols said, 'Okay, so long,' and hung up."<sup>18</sup>

The investigation of the deaths by the police was slipshod and hurried. Police familiar with the case note the friendship of Nichols with one of the investigating detectives. One police investigator believed he was removed from the case because of pressure put on his superiors from the outside. When the investigator pursued further on his own, he received death threats, one from a crossbow-wielding man. Fearing for his family, the man gave up and moved out of town.<sup>19</sup> In any case, the investigation languished until the appearance of Jimmy Hughes. Hughes had been Nichols' Wackenhut bodyguard, and he reported to Indio police officials that he was Nichols' bagman for the murders of Fred Alvarez and his friends. Hughes described Nichols and two of his sons, Mark and John Paul, as having doled out \$5,000 in cash in front of him, with orders to deliver the money to two men in the nearby town of Idyllwild. Hughes stated that, "Nichols admitted to me the ordering of the Alvarez murder. He stated there was a US-government covert action... Pressures from unknown Washington, D.C. government agencies have caused a possible shutdown of this case."<sup>20</sup>

According to Hughes, the murderers included several ex-Green Berets employed as firemen in Chicago. Hughes went into hiding in Sonoma and Lake counties after the murders, under the protection of the Riverside county District Attorney's office and the California Department of Justice. The FBI offered Hughes protection under a witness protection program, but he turned it down, fearing "Nichols has made a deal with the FBI through the Wackenhut Corporation. Possibly ... he himself has been protected by the FBI."<sup>21</sup> Hughes also stated that the Alvarez investigation had been interfered with by "an agency out of Washington, D.C." Offering no other specifics, he said, "The FBI is small potatoes compared to the agency."

*NAPA Sentinel* editor Harry Martin detailed curiosities about the investigation that followed Hughes' revelations: "The chief investigator for the Riverside County District Attorney's Office was later taken off the case and transferred to the Juvenile division and then given early retirement. Shortly after his retirement, the DA investigator states that he was pulled off the road one day by a CIA agent and told to forget all about the 'desert' if he wanted to enjoy his retirement."<sup>22</sup>

After Jimmy Hughes came forward with information he left the country, reportedly traveling to Guatemala. Hughes was said to be in possession of documentation linking the men at Cabazon to a hit list of political targets including Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was murdered in 1986; Israeli intelligence agent Amiran Nir, who died in a mysterious plane crash; and Cyrus Hashemi, a key player in the events of October Surprise, also murdered in 1986.

The expansion of Cabazon enterprises continued after the murder of Alvarez. In 1983 the Department of Defense gave the Cabazons authorization to manufacture weaponry. At that time Nichols also engaged in discussions with Stormont Laboratories, a genetics lab, about the possibility of manufacturing a bio-weapons detector. In March 1983, a casino and bingo parlor appeared on the reservation—visible on the left side of Highway 10 driving in to Palm Springs. Part of the funding for the bingo parlor came from a \$90,000 HUD grant, given ostensibly to the Cabazons for the construction of a museum.

In 1983, the Cabazons contacted La France Specialties, another weapons manufacturer, to seek assistance in building a weapons factory on the Indian lands. A letter to La France said that the weapons intended to be manufactured included assault rifles with laser sights, sniper rifles with one mile-plus range, 9mm machine pistols, rocket systems, night vision scopes, and battle communications systems.<sup>23</sup>

Danny Casolaro focused on the most grisly of the Cabazon murders in his notes, that of Riconosciuto associate Paul Morasca: "In 1982, the body of

thirty-year-old Paul Morasca was found hog-tied and fatally strangled in his condominium on San Francisco's Telegraph Hill. Morasca, who had been working among the Cabazon Arms confidantes, reportedly had the access codes for offshore accounts containing hundreds of millions of dollars in drug money ostensibly for covert operations."<sup>24</sup>

Michael Riconosciuto said of Morasca's death, "And then my associate Paul Morasca was found murdered. I was the one who found him. And Nichols and others tried to keep me away from our condominium office in San Francisco. It was suspicious to me. And after almost fourteen days of not seeing Paul—and then a day after he missed a critical meeting that there's no way he would have missed—that's when I went looking for him. And Nichols tried to get me down to the desert on an emergency basis to work on some project so that I'd be otherwise occupied. And I said that I'd be down there as soon as I found out what happened to Paul. And he was really pushy and really stressed out. When he came across to me on this, it made me even more suspicious. And other people that I talked to tried to dissuade me, and it was just not normal, the amount of pressure and emphasis they were putting on this situation. I knew in my gut ... Paul was dead! He'd been slowly strangled to death."<sup>25</sup>

Three days after Paul Morasca's murder, a woman named Mary Quick—63 years old, a school teacher and Women's Auxiliary president of Fresno's American Legion—was headed toward Legion Post 509 when she was killed by a single gunshot to the head in an apparently unrelated mugging. A year after the murder, however, police learned that Riconosciuto claimed a business association with Mary Quick's nephew, Brian Weiss. Police sources told the *San Francisco Examiner* that Weiss gave his aunt a bank card with secret account numbers, perhaps the same access codes that may have led to Paul Morasca's murder. According to the police, "She had no connection (to any of the principals) and could be trusted. Mary Quick was to be instructed to give information only to Paul (Morasca) or Michael Riconosciuto. She was not aware of what the computer card was for and had never received the card." Riconosciuto claimed that Mary Quick's murderers were probably trying to recover the card.<sup>26</sup>

After the death of his wife, John Philip Nichols became involved with a twenty-seven-year-old heroin addict. Nichols attempted to hire a hitman to kill his girlfriend's alleged suppliers, but made the mistake of soliciting the hit through a police informant. On tape Nichols can be heard saying, "I'll pay five hundred and five hundred," for two murders. Nichols also made clear that there would be additional work for the proposed hitman: "I need some work done in Latin America. I do a lot of business down there." Nichols proposed that the murderer move to Las Vegas, and "not freelance, but work out a guaranteed income."

In January of 1985 John P. Nichols was arrested on charges of soliciting the murder of five persons. The case never came to trial. Nichols pleaded no contest and was sentenced to prison for four years, although he served only nineteen months. The felony conviction forced Nichols' official removal from his job running the Cabazon reservation. The elder Nichols continued as "mental health counselor" to employees and the Indians on the reservation, however, while his son, John Paul Nichols, became tribal administrator. A thirty thousand square foot casino and bingo hall were soon under construction, and a deal was cut with Colmac Corporation to construct a \$150 million power generating plant on the reservation. Other business dealings by the Cabazon tribe included plans for a thirteen hundred luxury housing project to take advantage of HUD funding, and an industrial incinerator for medical wastes. Both proposals would have taken advantage of the fact that environmental impact statements would not be required because of the land's sovereign status—a legalism pointed out by Michael Riconosciuto in his affidavit of March 21, 1991. An extensive Southern California Edison electrical facility has also been developed on Cabazon land.<sup>27</sup>

In 1990, control of the Cabazon reservation was turned over to John Paul's younger brother, Mark. Mark had served six months in jail in Florida for possession and sale of cocaine and LSD in 1978. Also in 1990, a pari-mutuel offtrack betting parlor was opened, courtesy of a grant from HUD. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 made the practice of Indians opening betting parlors and casinos commonplace by the early 1990s. In fact, the act allowed tribes like the Cabazons to buy property outside the reservation but regulate it under the same rules of sovereignty that protected the industrial incinerator and Riconosciuto's manufacture of chemical weapons from federal control, creating great potential growth for such enterprises.<sup>28</sup>

Casolaro began looking into illegal operations connected to other Indian reservations in the United States. He found connections to the Papago Indian reservation and the alleged shipment of drugs by the CIA and the criminal underground. In his notes on Cabazon, Casolaro remarked: "Guns to Iraq—Missiles to Iran—Dope—for money" with arrows showing that dope money funds the above.<sup>29</sup>

Casolaro had a hard time trying to come up with a title for his unfolding story. He listed several alternates for his manuscript: "On the Trail of the Moneycatchers," "On the Trail of an Unlikely Alliance," "On the Trail of an Alliance Gone Awry," "Rogue Spies, Big Oil, Organized Crime and Secret Empires," and the prophetic "Death of the Poet." Each suggested some connection to what he had learned in his research on the Cabazons, struck as he was with its importance to the Inslaw case. At one point he considered simply calling the book *Indio*.<sup>30</sup>

1. "Inslaw," *Leading Edge*, p. 48; "The Family That Preys Together," *Covert Action* 41.

2. Littman, Jonathan, "Mystery Man Who Transformed a Tribe," *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 5, 1991.
3. Littman, Jonathan, "Tiny California Tribe's Huge Clout," *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 4, 1991.
4. Littman, "Mystery Man."
5. "The Com-12 Briefing," *Phoenix Liberator*, March 23, 1993, p. 16.
6. Littman, "Mystery Man."
7. Littman, "Mystery Man."
8. Connolly, John, "Inside the Shadow CIA," *Spy*, September 1992.
9. Mahar.
10. Connolly, John, "Badland," *Spy*, April 1992.
11. *Ibid.*
12. From *US News & World Report*, August 23, 1993: "In 1980, California's Cabazon Indian tribe hired as their poker-room manager one Rocco Zangari, identified as a mobster in Senate testimony. He was subsequently fired. Later, after tribal Vice Chairman Alfred Alvarez complained to local newspapers about poker-room skimming, Alvarez and two others were shot dead; the case has never been solved."
13. McCullough, Virginia, Interview with Kenn Thomas, January 27, 1994.
14. Connolly, "Badland."
15. Littman and Taylor, "Bizarre Murders."
16. In the spring of 1991, Linda Streeter-Duvic and former tribal chairman Art Welmus attempted again to organize the Cabazon tribe to oust John Philip Nichols and clan as administrators of the Cabazons. They were kept from assembling in the tribal hall by eleven guards, but held their meetings instead in a nearby mobile home. In response, the Nicholoses initiated expulsion proceedings, and flew in a parliamentarian from Wisconsin to conduct hearings. Armed guards took twenty Cabazons to a trailer next to a bingo hall, where they witnessed the parliamentarian accuse Welmus of the theft of a cheesecake, the attempt to use the tribal hall, and of maligning the Nichols management in the local press. The vote to banish Welmus and Streeter-Duvic was deadlocked until votes were received from five Nichols supporters recently registered as voters. The new voters were non-Cabazon, distant relatives (stepchildren) of the Nichols faction. The final vote expelled Welmus, age sixty, from the tribe and Streeter-Dukic, age 44, for twenty years, and fined them \$50,000. (Littman, Jonathan, "Tribal Managers Tough To Challenge," *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 4, 1991; a letter from counsel to the Cabazons to the *San Francisco Chronicle* dated Sept. 19, 1991 challenged the details of this report and Jonathan Littman's entire series on the Cabazons and demanded a retraction, which it did not receive.)
17. Connolly, "Badland."
18. *Ibid.*
19. Littman and Taylor.

20. Connolly, "Badland."
21. *Ibid.*
22. Martin, Harry, *NAPA Sentinel*.
23. Connolly, "Badland."
24. Casolaro's Notes, p. 88.
25. Casolaro's Notes, p. 104.
26. Littman and Taylor.
27. Connolly, "Badland."
28. Malone, Roy, "Edgar Opposes Indians' Plan for Casino," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, October 14, 1992. Interestingly, in March 1995, Bill Hamilton's brother Lou gathered together investors from the St. Louis, Missouri area for a riverboat gambling site in Lemay, Missouri. The effort gained news attention because some the investors were longtime donors to the political campaigns of the St. Louis County Executive George R. "Buzz" Westfall. Lou Hamilton's company, Futuresouth, was the St. Louis partner to the Showboat casino chain based in Nevada. (Schlinkmann, Mark "Casinos Enlist Westfall Backers," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, March 30, 1995.)
29. Casolaro, p. 359.
30. Jonathan Littman, "Tiny California Tribe's Huge Clout," *San Francisco Chronicle*, 9/4/91.

## ◀ CHAPTER 7:

# Behold, a Pale Horse

Danny Casolaro pulled the various threads he had uncovered together into a book proposal for submission to publishers, entitled, *Behold, a Pale Horse*. He didn't realize at the time, but he was describing a part of the interlinking cabal he would later call "The Octopus." The following excerpt is from the book proposal.

*Behold, a Pale Horse* will be a haunting odyssey that depicts a manifesto of deceit, decisions of conscience, good and evil, intrigue and betrayal.

John Philip Nichols found his promised land just north of Mexicali on the wild grasses above the Salton Sea.

He was sixty-years-old then and the Cabazon Indian reservation on the edge of Sonora was an ideal place for him to nurse his secret self. This is vast desert emptiness where the yucca reaches nearly forty feet high, where the Mormons saw it as a symbol pointing to the promised land and they called it the Joshua Tree. But the Joshua Tree is an ugly, unsymmetrical lily with burly arms crooked at the elbow and it points everywhere, not unlike John Philip Nichols, as if asking itself "what shall I do next?"

There is a point on the ridge of the Little San Bernardino mountains known as Salton View where you are more than five thousand feet above the desert and where, to the north, you can see the great escarpment of Mount San Jacinto and, to the south, the man-made Salton Sea, the orchards of the Coachella valley and, on a clear day, old Mexico.

It is always clear in Indio and with the clarity of the warbler in the cottonwood grove, John Philip Nichols knew that he could bring his box office charity and all his earthly possessions into the reservation of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. With no more than two dozen Indians and nearly

two thousand acres of desert solitaire, cactus and cotton grove, the Cabazon reservation was a suitable home for gambling, dope, dirty money and gun running and all the fugitive visions that line the edge of oppression.

John Philip Nichols didn't howl under twelve full moons before the gambling was underway and, in the desert night, people flocked from all over to Indio Bingo and to the poker casino at the fork of Highway 10 and Highway 86. Under a major corporation's umbrella subsidiary, later to be named Cabazon Arms, the gun runners and the money traders soon arrived, the weapon makers and the generals from Babylon, contra resuppliers, covert operatives from both the East and West and, in what one source calls "a marriage of necessity," the dope dealers, the mobsters and the murderers.

Whatever John Philip Nichols saw in the dark cathedral of those desert nights in silence and certainty cracked and came unglued. After a number of still-unsolved execution-style murders and solicitation-for-murder charge for which he was jailed, the dark vision of John Philip Nichols eroded. Although he's been released from a short stint in prison, he's a one-eyed Jack now since only Indio Bingo gambling—managed by his sons, the Las Vegas-managed poker casino, the Indians and the most formidable creatures of the desert remain.

Several of the Cabazon Arms associates during the 1980s are coming out of the shadows to take top billing for the actual participation in the multi-million dollar laundered payment to the Iranians to delay the release of the hostages, in shutting down the dope and dirty money schemes of Nugan Hand and resurfacing its activities, in assisting Gerald Bull in the refinements and distribution of his weapon arsenal including his Super Gun and in the development of the Fuel Air Explosive technologies—thought to be responsible for the Beirut bomb which killed two hundred forty-one US servicemen.

An international cabal whose services cover parochial political intrigue, espionage, the trade of weapon technologies, biotoxins, drug trafficking, money laundering and murder has emerged from an isolated desert Indian reservation just north of Mexicali. While this cabal continues, its origins were spawned thirty years ago in the shadow of the Cold War. In recent months, however, several of its members have gratuitously taken credit for the purposeful delay of the release of the hostages until after the 1980 election, scuttling and resettling the schemes of the Australian-based Nugan Hand bank, their involvement with Gerald Bull, assassinated last spring in Brussels and the development and distribution of fuel air explosive technologies.



## ◀ CHAPTER 8:

# Wild Rumors

The facts that Danny investigated astounded him, but the rumors were out of this world, some of them quite literally.

Rumor had it, for instance, that the Cabazons belonged to worldwide “Reservation Operations” run on Indian lands by the “Enterprise” and Wackenhut under the project name “Yellow Lodge.”<sup>1</sup> Yellow Lodge allegedly produced advanced warfare projects, including parthenogenic viruses co-engineered with Stormont Labs in Woodland, California. Stormont Labs later acknowledged that it had discussions with Wackenhut concerning biological weapons.<sup>2</sup>

Yellow Lodge ran operations on Jicarilla Apache lands and other Indian reservations, including a center called “D6” located in Dulce, New Mexico. Danny learned that some UFO enthusiasts identify this location as the site of a huge underground joint human/alien base. Others believe the alien base to be government disinformation intended to confuse the real nature of the Dulce operation.<sup>3</sup>

In his notes Danny mentions “MJ 12—extraterrestrial,” alleged by the more excitable end of the UFO research spectrum to be a super-secret US military group charged with signing a non-aggression pact with space aliens.<sup>4</sup> He also mentions “Area #51,” and “Pine Gap.” Area 51 is a military test site in Nevada for advanced aerial weaponry. Although only through a recent job-hazards lawsuit has the Air Force begun to admit to the existence of the base, Area 51 has long been known as the staging ground for the U2 spy plane, the SR17 Blackbird, and is much-rumored as the home of the post-Stealth marvel called the Aurora. In 1989, a man named Bob Lazar went public with claims that he had worked at Area 51, taking apart and reverse-engineering alien space craft. Although even UFO skeptics acknowledge some consistencies in Lazar’s stories, his efforts at documenting his credentials and work history have met with some doubt.<sup>5</sup>

Pine Gap is the top secret underground American base located near Alice Springs in Australia, officially known as the Joint Defense Space Research Facility.<sup>6</sup> Pine Gap allegedly serves as the central American base for the monitoring of spy satellites and interception and decoding of various forms of broadcast communications between foreign powers unfriendly to the US. Pine Gap was built in 1968, ostensibly as a means of sharing space program data with the Australians. Opposition to the base grew as it became clearer that it had a more prosaic purpose—espionage. In his 1987 book *The Crimes of Patriots*, author Jonathan Kwitny demonstrated that CIA manipulation led to the early end in Australia of the administration of Labor Party PM Gough Whitlam, in part because of his opposition to Pine Gap. Indeed, Whitlam was roused after his public complaints about intelligence agency deceptions over the tragic US policy in East Timor, and the CIA's funding of Australia's right-wing Country Party. By a quirk of Australia's constitution, Whitlam was not driven from office by an election, but was removed by a governor-general he had appointed, one who had strong ties to the CIA.<sup>7</sup> No doubt the paranoia about this destabilization of the US ally down under fueled other rumors among locals about the underground Pine Gap base involving alien/government collaboration.<sup>8</sup>

One early page of Danny's notes seemingly ties together Area 51, Pine Gap, a small Pennsylvania town called Tonoma, and possibly one of its citizens, someone named Fred Dick. Perhaps tracing one of many convoluted dead ends that Danny traced, the authors of this book dispatched an investigator to the "Tonoma, PA" in the notes, but failed to find Dick, even after placing a classified in the local newspaper, or any indication of what may have linked him to the two mysterious military bases.<sup>9</sup> Buried in notes written much later, however, were references to Tonomopah, Nevada, near Area 51. Fred Dick, however, remains a mystery.

Although he had an interest in computers and science, Casolaro's interest in the UFO world began with Michael Riconosciuto. Riconosciuto had a proclivity for flights of flying saucer fancy going back at least a generation. After Casolaro's death, he told one computer magazine that Danny had learned nothing more than what one of two intelligence agency factions wanted him to know in order to embarrass the other faction. One faction was called Aquarius and had a leadership sub-group called MJ-12.<sup>10</sup> Riconosciuto even told one writer that he had witnessed the autopsy of an alien body. The writer concluded that Riconosciuto "would have told anyone anything to get out of prison."<sup>11</sup>

Rumors also had it that Riconosciuto had worked for Lear Aircraft in Reno, Nevada. This connected him to both John Lear, Sr., creator of the Lear jet, and often claimed by UFO buffs as having done research on anti-gravity for the government, as well as John Lear, Jr., a former CIA pilot who also hit the UFO circuit with tales of saucers and aliens in cahoots with the US government. Lear

Jr. and Bob Lazar comprise a faction within the UFO sub-culture that maintains a regular presence at its gatherings. Other members of this nexus have included the redoubtable William Cooper, whose 1991 book, *Behold a Pale Horse*, shared the title of the first draft proposal of Casolaro's manuscript and became notorious for its examination of Area 51, its reprinting of the anti-Semitic Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and its claim that JFK was shot by the driver of his car in the presidential motorcade. To a lesser extent this nexus also included Gordon Novel, by rumor and confession a minor player in the Kennedy assassination and the Watergate scandal. Some have suggested that the bizarre tales of extraterrestrials coming from this nexus serve as disinformation to deflect attention away from serious issues such as gun-running and black project weapons development.<sup>12</sup>

Riconosciuto had his own inter-generational connection to the UFO lore, and his own link to the Kennedy assassination. His father Marshall had been a business associate of Fred Crisman, a man involved in the Maury Island incident, one of the earliest UFO incidents to follow pilot Kenneth Arnold's famed flying discs over Mt. Rainier in 1947.<sup>13</sup> Arnold, in fact, investigated claims by Crisman and Harold Dahl that Dahl, his son, his dog and two others witnessed six saucers as the crew boated in Puget Sound along the shore of Maury Island. Dahl's child was burned and his dog killed when one of the saucers spewed metallic debris on the boat. Crisman and Dahl mailed metal fragments of the debris to *Amazing Stories* editor Ray Palmer, who hired Kenneth Arnold himself to investigate. Confused by what he was hearing from Crisman and Dahl, Arnold called in two Air Force Intelligence officers. They conducted some interviews, collected some of the debris, and were headed back to home base on a B-25 when an explosion on their early morning flight killed them both. The Maury Island incident was written off for years as a hoax,<sup>14</sup> but recent research has brought up the possibility that Crisman used his possession of the saucer debris as a means to a career among the spooks.<sup>15</sup>

Flying saucer crash retrieval rumors mounted in 1947 near the Riconosciuto stomping ground in Tacoma, Washington. The *Tacoma News Tribune* reported upon a retrieval by William Guy Bannister, the FBI Special Agent in Charge of the area at the time.<sup>16</sup> Bannister became famous much later in life when he shared office space with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans, possibly employing Lee Harvey Oswald as an *agent provocateur*. Crisman, too, had been connected to Oswald via a subpoena from the investigation of JFK's death by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. Some alleged that Crisman was one of the three hoboes photographed after their arrest in the railroad yard behind the infamous grassy knoll on November 22, 1963. Crisman was notably silent about both Maury Island and JFK in his 1970 memoir of life in Tacoma, entitled *Murder of a City*, written under the pseudonym of Jon Gold.<sup>17</sup> He did have warm

comments about Marshall Riconosciuto, however, and recounted that the young Michael “had discovered several electronic bugs” at his father’s office.

1. “The Com-12 Briefing,” *Phoenix Liberator*, March 23, 1993, p. 16.
2. Cockburn, Alexander, “Meters and Mortars,” *New Statesman*, March 27, 1992.
3. “Com-12,” p. 23.
4. Blum, Howard, *Out There*, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1990. Sources for the history of MJ12 abound in the rumor mill. This book, written by a two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and former *New York Times* investigative reporter, discusses without dismissing the prospect of secret US government investigations of extraterrestrials. It also reproduces the infamous MJ-12 documents, from which lore about this unholy alliance has arisen.
5. “A Lineman For Lincoln County: Area 51’s Glenn Campbell Interviewed,” *Steamshovel Press* #12, 1995.
6. Sauder, Richard, *Underground Bases and Tunnels*, Dracon Press, 1995. Although this book does not mention Pine Gap, it documents similar underground bases around the world and provides a credible view of the tunneling technology.
7. Kwitny, Jonathan, *The Crimes of Patriots*, Touchstone, New York, 1987. Casolaro took extensive notes from this book primarily for its main subject, the Nugan Hand bank scandal, which began to figure prominently in the Octopus theory.
8. “The Mysterious US Base of Pine Gap,” *Notes From the Hangar*, 3rd Quarter, 1991.
9. Correspondence with investigator G. J. Krupey, September 8, 1993.
10. Brown, Colin, “CIA Computer Genius Alleges Massive Conspiracy,” *Technical Consultant*, December–January 1991.
11. Ecker, Don, “Inslaw: Was Wackenhut a Player?” *UFO Magazine*, Vol. 8, No. 1, 1993.
12. Hansson, Lars, *UFOs, Aliens and ‘Ex’-Intelligence Agents: Who’s Fooling Whom? The Inside Story of John Lear, Bill Cooper and the Greatest Cover Up in History*, Paragon Research, Orlando, Florida, 1991.
13. According to researcher Virginia McCullough, Marshall Riconosciuto also had associations to Nixon crony Pat Moriarty, and references to both appear in Casolaro’s notes. McCullough noted that Moriarty helped arranged Nixon’s first trip to China and was later connected to another conspiracy potentate, Bo Gritz. Michael Riconosciuto mentioned his father in point 14 of his March 1991 affidavit for the House Judiciary Committee.
14. Ruppelt, Edward J., *The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects*, Doubleday, Garden City, NY, 1956, pp. 26–27; Menzel, Donald H. and Boyd, Lyle G., *The World of Flying Saucers*, Doubleday, Garden City, NY, 1963, pp. 21–23.
15. Flammonde, Paris, *The Age of Flying Saucers*, Hawthorne Books, New York, 1971, p. 13–17; Halbritter, Ron, “The Hoax On You,” *Steamshovel Press* #12, 1995, p. 23.
16. Halbritter, p. 24.
- 17 Gold, Jon, *Murder of A City*, Tacoma, WA, 1970, p. 78.

## ◀ CHAPTER 9:

# Pursuit of the Tape

One of the incidents Danny Casolaro wrote about in his manuscript was the attempted retrieval of an important tape that Michael Riconosciuto, “Danger Man,” had stashed away. Here is Danny’s account of this episode, from his Octopus manuscript:

It is a pale moon that illuminates the characters in this story. With chords of fear and longing, it is a world of darkness and betrayal that everyone thinks they know but few have seen. The real faces in this world are all too human. Danger Man’s mind is as balkanized<sup>1</sup> as the script he lives and the land he travels. Perhaps betrayal becomes a way of life.<sup>2</sup> The background music no longer echoes national anthems<sup>3</sup> but T. S. Eliot’s *Gerontion*: “Think/neither fear nor courage saves us. Unnatural vices/are fathered by our heroism. Virtues/are forced upon us by our impudent crimes.”

These impudent<sup>4</sup> crimes are the subject of this update and a brief capsule seems as hopeless as carving the Lord’s Prayer<sup>5</sup> on the head of a secret agent. For, like the enormous Danger Man himself, this story will resist<sup>6</sup> shrinkage. Its events are too febrile, its local color too relentless.<sup>7</sup>

The sun had burned away the morning fog when I arrived in Seattle on Easter Sunday, bound for Everett, some thirty miles away. I had come to visit and retrieve a tape recording from the intriguing Danger Man himself, forty-three-year-old Michael J. Riconosciuto, whom lawmen had deposited in the Snohomish County jail in Everett, Washington.

The tape Danger Man has recorded a month earlier, he alleged, was a direct threat from a former Justice Department official describing two legal entanglements that were about to befall him if he cooperated with a mushrooming Capitol Hill inquiry. If this tape was retrievable, I knew this scandal was about to be publicly born.

It was during the last year that I began calling Michael "Danger Man." During hours of telephone calls from him, he had told me in exotic detail of his participation in "an enterprise" that worked its way around the world, trading in dope, dirty money, weapons, biotoxins and murder for the secrets of the temple. I had been able to unearth some documentation and a number of other people who were willing to provide a rich array of detail regarding Danger Man, his former associates and the underground empire he described.

But now he had become a key witness in the eight-year-old legal battle between the Justice Department and Inslaw, a District of Columbia computer company whose software tracking system called PROMIS has been used by law enforcement to track cases and criminals. "but it will track anything once its provided with the rules," Inslaw's founder says.

Inslaw charged, and two courts have agreed, that the software—selling for \$150,000 per user—had been stolen by a handful of people in the Justice Department in the course of a contract dispute. Now, Inslaw charges, the software has been distributed by profiteers to intelligence and military agencies in, among other countries, Iraq, Libya, South Korea, Israel and Canada. Inslaw's William Hamilton had independently learned from a Canadian official that PROMIS was being used in nine hundred different locations in Canada.

A little more than a week before his arrest, Danger Man had filed an affidavit in the case on behalf of Inslaw saying that private interests had hired him in the early 1980s to modify the software for Canadian distribution. Those private interests, he told me, represented tentacles of the underground cabal that made its home on an Indian reservation just north of Mexicali. In the affidavit, Danger Man said he was called in February by a former Justice Department official and warned against cooperating with an investigation into the case by the House Judiciary committee. He added that the former Justice official told him that if he talked to investigators he would be implicated in an unrelated criminal case and would lose another ongoing child custody case.

Late Friday evening on March 29, on the Key peninsula off Puget Sound, Danger Man was arrested for distribution of methamphetamine.

I arrived in Snohomish County two days later on March 31. This is ponderosa pine and giant fir country flanked by the Cascade Mountain range to the east, Port Gardner Bay and the Olympic Mountains to the west with the Snohomish River snaking through the north end of the city of Everett, the county seat. By late evening, I had been to the jail a number of times and each time Danger Man was refused visitors on the orders of the U. S. Marshall in Seattle. Still, Danger Man was able to find me at a nearby motel and call several times from the jail with cryptic directions for the

retrieval of the tape, his expected movement the following day to a federal magistrate in Tacoma and more details about how dangerous he was becoming to the enterprise.

That enterprise moved drugs, guns and money to the ever changing temples of power in different parts of the world, the geography changing with the political climate unless the political climate could be changed to suit the enterprise, according to Danger Man, two other "agents of influence," and a former Israeli agent.

But no one is supposed to talk about it and Danger Man told me again of his best friend Paul who had been murdered in San Francisco almost ten years earlier. "Paul was the best there was as a money mover. The access codes he maneuvered were offshore accounts amounting to over a billion dollars," Danger Man said. "They don't play around. You're just found dead one day."

Traveling to Tacoma with Danger Man's lawyer, I saw seals basking in the only shaft of sun I had seen so far in the Northwest—fat with their catch of steelhead trout moving to freshwater spawning. We talked of Danger Man's allegations, some documentable, and the tape that both of us had been promised.

"Michael sure called this one," the lawyer said. We arrived in Tacoma just before the 3 PM hearing. Danger Man filled the courtroom with his presence. Under six feet tall, he was immense in frame but agile and graceful in movement like some giant white rabbit or perhaps some hybrid fugitive creature related to a fox.

A former Air America pilot who says he may know Danger Man under a name other than Michael Riconosciuto says, "He was called 'the Fat Man' in Asia." Richard Brenneke won't even talk about Danger Man over the telephone. (Brenneke's claims through the years regarding his role in an "October Surprise" plot to delay American hostages in Iran until after the 1980 election have been bouncing around for some time.)

The hearing before a federal magistrate in Tacoma concerned bail for Danger Man which was refused. While the complaint charged an isolated incident of distributing drugs on March 29, there were four other dates mentioned in which confidential informants with audio and video recordings were used as well.

The next day—April 2—I was driven from Gig Harbor to a patch of bog in the peninsula on the reaches of Puget Sound. This is where, I was told, Danger Man had thrown a copy of the tape from a car on the night of his arrest. I was driven up into the hills on the peninsula. Here the high pine trees, mostly wolf pine, and the red cedar stay in the rain shadow. The

ground is mostly scrubland and skunk cabbage heavy with the scent of wild herbs and flowers, especially in the pouring rain. Many of the people live in huts, some attached to mobile homes, in the backwater of the peninsula. The first man I was to meet on this far end of nowhere was an old, grey-bearded Swede in a wide-brimmed leather hat. He came out of his hut talking in staccato rhythms and reciting broken poetry. He appeared somewhere between sixty and seventy years of age. "Can you cry?" he asked me. "Then prepare to shed a tear and shed them now," he said. He hardly paused on the hillside in the pouring rain before advising that "The fault is not in the stars. The fault is in ourselves."

When he stopped talking, he started singing and finally I was able to ask if he had a tape for me.

My driver said, "No. He doesn't have the tape. We just wanted you to meet some of Michael's old friends."

Sitting side by side under a tarp, the bearded old Swede took me on a compulsory guided tour of Danger Man from the time he was a child winning science fairs to now. Prior to working with the Nobel Laureate at Stanford's Physics Lab at sixteen and seventeen years of age, he had suddenly already distinguished himself in mining, sonar, lasers and communications. Much of that I had heard before. Nobel laureate Dr. Arthur Schalow, in a lengthy interview months before, remembered Danger Man well. "You don't forget a sixteen-year-old youngster who shows up with his own Argonne laser," Dr. Schalow had told me. There was an old article about Danger Man when he was ten-years-old after he strung up an alternative telephone service in his neighborhood.

The old Swede, Danger Man's father and my driver wanted to make it very clear that this was a person who made very powerful people take notice of him when he was a boy. But why, I asked, would this group pursue him. Everyone, including Danger Man's father, would tell me "To control him." He had been running from that, I was told, since the mid-'80s when he left the Indian reservation. And now he was regarded as a rogue always presenting a moving target having been harassed through the years by brigades of law enforcement for one charge or another. I had even found an old letter of his dating back to 1982 in which he described having "to present a periscopic image to the public." The rain did not let up as the old Swede danced in the brush. I watched a big jack rabbit dart under and then away from the old Swede's tarp before it limped trembling and hidden in the grass. While some creatures are born to hunt, other are born to flee. These are nature's fugitives, and, like the fox, have a curious freedom in the masks they wear and access to obscure regions where no one will follow. Sometimes they have the protective coloring of the hunter but that is the ruse of the fox. They learn that instinctively.



By the end of the week I had trucked back and forth across Puget Sound by daylight and nightfall in an odyssey of pursuit for the tape. I would meet Danger Man in jail and talk with him many times from the Kitsap County jail to which he had been moved on the peninsula.

I had also been placated, I presumed, with documents concerned mostly with weapons, fuel air explosives, documents relating to Gerald Bull, assassinated the previous spring in Brussels, Carlos Cardoen in Chile, mining papers, lab papers relating to scientific experiments with lasers, and letters regarding the return of that mysterious billion dollars which Danger Man said had come from the Nugan Hand bank in Australia. I had already seen some of these documents in the months before but now it looks as though the gumshoes from the House Judiciary Committee would also see them.

Two Capitol Hill investigators had arrived on my heels to interview Danger Man. By the end of the week they had arrived in Seattle, had discussions with the U. S. Attorney, and made arrangements to have Danger Man moved.

"I'm screwed," Danger Man said, "don't you see. These guys are my only hope. I've come up with the cheapest way to refine platinum there is. But I'm screwed because they'll try to show that the chemicals I use at the mine are precursor ingredients to making methamphetamine." The chemicals at one of his labs included, he said, chloracetone, sodium cyanide, nitric acid, ammonium chloride and bags of platinum dust.

If I received the tape, the original, I was to give it to the investigators, he said. I could make a copy, he added, to bring back to Washington, DC.

The next morning, Danger Man was moved from his cell on the Kitsap peninsula to Seattle where the Judiciary Committee investigators and their stenographer would be interviewing him. I arrived in Seattle and met both investigators. Despite their refusal to let me accompany them on their interview with Danger Man, we reached an agreement to engage in dialogue back in the nation's capitol. They spent all day with Danger Man and then, I learned, provided documents from another repository which I had not seen in Bremerton at the southern tip of the inlet. Having arrived on the 3rd of April, both investigators left on the 5th.

By the tail end of the week, I had learned that federal agents had raided one of Danger Man's labs in the mountainous Pine Creek area west of Tonasket still high in rain and snowmelt as well as his place in Aberdeen, a coastal strip town and still another place in Anaheim, California.

I had previously talked to a Denver businessman about Danger Man and his elusiveness. "I watched Mike demonstrate a new laser weapon he had created," the Denver man said, "a wand that blew whatever he pointed it

at straight up in the air. I had called a number of high ranking military people and Michael was scheduled to demonstrate this new creation at Fort Hood, Texas. When the time came and we gathered at Fort Hood, Michael just didn't show. That's the way he was then and I don't expect he's any different now."

The beginning of spring always has its moody, bad tempered transitions but with the tape never emerging, I was more than a little frustrated and more than doubtful in the tape's existence. "I hope, for your sake, I'm wrong," I told him when he was back in the jail at Kitsap County.

He was unhappy I was leaving. I could sense his feelings grow mute in embarrassment, everything in him withdrew, a silence arose. I was going to be indulgent with whatever he said which I knew would still leave both of us empty handed; for ultimately, and precisely in the deepest and most important matters, especially if he was telling the truth, he was unspeakably alone.

I returned home the next day.

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1. Danger Man's mind is "willful and fragmented" in an earlier draft.
  2. This sentence added to earlier draft.
  3. "keeps a tune to the oath of patriots"
  4. "impudent" added
  5. "the Bill of Rights"
  6. "resists"
  7. "Its events are too current, its local color too feverish."

"Arriving just a few minutes before his flight, [Abbie] called me and started talking in a stream as soon as I picked up the phone: "This fucking truck, this fucking truck swerved, fucking truck." I didn't get a chance to ask him what truck. Then, just as suddenly as he'd began, his tone changed, grew quieter and conspiratorial: "Jack, don't believe anything you might hear on the radio or see in the newspapers tonight. Whatever it is, it's not true."<sup>1</sup>

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1. Hoffman, Jack and Simon, Daniel, *Run, Run, Run, The Lives of Abbie Hoffman*, A Jeremy Tarcher/Putnam Book (G.P. Putnam's Sons), New York, 1994, p. 336.

## CHAPTER 10:

# Mysterious Deaths

Riconosciuto could claim a dark credibility derived from the fact that colleagues in his shadowy world continued to fall. An attorney from Philadelphia, Dennis Eisman, known as the “Fatal Vision lawyer” because of his involvement in the Jeffrey McDonald case, was in touch with Casolaro and was scheduled to travel to Washington to defend Riconosciuto, planning also to meet with a woman who had evidence of threat to his client. In April, Eisman was shot and killed in his car in Philadelphia. According to one source, just prior to Eisman’s death, indictments were pending against him and other attorneys for narcotics trafficking and money laundering. The indictments never appeared.

As soon as Michael Riconosciuto found out that Eisman was dead, he called Virginia McCullough. McCullough said that he was “absolutely panicky in jail.” Riconosciuto told her, “They’ve killed my attorney,” and asked her to telephone another attorney working on his case, James Guthrie, to warn him. McCullough did, and Guthrie told McCullough, “I’m out of here.”<sup>1</sup>

Nine days after Michael Riconosciuto issued his affidavit in the Inslaw case, he was arrested. In April 1991, police arrested Riconosciuto on one count of distributing methamphetamine manufacture at Lakebay in Washington state.

Investigators for the Intelligence Committee of the House of Representatives met with Riconosciuto in Tacoma, spent six hours taking depositions from him, and asked him for proof for his statements by way of legal documents. According to one report, Riconosciuto asked for clear “Lawyer-Client Privilege” labeling on documents when he called them in from his attorney, as a precaution against search and seizure by government agencies. Nevertheless, Riconosciuto’s jailers opened the privileged packages and refused to forward them. Instead, the report goes on, they contacted the NSA, which sent a team to review the material. By the end of December 1991, the agency had not commented on when the documents would be returned to Riconosciuto.<sup>2</sup>

Casolaro conferred with Riconosciuto regularly in late 1989, and flew to Tacoma for the trial and to act as a legal investigator for ten days.<sup>3</sup> Their meeting and the fruitless search for the alleged tape recording of Videnieks may have contributed to a certain disillusionment that Danny felt about “Danger Man” by the time he returned home. “That guy is nuts,” he told a journalist after his Washington trip.<sup>4</sup> No such assessment of Riconosciuto’s sanity was needed to determine that his statements were suspect. In addition to life among the ufo-nauts, Riconosciuto failed to produce an oft-requested passport to corroborate his claimed trips to Iran. When asked by the CNN Moneyline program to describe Peter Videnieks, whom he claimed to have met on several occasions and who threatened him on the lost tape, Riconosciuto was unable to do so.<sup>5</sup>

Four days after interviewing Danger Man on June 19, 1991, former Nixon campaign aide Alan Michael May died in his home in San Francisco. During the interview, Riconosciuto had talked about May’s involvement in the October Surprise. The initial coroner’s report attributed May’s death to heart attack, but an autopsy showed the presence of polypharmaceuticals in his body.

Anson Ng, a reporter for the *Financial Times* of London, pursued Jimmy Hughes, the Wackenhut security guard central to the Alvarez murder case, to South America in an attempt to get an interview. While in Guatemala during July 1991, Ng was murdered by a single bullet to the chest. His death was ruled a suicide. The Guatemalan government was asked to retrieve Ng’s floppy discs and personal papers regarding his investigation. It did so and turned them over to a US intelligence agency. In a press conference a few weeks later, Senator Alan Cranston requested that these items be returned, but they never were.<sup>6</sup>

More than a year earlier, on March 31, 1990, a British journalist named Jonathan Moyle was found dead, hung in a hotel room closet in Santiago, Chile. “Although Casolaro and Moyle were probing different leads, their investigations involved some of the same people,” said columnist Jack Anderson.<sup>7</sup> Moyle, an editor at London’s *Defense Helicopter World*, had been investigating the weapons trade, specifically the alleged sale of non-military US helicopters to Iraq for re-fitting as attack choppers. The notes Moyle left behind contained reference to a sophisticated missile guidance system that held Iraqi interest, although whether or not it used the system in its disastrous SCUD attacks during the Persian Gulf War is unknown. Instrumental in the arms-dealing Moyle had investigated was Carlos Cardoen, the same man Ari Ben-Menashe identified as the intermediary between Iraq and Earl Brian for the PROMIS software deal.<sup>8</sup> Initial reports called Moyle’s death a suicide, but evidence, including the presence of a strong sedative in his system and possible asphyxiation, suggested otherwise.<sup>9</sup>

It is unclear whether or not Moyle kept contact with Danny Casolaro, although his notes include references to Carlos Cardoen and the Iraqi missile

deal. Casolaro knew about Alan May and had also learned about Anson Ng's death shortly after it took place. He also remembered the January murder of Alan Standorf. Riconosciuto had introduced Casolaro to Standorf as an electronic intelligence operative of the NSA, working at the Vint Hill military installation in Virginia that gathered information from espionage satellites and other sources throughout the world. Casolaro agreed that Standorf had important information linking the Justice Department to parts of the various scandals he had researched. After Standorf's death, Danny mentioned to a friend, Bill Turner, that a key source had vanished.<sup>10</sup>

Did Danny feel the tentacles tightening? If so, it was not reflected in his research notes. He collected information on vicious killers and power brokers, but gave no clue that he thought they were coming after him.

Over time, Michael Riconosciuto lost three lawyers and an investigator under what could be construed as mysterious circumstances. In February 1987 Larry Guerrin, a private investigator conducting Inslaw-connected work for Riconosciuto, was killed in Mason County, Washington. After Eisman's death, in April 1993, another attorney who worked with Riconosciuto, John Crawford, died suddenly from a heart attack in Tacoma.<sup>11</sup> The decomposed body of a third Riconosciuto lawyer, Paul Wilcher, was found in Wilcher's Washington, DC apartment on June 23, 1993. Wilcher also had been an attorney for the pilot Gunther Russbacher, who claimed to have videotape proof and sixteen witnesses to his having flown George H. W. Bush to one of the October Surprise meetings.<sup>12</sup> Wilcher belonged to the American Patriot Fax Network and had recently prepared an ambitious fifty-five page fax summarizing information on circumstances leading to the fiery deaths of David Koresh and his followers in April 1993 that he sent as a challenge to Attorney General Janet Reno. The fax included details of the story of his client, Russbacher, concerning the October Surprise, and a page of information on the Inslaw case, pointing out that an executive assistant to Senator Robert Byrd, Democrat from West Virginia, was the wife of Peter Videnieks, who had threatened Riconosciuto.<sup>13</sup>

The mysterious death list came also to include the execution-styled slaying of Ian Spiro and his family, a wife and three daughters, in San Diego on November 1, 1992. Spiro reportedly worked for US and British intelligence agencies on operations that included the October Surprise, Iran-contra and the hostage crisis in Lebanon. Spiro spoke with Riconosciuto, for whom he was helping collect documents to present to a grand jury, only a few days before his death.<sup>14</sup>

Later, others would begin to develop lists of significant deaths related to the Inslaw case in much the same way many began making connections between the deaths of witnesses and others associated to the JFK assassination twenty five years earlier. In addition to the Riconosciuto lawyers, the list included Vali

Delahanty, whose knowledge of a DEA plan to set up Riconosciuto on a drug charge would have made her an important witness for Riconosciuto. She disappeared on Aug 18, 1992 but her body was not discovered until the following April, in a ravine near Lake Bay, Washington.<sup>15</sup> Another Riconosciuto ally, Pete Sandvigen, who was working to help Riconosciuto defend himself from the drug charges, died the following December, an ammo clip from the gun he carried mysteriously missing.<sup>16</sup>

Barty Kusnick, a computer engineer who had worked on PROMIS enhancements, also made the list. According to one report, Kusnick's enhancement was called Brainstorm, an artificially intelligent program that applied the prognosticating ability of PROMIS to individual thought patterns. It ostensibly allowed PROMIS to deduce from personality characteristics the potential action of the person being traced. As in the Inslaw case, Kusnick apparently had made the modifications under a government contract that the government failed to pay, attempting to drive Kusnick into bankruptcy. Kusnick had previously done communications and intelligence work for Northrop Corporation and the US military. His body had not been found, and nine months after he was reported missing family members were unable to get known business partners to acknowledge knowing him. Five boxes of his belongings were found in a lock-up facility.<sup>17</sup>

Sherman Skolnick, long-time chairman of Chicago's Citizen's Committee to Clean Up the Courts, charged that nearly forty witnesses in the Inslaw case had been murdered and complained that a federal judge appointed to review the case failed to show concern over the safety of other witnesses. He also claimed that a Special Federal Grand Jury in Chicago planned to do an end-run around the judge and issue high-level indictments. Skolnick also reported that three of the grand jury witnesses joined with Riconosciuto to file suit against the judge for obstructing the indictments, and that the judge had an FBI agent interrogating witnesses who was himself suspected of murdering Casolaro.<sup>18</sup>

Most interesting of all the mysterious deaths connected to Inslaw, however, was that of 1960s political activist Abbie Hoffman. Hoffman wrote an early piece on the October Surprise for *Playboy* magazine and shortly thereafter was involved in a suspicious automobile accident. Most regarded his death on April 12, 1989 as the suicide it was reported as, caused perhaps in part due to depression he suffered from the continued pain resulting from that accident. Others, however, suspected foul play in Hoffman's death, notably David Dellinger, a fellow member of the Chicago 8. Dellinger's suspicions even led him to attempt to retrieve the coroner's report for examination, but he was stopped by a threatened court battle. "They basically would not allow that to go to court," Dellinger concluded, "but [Abbie's] son Andrew and Abbie's first wife Sheila, are convinced he was killed."<sup>19</sup>

1. McCullough interview.
2. "Com-12," p. 20.
3. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 34; "Worldwide Conspiracy, or Fantasy?" *Seattle Times*, August 29, 1991.
4. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 35; Linsalata.
5. Brown, p. 7.
6. Anderson, Jack and Van Atta, Dale, "Another Casualty in the 'Octopus Case,'" *Washington Post*, August 28, 1991.
7. Anderson.
8. Ben-Menashe, p. 239 passim.
9. "The Riddle of Room 1406," *The Sunday Times*.
10. Stich, *Contact*, p. 407.
11. *Ibid.*
12. Russbacher, Guenther, Interviewed by Alex Horvat and Joe Palermo, March 17, 1993.
13. Wilcher, Paul, *American Patriot Fax Network Fax*, May 21, 1993, p. 69.
14. Thomas, Kenn, "Inslaw Revisited," *Steamshovel Press* #9, Fall 1993, p. 44.
15. Stich, *Contact*, p. 407.
16. *Ibid.*
17. "Inslaw," *Leading Edge*, p. 48.
18. Skolnick, Sherman, "Obstruction of Justice Charged in Inslaw Special Grand Jury in Chicago," privately published paper, 1993.
19. "King Co-Opted; Abbie Assassinated," *Steamshovel Press* #9, Fall 1993, p. 7.



## ◀ CHAPTER 11:

# Robert Booth Nichols

The Hamiltons acquired another important informant and introduced him to Danny Casolaro: Robert Booth Nichols, not to be confused with John Phillip Nichols.<sup>1</sup> Casolaro wrote in his notes that Robert Nichols “looks like Clark Gable.”<sup>2</sup> Nichols presented himself as a dashing, spy-like figure with connections to both the legal and illegal underworld, including the infamous Gambino crime family. He had worked at the Cabazon reservation with Riconosciuto. Riconosciuto and Nichols formed a business partnership in the 1970s to manufacture fertilizer, pesticide, and weaponry, including fuel air explosives and the G-77—an inexpensive sub-machine gun invented by Nichols—but the two had argued in 1984 and had not spoken since.<sup>3</sup>

Casolaro and Nichols spoke on the phone fifteen times in July, calls which lasted as long as two hours. They met at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, D.C. on July 10, 1991. Casolaro was so impressed with the sophistication and “insider” knowledge his new friend Nichols had that he came to consider him a mentor. At one point, Casolaro spoke to him about his money troubles and Nichols offered financial assistance—in exchange for a twenty-five percent interest in Casolaro’s home and right of first refusal if he sold it.<sup>4</sup>

To tempt his girlfriend, Wendy Weaver, into accompanying him to his meeting with Nichols at the Four Seasons, Casolaro described Nichols as the president of the Bechtel corporation, just arrived from Kuwait. Nichols intimated at the dinner party that he was going to be named state security minister of the Caribbean island of Dominica, which would become a center for rebuilding Kuwait. Nichols repeatedly warned Casolaro that what he was researching was dangerous. Nichols warned Casolaro at least five times about the danger of associating with Riconosciuto. He warned that if Casolaro said anything that went against Nichols’ former partner Riconosciuto, he would be killed. At one point during the evening, responding to a slight from another patron at the bar that



Robert Booth Nichols



Clyde's in Tyson Corner, meeting place of Danny Casolaro and Robert B. Nichols.

Weaver later described as imagined, Nichols grabbed the man, slammed him against the wall and declared that he would kill him. Later that evening, Casolaro confided to Weaver that Nichols “really scared him.” In his notes, Danny Casolaro characterized Nichols as “very powerful.”<sup>5</sup>

On another night, Casolaro and a different friend met Nichols at Clyde's in Tyson's Corner. Nichols again talked about Dominica, saying he had just done a radio broadcast in his new position as minister of state security, and he also said that he was part of a planned CIA coup that was going to happen there. Casolaro's friend claimed that Nichols “had this story that they were going to turn Dominica into a CIA base, had plans for a desalination program and pulled out this design drawn by a French architect of a dome the size of Texas Stadium that was half underwater. Really, the whole thing reminded me of Ernst Stavro Blofeld...” After lunch, Danny took his friend aside and showed him what he alleged was a summary of an FBI wiretap on Nichols that linked him to the Yakuza and the Gambino family. The friend was shocked. “I said, ‘Danny, I'm gonna take you out back and whip your ass! You just put me in a meeting with this man and didn't tell me what the hell—why didn't you tell me before?’” Casolaro explained he just wanted to see how Nichols would react.<sup>6</sup>

Casolaro related Nichols' stories about Dominica in his Notes “Before the reins of the Octopus are turned over to several younger players, the game continues now—July, 1991—on the tiny Caribbean island nation of Dominica. Possessing the largest boiling deep water lake in the world, Dominica's geothermal potential is unmatched. It is here that the Octopus may be making its boldest and most dangerous move yet.”<sup>7</sup>

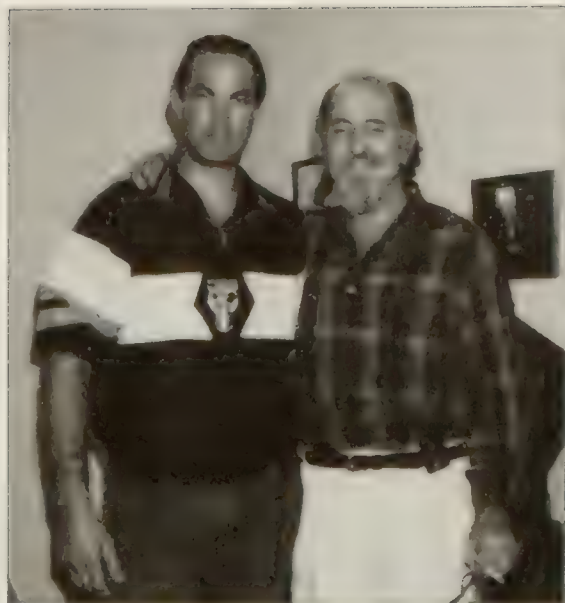
In 1976, Nichols represented a Saudi company, Ali & Fahd, in a failed attempt to acquire Howard Hughes' Summa Corporation, after the death of the reclusive magnate. Joseph Cicippio, later taken as a hostage in Lebanon, was an employee of Ali & Fahd at the time, and stated that Nichols represented himself as an agent for the US government in the takeover bid. Cicippio said that Nichols showed him Justice Department identification, and had information which he assumed could only have been acquired through government contacts.<sup>8</sup>

Casolaro learned more about Nichols from Richard Stavin, formerly a special prosecutor for the Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force, who had some familiarity with Nichols' attachment to the mob end of the entertainment industry. On July 31, 1991 Stavin explained to Danny about Nichols' connections to the Gambinos and the Yakuza, which the FBI had investigated in 1987 as part of its probe of Mafia presence in Hollywood. Stavin also mentioned that Nichols had at one time offered to become an informant for the Justice Department, although he did not know whether anyone had taken him up on the offer. Stavin felt that passing this information on may have contributed to Danny's death.<sup>9</sup>

The FBI's focus in 1987 was on Mob influence in the motion picture industry. They took particular interest in Eugene Giaquinto, a member of the board of directors of Nichols' Meridian Arms, a firm that was to manufacture the G-77 gun in South Korea. At that time, Giaquinto also served as president of the home entertainment sector of MCA, which owned Universal Pictures. In his application to wiretap Giaquinto, agent Thomas G. Gates, who later supplied information to Casolaro, suggested that FBI investigative files indicated that in 1978, Nichols had been "an international money launderer for money generated through narcotics trafficking and organized crime activities."<sup>10</sup> The wiretaps caught Giaquinto and Nichols discussing a takeover of MCA, and revealed Giaquinto's connection to renowned mobster John Gotti. Although the investigation was derailed by members of the Reagan administration, Giaquinto left both MCA and Meridian, but not before unsuccessfully trying to secure an appointment for Nichols to head an industry anti-video piracy operation in Asia. Nichols denied any involvement with the Yakuza or the Mafia. Ron Rosenbaum wrote in *Vanity Fair* that Nichols traced "the trouble to an FBI misunderstanding of his screenplay career. He says he was introduced to a high level executive of MCA several years ago at a coffeeshop. When the MCA man encouraged him to turn some tales he'd told him into screenplays, they became friends, and briefly, business associates. Unknown to him, the MCA man was the subject of a full-court-press FBI investigation for being a key organized-crime link to the entertainment industry. And so, Gable [Nichols] says his voice was picked up by taps on the MCA man's phone. The bureau misinterpreted their conversations as containing code words for illegal activities, turned around, targeted him, and slandered him to his business associates. In fact, Gable's



Steven Seagal sporting somebody else's military-issue beret and insignia.



Steven Seagal and ex-CIA operative Robert Strickland.

company is suing an FBI man for libel and slander. He says that the wiretap summary was part of the FBI man's affidavit in the Gable slander suit."<sup>11</sup>

Nichols' response to Gates' affidavit linking him to John Gotti and the Gambino family through Giaquinto was to sue Gates and the US Government for libel. However, the federal district courts dismissed Nichols' suits twice. Gates, believing Nichols to be undeterred in his attempt at retribution, said in testimony before the House Judiciary Committee that informants had twice told him that Nichols had placed a contract on his life.

The other high point of Nichols' movie career came with his cameo appearance as a terrorist in the 1992 Steven Seagal movie, *Under Siege*. Perhaps not coincidentally, Seagal became embroiled in controversy when a writer, Alan Richman, claimed in *GQ* magazine that Seagal had appropriated details of the biographies of former associates Robert Strickland and Gary Goldman and passed them off as incidents in his own life. When investigator John Connolly later repeated the charges in *Spy* and made further claims that Seagal tried to set up Richman in a fake homosexual tryst and tried to have Goldman killed, Seagal sued unsuccessfully.

In 1993 Nichols sought damages against the Los Angeles Police Department over an incident that caused the revocation of his concealed weapons permit and, consequently, a cancellation of the money for the manufacture of the G-77 by Swiss financiers. According to his testimony, Nichols had been thrown to the floor, disarmed, handcuffed and carted off to a North Hollywood jail by LAPD officers responding to a disturbance complaint at a club called The Palomino.<sup>12</sup> Nichols said he was not involved with any disturbance but had only stopped in at the club for a couple of beers. Further testimony and legal documents reflect-

ed an impressive list of former business partners, including Howard Hughes cohort Robert Maheu and Texas oil magnate Clint Murchison.<sup>11</sup>

Casolaro may not have understood the possible danger of possessing the information he had learned from Richard Stavin, that Nichols may have offered himself as a government stool pigeon. Casolaro may have worried that if he let slip his knowledge of Nichols' association with the Mafia and the Yakuza during a conversation, Nichols might turn dangerous. Six days after talking to Stavin, Casolaro spoke again to his mentor. The following day Casolaro informed Stavin that Nichols had warned him off the investigation. At about the same time, Casolaro called FBI agent Thomas Gates and asked whether he should take seriously Nichols' warnings that, "If you continue this investigation, you will die." Gates later commented that Casolaro was "upbeat, not like a person contemplating suicide."<sup>14</sup>

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1. In January 1993, writer John Connolly cast suspicion on the relationship between Bill Hamilton and Robert Booth Nichols: "... despite Hamilton's reservations about Nichols' character, the man who designed a program for tracking criminals and the man who has been linked by the FBI to two crime organizations communicate with surprising frequency. Last summer I visited Hamilton's office in Washington to get a copy of the phone records that would show his call to Nichols on August 9, 1991. He seemed reluctant. It took a fair amount of persuasion to convince him to turn it over—and what he gave me was a photocopy with all but that call blocked out. Shortly after leaving, I remembered that I had wanted to ask him something else and returned to his office. While I was waiting in the reception area, the phone rang. The receptionist buzzed Hamilton: 'Robert Booth Nichols, returning your call.' When I asked Hamilton about the call, he replied, 'I call Nichols all the time. It was just a coincidence that it was right after you left.'" (Connolly, John, "Dead Right," *Spy*, January 1993.)

2. "Without the ears," Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 35.

3. Corn.

4. Linsalata; Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 36.

5. Connolly, "Dead Right"; Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 36.

6. Ron Rosenbaum, "The Strange Death of Danny Casolaro," *Vanity Fair*, Vol. 54, December 1991.

7. Casolaro's Notes, pp. 1–7.

8. From Casolaro's Notes "Sworn affidavit alleges that Nichols gets word from Justice department."

9. "Unanswered Questions on Casolaro," *The Spotlight*, September 28, 1992.

10. Corn.

11. Rosenbaum, p. 96.

12. From Casolaro's notes, "A Palomino is a Pale Horse."

13. Weinstein, Henry and Feldman, Paul, "Trial Offers Murky Peek Into World of Intrigue," *Los Angeles Times*, March 21, 1993

14. "Unanswered Questions on Casolaro," *The Spotlight*, September 28, 1992.

## CHAPTER 12:

# A Sea Creature Surfaces

On May 8, 1991, the Inslaw case was overturned on second appeal, on the technicality that it should not have been tried in bankruptcy court. The ruling came on the day before the Justice Department would have had to release all of its software to the Hamiltons.<sup>1</sup> The Hamiltons asked the Supreme Court to hear the case in October.<sup>2</sup>

In mid-June 1991, Danny Casolaro met with Jeff Steinberg, the Lyndon Larouche aide. Steinberg, who had earlier arranged the contact between the Hamiltons and Michael Riconosciuto, arranged for Casolaro to talk to an informant who went by the odd name of CHIPS, a former Customs agent who was now assisting the Treasury Department. Steinberg believes that CHIPS turned Casolaro's investigations further in the direction of Robert Booth Nichols, toward the Gambino Mafia family and drug trafficking.

Shortly thereafter, Casolaro made phone contact with E. Howard Hunt,<sup>3</sup> a name that appears on the "A" list of many conspiracy researchers. Of late, Hunt had made a career writing spy fiction, but his infamy stretched back to his role as one of the Watergate burglars and before. Hunt had lost a defamation case against accusations that he had been involved in the JFK assassination.<sup>4</sup> Hunt had been active in many spook projects of the Kennedy era, most notably in the failed Bay of Pigs invasion. Even as Casolaro developed a "cordial, even effusive" relationship with Hunt,<sup>5</sup> he kept taking notes.

In a memo, Steinberg observed that by this time, Casolaro was on the trail of Inslaw and related stories "back to a dirty CIA 'Old Boy' network" that had begun working together in the 1950s around covert operations in Albania. These men had gotten into the illegal gun and drug trade back then and had continued in that business ever since. Martin Killian, a Washington correspondent for *Der Spiegel*, also spoke to Casolaro about the conspiratorial entity Casolaro was by now calling "the Octopus," a cabal which Casolaro believed had been started

by CIA superspook James Jesus Angleton. Casolaro believed that the motive for creating the Octopus had been revenge for the notorious Albanian operation which had been compromised by Soviet mole Kim Philby."

According to Tony Casolaro, Danny's brother, Danny did not see the Octopus as a tightly-structured organization. "He didn't envision them as a group like the Mafia. More as a network. They would overlap when their needs coincided." The view reflected in Casolaro's notes was that "This is the Octopus whose defensive posture could reap havoc anywhere in the world. Indeed, what you will learn in this true crime narrative is a massive unraveling of modern history's most incredible puzzles."<sup>7</sup>

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1. DiRienzo, p. 8; "Shadow Justice," *Unclassified*, Vol. 3, No. 3, 1991.

2. Linsalata.

3. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 35.

4. Lane, Mark, *Plausible Denial*, New York: Thunder's Mouth, 1992.

5. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 35.

6. *Ibid.*

7. Casolaro's notes.

## ◀ CHAPTER 13:

# The Octopus

Danny Casolaro never lived to tell the full story of the Octopus. He left us with only drafts and notes for his proposed project. Nonetheless, the story he was outlining is compelling and credible. Here are Casolaro's notes on his Octopus:

This is the story of eight men whose real life "impossible mission" intrigues have dominated key events that span the globe for nearly a half-century. They are the men who make up *THE OCTOPUS*.

They are not government officials but their tentacles can reach into any part of government in almost any country including legitimate and rogue spy networks. They are not notable industrialists but they can pull the strings of the oil and banking empires at will. They are not known criminals but they have successfully penetrated all factions of organized crime including the Mafia, the Japanese Yakuza, the secret Chinese Triads and the terrorist underground.

With its tag team compartments, its exploitation of hundreds of people and formidable stealth, *THE OCTOPUS* will help to unravel the most compelling puzzles of the twentieth century. What may have begun for these few learned men as a utopian response to harsh post-war realities quickly gave way to what simple men have always known as the real enemy which is selfishness and its allied forces of fear, greed, and power. While a few of these eight men came together to insure the failure of an initiate in Albania in the fifties, almost every one of them helped to frustrate the Cuban Bay of Pigs invasion. What did the fiasco at the Bay of Pigs accomplish? President Nixon and Attorney General John Mitchell were becoming impossible as far as the Octopus was concerned. Even Kissinger was being difficult in bypassing normal circles of intelligence with Vietnamization and the China card. Since this was the mission that reaped a windfall, how did all the pieces come together for the snowballing of Watergate? What mistakes, though, were made?



A different, marginally more officious costume was worn in Chile with Salvador Allende. Since this operation provided accumulated debt for favors performed, the Octopus was now mature enough to know how to collect those debts.

What were the favors performed, and what was the due bill? It didn't take many people to design the apparatus that would insure the renewal of the lease for the Pine Gap installation near Alice Springs, Australia. After all, how could a democracy spit up a Prime Minister that could sack the security of the Western Alliance? What about tentacle operations of the Octopus in Angola, Rhodesia, Mozambique and Nigeria? Was this another case of wearing the right costume again, as in Chile. Politically correct assistance can cover the cover of the Octopus for anything—drug trafficking, through-out Asia and the Mideast, arms dealing and murder. But what happened to the money—nearly a billion dollars?

Who drove the Shah out of power? Can best friends do this to each other? What role did the Octopus play and for what reason? Who lit the fire for the war between Iran and Iraq? What part did the Octopus play? What was its purpose in the big picture? Is any picture that big?

Jimmy Carter had bruised the Octopus as badly as Nixon did with focus. Why did the Octopus come off the ocean floor for this to make sure no rescue was possible? What happened to those Sea Stallion helicopters, the most dependable helicopter in aviation history? Everyone knows that hostages equal money but why is it that no one has asked what happened to the billions of dollars in frozen assets? Since Reagan was not a favored son of the Octopus, why did it work so hard to insure his election in 1980? Even if the participation by campaign officials in holding the hostages until the election was limited to just the acquiescence of smiling gentlemen who knew better, why was the veil removed when it could have been so absolutely secret?

Exploiting foreign policy objectives with the contras in Nicaragua is one thing, but why was the creation of a Latin American equivalent to the Golden Triangle so irresistible? A huge amount of money—several billion dollars—was raised for the Afghan freedom fighters. The freedom fighters didn't get it and even the Octopus had to fight for it. Who else started to play the game in earnest? How did the Octopus stop it?

Was it just a clever hand that the Octopus played with Kuwait and Iraq? What about Kuwait's OPEC decisions which goaded Saddam Hussein into his takeover? What roles did the Octopus play? Why was the Bank of Credit and Commerce International [BCCI] suddenly a sacrificial lamb?

Before the reins of the Octopus are turned over to several younger players, the game continues now—July, 1991—on the tiny Caribbean island nation of Dominica.

Possessing the largest boiling deep water lake in the world, Dominica's geothermal potential is unmatched. It is here that the Octopus may be making its boldest and most dangerous move yet. *THE OCTOPUS* is a story about eight people who have been able to penetrate and exploit the secret empires of spy networks around the world, big oil and organized crime.

Since it spans the globe and in its compartmentalized penetration in such disparate secret societies has enabled it to control—through access—government around the [world]. This penetration by such a small group of people in such seemingly disparate and secret empires has enabled this group to develop compartmented tentacles that control governmental institutions in the US and abroad.

Indeed, the Octopus is less than a dozen people who have changed the course of history the world over. This completed project will rewrite history at the Bay of Pigs, in Allende's Chile, Watergate, Australia, Iran, Iraq, the 1980 election, the drug/gun running in Latin America, and most recently the war in Iraq. In events that span the globe nations know how to use this Octopus and acquiesce in its designs. I will show you how these eight people caused the US to turn its back on Fidel Castro after supporting him in the mountains of the Sierra Maestra.

## CHAPTER 14:

# Tracking The Octopus

Danny Casolaro believed the Octopus responsible for criminal conspiracies which, linked, formed a virtual history of intelligence double dealing from 1950 to the present. These events, in Casolaro's view, included the ousters of US President Richard Nixon, Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, the Shah of Iran, and the murders of Chilean President Allende, and, of course, of President John F. Kennedy. Casolaro saw the Octopus' tentacles entwined throughout the creation of the Golden Triangle and Latin America drug trade, the Cuban Bay of Pigs debacle, the October Surprise, the BCCI banking scandal, and, almost as an afterthought, the theft of PROMIS software.

Casolaro found a "Secret Team," a high cabal of players operating a clandestine, parallel government, identified previously by other writers.<sup>1</sup> The cabal had operated beyond the control or scrutiny of the elected government, financed by drug-running from Southeast Asia and the Americas.

Other researchers tended to see the Octopus as a fog of political crimes ascribed to the alphabet soup of intelligence agencies, institutions or even the natural dialectic of the modern terrorist state and its citizenry. Casolaro's Octopus, however, was no grand, unified mega-conspiracy theory. Casolaro believed the crimes could best be identified by linking them to a small network of named individuals that made up his Octopus. He outlined their hierarchy and provided specific detail about their behind-the-scenes role in contemporary political history.

Casolaro named people both familiar and unfamiliar to other researchers. He deemed the "first level" operatives to be Richard Helms, George Pender, John Philip Nichols, and Ray Cline. The second level included Robert Chasen, E. Howard Hunt, Edwin Wilson, Thomas Clines, and Ted Shackley. Working backward from the PROMIS theft, Casolaro saw them in new relationship, a nearly organic entity that impacted on both past and then current events.

Casolaro's proposed chapter titles for *The Octopus* provide a glimpse into the trajectory of his research:

*Chapter 1:* 1980—The Most Dangerous Year. Casolaro's notes include sub-divisions entitled "Death of Paul Morasca, Death of Fred Alvarez," "Resupply of Contras," "Casey," "Vesco," "John Nichols," and "Transition—Mideast."

*Chapter 2:* Backing up: The Post War Years. 1944-1950. When they met. Kim Philby.

*Chapter 3:* Tag Team Compartments. 1959: Patrice Lumumba, Fidel Castro, Europe, Albania, Golden Triangle, China, Formosa. He also brackets "Moriarty, [Marshall] Riconosciuto, Fat Tony."

*Chapter 4:* 1966: Making Friends With the Terrorist Underground. Dealers, Drugs & Money [additional unreadable line].

*Chapter 5:* What Went Wrong With Nixon and the Windfall/Surprise.

*Chapter 6:* 1975: Australia With PM Houghton.

*Chapter 7:* The Asian Underground.

*Chapter 8:* Oil [unreadable] Controlling Countries.

*Chapter 9:* The Big Crime—ICN, Yakuza & Terrorists, Triads.

*Chapter 10:* 1980.

*Chapter 11:* The role of Mossad.

*Chapter 12:* KGB Underground.

*Chapter 13:* Wackenhut.

*Chapter 14:* Mideast—Beirut.

*Chapter 15:* Iran Shah, Helms.

*Chapter 16:* Iran & Iraq.

Even as he sketched this outline, Casolaro continued making phone calls, and connections that brought the Octopus closer to the surface for a clearer view. Whether he approached his work as a student of history or as fodder for fiction, some of his realizations were not easy for him to face. According to Virginia McCullough, “Danny would say that he couldn’t believe the government would do drugs for arms. He was God, motherhood, and apple pie. I would say, ‘Look Danny, let’s get real, we’re living in the 20th century.’”<sup>2</sup>

One new contact, William Turner, had been an aerospace engineer at Honeywell in Virginia until Hughes Aircraft bought his division. Turner, who lived a short distance from Casolaro, contacted him and furnished him with details of an alleged fraud by Hughes Aircraft. Turner claimed that when he reported the fraud to his seniors they began a cover-up. Turner had left Hughes in April 1991. In August, Turner and Casolaro met in Martinsburg, and Turner handed over documents which he said proved a “vast government conspiracy.”<sup>3</sup> Casolaro met with Turner again on February 21, at the Sheraton. The two discussed Casolaro’s concept of the Octopus with Casolaro making further connections between Oliver North and BCCI. In May or June they met again in Inwood, West Virginia, drinking and bar-hopping. Casolaro was effusive over his book-in-progress, and promised Turner he would personally autograph a copy for him once it was in print.<sup>4</sup>

McCullough at this time also noticed Casolaro’s research taking on more focus and intensity. “In the middle of May he became very centered about what he wanted from me. What he wanted from me was everything I knew Riconosciuto was involved with, with the Iran-contra, with the Cabazon Indian reservation, and how that pertained to the PROMIS software.”

“It began to come home to me loud and clear that there was a real danger here.”<sup>5</sup>

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1. Prouty, L. Fletcher, *The Secret Team*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1973.

2. Virginia McCullough interview.

3. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 36.

4. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 40.

5. McCullough.

## CHAPTER 15:

# Tentacles

The following material, labeled a “hagiography” in the original edition of this book, was assembled from Danny Casolaro’s notes by researcher/writer Jim Keith.

The following chronology lists some of the events and people that Casolaro believed involved the alleged super-cabal, “the Octopus.” It has been developed from Casolaro’s notes but expanded upon with additional research; Casolaro did not mention many of the internal connections documented here.

### **OSS in China**

Casolaro’s Octopus may have begun earlier than he thought. During World War II the OSS chapter in China, Detachment 202, included in its memberships alleged Octopi Ray Cline (later station chief in Nationalist China between 1958 to 1962), E. Howard Hunt, and Richard Helms, as well as such future covert ops luminaries as Mitchell WerBell III (arms dealer, trainer of terrorists, and on-and-off employee of the CIA) and Major General John Singlaub. Singlaub later commanded the CIA’s infamous Operation Phoenix assassination program in Vietnam, which provided yet another link to other alleged Octopus personnel. China has historically had substantial involvement in opium production and trade, although it is not known whether the Octopus took much notice of the commodity at this time. In his notes, Casolaro lists Helms, Hunt, Shackley, Pender, Clines, Nichols as being “OSS.”<sup>1</sup>

### **The Albanian Operation**

The history of the Octopus as delineated by Danny Casolaro begins with the OSS/British intelligence Albanian operation, which took place after World War

II. The Americans and British set upon a plan to try to dislodge a Soviet bloc country from Moscow's influence, believing that this might lead to the shattering of the Soviet bloc. Albania was chosen because of its political instability, and because of the belief that a large number of Albanian dissidents were waiting for the opportunity to revolt. According to the CIA's Frank Wisner, it was "a clinical experiment to see whether larger rollback operations [by the OSS] would be feasible elsewhere."<sup>2</sup>

Using bases in Malta and Libya, joint commanders James McCargar and Kim Philby (the head of MI6 division in charge of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, liasing between British and American intelligence) supervised the landing of hundreds of agents into Albania via parachute or across the border of Greece. Almost all of these operatives were killed or captured. Kim Philby was an agent in the KGB's British "ring of five," and was run by Yuri Moldin, whose specialty was recruiting and wielding homosexual agents. Philby defected to Moscow, and later admitted that he had betrayed the Albanian mission to Soviet intelligence. E. Howard Hunt played a subordinate role in the Albanian operation, working out of Washington, D.C.<sup>3</sup>

Although Danny Casolaro does not state it explicitly in his notes, he apparently conceived the Octopus starting as an anti-Communist response to Philby's betrayal; a conclave of OSS/CIA veterans, dispersing and coalescing in what Casolaro called "tag team compartments" and reaping huge profits through assassination, arms sales, the control of governments, international drug trafficking, and the promotion of international fascism.<sup>4</sup>

### **Coup d'Etat in Guatemala**

The Octopus soon surfaced again. E. Howard Hunt played an important role in the 1954 overthrow of Jacobo Arbenz' Communist-inclined (but not Communist) government in Guatemala, which had been democratically elected. Arbenz made the mistake of appropriating 225,000 acres of land from the United Fruit Company (later renamed United Brands), an organization alleged to have been established by the Mafia and deeply involved in international drug shipping since the early 1900s. John Foster Dulles and the State Department lined up behind United Fruit, which was not unusual since Dulles' law firm represented the company, and his brother Allen (at that time the director of the CIA) had earlier been the president of United Fruit. Allen Dulles also shepherded an extensive postwar collaboration with the Nazis, most notably with Project Paperclip in which hundreds of Nazi scientists and soldiers were brought to the United States. Allen Dulles served as the international lawyer for George Bush, and on the Warren Commission, ostensibly investigating the death of John F. Kennedy.

Guatemala was prevented from buying arms from the US or its allies, forcing Arbenz to purchase arms from the Czechs, which in turn confirmed American suspicions that Guatemala had gone Communist. The Guatemalan operation was part and parcel of the activities of the CIA in combatting revolutionary activity and industrial nationalization in the Caribbean, Mexico, and Central America, later echoed in the CIA's attempts to invade Cuba and assassinate Cuban premier Fidel Castro.<sup>5</sup>

The American invasion of Guatemala was assisted by the Anti-Communist League of the Caribbean (ACLC), a group started by ex-FBI, possibly CIA, Minuteman, and alleged Kennedy assassination conspirator Guy Banister in the same year as the takeover. Lee Oswald purportedly knew Banister, used his office, and was alleged by private detective Jack Martin to have been one of Banister's agents.<sup>6</sup> Banister and Michael Riconosciuto's father Marshall have been connected to UFO activity—hoaxed or other wise—in the Tacoma, Washington region. (See Chapter 8.)

Significant in understanding the purpose and the reach of the Octopus is that the ACLC comprised a portion of what evolved into the World Anti-Communist League, with preparatory meetings beginning in 1958, although the group was not officially founded until 1966. Funding for the WACL was alleged to have been funnelled through alleged Octopus member Ray Cline, who had been a member of the OSS in China, and station chief for the CIA in Taiwan between 1958 and 1962. Researcher John Judge has stated that the WACL was financed by Nationalist Chinese opium money.<sup>7</sup>

The chairman for the WACL was at one time Major General John Singlaub, linked closely and repeatedly to alleged Octopus personnel. The WACL has over time included in its membership Nazi SS, Solidarists, mercenaries, death squad members, and other fascist elements.

Ray Cline had also been influential in furthering the purposes of the international right wing in collaboration with Chaing Ching-kuo, the son of Chiang Kai-shek. In the late 1950s they formed the Political Warfare Cadres Academy, with recruiting managed by the WACL. The Academy has been responsible for training many of the men involved in death squads, terrorism, and “unconventional warfare” throughout Latin America.<sup>8</sup>

## Cuba

When Fidel Castro—who initially was anti-American, but not Communist—came to power in Cuba in 1959, he was rebuffed and diplomatically snubbed in his appeals for aid from the US. He nationalized the country's oil and gas resources and other industries, cutting American companies out when they had



only begun to access Cuban resources. Castro also took over the lucrative Mafia-owned casinos on the island, incurring the wrath of that group. President Eisenhower subsequently approved \$13 million for a covert war against Castro, which included sabotage missions and at least eight attempts on the Cuban leader's life by the CIA (following plans drafted by E. Howard Hunt).

A possibly significant factor in the war against Cuba was that, prior to Castro's 1959 revolution, the island had been a major center for the Mafia for heroin and cocaine processing and shipping from Marseilles. A drying-up of this important drug conduit greatly concerned the Mafia and its long-term partner, the CIA, which had used the island's casinos to launder payments to mobsters. The OSS/CIA's partnership with the Mafia had begun with Operation Underworld in 1936."

CIA operations targeted against Cuba were run by Theodore Shackley and Thomas Clines out of the JM/WAVE CIA office in Miami, which grew into the largest CIA station in the world, employing over 3,000 agents and operating through at least 55 dummy corporations.<sup>10</sup> According to a statement by E. Howard Hunt, Richard Nixon was the White House "secret action officer" in charge of the 53/12 Group of the National Security Council, which ran the Bay of Pigs fiasco.<sup>11</sup> The Mafia supplied intelligence reports on Cuban troops and ships and recruited men for the CIA invasion force. Mafia don Santos Trafficante, later implicated by some researchers in the JFK assassination, worked through Frank Sturgis (aka Frank Fiorini), who engaged in pre-invasion raids and was a member of the Operation 40 hit squad to assassinate Cuban leaders. Richard Whattley, a mercenary involved in this operation, stated of the Bay of Pigs operation that "Trafficante would order Sturgis to move his men and he'd do it. Our ultimate conclusion was that Trafficante was our backer. He was our money man."<sup>12</sup>

Other members of assassination teams included Cubans Felix Rodriguez, and Rafael "Chi Chi" Quintero, and Mitchell WerBell III,<sup>13</sup> under the supervision of E. Howard Hunt, whose boss was station chief Theodore G. Shackley. Quintero appeared frequently in important covert operations, including as a Special Forces training advisor in Vietnam, doing jobs for the CIA's Task Force 157, and as supply officer for weapons shipments to the contras, working with Shackley, Clines, Hakim, and Secord. Also alleged to have been involved in assassination attempts on Castro is Dr. John P. Nichols, the administrator in the Cabazon/Wackenhut venture which Danny Casolaro investigated. Edwin Wilson is said to have been a "junior officer" in the attempts to assassinate Castro and his supporters.<sup>14</sup>

The Bay of Pigs operation, in which 1,400 CIA trained and armed anti-Castro Cubans invaded Cuba, was led by Theodore Shackley, and took place on April 15-19, 1961. The operation was a miserable rout for the anti-Castro forces,

and Kennedy was blamed by many of the involved JM/Wave operatives for the defeat, for withdrawing logistical support.<sup>15</sup> A sense of the importance ascribed to the Bay of Pigs operation is provided by E. Howard Hunt in his autobiography, *Give Us This Day*:

No event since the communization of China in 1949 has had such a profound effect on the United States and its allies as the defeat of the US-trained Cuban invasion brigade at the Bay of Pigs in April 1961.

Out of that humiliation grew the Berlin Wall, the missile crisis, guerrilla warfare throughout Latin America and Africa, and our Dominican Republic intervention. Castro's beachhead triumph opened a bottomless Pandora's box of difficulties that affected not only the United States, but most of its allies in the free world.

These bloody and subversive events would not have taken place had Castro been toppled. Instead of standing firm, our government pyramided crucially wrong decisions and allowed [Cuban unit] Brigade 2506 to be destroyed. The Kennedy administration yielded Castro all the excuse he needed to gain a tighter grip on the island of Jose Marti, then moved shamefacedly into the shadows and hoped the Cuban issue would simply melt away.

Although not specifically named as a member of the Octopus by Casolaro, there is much to suggest that George H. W. Bush was part of the management of the Bay of Pigs invasion. This evidence includes the code name of the operation, Operation Zapata, reflecting the name of Bush's oil drilling company. At the time of the Bay of Pigs invasion, Bush had oil rigs located thirty miles north of Cuba near Cay Sal, an important CIA operations base. Former members of the CIA have alleged that Bush allowed the CIA to use Zapata as a front for its operations, and that Bush also functioned in disbursing CIA monies to agents in the area.<sup>16</sup>

In Casolaro's notes he makes the following connections: "Zapata—1953—Narcotics Smuggling—Shadow govt."<sup>17</sup> There are other speculative links between Bush and Casolaro's Octopus, including the fact that the Bush family fortune was secured in large part through the rise of Hitler, through his father's Union Banking Corporation, which acted as a front for the Nazis, specifically the major German financier Fritz Thyssen. To this day, George Bush retains many connections linked to the Nazis and fascists. George Bush is also a member of the Yale Skull and Bones secret society. Founded by General George Russell in the early 1800's, Skull and Bones has long been a recruiting ground for the CIA.

General Russell was the anglophile Boston Brahmin said to have dominated the opium trade in the 1800s as successor to the Perkins opium syndicate. Skull

and Bones recruited from other Boston Brahmin families—such as the Bundys, Coffins, Paynes, Sloanes, Tafts, and Whitneys—also alleged to have been involved in the opium markets, with the Bush family historically serving as operatives for these Eastern Establishment interests. The current Russell Trust organization also has been connected to Wackenhut. Another connection of George Bush to the Octopus is his acquaintance with George DeMohrenshildt. DeMohrenshildt apparently worked as an agent of the CIA, had Nazi connections, may also have been a Soviet agent, and, events suggest, may have been Lee Harvey Oswald's handler. According to one source, Bush's connection to De Mohrenshildt went back to the late 1940s. Bush's name and address were found in De Mohrenshildt's address book after the latter's death, which took place shortly before he was supposed to testify before the Warren Commission.<sup>18</sup>

The anonymous *Com-12* briefing refers to the Black Rose Organization, which runs a "Black World Order" using drug monies from the Golden Triangle and the Golden Crescent. According to this anonymous but intriguing report, the current chairman and co-founder of the Black Rose is alleged to be George Bush (known in underworld circles as the White Rose). Bush is alleged to have developed a heroin shipment ring while Ambassador in China, and to run cocaine from Panama through his offshore oil rigs.<sup>19</sup>

Although not noted in this samizdat document, Theodore Shackley (linked to drug trafficking in Southeast Asia) was the head of the CIA's Far East Division during the time that Bush was the American ambassador to China. When Bush became CIA director in 1976 he made Shackley Associate Deputy Director of Operations, the third most important position in the CIA. One anti-Castro group in Miami at the time of the Bay of Pigs was called the White Rose.

The ultimate significance of the White Rose—perhaps leading back to the real power behind international drug running—may reside in George Bush's association with Boston Anglophile interests and his claimed connection to British royalty; the white rose is the symbol of the House of York, which fought the War of the Roses against the House of Lancaster. Many researchers have noted British aristocratic and banking interests behind world drug trafficking.

An anonymous informant stated to Barbara Honegger that George Bush was elected an honorary (i.e. non-Italian) member of the Italian Masonic (and CIA and Mafia and Vatican-supported) cabal Propaganda Due ("P2") in 1976. His induction coincided with his appointment as director of the CIA. P2 is an influential secret society, hardwired into major clandestine networks, and known to have chapters around the world. The terrorism cell within P2, it was discovered by Italian police, was called "the Rose of Twenty."<sup>20</sup>

David Yallop, in his book *In God's Name*, states that, "On the surface P2 was and still is a fanatical insurance policy against potential Communist govern-

ments. Excluding Italy, there are still branches functioning in Argentina, Venezuela, Paraguay, Bolivia, France, Portugal, and Nicaragua. Members are even active in Switzerland and the United States. Moreover, P2 interlocks with the Mafia in Italy, Cuba, and the United States. It interlocks with a number of the military regimes of Latin America and with a variety of groups of neo-Fascists. It also interlocks very closely with the CIA. It reaches right into the heart of the Vatican. Apparently the common interest of all these elements is a hatred and fear of communism.”<sup>21</sup> Note the parallel with the anti-Communist purpose of the Octopus, as viewed by Danny Casolaro.

### **Kennedy Assassination**

After the Bay of Pigs invasion, John F. Kennedy promised “to splinter the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds.”<sup>22</sup> He did not carry out his threat, however, beyond dismissing Allen Dulles in July 1961, and his cohort Charles Pearre Cabell in December 1961. Richard Helms, as CIA Deputy Director of Plans, remained. Richard Helms also had the dubious distinction of suggesting to Allen Dulles the creation of the CIA’s infamous MK-ULTRA program in 1953.<sup>23</sup> Helms became the director of the CIA in 1966. Shortly thereafter, at the time of New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison’s prosecution of Clay Shaw, former CIA agent Victor Marchetti overheard Helms during staff meetings repeatedly ask an assistant “Are we giving Shaw all the help we can?”<sup>24</sup> Still on board at CIA after Kennedy’s “purge” was E. Howard Hunt, an Octo-spook that Casolaro met on the phone. Hunt had helped set up the Bay of Pigs, was one of the Watergate “plumbers,” and was alleged by one Lee Harvey Oswald familiar to have involved him in a mind-control operation.<sup>25</sup> While Kennedy stated to aides that “the CIA will have to be dealt with” before traveling to Dallas, the opposite apparently came true. Persistent allegations placed Hunt and another Watergate burglar, Frank Sturgis, in Dallas on the day of the assassination. Some researchers have also alleged that Sturgis and Hunt were two of the three “hobos” on the railroad tracks behind the grassy knoll who were arrested by Dallas police.<sup>26</sup> Mark Lane, one of the earliest critics of the Warren Commission, documented Hunt’s inability to defend himself in court against accusations of his presence in Dallas in his book, *Plausible Denial*.<sup>27</sup> One of Lane’s key witnesses in that trial, Marita Lorenz, named E. Howard Hunt, Frank Sturgis, Orlando Bosch, Lee Harvey Oswald, the Novo Brothers, Gerry Patrick Hemming and Pedro Diaz Lanz as part of a convoy that traveled from Miami to Dallas for the JFK hit. The Novos were later held for the Lettelier murders; Bosch was imprisoned for bombing a Cubana Airlines jet in October 1976, killing seventy-three people. Were these more Octopus hits?<sup>28</sup>

And what of the George Bush address found in the address book of CIA agent George DeMohrenschildt, a close associate of Lee Harvey Oswald's? DeMohrenschildt had been a spy for the OSS in German intelligence, and some have speculated that he also may have been Bush's CIA "handler."<sup>29</sup> Jeanne DeMohrenschildt alleged that her husband had been a Nazi spy,<sup>30</sup> and J. Edgar Hoover had written a memo concerning "Mr. George Bush of the CIA," who had been briefed on November 23, 1963, about the reaction to Kennedy's assassination by anti-Castro Cuban exiles in Miami.

Bush, Helms and Hunt held keys to answers behind the mother of all assassination conspiracy tales, as well as the strings to an Octopus puppet who may have had special knowledge regarding JFK's death: Richard Nixon. The Watergate tapes of June 23, 1972 have Nixon and H. R. Haldeman, his chief of staff, scheming to put a halt to the FBI investigating Watergate because it might expose "the Bay of Pigs thing." Later, Haldeman said that he believed that the "Bay of Pigs" phrase was code for JFK's assassination.<sup>31</sup>

Researcher Paul Kangas points out that the tape reveals "Nixon discussing the role of Bush's partner, Robert Mosbacher, as one of the 'Texas fundraisers for Nixon.' On the tapes Nixon keeps referring to the 'Cubans' and the 'Texans.' The 'Texans' were Bush, Mosbacher and Baker. This is another direct link between Bush and evidence linking Nixon and Bush to the Kennedy assassination... In the same discussion Nixon links 'the Cubans,' 'the Texans,' Helms, Hunt, Bernard Barker, Robert Mosbacher and 'the Bay of Pigs.' Over and over on the Watergate tapes, these names come up around the discussion of the photos from Dallas that Nixon was trying to obtain when he ordered the CIA to burglarize the Watergate."<sup>32</sup> Frank Sturgis told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that "the reason we burglarized the Watergate was because Nixon was interested in stopping news leaking relating to the photos of our role in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."<sup>33</sup>

In 1976 it was revealed that Richard Helms had lied to the Warren Commission when he said that the CIA had not made contact with Lee Harvey Oswald (Freedom of Information Act documents showed otherwise), but George Bush used Agency pressure through a call to Associated Press to prevent the story from surfacing.<sup>34</sup>

The career movements of alleged Octopus member Ted Shackley also illuminate Bush's secret life: from 1952 to 1959 and 1965 to 1966 Shackley worked in Germany; in the 1962 to 1964 period he was Station Chief in Miami; Shackley became station chief in Saigon and Vientiane from 1964 to 1974 and chief of the CIA's Far East Division thereafter, while George Bush served as the Ambassador to China. After Bush's ascension to CIA director, Shackley was promoted to Associate Deputy Director of Operations, considered the agency's third most powerful job. Shackley was put in charge of Central American operations.<sup>35</sup>

Another nexus between Casolaro's research and the JFK assassination concerns the Banca del Lavoro, a state-owned Italian bank that he was investigating as part of the BCCI tentacle of the Octopus. According to the Torbitt Document, an unpublished report of some controversy among researchers (although there does not seem to be an indication that Casolaro had a copy), the Banca del Lavoro financed the training of an assassination team in Mexico, some of whose members wound up in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963.<sup>36</sup> The bank's branch in Atlanta came under investigation for five billion dollars in loans it made to Saddam Hussein prior to the Gulf War, the so-called Iraqgate scandal, with George Bush at its center.

### **Southeast Asia**

The main sources of the heroin supply shipped to America since the 1930s were established through the actions of the US intelligence agencies, particularly the OSS/CIA. Beginning in the mid-'30s, through a collaboration with the Sicilian-American Mafia and the Corsican underworld, the OSS helped create "the French Connection" in Marseilles, France. The CIA, in the early 1950s, also supported the opium-growing Chinese nationalist Kuomintang in the Burmese Shan states. This was accomplished through two dummy corporations, Civil Air Transport (later named Air America) and Sea Supply Corporation, flying in weapons and cash, and flying out raw opium. Sea Supply had been founded by CIA man Paul Helliwell, who later played a prominent role in the Bay of Pigs and other CIA operations against Castro. Other airlines were partially or wholly owned by the CIA, and were considered part of "Air America." For a sense of the extent of the CIA's power, it should be noted that Air America was the largest airline in the world at the time of the Bay of Pigs.<sup>37</sup>

Beginning in 1954, the US began its war against Southeast Asian revolutionary movements. This meant collaboration with men like Ngo dinh Nhu, the rich drug dealer who was the brother of South Vietnam's President Ngo dinh Diem, and tribes like the Montagnards (or Hmong, whose opium the CIA's Air America regularly transported). The Montagnard tribesmen assassinated an estimated 100,000 non-combatants in Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand. Among the Montagnards in Laos could be found alleged Octopi and CIA Saigon station chief Shackley, with Thomas Clines working in support of drug lord Vang Pao and his Meo tribes, with opium being shipped to Mafia lord Santos Trafficante. The Phoenix Project, run by Shackley and Clines (with alleged participation by another supposed Octopus operative, Dr. Earl Brian, as well as Major General John Singlaub) in South Vietnam in 1974-5, was

responsible for killing approximately 60,000 civilian Vietnamese, financing said to have been provided by Vang Pao drug monies. It was during this period in Vietnam that Clines and Shackley met arms dealer and rogue-CIA man Edwin Wilson, with whom they were later to become close friends. Wilson is another person alleged by Casolaro to be a member of the Octopus.<sup>38</sup>

Shackley is mentioned in a letter from the drug lord Khun Sa to the US government dated 28 June 1987: "During the period 1965 to 1975 CIA Chief in Laos Theodore Shackley was in the drug business." The letter also says: "Santos Trafficante acted as his buying and transporting agent while Richard Armitage handled the financial section with banks in Australia."<sup>39</sup>

## Watergate

Danny Casolaro's investigation of the Octopus continued to note many of the same individuals appearing and re-appearing in the major conspiratorial scandals of the era. Casolaro attributed Watergate to the Octopus.

Watergate and the fall of the Mafia-funded politician Richard Nixon arguably began in April 1971, on the tenth anniversary of the Bay of Pigs debacle. E. Howard Hunt, allegedly retired from the CIA although still working for the CIA front Robert Mullen & Co., travelled to Miami, Florida to recruit agents for the White House Special Investigations Unit (the Plumbers) from Bay of Pigs veterans. Richard Helms, an alleged Octopus member and DCI of the CIA at the time, was informed of the formation of the Plumbers on the first day of its operation.

The personnel employed in the Watergate burglary were all veterans of the Bay of Pigs, but more importantly, all of them also were closely linked to the CIA, either as officials or contract agents. These were E. Howard Hunt, G. Gordon Liddy, Bernard Barker (E. Howard Hunt's lieutenant during the Bay of Pigs operation), Agency security specialist James McCord, Eugenio Martinez (who had been involved in three hundred fifty-four anti-Cuban forays, only to find himself arrested at Watergate), and Frank Sturgis. The CIA furnished psychological profiles to the team, and also provided material assistance to Hunt.<sup>40</sup>

On June 17, 1972, the Plumbers were caught in the Democratic National Committee's offices at the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C. Theories as to what the Plumbers were doing in the Democratic headquarters vary from planting or removing an electronic bug, to the theft of a secret file of information on a prostitution ring which implicated Democratic party figures, or, in another version, John Dean. White House aide Chuck Colson came to view the Plumbers as a team whose first purpose was to spy on Richard Nixon, owing their allegiance only to the CIA. Richard Nixon also believed, according to his autobiography,

*RN: The Memoirs of Richard Nixon*, that he had been trapped: “The whole thing was so senseless and bungled that it almost looked like some kind of setup.”<sup>41</sup>

Casolaro noted: “President Nixon and Attorney General John Mitchell were becoming impossible as far as the Octopus was concerned. Even Kissinger was being difficult in bypassing normal circles of intelligence with Vietnamization and the China card. Since this was the mission that reaped a windfall, how did all the pieces come together for the snowballing of...” [Notes end.] Casolaro undoubtedly was referring to the distrust that had developed by 1972 between Richard Helms’ CIA and the Nixon White House. Helms believed that Nixon was trying to co-opt the power of the CIA, and undermine its strength with plans for a domestic intelligence agency. Apparently Casolaro believed that the Watergate debacle was a CIA (or Octopus) operation meant to destroy Nixon and his administration.

### **Assassination in Chile**

The Octopus thrashed again in 1973 in Chile. Shackley and Clines headed up the “Track II” CIA strategy in Chile, acting in support of DCI Helms and Henry Kissinger in the assassination of democratically-elected President Salvador Allende Gossens (the hit allegedly performed by two Cubans) and eight other assassination attempts against Chilean officials. By his own admission, John P. Nichols, who later ran the Wackenhut/Cabazon enterprise, was involved in the Allende assassination plot. As Casolaro wrote in his notes, “A different, marginally more officious costume was worn in Chile. Since this operation provided accumulated debt for favors performed, the Octopus was now mature enough to know how to collect those debts. What were the favors performed, and what was the due bill?”<sup>42</sup>

### **Iran, Iraq, Libya, and the “October Surprise”**

CIA presence in Iran began circa 1953 with Operation Ajax, launched to defend British oil interests in the country against nationalist interests led by Dr. Mohammad Mossadegh. With CIA assistance, the Shah retained control in the country.<sup>43</sup> In 1965, Henry Kissinger masterminded a secret war employing the Kurds, supporting the Shah against Iraq. Additional support to the Kurds was provided by the Israelis. After the Iraqis launched a major attack against Kurdistan, Henry Kissinger washed his hands of the matter, and suspended support. Starting in 1975, Kissinger, CIA Director William Colby, and Shackley intervened in Iran in support of governments friendly to the US. By 1980, however, the United States had switched its support to Iraq, in opposition to Iran.



In Libya, Edwin Wilson, along with friend and former CIA man Frank Terpil, worked for Qaddafi, training his air force, providing airplanes, weapons, and mercenaries, as well as a laboratory for the manufacture of assassination equipment and plastic explosives bombs that could be carried through airport metal detectors. Wilson also offered training of Qaddafi's forces in "espionage, sabotage, and general psychological warfare." During this period Wilson supplied reports on his activities to Theodore Shackley at the Agency, and federal court testimony suggests that Wilson was acting through an arrangement with the CIA. Wilson also hired Cuban Bay of Pigs veterans like Rafael "Chi Chi" Quintero, whom he had met in 1967, through Thomas Clines. Wilson is said to have made \$15 million from this Libyan operation, but it was hardly the only money-making scheme that he was involved in at the time.<sup>44</sup>

Casolaro wondered aloud about the actions of the Octopus: "Who drove the Shah out of power? Can best friends do this to each other? [Casolaro may have been referring to the relationship between Helms and the Shah dating from their childhood time together in a Swiss boarding school.] What role did the Octopus play and for what reasons? Who lit the fires for the war between Iran and Iraq?"<sup>45</sup> Casolaro asked, "What part did the Octopus play? What was its purpose in the big picture? Is any picture that big? Jimmy Carter had bruised the Octopus as badly as Nixon did with more directed focus. Why did the Octopus come off the ocean floor for this to make sure no rescue was possible? What happened to those Sea Stallion helicopters, the most dependable helicopter in aviation history? [This refers to the Carter Administration's aborted attempt at rescuing the Americans held in Iran.] Everyone knows that hostages equals money but why is it that no one has asked what happened to the billions of dollars in frozen assets?" One of the ways in which Jimmy Carter may have "bruised the Octopus," as Casolaro noted, was through the imposition of a 1979 embargo on the shipment of arms to Iran.

Certainly that bruise healed quickly. Octopus familiar Ted Shackley appeared, after his alleged retirement from the CIA in 1979, in 1984 negotiations for the shipment of arms to Iran by the Reagan administration. Shackley passed information from Iranians General Manucher Hashemi and Manucher Ghorbanifar (who had held influential positions in the SAVAK secret police under the Shah and were close to the Ayatollah Khomeini) to Oliver North and alleged P2 member Michael Ledeen in the White House. The Iranians suggested that arms shipments to "moderates" such as themselves in Iran could do much to prevent the Ayatollah from taking sides with the Soviets, and could speed the release of the American hostages. The billions of dollars of arms shipments began, using Israel, Taiwan, and South Korea as middlemen, as early as 1981, with some of the profits from the Iranian shipments being diverted to help the contra cause in Nicaragua.

## Nicaragua

During the Reagan administration the holy banner of a war on drugs was used to create a war in Nicaragua against the Sandinistas, funded in part by illegal drug trafficking. Prior to the arrival of guns from the CIA in 1982, the contras were a rag-tag band, by reports engaging in more cattle rustling than fighting against the Sandinistas. After small success initially against the Sandinistas, in 1983 the CIA redoubled its aid to the contras with additional aid, air support, and through the mining of Nicaraguan ports. At the same time, contra leaders were negotiating weapons shipments through the Wackenhut/Cabazon arrangement in Indio, California.

While the CIA was engaging in its merry little war, Congress was initiating legislation to halt the funding of the contras, and by 1983 the Boland Amendment restricted above-board funding of the contras. In violation of this Congressional statute as well as international law, the CIA went ahead with covert funding and support. After a series of revelations about US involvement in Nicaragua, however, the contras found that their CIA supplies were beginning to dry up. Private donations were sought, and channelled to the contras through the NSC, with Marine Lieutenant Colonel Oliver L. North as the official contact point for the contras.

According to a report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence released in 1987, North worked through at least three accounts at the Geneva branch of Credit Suisse, with monies being channelled to the contras, as well as the Mossad and the Afghan rebels. Albert Hakim and General Richard Secord were signatories on the account. The same branch of Credit Suisse was used by Manucher Gorbanifar—alleged by the CIA to be a shared agent of the Mossad and the Iranian Savama intelligence agency (successor agency to SAVAK)—as well as Mossad agent Yacov Nimrodi in the purchase of US armaments for Iran.<sup>46</sup> Bush, Shackley, Clines, Singlaub, Hakim, Felix Rodriguez, and Rafael “Chi Chi” Quintero, pop up again in various capacities providing arms to the contras. Another major participant in the contra supply operation was retired General John Singlaub, who had been spotted in alleged Octopus circles since China during World War II.<sup>47</sup>

Did drug running have anything to do with the secret government’s war in Nicaragua? Casolaro thought so. In his notes he wrote: “Exploiting foreign policy objectives with the contras in Nicaragua is one thing but why was the creation of a Latin American equivalent to the Golden Triangle so irresistible?”<sup>48</sup>

Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North’s contra supply operation used known drug traffickers in the transport of weapons to the contras, and those same traffickers shipped drugs bought from the contras into the United States, via military bases

which included Homestead Air Force Base near Miami. Major shipments of drugs were flown out of the ranch of CIA operative John Hull, who met on several occasions with Oliver North. Jack Blum, Special Prosecutor for Senator John Kerry's Subcommittee on Terrorism, Narcotics and International Operations, said in interview, "There is no doubt in my mind that Oliver North knew about narcotics trafficking...."<sup>49</sup>

Blum is not the only one who linked North to drug trafficking. According to Tim Ross, a veteran BBC broadcaster in Columbia, "In late '84, early '85, North brought five Afghani military advisers to Columbia on a speaking tour, three left, two stayed. The two that stayed were chemists who introduced heroin manufacturing to Columbia. He also brought in an Israeli agronomist who helped to cultivate opium poppies."<sup>50</sup>

Although North has denied any involvement in drug trafficking, some entries in his diaries are difficult to explain. July 9, 1984: "... wanted aircraft to go to Bolivia to pick up paste, want aircraft to pick up 1,500 kilos." July 12, 1985: "\$14 million to finance Supermarket came from drugs." The term "Supermarket" refers to a Honduran weapons depot which was used for contra re-supply.<sup>51</sup>

After North left the National Security Council due to his part in the Iran-contra affair, a handwritten flowchart of some of his covert network (which he labeled "Project Democracy") was discovered in his safe. Project Democracy had been authorized by Reagan's National Security Decision Directive 77, while North had been appointed by NSC director Robert McFarlane to head up the covert networks. North's flowchart lists approximately twenty "Resource Development" and "Financial Management" companies as well as gun-running operations (including Amalgamated Commercial Enterprises, Southern Air Transport, Trans World Arms, Defex-Portugal, and Udall Research Corporation) linked to the CIA's General Secord, Albert Hakim, Ted Shackley, and Thomas Clines.

One factor links the majority of these companies: funding from the National Endowment for Democracy.<sup>52</sup> NED includes in its management Henry Kissinger, Sally Shelton Colby (the wife of ex-CIA director William Colby), Barbara Haig (Alexander Haig's daughter), John Richardson (of the CIA, a former law partner in Allen Dulles' Nazi-linked firm, Sullivan and Cromwell), Carl Gershman (former head of Social Democrats, USA and the Young People's Socialist Alliance), and Jay Lovestone (founder of the Communist Party, USA). Links lead from Gershman and Lovestone to the Trust, the Bolshevik group led by Trotsky and Bukharin and financed by the Morgan Guaranty Trust (a company run almost entirely by Skull and Bones members), and associated with Dulles' Sullivan and Cromwell law firm. When Dulles formed the CIA, Lovestone's Socialist labor operations were merged with it, forming the American Institute for Free Labor Development. Strange bed-fellows, indeed, in certain cases both literally and figuratively.<sup>53</sup>

Some Pentagon officials have privately (and rightly or not) stated that Kissinger (as well as Brzezinski) are KGB “moles.” Brzezinski was allegedly recruited during the time he was part of a study group of New World Order Round Tabler William Yandell Elliot, which included Kissinger as a member. Kissinger is alleged to have joined a KGB homosexual spy ring which had penetrated EUCOM G-2 headquarters in Oberammergau, Germany at World War II’s end. Kissinger is also closely connected to the Chatham House British intelligence think tank, the nexus of post-Round Table New World Order influence.<sup>54</sup>

In 1983, the NED was organized as a “private foundation,” although financed by Congress to the tune of eighty million dollars. Its “private” status kept it safe from Freedom of Information requests as well as governmental audits. NED has been involved in hundreds of programs as a “private CIA,” including destabilizations of President Marcos of the Philippines and the Panamanian government, support for the Nazi PAN party in Mexico, channeling of money to the contras, and support for operatives of the Medellin drug cartel. Some observers have stated that the NED’s operations are more extensive and more effective than those of the CIA.<sup>55</sup>

The NED has been alleged to be a private intelligence network with the purpose of establishing a fascist, corporatist world state, a theme which also seems to inform the movements of Casolaro’s Octopus. The model of this state can be observed in Michael Ledeen’s book, *Universal Fascism*, in which he extolls a fascist state based upon the ideals of Gabriele d’Annunzio, Mussolini’s predecessor. Ledeen was connected to P-2, which was in turn connected to the NSC.<sup>56</sup>

Reporting directly to North (as well as being a consultant in the Pentagon and State Department) was Michael Ledeen. Ledeen was responsible for obtaining Israeli Mossad spy Jonathan Pollard his job in the Department of the Navy, for establishing a line of Israeli influence into the NSC, and is known in Italy to have been a member of the Propaganda Due (P2) Masonic lodge. P2, with a membership believed to include Henry Kissinger and Alexander Haig, is the organization known to have taken over the highest levels of Italian government and responsible during the ‘70s and ‘80s for an attempted bankrupting of the Vatican, in an alliance that linked the P2, the KGB, and major networks of drug trade.

*The Wall Street Journal* detailed a meeting between Alexander Haig, Michael Ledeen, and high-ranking P2 member and number two man in Italian intelligence Francesco Pazienza. Pazienza is said to have been involved in shipments of US arms to Iran arranged by the Reagan administration.<sup>57</sup>

The direct historical antecedent of P2 was the Propaganda Uno lodge of Freemasons Giacomo Mazzini and Albert Pike. In the 19th century P1 was directly involved in the creation of Marxism, anarchism, and syndicalism; in programs sponsoring both fascism and communism; and in a plan reportedly launched at the

1815 Congress of Vienna designed to combat the spread of the democratic movement of the United States. At the Congress of Vienna it is alleged that a program to institute a “New Age” was concocted, and that Italian Fascism, German Nazism, and the Bolshevik revolution were variant attempts at international political disruption. Is this the essence of the philosophy of the men in Casolaro’s Octopus?<sup>58</sup>

### The October Surprise

The October Surprise, if factual, can be viewed as yet another stunning *coup d’état*, like the assassination of Kennedy and the ouster of Nixon. The October Surprise is the persistent allegation that individuals high in the administration of Ronald Reagan had, with or without the president’s knowledge, arranged for fifty-two American hostages held in Iran to be detained until after his election, thus stealing the thunder (and a landslide of votes) from his opponent, Jimmy Carter, derailing his reelection. Casolaro on the October Surprise (as well as the Inslaw case), excerpted from his *Behold, a Pale Horse* book proposal:

“While rumors of the hostage release delay circulated for years after the election of Ronald Reagan, it wasn’t until 1988 that testimony [was] offered by two covert operatives in two different courts regarding their knowledge and participation of a hostage-release stall managed by then Reagan campaign chief William Casey. But now, two more covert operatives have emerged from that desert reservation in the journey of this story effort to confirm that previous testimony and provide richer details regarding the laundered payment by the Saudis and other particularities in order to prevent what Casey feared the most, a surprise release of the hostages before the election almost guaranteeing windfall votes for President Jimmy Carter. The alleged reward to another Reagan insider for that mission to Iran in the summer of 1980 has been almost wholly responsible for the leaks leading to this odyssey. For it was in that reward in the form of a multimillion dollar government contract that technologies were found to have been stolen by the government from another company. In that other company’s recovery from bankruptcy, its CEO has been the real life star and gumshoe in this drama that continues to unfold each day.”<sup>59</sup>

Casolaro also wrote:

“Since Reagan was not a favored son of the octopus, why did it work so hard to insure his selection in 1980? Even if the participation by campaign officials in holding the hostages until the election was limited to just the acquiescence of smiling gentlemen who knew better, why was the veil removed when it could have been so absolutely secret?”<sup>60</sup>

Casolaro obviously believed in stories that a deal had been struck by George Bush and other members of the Reagan administration with the Ayatollah Khomeini to detain the hostages. That arms shipments to “moderate factions” in

Iran had begun shortly after the deposing of the Shah, as early as 1980, is fact. The evidence for the “October Surprise” begins with statements of Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the former president of Iran, who claimed after-the-fact knowledge of the event. Another source backing up the Bani-Sadr story was Ari Ben-Menashe, a member of Israeli intelligence, who corroborated Bani-Sadr and also offered insider knowledge about the Inslaw case.

Other sources varied in terms of their credibility. Additionally suggestive is that there is a twenty-one hour gap in George Bush’s schedule corresponding to the time he is supposed to have been in Paris negotiating the hostage detainment, and conflicting stories from Bush and his staff about what he was doing when the alleged negotiation with the Iranians took place. In an affidavit Attorney Paul D. Wilcher sent to Attorney General Janet Reno, he too detailed the existence of a “Shadow Government,” paralleling in precise terms the Casolaro Octopus, and their participation in the October Surprise: “The October Surprise treason refers to the top secret trip then-Vice Presidential candidate and former CIA Director George Bush (along with a plane full of some twenty-five to thirty other top CIA covert operatives—including a handful of prominent Republican and Democratic Senators and Congressmen) took to Paris on the weekend of October 18th and 19th, 1980.

While in Paris, Bush secretly met with representatives of the Ayatollah Khomeini, paid them bribes in the amount of \$40 million, and promised to deliver to the man additional \$5 billion in arms (the shipments of these arms began flowing even before the election), in exchange for the Iranians’ agreement NOT to release the fifty-two American hostages they held in Tehran until after the November 4th, 1980, US Presidential elections—in order to guarantee the humiliation and defeat of President Jimmy Carter in that election—and in order to cement the CIA’s lock on the White House for the next twelve years under George Bush. The Reagan and Bush Administrations—and Congress, in separate House and Senate October Surprise investigations in 1992—have tried to tell us that the October Surprise never happened—that Bush and his CIA cronies never made this secret trip to Paris on October 18th and 19th, and that no secret deal with the Iranians was ever struck. But that simply is not true—as the sixteen covert operatives referred to below will demonstrate in their forthcoming testimony. They will even produce a video tape to prove both the “October Surprise” treason, and George Bush’s participation in it—beyond all shadow of any doubt.”

Mr. Wilcher, age forty-six, was later found in his apartment dead from unknown causes.<sup>61</sup>

Also involved in shipments of arms to Iran was the Italian Masonic P-2 lodge, according to the sources of researcher Barbara Honegger. The grandmaster of the P-2 was Licio Gelli, who allegedly was closely linked to Theodore Shackley when the latter was stationed in Rome.<sup>62</sup>

## Cabazon/Wackenhut

Alleged Octopus member John P. Nichols arrived at the Cabazon reservation in 1978. One former CIA man, however, who chooses to remain anonymous, said in an interview that Wackenhut had a presence on the Cabazon reservation since at least 1959, and that, “Guys have disappeared down there [at the Cabazon reservation] for a long time.”

The Wackenhut/Cabazon connection includes a number of players pivotal in Casolaro’s Octopus investigation. Here, in an endeavor run by one of the largest private police forces in the world, contras and criminals bargained for arms shipments, and met with CIA operatives. Here, testing of fuel-air explosives were allegedly performed, a technology said to have been used later by extremist Islamic groups against the US military in Iran. Here, the voicing of an unwanted opinion, as in the case of Fred Alvarez, might leave your life forfeit. With his investigation of the Cabazon reservation, Danny Casolaro was treading on dangerous ground, indeed.

Many of the events that took place in the final days of Danny Casolaro’s life are connected to Wackenhut. Casolaro was investigating the unsolved murders of Alvarez and his friends on the Cabazon reservation—and planned to visit the reservation. Casolaro’s death is alleged to have occurred shortly after he had requested an interview with John Philip Nichols about the Cabazon/Wackenhut collaboration. Casolaro’s contact with two women who looked “too good to be true,” may have been just that. Wackenhut has been shown to use women to compromise their targets, as in Wackenhut covert operations connected to the Alaskan pipeline. Is it possible that these women were pumping Casolaro for information, to find out just what he knew and just what leads he was following? Some of the figures with whom Casolaro was associating with were connected to Wackenhut, including Nichols and Riconosciuto. Finally, the *Com-12* briefing alleges that the Wackenhut Special Services Team and the NSA contacted the Martinsburg Police and told them that they would investigate the Casolaro death, and that the police should keep this secret.

## Nugan Hand Bank

“It didn’t take many people to design the apparatus that would insure the renewal of the lease for the Pine Gap installation near Alice Springs, Australia. After all, how could a democracy spit up a Prime Minister that could sack the security of the Western Alliance? What about tentacle operations of the Octopus in Angola, Rhodesia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Nigeria? Was this another case of wearing the right costume again, as in Chile? Politically correct assistance can cover the cover of the

Octopus for anything—drug trafficking, throughout Asia and the Mideast, arms dealing and murder. But what happened to the money—nearly a billion dollars?”<sup>63</sup>

The functions of the American Pine Gap installation in Australia include the receipt and transferral of information from spy satellites, the interception of phone calls from Europe, and the relaying of messages to the American nuclear submarine fleet. Gough Whitlam, the Labor Party candidate elected prime minister of Australia in 1972, was concerned about the cozy relationship between the ASIO, the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, and the CIA, and that ASIO had gone rogue. This in turn caused concern at the CIA. Ted Shackley is said to have gone “paranoid” and to have ordered a diminution of the information made available to them, while Ray Cline mentions “a period of turbulence to do with Alice Springs.”

Fearing the curtailment of their Australian operations due to an approaching renewal date for the Pine Gap base, the CIA flexed their muscles, and perhaps a couple of tentacles. On November 8, 1975, a message of protest about Prime Minister Whitlam was sent by Theodore Shackley to the head of ASIO. On May 11, 1975, the CIA and OSS-connected Governor General of Australia John Kerr removed Whitlam as the head of government, using constitutional pretext. According to CIA analyst Kevin Mulcahy, the CIA effort was headed by Milton Wonus, a friend of Nugan Hand Bank’s (and possibly the CIA’s) Bernie Houghton.<sup>64</sup>

After removing Whitlam from office, the Octopus was still not finished with Australia. At 4 A.M. on January 27, 1980, the body of banker Frank Nugan was found in his Mercedes in Lithgow, Australia. He had died from a single gunshot from the .30 caliber rifle which lay on the seat beside him. Nugan had been half owner, with partner Michael Jon Hand, in Nuhan Ltd., a group of banks founded in 1973, whose most visible subsidiary was Nugan Hand bank in Australia (and whose name is usually applied to the enterprise). Hand had been a Green Beret in Vietnam, working closely with Air America, his commanding officer at the time being William Colby.

Hand is also alleged by former associates to have been a drug-runner. The deceased Frank Nugan had been a lawyer in Australia. Others connected to Nugan Hand included the president of the bank, US Rear Admiral Earl P. “Buddy” Yates; the president of Nugan Hand Inc., Hawaii, Brigadier General Edwin F. Black; and a number of other senior CIA officials. Black had served in the OSS, been a member of the National Security Council, and had commanded all US troops in Thailand during the Vietnam War. The company also retained as a lawyer William Colby, former head of the CIA. Black had been Colby’s OSS commander. Inquiries additionally showed that the majority of shareholders in Nuhand, Ltd. were connected to the CIA in some capacity.<sup>65</sup>



According to former CIA man Vincent Marchetti, the author of the classic *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence*, speaking on Australian radio in October of 1980, Nugan Hand "...doesn't seem to be a [CIA] proprietary in the full sense of the word, that is, owned and controlled by the agency, nor does it seem to be a simple front organization. It seems to be more of an independent organization with former CIA people connected with it, and they're in business to make money, but because of their close personal relationship with the agency they will do favors for the Agency.

"This would include providing cover in some instances for operators, it would include laundering of money, it would include cutouts for any sort of highly clandestine activity the Agency is involved in but does not want to be any way directly connected with. When these organizations cooperate with the agency, the Agency uses its influence, both directly within the government and indirectly through other proprietaries and through other friendly organizations within the establishment, to throw business the company's way because they want the company to flower and succeed because it provides good cover for them."<sup>66</sup>

Shortly after the death of Nugan, Michael Hand, Yates, and CIA-connected alleged drug-runner Bernie Houghton led a group of former Southeast Asia military operatives in several ransackings of Nugan Hand files. A roomful of documents were shredded in the process.<sup>67</sup>

Inquiries following the death of Nugan found that Nuhan Ltd., which had been claimed to have moved one billion dollars through its channels each year, was flat broke. The company was placed under the control of a bankruptcy court.

With prosecution of the bank pending, in June, 1980, Michael Hand and Bernie Houghton fled Australia and vanished. The only lead about the current whereabouts of Michael Hand is offered by the anonymous *Com-12* document: "Hand is currently the most wanted individual the Australian government has its sights on. He is living in the Middle East under the protection of an Islamic group by the name of the 'Grey Wolves.'"<sup>68</sup>

The business of Nugan Hand was laundering money, particularly money connected to illegal activities, including the sale of drugs. Neil Evans, who was the chief representative for Nugan Hand in the major Bangkok drug terminus Chiang Mai has stated that Nugan Hand was an intermediary between the CIA and Southeast Asian drug rings. Nugan Hand, however, was also engaged in activities that have very little to do with moving money. The letters of John Owen, hired as a representative of Nugan Hand in Southeast Asia, sent in the course of his daily operations to the bank, are filled with reports on troop movements and military activities in Cambodia and other areas.<sup>69</sup>

Nugan Hand was also involved in the financing of a number of CIA-connected operations in Africa, with Hand and Houghton dealing with friends like Major

General Richard Secord, Rafael “Chi Chi” Quintero, and alleged Octopus stalwart Theodore Shackley. The *Com-12* document links another alleged member of the Octopus to Nugan Hand: “The drug-proceeds ... wound up deposited in Nugan-Hand Bank in Australia after Dr. Earl Brian carried the bank codes out of Southeast Asia using formal diplomatic immunity.”<sup>70</sup>

Casolaro noted several Octopus/Nugan Hand forays in his papers, including the propping up of tiny minority white governments in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and Angola. Millions of blacks in these countries were not allowed to vote, and their efforts to take control of their homelands were characterized by the CIA and Establishment press as Communist. Arms sales to these white minority governments were engineered by Edwin Wilson with Bernie Houghton and Michael Hand representing Nugan Hand, which provided financing.<sup>71</sup>

An anonymous but intriguing document is the Kiwi Gemstone, alternately known as the Opal File, provided a great deal of additional information about Nugan Hand, placing the operation within a greater international Mafia context.<sup>72</sup>

## Egypt

In 1979 Edwin Wilson and Theodore Shackley formed EATSCO, the Egyptian American Transport and Services Corporation, which, according to some sources, obtained an exclusive and highly lucrative Pentagon contract to ship US arms to Egypt. Wilson also included in the partnership Richard Secord, Thomas Clines, Hussein K. Salem, and Erich von Marbod (at the time Deputy Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency in the Pentagon). Secord and his partners were indicted in 1983 for \$8 million in “billing abuses” to the government. Michael Ledeen, at the time a State Department advisor, stepped in, suggesting to US Attorney E. Lawrence Barcella that the overcharged funds may have been used for the funding of black operations (thus rendering them a “hands-off” proposition for prosecution). Secord retired from the Pentagon in 1983, after the EATSCO scandal, then started another company, IRANSCO, with Albert Hakim, in order to ship arms to Iran.<sup>73</sup>

## Bombing of Pan Am 103

The anonymous *Com-12* briefing provided a CIA connection to the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103. The following excerpt describes this connection:

One of Casolaro’s many mistakes was his sudden interest, shortly before his death, in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Killed on board the flight, among many others, were Ron Laviviere, Bill Leyere and Dan O’Connor—all CIA operatives from the Beirut station. Also killed was

Matthew Gannon, the Chief of Station, CIA, Beirut office. The *Toronto Star* did a story by John Picton which was right in every aspect.

The commander in charge of their team was a US Army intelligence officer by the name of Charles McKee, one of the individuals in charge of counter-terrorist operations in the Middle East. Part of the information that was in transit with these now-deceased individuals was material which could be used to destroy the "Enterprise." Included was the connection to the Syrian drug smuggling ring and the man by the name of Manozar Al-Kassar. Kassar was deeply involved in the drugs and arms for hostages deal with Secord, North, Poindexter, Hakim, and all the others of the Black Rose Group.

McKee's operation uncovered an Aqua-Tech group (CIA deep cover operatives) which was actually the team the CIA employed to help provide cover protection, safe routing and screening procedures for the Middle East drug-running operations. Part of their duties was to cover and deflect interest from other intelligence offices from Europe and other countries, especially US agencies and, in particular, another deep cover operation working somewhere within the Office of Naval Intelligence.

The ONI [Office of Naval Intelligence] Group is working currently to topple the "Enterprise" and restore the intelligence community to fall back within the guidelines of their original intent. The most pertinent of their motives is a salvage operation on the US Constitution and the prevention of an extreme right-wing, fascist wing within the US government and intelligence communities (known to many as Aquarius or the Fourth Reich [Order of the Rose]).

West German intelligence and Mossad uncovered the fact that a bomb had been placed on board PanAm Flight 103 by detecting a different briefcase than the one regularly used by the drug smuggler. As mentioned, McKee's team was on board the same flight with key evidence which would be devastating to the "Enterprise." When the bomb information was relayed to the proper sources, the reporting agencies were ordered by the CIA Cover Operations Group to "Disregard."

The parameters of this operation reach to the highest levels of many world governments. The Gander, Newfoundland crash is also linked, as well as the bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut.<sup>74</sup>

### **The S & L Crisis and BCCI:**

During the Reagan administration, rules regulating the practices of Savings and Loan institutions were relaxed, creating an influx of speculation—not to mention outright thievery—in a normally conservative financial zone. Vice President Bush took the helm of a Task Force on Financial Regulation in charge of this area of financial investment, and may also have been in charge of a systematic looting of the

nation's Savings and Loan associations by the intelligence community and associated organized crime elements. Research into twenty-seven Savings and Loans "failures" during the 1990s evidence showed that a large percentage of these businesses had been owned by individuals with ties to the CIA, and that many of these institutions had made large (and often unsecured) loans to individuals linked to the CIA and organized crime. Profits accrued from the looting of the S&Ls were sometimes used in the financing of the contra movement. Predictably, the CIA moved to block the investigation of operatives connected to the S & L and bank failures.

One case of an S&L nosedive is instructive. Stefan Halper and Harvey D. McClean, Jr. were co-workers on the 1980 Bush campaign. Halper had also been the son-in-law of alleged Octopus member Ray Cline. McClean was connected to organized crime figure Herman K. Beebe, an associate of Mafia don Carlos Marcello. Beebe provided funding for the Palmer National Bank, which Halper and McClean founded in 1983. Palmer Bank engaged in lending to persons and organizations providing aid to the contras, funds which included money sent to Oliver North's Swiss bank accounts. Halper later set up the legal defense fund for North.

Another bank failure was Vision Banc Savings, owned by Robert I. Corson, identified as a money launderer by federal sources, and also reputed to be a CIA operative. Corson's bank was involved in a number of highly lucrative land purchases and resales in 1986. These transactions, according to the Christic Institute, were made by buyers connected to the CIA and the Mafia, using a portion of Manuel Noriega's cocaine profits. After the funds were transferred to Vision Banc, they were transferred as unsecured loans to a number of companies involved in the funding of the contras and run by Richard Secord. Secord and Theodore Shackley were both on the receiving end of funds in the collapse of several S&Ls.

The George Bush family also took advantage of the virtually unregulated state of the industry. Bush sons Jeb and Neil both made out like bandits from the collapse of S&Ls. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) absorbed a \$4.6 million loan that Jeb Bush and Armando Codina (the leader of the right-wing Cuban American National Foundation) had defaulted on to the Broward Federal Savings and Loan in Sunrise, Florida, despite the partners' possession of posh real estate holdings in Miami. Neil Bush and two partners in Good International, Inc. defaulted on \$132 million in loans from Silverado Banking Savings and Loan, for which Bush had served on the Board of Directors from 1985 to 1988. Bush had not disclosed his connections to the firm when arranging the loan.

Neil Bush is also connected, through the receipt of an \$86 million dollar loan to his company, to Robert Corson and Herman Beebe, Sr., the figures mentioned above in the collapse of S&Ls. Brother Jeb Bush is also connected to Wayne Reeder, an associate of Beebe, who defaulted on a \$14 million loan from Silverado. Reeder was a partner of John Philip Nichols of alleged Octopus infamy, and was

present at meetings at the Cabazon reservation attended by contra leaders—bringing full circle to the odyssey of the Octopus that Casolaro tracked.”

The most prominent of dominoes in the collapse of CIA-linked banks was the Pakistani-owned Bank of Credit & Commerce International, its four hundred subsidiaries shut down in sixty-two countries in 1991. BCCI was engaged in laundering money from drug profits and arms-trade, providing banking for known international terrorists, and the razing of national treasuries. BCCI was also at hand for the National Security Council when it needed a conduit for contra money or for other covert measures.

An informant stated to *Time* magazine that, “BCCI was a full-service bank. They not only financed arms deals that one government or another wanted to keep secret, they shipped the goods in their own ships, insured them with their own agency and provided manpower and security. They worked with intelligence agencies from all the Western countries and did a lot of business with East bloc countries.”<sup>76</sup> *Time* quoted an unnamed American State Department official who said, “when you look at the Saudi support of the contras, ask yourself who the middleman was: there was no government-to-government connection between the Saudis and Nicaragua...

“It was BCCI that financed and brokered [Chinese] Silkworm missiles that went to Saudi Arabia, and those were equipped with sophisticated Israeli guidance systems. When you couldn’t sue direct government transfers or national banks, BCCI was there to hot-wire the connections between Saudi Arabia, China, and Israel.”<sup>77</sup>

Drugs were a major part of the revenues of the bank. According to a US intelligence officer quoted by *Time*, “If BCCI is such an embarrassment to the US that forthright investigations are not being pursued, it has a lot to do with the blind eye the US turned to the heroin trafficking in Pakistan.”<sup>78</sup>

Among the clients of BCCI were Manuel Noriega, Ferdinand Marcos, Saddam Hussein, and the Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal. When BCCI went belly-up, investigators estimated that \$10 billion or more was missing from the bank’s coffers.<sup>79</sup>

According to US investigators, the US Justice Department acted to interfere in probes of bank illegalities, including the blocking of a deposition by a key witness. Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau stated, “We have had no cooperation from the Justice Department since we first asked for records in March 1990. In fact they are impeding our investigation, and Justice Department representatives are asking witnesses not to cooperate with us.”<sup>80</sup>

Researcher Sherman Skolnick discussed BCCI and the October Surprise:

“A source on the committee recently told me that the committee wanted to bring out the fact that there are large private business deals—not government to government, but private business deals—between George Bush and former Pana-

manian dictator General Manuel Noriega and between Bush and Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

“These deals went through BCCI and through another bank which interfaces with BCCI, the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL). However, there’s great pressure not to bring that out at the hearings.

“So can we have confidence in Kerry’s committee? You can judge for yourself. Kerry is, along with President Bush, a member of the Skull & Bones Society at Yale University... Kerry is also chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, which has received campaign contributions from BCCI. Kerry himself received a \$5,000 contribution from BCCI officials.”<sup>81</sup>

The connection of BCCI to President Bill Clinton was discussed in an interview with Tom Brown, who investigated both the Mena, Arkansas drug and arms transshipment point (See Chapter 20), as well as the “Bank of Crooks and Criminals, International.” Brown mentioned Stephens Inc., stating that, “This company is one of the biggest bond sales and investment banking firms in the country. It’s located right in Little Rock, Arkansas and has a disproportionate influence on the government of the state of Arkansas. Back in 1977, Stephens Inc. invited some people from BCCI to come into this country, and they set up the purchase of what has now become First American Bankshares in Washington. Now in December of 1991 the *Arkansas Democrat* had a report entitled ‘Reports Link Stephens to BCCI.’ The story was written by Hal Brown and identifies the same Curt Bradbury not only as a former Stephens employee, but as chairman, president and chief executive officer of Worthen National Bank. Bradbury is quoted as saying, ‘First of all, I don’t know anything about any BCCI ties, and neither do you.’ This is in December of 1991. Remember, it was in 1977 that Stephens, Inc. invited BCCI into this country and organized the whole BCCI takeover of Clark Clifford’s First American Bankshares. It just so happens Stephens Inc. owns 38 percent of Worthen National Bank. Now we go back to August of 1991. At that time there was another article in the now-defunct *Arkansas Gazette*. This article was entitled ‘Little Rock on the BCCI route to power.’ The article was written by Paul Barton. I quote this article: ‘Curt Bradbury, then a financial analyst for Stephens Inc., and now chairman and chief executive officer of Worthen National Bank of Arkansas provided [a BCCI officer] research about Financial General, including a copy of its latest report. Financial General was the parent company of the National Bank of Georgia, the bank run by Bert Lance [longtime crony of former President Jimmy Carter].’

“That purchase of Financial General and the National Bank of Georgia is what evolved into First American Bankshares, the Clark Clifford bank in Washington. What is the Clinton connection? Worthen National Bank (headed by the aforementioned Bradbury) gave Clinton a \$2.5 million line of credit for his presidential campaign.”<sup>82</sup>

No less of an Establishment mouthpiece than *Time* magazine has talked about the connections of BCCI to an organization called “the black network,” which “functions as a global intelligence operation and a Mafia-like enforcement squad. Operating primarily out of the bank’s offices in Karachi, Pakistan, the 1,500-employee black network has used sophisticated spy equipment and techniques, along with bribery, extortion, kidnapping and even, by some accounts, murder.” One wonders if this “black network” might not be identical to George Bush’s Black Rose, and a controlling tentacle of Casolaro’s Octopus.<sup>83</sup>

An Arab operative of the Black Network states, “I was recruited by the black network in the early 1980s. They came to me while I was in school in the US; they spoke my language, knew all my friends and gave me money. They told me they wanted me to join the organization, and described its wealth and political power, but at first they never said exactly what the organization did.”<sup>84</sup>

## Summary

What Danny Casolaro had come to see was a collusion of international crime and political power focused around a handful of men, primarily CIA operatives, who had banded together after World War II. Following the associations that Casolaro made, starting with the OSS in Albania, the trail of murder and conspiracy led from this tight net of good old boys in US intelligence to a complex weave of major international criminals and power brokers; to Nazis and fascists at least sometimes wearing the uniform of the US military, to drug trafficking networks melding seamlessly into international banking; to private armies and death squads; to secret societies such as Skull & Bones and P2; to men busily engaged in looting banking institutions and national treasuries; and to the presidents and potentates of the world. These men reaped and are still reaping staggering profit while at the same time constructing omnipresent world criminal and fascist networks—and all in the name of anti-Communism.

What Danny Casolaro planned to expose was an Octopus indeed, and certainly no figment of his imagination.

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1. Prados, John, *Presidents’ Secret Wars*, William Morrow and Company, New York, 1986, p. 155.
  2. Prados, p. 46.
  3. Prados, p. 51.
  4. Casolaro notes; Ridgeway & Vaughan, pp. 37-38.
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  6. Kangas, Paul, “The Role of Richard Nixon and George Bush in the Assassination of President

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11. Kohn.

12. *Ibid.*

13. Kwitny, p. 277.

14. Prados, p. 366.

15. Kohn; O'Toole, G.J.A. *The Encyclopedia of American Intelligence and Espionage*. Facts On File, New York, 1988, p. 49.

16. Kimery.

17. Casolaro notes; "Last Days," Ridgeway & Vaughan, p. 37.

18. Russell, Dick, *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, Carrol & Graf, 1994, p. 272.

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20. Honnegger, Barbara, *October Surprise*, New York: Tudor Publishing Company,, 1989. pp. 240-242.

21. David Yallop, *In God's Name* .

22. Summers, Anthony, *Conspiracy*, New York: Paragon House, 1989, p. 226; Hurt, Henry, *Reasonable Doubt*, New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1985, p. 283.

23. Russell, p. 381.

24. "Secret Alliances of the CIA," *Matrix III*, p. 659.

25. See Chapter 12: Interview with Kerry Thornley, *Steamshovel Press* #5, Summer 1992, p. 17.

26. The charges were first made in the 1975 book *Coup D'Etat In America* by Alan J. Weberman and Michael Canfield (The Third Press, 1975); and were offered again as recently as Robert Groden's excellent photo study of the assassination, *The Killing Of A President*, New York: Viking Studio Books, 1993.

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32. Kangas.
33. *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 7, 1977.
34. *Matrix III*.
35. Kimery.
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37. Kohn.
38. "Behind the Iran/contra Affair," Christic Institute pamphlet.
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40. Kohn; Prados, pp. 324-325.
41. Kohn.
42. Casolaro notes.
43. Prados, pp. 94-97.
44. Kwitny, p. 102-103
45. Casolaro notes.
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48. Casolaro notes.
49. *Shadow*, Feb/May, 1995, pg. 21.
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53. *Ibid*.
54. Thompson, Scott. "Project Democracy: 'Glasnost' Submarine in US Intelligence," *Executive Intelligence Review*, Mar 13, 1987.
55. *Ibid*.

56. Benton, Nicholas F. "Parallel Government' Exposed by EIR Report," *Executive Intelligence Review*, April 17, 1987.
57. Honegger, p. 124; Servadio, Leonardo, "Ledeen's Spanish Connection," *Executive Intelligence Review*, March 20, 1987.
58. *Ibid.*
59. Casolaro notes.
60. Casolaro notes.
61. Wilcher, Paul, American Patriot Fax Network Fax, May 21, 1993.
62. Honegger, p. 238.
63. Casolaro notes.
64. Kwitny.
65. *Ibid.*
66. *Ibid.*
67. *Ibid.*
68. Com-12.
69. Kwitny.
70. *Ibid.*
71. *Ibid.*
72. Keith, Jim, *The Gemstone File*, IllumiNet Press, Atlanta, Georgia, 1992.
73. Honegger, p. 81-82.
74. Com-12.
75. Calhoun, Jack. "The Family That Preys Together," *Covert Action Information Bulletin*, Summer 1992.
76. Beatty, Jonathan and Gwynne, S.C., "The Dirtiest Bank of All," *Time*, July 29, 1991. 77-80.
77. *Ibid.*
78. *Ibid.*
79. *Ibid.*
80. *Ibid.*
81. Skolnick, Sherman, "Bush-Saddam-BCCI Oil Kickback Scandal Can't Be Buried," *Spotlight*, August 26, 1991.
82. *Spotlight*, Nov 23, 1992.
83. Beatty.
84. Beatty.

"In the middle of the journey of our life, I found myself in a dark wood, having lost the straight path."

—quote from Dante's *Inferno* in Danny Casolaro's notebook<sup>1</sup>

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1. Rosenbaum, Ron, "The Strange Death of Danny Casolaro," *Vanity Fair*, Vol. 54, December 1991.

## ▶ CHAPTER 16:

# Bringing Back the Head of the Octopus

Danny Casolaro was warned from all sides to back off his investigation. Bill Hamilton noted that a number of Casolaro's contacts involved in US intelligence warned him that some of the leads he was following could be fatal.<sup>1</sup> Hamilton also claimed that, "Danny was planning to go to a particular facility in the Washington, DC area, owned by the United States government, a facility with connections to one or more of the people who run 'the Octopus.' I think you can assume it's a covert intelligence facility, from the way that it's presented. And just going to this facility, I was warned, could get him killed. The other thing that he was doing was making inquiries, over the telephone, to the Syndicate in Los Angeles. And those inquiries had rattled the cages of some people out there. And there was some concern that they might respond to the rattling by killing Danny. The claim that I have heard from some sources is that someone with mob responsibilities (I guess you'd call it)—some person in the mob—is a member of the leadership of 'the Octopus' and it's someone from the Los Angeles mob. And Danny was on to it." The whereabouts of this security installation was communicated to Danny Casolaro by Robert Nichols.<sup>2</sup> Casolaro had also received threats from a man associated with the matters he was investigating among the Cabazons. "Now that you know this stuff you will have to die," he quoted to a friend as one threat against his life that he linked to his investigations of Indian reservations.<sup>3</sup>

As Robert Booth Nichols passed warnings to Casolaro about Michael Riconosciuto, Riconosciuto was warning him about Nichols. Riconosciuto said that he mentioned to Nichols an attempt by the Cali cocaine cartel to stop the extradition of an alleged Columbian drug-runner named Gilberto Rodriquez Orejuela and Nichols, "went ballistic." Riconosciuto later implied that Casolaro may have died for the sake of this information, "But by the time I heard about it, there was nothing I could do, you know, except to warn Danny. And I called from that day on—it was on a later Monday—Tuesday, Wednesday, all the way

through the weekend when they found Danny. Every day I was calling the Hamiltons, asking if anybody had heard from Danny. And I was frantic.”<sup>4</sup>

Toward the end, coincidences began to enshroud Casolaro. A woman he picked up at a party surprised him with the depth of her knowledge about his research and the claim that she knew someone connected to the Octopus. He ran into a friend of Peter Videnieks, the Justice Department official Riconosciuto accused of threatening him, at a restaurant. The man claimed to have served in Special Forces and had previously worked for a company connected to Inslaw. He had been so forthcoming with information that he alarmed Casolaro’s companions. Casolaro experienced “queer coincidences that would feed anyone’s paranoia.”<sup>5</sup> The Hamiltons believed that in the last days of his life Danny Casolaro was being tailed by a man named Joseph Cuellar, an Army special services officer and friend of Peter Videnieks.<sup>6</sup>

On Sunday, August 4, Casolaro attended a pool party at real estate agent and close friend Danielle Stalling. Stalling had attempted to subdivide Casolaro’s property for sale to provide him with badly needed funds. Stalling noticed Casolaro’s concern over threats to his life. He convinced his brother John, who had been staying with him, to move to other quarters.<sup>7</sup> On Monday, August 5, Casolaro’s housekeeper, Olga, came by his home to find Casolaro conferring with a man in the kitchen. Olga described the man as heavy and possibly East Indian.<sup>8</sup> That same day, Casolaro telephoned Bill McCoy, a retired Army CID officer living in Fairfax. They discussed the Octopus and Casolaro claimed that *Time* has given him the go-ahead for an article about it. He also told McCoy that Time-Warner had agreed to finance his work. Both claims were later denied by the Time-Warner group. Casolaro also described to McCoy a round-the-world excursion in which he planned to investigate the Octopus, financed by the advance money. Casolaro wanted to visit thirteen countries in two months, finishing the trip off with a visit to arms merchant Edwin Wilson at an Illinois prison. Casolaro noted in his papers: “When the Advance Comes, ROAST PIG—SUMMER PARTY.” He feels that he has his quarry in his literary sights and saw the main dish as an ironic statement.<sup>9</sup>

Tony Casolaro saw his brother on Monday, August 5, and thought he looked tired. Danny said he’d been getting threatening calls in the middle of the night, ruining his sleep, adding that the calls had been going on for about three months.<sup>10</sup> A close friend, Ben Mason, appeared at Casolaro’s house around 3:30 PM, and although Mason was anxious to go to a restaurant to eat, Casolaro retrieved five pages of material from a box and showed it to Mason. The first page had information on contra arms transfers, allegedly involving Adman Khashoggi. Two more pages were photocopies of BCCI checks for one million and four million dollars, drawn on Adman Khashoggi and Manucher Ghorbanifar accounts.

These checks had been known to researchers since 1987 or earlier. Another page contained a passport photo of Hassan Ali Ibrahim Ali, said to be the manager of Sitico, allegedly a front for Iraqi arms deals. From the way Casolaro spoke to Mason, it seemed that he had met Ibrahim. Doug Vaughan's research determined that the pages had come from Bob Bickel, who had gotten them from Richard Brenneke, another figure prominent in Casolaro's research, someone who had provided testimony about the October Surprise. Casolaro had Mason look at an outline for the *Octopus* book, and mentioned that he was discouraged about his agent's inability to sell the book. He said that he dreaded the idea of obtaining a new agent.<sup>11</sup> In contrast to what he said to McCoy, he had received his third rejection, this one from Little, Brown and Company. Casolaro knew that there was a \$178,000 balloon payment due on his home Mortgage. He had taken at least two loans.<sup>12</sup>

Did Casolaro have a reasonable expectation that he would sell the book and receive the elusive advance? Some critics, notably David Corn in the *Nation*, commented on the "overly dramatic, purplish prose" evidenced by Casolaro's notes (James Kilpatrick said associates had considered his style "florid"), and his other works were virtually self-published. In his notes and drafts, however, the published fiction shows professionally spare work, suggesting that Casolaro began with rough, almost stream-of-consciousness drafts that he subsequently polished into something tighter. His finished prose was certainly not worse than much that is published by mainstream book publishers. While he knew that conspiratorial fiction à la Robert Ludlum could be lucrative for publishers, that Casolaro planned to fictionalize his view of the Octopus was at odds with his eagerness to prove the truth of the sea-beast's existence. Perhaps he had plans beyond the single manuscript.

Danny Casolaro's investigations were never less than far-reaching. Harry V. Martin, reporting later in the *Napa Sentinel*, listed some of the subjects Casolaro was gathering information on during this period: Dominic and Bob Bolsano; Gemini Industries; the Papago Indian tribe; the Menominee Indian tribe; gold and platinum smuggling from Southeast Asia, via Mexico, through the Papago reservation in New Mexico, and gold smuggling from South Vietnam; the Cabazon Indian tribe, the murders and political intrigue connected to it, as well as the attendant issues regarding sovereign tribal land and the weapons/gun traffic; the Primerit Bank of Nevada; BCCI and other related institutions; Dr. Earl Brian; Peter Videnieks; Community Banking of Southern California; Home Savings of Seattle; Theodore Strand; Robert Booth Nichols; Department of Commerce EDA funds; the Wackenhut Corporation; former Bank of America director Bill Jenson; the death of journalist Don Bolles; a corridor between Mexico and New Mexico which the Drug Enforce-

ment Agency refused to patrol; an IBM-Tel Aviv connection linking the PROMIS software to Israeli intelligence. Casolaro had also developed arcane avenues of research into Nevada's mysterious Area 51, the human genome project,<sup>13</sup> and even, his notes reflected (perhaps as background on Michael Riconosciuto), psychedelic history, specifically Ken Kesey and Billy Hitchcock, who helped fund Timothy Leary's Millbrook commune.

These topics have preoccupied the computer nets and writings of those interested in conspiracy theories before and since Casolaro became their cyber-folk hero. They certainly could have been fodder for a writing career. The volume of the accumulation alone suggested that Casolaro had plans for the future with or without the magical advance. In fact, he had cast his original proposal as a series of articles and a book. Casolaro did have a mild form of multiple sclerosis, an often debilitating disease fatal to a small percentage of its sufferers. It may have caused him moments of disorientation, but he did not feel strongly enough about it to have it treated and he did not discuss it with people close to him. In fact, most did not know about it until after Casolaro's autopsy. The one talk he did have about MS, with friend and nursing teacher Ann Marie Winfield, ended with an assurance from her that it probably was not serious and her observance that Casolaro did not seem concerned or suicidal over it.<sup>14</sup>

If he was suicidal, his behavior contradicted it. He visited the office of his insurance agent and made a payment on his house insurance.<sup>15</sup> According to one report, "A review of his financial records indicated that he had made a July mortgage payment of about \$2000, and still had \$2,700 in his bank account."<sup>16</sup>

On Tuesday, August 6, Casolaro finished what he was working on, having working steadily at the typewriter since the previous day. His housekeeper Olga assisted him in packing a black leather bag, and watched him pack papers into a briefcase. When she lifted the briefcase, she found it heavy. Casolaro told her, "I have all my papers...Wish me luck. I'll see you in a couple of days." He hugged Olga and she crossed her fingers for good luck.

Suicide? "Not in a million years!" his cousin and sometimes drinking partner Jim Gualteri would later insist, "Danny wasn't a coward. He wasn't afraid. He would have never done that. Danny had a regular girlfriend. He was a good person. He was a sweetheart who liked to laugh a lot. Danny was a pretty happy-go-lucky guy. He was very happy with his life. I would call Danny very inquisitive. Writing was a great passion in his life. He was writing a book that would blow everybody's mind away in terms of revelations about the government and all the sinister things that were going on."<sup>17</sup>

Before leaving the house, Casolaro received a call from Ben Mason. "Danny was upbeat," Mason said. "He was enthusiastic about his source in West Virginia."<sup>18</sup> Mason had called to discuss Casolaro's financial situation—a topic

Casolaro had also discussed with another friend, Art Weinfield. Both Mason and Weinfield had concurred with Casolaro on the importance of getting that advance, and Casolaro told Mason that if it were not forthcoming he would have had to borrow from his family, as he had done many times in the past.<sup>19</sup> Jim Gualteri affirmed this last point: "Knowing how close the family was, they would have never left Danny in the lurch for money. Very close-knit family."<sup>20</sup>

Shortly before his trip to Martinsburg, Casolaro called Virginia McCullough. They had often discussed the idea that members of the government might have been engaging in drug running in order to fund guns. Casolaro told McCullough, "You know, Virginia, I'm becoming a believer." McCullough said that Casolaro sounded "distressed, but distressed ... because he had to face the truth." At the same time, McCullough recalled, "he sounded very upbeat. When he came back he would have Justice right where he wanted them in the Inslaw matter."<sup>21</sup>

Casolaro had also called Albro Lundy Jr. of Beverly Hills approximately a week before his death. Lundy recounted that Casolaro related that he was close to finding out who was in control of the Octopus, and made a new connection: to the issue of missing Vietnam POWs and MIAs.<sup>22</sup>

One of the reasons Casolaro went to Martinsburg was to interview for a second time one or more members of the staff of Senator Robert Byrd. The interview had been planned for Friday night, August 9, 1991. Casolaro had mentioned to the Hamiltons that one chapter of the *Octopus* book would be about Senator Byrd. He believed the secrets that would crack the Inslaw case resided with members of Byrd's staff. He also told Bill Turner that he was going to meet with two of Byrd's staff, one of whom was related to Mrs. Peter Videnieks. Reporter Sarah McClendon said that Casolaro had spoken with Mr. and Mrs. Peter Videnieks. Mrs. Videnieks is Byrd's chief of staff in his Washington office, and had two relatives working on Byrd's staff.<sup>23</sup> Bill Hamilton also claimed that the Martinsburg stay was supposed to involve a meeting with Videnieks and Earl Brian.<sup>24</sup> "He had been researching this thing for a long time and was very excited about the information he was finally getting," said Ben Mason. "He was in good spirits and very excited about the source he was going to see in West Virginia. There is no way in the world that he would have killed himself."<sup>25</sup> "He had been digging into stuff for months and getting nowhere," Casolaro's brother Tony said in a telephone interview. "Then, suddenly, he said he had this big breakthrough, some source he had." Danny had also told his brother that if an "accident" befell him, not to believe it. According to Bill McCoy, Casolaro made one more call on August 5, to Bob Bickel, a Texas oil engineer and former Customs Bureau informant, and told him that he was going to bring back the head of the Octopus.

Then Danny departed for Martinsburg.<sup>26</sup>



1. Interview with Bill Hamilton by Paul DeRienzo, WBAL-FM Radio, September 20, 1991.
  2. Hamilton interview; Corn, p. 514.
  3. *Contact*, May 10, 1994, p. 19.
  4. Rosenbaum, p. 98.
  5. Corn, p. 515.
  6. The Hotline, March 11, 1993; Sarah McClendon's Washington Report, January 6, 1994.
  7. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 36-37.
  8. *Ibid.*
  9. *Ibid.*
  10. *Ibid.*
  11. Connolly, "Dead Right."
  12. "Unanswered Questions on Casolaro," *Spotlight*, September 28, 1992.
  13. A note from Arthur Pallotta to Casolaro attached to an unidentified article in Casolaro's newsclippings file on the human genome project and its first director, James Watson, read: "Danny—Cannot think of one project so massive and comparable to the 'Man In The Moon.'" The \$3 billion Human Genome Organization (HUGO) worked to decode the human genetic structure. Its director, James Watson, co-discoverer with Francis Crick of DNA, resigned over conflict of interest questions regarding his stock ownership in companies like Eli Lilly, Angen, Inc., and Ongene Science, Inc., charges that Watson bitterly denied. Moral and ethical issues of genetic testing and genetic degradation haunt genome research, but its potential to cure disease is enormous—as is the potential for profit for medical treatments resulting from it. Casolaro's clippings collection included stories on the European Economic Community's delay of the start of its own human genome project for the sake of the ethics issues. It also included an article on research at Howard Hughes Medical Institute that gave symptoms of arthritis to a rat through the insertion on a human gene, and the isolation of cancer and gender identification genes. The Human Genome Project also discovered genes for cystic fibrosis and fragile X syndrome, responsible for many forms of mental retardation. Casolaro's interest along these lines may have coincided with an interest in Creutzfeldt-Jakob, or Mad Cow, Disease and other bacterial research work done by subcontractors to Wackenhut like the Stormont Laboratories of Woodbine, California.
- In October 1992, HUGO issued a report recommending the collection of genetic material from 722 "Isolates of Historic Interest" (IHIs), or indigenous ethnic people whose numbers are diminishing and leave sample DNA of each community with its regional institution or a national government. Another purpose was to locate and secure patents on unique genes that could be used to fight disease. "Access to an IHI's complete genetic make-up means it's theoretically possible to devise cheap and targeted biological weapons trained solely on that community," reported the northern California independent newspaper *Community Endeavor* (6/15/93), "Human rights violations against indigenous people, by their own governments and/or governments within their regions, is a major cause of their physical extinction." This and similar issues may have attracted Casolaro's interest to the Human Genome Project, but he may also have been more interested in possible treatment for his own undiagnosed case of multiple sclerosis.

14. Connolly, "Dead Right"; Ron Rosenbaum noted in *Vanity Fair* that "... Not long before his death Danny had approached a nurse he knew and questioned her closely about the symptoms of multiple sclerosis and brain diseases. This was particularly pertinent to the murder-or-suicide question, because an autopsy examination of Danny's brain revealed possible symptoms of M.S. Initially, his friends and family had dismissed this as irrelevant—it couldn't be a motive for suicide, because Danny had never complained of symptoms, or, to their knowledge known of the disease. Then I mentioned to Ann the cryptic notes I'd found in Danny's files on germ warfare, on slow-acting brain viruses like Mad Cow Disease, about targeting people with them by slipping them into meat pies ... maybe he thought he'd been targeted."
15. Ridgeway and Vaughn, p. 37.
16. "Inslaw Prober Had Financial Worries," *Washington Post*, 8/17/91.
17. Interview with Jim Gualteri by Kenn Thomas, January 20, 1994.
- 18-19. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 37.
20. Gualteri interview.
21. Virginia McCullough interview.
22. A posting on the alt.conspiracy newsgroup from March 11, 1992 included the story of Albro Lundry III, who testified before a congressional committee on Vietnam POWs and MIAs that his father, an MIA airman, was pictured in photographs that the committee sought to authenticate. Lundry claimed to have received a call from Casolaro in August, a week prior to his death, in which Casolaro claimed to be "only one or two steps away from uncovering the men in charge." According to this account, Casolaro had said that "BCCI, Inslaw, Iran-contra, and the cover-up of POW-MIA was all related."
23. *The Hotline*, March 11, 1993.
24. Hamilton interview.
25. "Area Writer Investigating," *Washington Post*, August 13, 1991.
26. Connolly, John, "Dead Right"; Ridgeway and Vaughan, "Last Days."

## ◀ CHAPTER 17:

# Final Hours

The last hours of Danny Casolaro's life were set in the little town of Martinsburg, West Virginia. In Martinsburg, witnesses saw Casolaro sitting in his car behind the IRS building, apparently waiting for a contact. Michael Riconosciuto later told NBC's *Unsolved Mysteries* series that "Danny had a source there inside the IRS' computer data center that was giving him hard copy printouts of IRS information on certain specific targets that Danny was after."<sup>1</sup>

Shortly before noon, on Thursday, August 8, Casolaro checked into room 517 of the Sheraton Hotel in Martinsburg. A few minutes later he went to the Stone Crab Inn, a restaurant located near an exit north on Interstate 81. He drank a bottle of wine during his nearly three hours there. Around 3 PM, Casolaro left for a Pizza Hut located within a block of the Sheraton. He ordered a pitcher of beer, but after being told by the waitress she could not serve him alcohol without food, he also ordered pizza.<sup>2</sup> Casolaro flirted with her, saying he was member of the Edgar Allen Poe Society, and quoting from the poem epigraph to Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. This was not out of character for Casolaro. Wendy Weaver, an old girlfriend, remembered when Casolaro once greeted her at a restaurant with roses, in a tuxedo, and wearing a tin hat he had painted gold.<sup>3</sup>

He sat alone for about half an hour, then left. Around 5 PM, Casolaro went into the lounge at the Sheraton, Heatherfield's, with a man described by a waitress as "maybe Arab or Iranian." The man complained about slow service to the waitress, but Danny apologized for him, saying he had had a hard day. They drink about four beers apiece, and then left the cocktail lounge.

Casolaro returned to the lounge for a bucket of ice about 5:30 PM. On the way back to his room, Casolaro ran into Mike Looney, the hotel guest who was staying next door to him. Looney noticed the ice bucket Casolaro was carrying and commented, "It's a hell of a note when you have to walk all the way to Virginia to get a bucket of ice." Looney encountered Casolaro again around 8 PM



Sheraton Inn.

in the bar. Casolaro was talking with two blonde women in tights. After the women left, Looney commented to Casolaro, “It looked too good to be true.” Danny had been drinking imported bottled beer, but switched to less expensive glasses of draft beer during happy hour. He and Looney struck up a conversation about the Octopus research, and Casolaro told him he was going to meet a contact—an Arab, Looney thought he remembered—whose information would crack the case.

The appointed time came, but no contact appeared. Casolaro left, possibly to make a phone call or to relieve himself. When he returned, he told Looney that the source was only going to furnish some travel documents, and so he didn’t mind getting drunk.

Casolaro and Looney remained in the bar until last call, around 11:30 PM. Looney later recalled, “He was excited about what he was doing. He thought he was onto something big. He was convinced that there was a conspiracy. I was taking a kind of devil’s advocate position.”<sup>4</sup>

Casolaro’s next known movement was 2 PM, Friday, August 9, when he met with informant Bill Turner in Turner’s car in the lot of the Sheraton (to avoid what Casolaro assumed was his bugged room). Turner said, “[Danny] came bouncing up with that famous old smile of his and opened the car door and got in...”<sup>5</sup> Turner said Casolaro was carrying a cardboard accordion file, and that he gave Casolaro some papers regarding mismanagement at Hughes and the Pentagon. Turner also told Casolaro about problems he was having with the Veteran’s



Inside The Stone Crab Inn.

Administration over charges that he had received improper benefits. The meeting lasted approximately forty-five minutes. Turner described Casolaro as enthusiastic, saying that Casolaro was excited about wrapping things up over the weekend, and that Casolaro told Turner he'd be back in touch. Casolaro's last words to Turner were, "Bill old buddy, got to watch your p's and q's and look over your shoulder."<sup>6</sup>

Casolaro returned to the Stone Crab Inn Friday at about 2:30 PM, where he had a shrimp cocktail and began drinking bottles of Bud Lite. He paid with a credit card at 5:12 PM and told the bartender that he had "a rough night." The bartender thought Danny looked lonely and introspective. The bartender remembered him as "a man with something to say. He was just like this, 'Take a minute and talk to me.' He told me to keep smiling."

After leaving the Stone Crab Inn sometime before 6 PM, Casolaro made a pay phone call on Interstate 81 and a collect call to his mother's home. He spoke with his niece and said he'd be late and might not make it all to the family dinner. This was hardly unusual. When his brother Tony recalled the incident, he noted that "When the phone rang, we knew it would be Danny. It was like him to show up late or not at all."

Casolaro's whereabouts from that point are unknown until around 10 PM, when he entered a convenience store located near the Sheraton and waited while the clerk brewed fresh coffee. The last time anyone saw Casolaro alive, he was walking back to the Sheraton with his coffee.<sup>8</sup>



View from the fifth floor of the former Sheraton Inn.

While Casolaro had been in Martinsburg, some of his friends become concerned about not hearing from him. Bill Hamilton called Robert Booth Nichols in Los Angeles on Friday, August 9, worried about not having heard from Casolaro and asked if Nichols had. According to Hamilton, Nichols said: “Yes, he called late Monday night. Danny sounded like the cat who had swallowed the canary. He was euphoric. I have probably had fifty hours of telephone conversations with him in the last year; he always plays chess with me on the phone. Danny told me he had just come back from meeting with a source, and he now knew everything about Inslaw and PROMIS, and the Hamiltons were going to be very excited.” Nichols also informed Hamilton that he, Nichols, was travelling to Europe that same evening.<sup>9</sup> Ann Klenk, a CNBC producer who sometimes had dinner with Danny,<sup>10</sup> worried when he made no inquiries to her about a program she had just finished that she knew would intrigue him. She went by his house, and, finding it empty, scribbled a note to him: “Danny—where the hell are you?”<sup>11</sup> Bill Hamilton called the house as well and received no answer.<sup>12</sup>

Casolaro’s housekeeper, Olga, received four or five strange phone calls that day. At 9 AM a man called and said, “I will cut his body and throw it to the sharks.” Approximately thirty minutes later, a man who Olga believed was different from the first caller said, “Drop dead,” and then hung up. When Olga answered a third call, there was no voice, only music playing in the background. A fourth call again had music playing. At 10 PM there was another call. This time, the other end was completely silent.<sup>13</sup>

The *Village Voice's* national affairs editor, Dan Bischoff, took a call from an anonymous man who said the paper should “look into the disappearance of a reporter investigating the October Surprise in West Virginia.” This happened sometime after 4 PM on Sunday August 11. He passed the word on via e-mail to Jonathan Larsen, *Village Voice* editor-in-chief.<sup>14</sup>

The housecleaner discovered Danny Casolaro's body on Saturday, August 10, 1991, just before 12:51 PM. Shortly thereafter, police called family members, and reports of Danny's death began to appear in the media.

1. Connolly, John, “Dead Right.”
2. *The Hotline*, March 11, 1993.
3. Ridgeway and Vaughan, “Last Days,” p. 39; Rosenbaum, Ron, “Strange Death of Danny Casolaro,” *Vanity Fair*, p. 83.
4. *The Hotline*.
5. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 39.
6. *The Hotline*.
7. “Frequent Drinking Marked Writer Casolaro's Final Days,” *Washington Post*, August 25, 1991, A 19; Ridgeway and Vaughan, pp. 39-40; *The Hotline*.
8. Ridgeway and Vaughan, “Last Days,” pp. 39-40.
9. Ridgeway and Vaughan, pp. 37-38.
10. Rosenbaum also reported in *Vanity Fair* that three weeks before he died, Casolaro asked Ann Klenk “Will you kiss me when I'm dead?” Klenk remarked that “He'd told me several times that summer that if I heard he met with an accident make sure I got that shit [meaning his notes] out of there.” The program Klenk had been working on was a live interview with Richard Secord, a key figure behind Iran/contra operations. According to a pamphlet published by Christic Institute, a group whose research had greatly interested Danny, Secord flew missions “during CIA's covert air war in Laos in 1960s,” embezzled “millions of dollars as a top Pentagon official overseeing Middle East arms sales in late 1970s,” and was a partner with Shackley, Clines, Hakim and convicted terrorist supplier Edwin Wilson in the Egyptian Air Transport and Service Corporation (EATSCO), an arms dealing entity.
11. Ridgeway and Vaughan, pp. 38.
12. *Ibid.*
13. *Ibid.*
14. *Ibid.*

## CHAPTER 13:

# Rippling Waves

The police had no idea that Danny Casolaro had been investigating malevolent and murderous forces. When Danny's brother Tony spoke with detective Sergeant George Swartwood, the one who first informed the family of Danny's apparent suicide, Tony received a contradictory description of the body's wounds—cuts on both the wrists and the arms. Tony then told Swartwood about Danny's investigative work. Research papers and notes, other than the terse suicide message, were nowhere in evidence at the murder scene; the detective did not know they should have been. No autopsy had been planned. Swartwood directed Tony Casolaro to the medical examiner's office, where coroner Sandra Bining in turn referred him to the West Virginia medical examiner, a man with the coldly appropriate name of James "Jack" Frost. On late Monday, Frost agreed with Tony about the suspicious circumstances of Danny's death and scheduled an autopsy for the following Wednesday. He observed to the incredulous Tony Casolaro that the body had already been embalmed. Because of the hastily drawn conclusion of suicide, Sandra Bining had turned Casolaro's body over to the funeral home. Because the family had not received prior notification, the embalming had violated the law—and had made the autopsy that much more difficult.

After being brought up to speed by Tony Casolaro, Swartwood's people back-pedaled as quickly and as thoroughly as possible to investigate the death. They went back to the Sheraton and searched for indications of a break-in—fingerprints, even footprints on the roof in case someone had scaled the walls and entered through a window. One detective took a dog onto the local highway to look for the papers Tony Casolaro had mentioned—Danny's papers as well as those he had just received from Bill Turner. The effort was too late in many respects. The coroner's husband David, a fire department lieutenant, had the bathroom door removed less than a half-hour after the body was found. The



coroner herself—also an emergency room nurse—drained the bathtub without a filter. The body had been moved to the Brown Funeral Home and its director, Charles Brown, had done the embalming.<sup>1</sup>

Sandra Brining performed a brief medical examination before the autopsy. She took a blood sample from the heart, noted old scars on the right leg and scalp, and an old bruise inside the upper, right arm. She also counted the slash scars on his wrists. The right wrist had seven or eight slashes;<sup>2</sup> the right had three or four, all of them deep, strongly inflicted cuts. It was then that Brining determined that the death was a suicide.

Dr. James Frost's autopsy agreed with Brining's conclusion that Danny Casolaro's life spilled out through the cuts on his wrists. Frost determined that there were no signs of struggle and not enough drug residue in blood and urine samples to indicate an artificial inhibition of any such struggle. He reported, "no alcohol found in body ... traces of codeine from Tylenol III and an anti-depressant drug were found."<sup>3</sup> Toxicological tissue tests also indicate the presence of hydrocone, used in the painkiller Vicodin, six tablets of which Casolaro's dentist had prescribed for him three years previously, but the quantity of the anti-depressant was too minute to identify. "Of the five or six things that bothered me the most, this is one of them," Tony Casolaro commented later, "Because they found no pill bottle, no written prescription at any pharmacy."<sup>4</sup>

This was only the beginning of the suspicions that spread out like ripples behind an octopus swimming off after an attack. The first involved the recent death of Alan Standorf, the electronic intelligence specialist whom, according to Rodney Stich, Casolaro had met through Michael Riconosciuto. Casolaro had called Standorf a key source. After Casolaro's death, when Art Weinfield accompanied Casolaro's sister Mary Ellen and son Trey to the Martinsburg police station to recover Danny's car, they ran into detectives who identified themselves as working for the National Airport Authority in DC.<sup>5</sup> The detectives explained that they were looking into possible connections between Danny's death and Standorf's, a "low-level" civilian NSA employee at the restricted Vint Hill military facility. Standorf was killed by a blow to the head in early January. If he was not killed for the \$500 he had just retrieved from an ATM, then his body was made to look that way. It had been discovered at National Airport in late January, wrapped in his coat in the back seat of his car, money missing. The detectives explained that Army intelligence officers joined their investigation of the case twice before an anonymous caller mentioned the link to Casolaro. While the detectives never came up with evidence connecting the two cases, according to Ridgeway and Vaughan, they did discover that their anonymous tip came from one of Casolaro's last informants, Bill Turner.<sup>6</sup>

Fearful that he might be the next target of the Octopus, Bill Turner got him-

self arrested in late September on a bank robbery charge. A similar strategy had been used by a spook named Richard Case Nagell when he realized he was entangled in the conspiracy to kill JFK. In September 1963 Nagell shot up a bank in San Antonio, was arrested and thereby removed as a participant.<sup>7</sup> Less than an hour and a half after a bank robbery in the rural town of Gore, police picked up Turner and matched him with images from the bank's security camera. Was Turner justified in such actions, steering the police to connect Danny's death with Standorf's and fleeing into police custody? Turner failed to make two appointments to discuss this with the authors of the original edition of this book and thereafter his telephone number became unlisted. One person who would support Turner's fears was Harry Martin of the *NAPA Sentinel*. "Basically what we're dealing with is Air Force counterintelligence," said Martin in an interview, "What Casolaro was finding was procurement fraud, manufacturing fraud and kickbacks. He didn't start out in that direction, but that's what he stumbled across. And, of course, that is what did him in... One of my contacts in the Air Force came back from Virginia the same weekend as Casolaro's death. Of course, it hadn't quite been reported. He came back and his knuckles were raw and he had scratches on them and he talked about beating up this guy in a hotel in West Virginia." "Again," Martin adds, "I didn't have Casolaro on my mind at the time... At the same time the contact indicated that he had gotten ahold of all these papers from this guy and that he destroyed those papers. When you put two and two together—the contact had these papers and he dealt with Hughes Aircraft—and the fact that the guy had been in West Virginia for two days and came back like he had been in a fight..."<sup>8</sup> Martin declined to give the name of his contact.

One report had Bill Hamilton providing some support for the scenario: "We had one meeting with an FBI agent and the First Assistant US Attorney from Los Angeles on our February submission. And they had questions principally about material in that submission about the death of the journalist Danny Casolaro. During the meeting they confirmed to us that something we had heard from a confidential source was true. And that was, a maid at the hotel in Martinsburg, West Virginia had seen a man coming out of Danny Casolaro's hotel room the morning he was found dead, but before his body was discovered. Then, subsequent to that meeting, the Justice Department attempted to deny that they had, in fact, confirmed that during the meeting with us. And that effort to deny it makes you very uncomfortable, you know?"<sup>9</sup>

Perhaps Bob Bickell also felt some of that discomfort. On August 5, Casolaro had called Texas oil engineer Bickel, who at one time worked as a Customs Bureau informant, apparently to talk about Robert Booth Nichols and his association with a former Justice official named Michael Abbell and Columbian drug

lord Gilberto Rodriguez, both of whom were being investigated for their connections to the Cali drug cartel. Bickel previously had aspired to blow the whistle on CIA chief Robert Gates' role in shipping weapons to Iraq in the late 1980s. He had given Casolaro photocopies of one million and four million dollar checks drawn on the BCCI accounts of Iran-contra go-betweens Khashoggi and Ghorbanifar. He also gave him the passport photograph of Hassan Ali Ibrahim Ali, a front man for Iraqi weapons sales. (Doug Vaughan traced these papers back to Richard Brenneke.) The check photocopies had circulated among researchers for years but when matched with the passport it seemed to represent a great breakthrough to Danny. Was Hassan Ali Ibrahim Ali the "maybe Arab or Iranian" man that a waitress saw Casolaro with at the Sheridan that night?

Bickell had told Bob McCoy that Casolaro was trolling for the head of the Octopus on his final night, and he later told a writer that "Danny had confronted Robert Booth Nichols about his relationship with Mike Abbell."<sup>10</sup> Writer Chris Seymour, whose unpublished six hundred page manuscript in part explored the drug traffic angle of Casolaro's work, suggested that the drug angle pre-occupied the fifteen phone calls to Nichols found on Casolaro's phone bill the month prior to his death. This view supported the report that Casolaro had been collecting information about Nichols' various connections to the Gambino family and the Yakuza from former Justice Department prosecutor Richard Stavin. Stavin's report emphasized that names found in Casolaro's notes included members of FIDCO, the First Intercontinental Development Corporation, a group in California created to re-construct bombed-out Beirut in Lebanon. The FIDCO board member list contained the names of Texas oilman Clint Murchison, Jr. and Howard Hughes crony Robert Maheu, names that also had emerged during Nichols' pursuit of damages against the LAPD for revocation of his concealed weapons permit in 1993. The list also included Nichols as a senior vice-president of FIDCO's Investment Committee.<sup>11</sup>

Seymour claimed that FIDCO was set up in 1983 to take advantage of financial aid then being offered to Lebanese president Amin Gemayel, aid that helped smooth out drug traffic avenues. Correspondence from former Reagan aide Michael McManus to engineering executive George Pender, both FIDCO board members, and to Gemayel, established the influx of over three billion dollars in money and assets into the Lebanese ruins. According to Seymour, the US Senate Judiciary Committee determined in 1985 that Gemayel's finance minister supervised the importation of Turkish opium into Lebanon, where it was processed into heroin, sent to Italy and eventually exported for sale in the US. A report in *High Times* named Gemayel's brother as an asset to the CIA.<sup>12</sup> "Of note also is the fact that Bekaa (Valley) in Lebanon later became a center for processing Columbian Cartel cocaine for re-export to European markets."<sup>13</sup> In one

proposal for the Octopus manuscript, Casolaro had indeed asserted that the fuel-air explosive Michael Riconosciuto developed on Cabazon land was used in the bomb that killed over three hundred US Marines in Lebanon in October 1983. Could it have been research along these lines that led to his death?

For his part, Ari Ben-Menashe gave Bill Hamilton another hint about Casolaro's company on the night of his death. Ben-Menashe claimed that two FBI agents from Lexington, Kentucky had scheduled a meeting with Casolaro in Martinsburg with proof of the illegal sale of PROMIS to the FBI and Mossad. One of the agents, E. B. Cartinhour, had a grudge about the fact that Reagan teflon had protected administration officials from indictments over the October Surprise. Ridgeway and Vaughan could not get a response from Cartinhour, but a colleague insisted that he had never heard of Casolaro and could not discuss Ben-Menashe because it involved classified information.<sup>14</sup>

Lester Knox Coleman III, the former Defense Intelligence Agency operative who swore in an affidavit about seeing bootleg PROMIS software at Cypriot Police headquarters, had yet another theory. On August 3, Casolaro called him after reading the affidavit and asked if he could help on the Octopus project with more information. That Casolaro could track him so easily impressed Coleman—it actually upset him a bit—so he took the opportunity to strike up a deal. He would tell Casolaro more of what he knew if Casolaro helped him find information on John McCloskey, a divorce lawyer who had recruited him into the DIA. The lawyer had links to the intelligence community and BCCI, and so was ripe for Casolaro's interest as well. The phone call ended with a promise to exchange information.

In nine days, news of Casolaro's death after a meeting with an unknown informant reached Coleman. Was that final meeting with McCloskey? Coleman later discovered that McCloskey owned a horse farm down the road from where Casolaro died, although he had not been seen in the area for a couple of years. When he called McCloskey's telephone number in Martinsburg, he reached the Shenandoah Women's Center and the people there had never heard of McCloskey. Coleman called William Hamilton about his suspicions only to learn about threats Hamilton had received because of PROMIS. The thought of how quickly Casolaro had tracked him added to Coleman's fear that he may be the next target for "sanctions" because of his involvement with the PROMIS affair. He explained as much to Swedish authorities when he petitioned for asylum.<sup>15</sup>

Coleman and Bickell's stories came together in an odd way. Coleman's book also gave the particulars of a sting operation called "Khourah," involving heroin shipments from the Bekaa Valley to the US. Seymour notes that two years previously Michael Riconosciuto tried to trade details of the DEA sting to the FBI.

Notable among Riconosciuto's claims was that the operation's head, DEA man Fred Ghanem, was related to FIDCO participant Maurice Ghanem.<sup>16</sup>

The veracity of these contradictory conspiracy scenarios about Danny Casolaro's death must be measured against attempts by the various authors and characters to associate their research and experience with this famous case. Casolaro primarily worked by phone (Ridgeway and Vaughan noted that his "professional life existed on the telephone"), and the tributaries of his research were labyrinthine. His Octopus metaphor was proved apt before and after his death.

1. Ridgeway and Vaughan, "Last Days."
2. One researcher even suggested that Casolaro sent a final pointer to the presence of the Octopus by cutting eight slashes—one for each tentacle—to indicate its involvement in his murder.
3. "Frequent Drinking Marked Writer Casolaro's Final Days," *Washington Post*, August 25, 1991, A 19.
4. Ridgeway and Vaughan, p. 41.
5. Ridgeway and Vaughan described the authorities in charge of the investigation of Casolaro's death as nothing more than "aggressive, professional suburban public servants." The *Com-12* Briefing suggested, however, that "Wackenhut Special Services Teams, along with NSA officials, informed the Martinsburg Police Department that they would secretly conduct the investigation of Casolaro's death and the police were to maintain this cover," and that "Casolaro had received 60 pages of whistle-blowing documentation on a major defense contractor. The material was repossessed that night by the assignment team from NSA and Wackenhut."
6. Ridgeway and Vaughan, "Last Days," p. 42.
7. Russell, Dick, *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, Carrol & Graf, 1994.
8. Interview with Harry Martin by Kenn Thomas, October 25, 1994.
9. *Contact*, May 17, 1994.
10. Seymour, Cheri, "Curiosity Killed Freelance Writer," *Spotlight*, March 20, 1995.
11. *Ibid.*
12. Weinberg, Bill, "The Syrian Connection," *High Times*, March 1993.
13. Seymour, Cheri, "Drugs, Politics, Foreign Intrigue," *Spotlight*, March 27 1995.
14. Ridgeway and Vaughan, "Last Days," p. 42.
15. Goddard, Donald, with Lester Coleman, *Trail of the Octopus: From Beirut to Lockerbie*, Bloomsbury, London, 1993, pp. 247-251 (326 pp.).
16. Seymour, Cheri, "Massive Government Coverup Exposed," *Spotlight*, April 3, 1995; the *Com-12* Briefing also supports these stories in their broad strokes. See Chapter 15, "The Bombing of Pan Am 103."

## CHAPTER 19:

# Inslaw and the Law

Danny Casolaro had been pulled under by the Octopus of his imagining or his investigations, perhaps both. In nearby waters, however, other behemoths thrashed about for supremacy in an even larger conspiratorial sea—the law. The legal forces lined up against Inslaw became visible when the Hamiltons discovered that Associate Attorney General D. Lowell Jensen had, as District Attorney in Alameda County, California, promoted DALITE, a rival management software, to fifty-eight county California district attorney offices. Larry Donoghue, the man responsible for selecting software used by the Los Angeles office and later named deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County, recalled that, “Jensen called me into his office and I went away feeling what I regarded to be unusual and significant pressure to select the DALITE system.” PROMIS, however, had won the Los Angeles County office and, as Bill Hamilton later remarked, “... evidently Jensen bore a grudge.” Hamilton added, “Jensen was promoted to associate Attorney General in May or June of ‘83—and that’s when all the contract disputes came up.” Jensen served as chairman of the oversight committee in charge of PROMIS. Additionally, Jensen had served with Ed Meese for twelve years in Alameda County while Meese had been a deputy district attorney. In 1985, Meese promoted Jensen to Deputy Attorney General. Jensen also came under scrutiny during the Senate’s Iran-contra investigations when a memo was discovered from him tipping off Oliver North that the federal prosecutors were aware of his actions. This from a Justice Department official charged with prosecuting the matter.<sup>1</sup>

There was no misunderstanding in the government’s handling of PROMIS. The government, or at least a particular segment of it, was out to get Inslaw, according to Frank Mallgrave, as quoted in *Wired*:

On a gorgeous spring morning in 1981, Lawrence McWhorter, director of the Executive Office for USA attorneys, put his feet on his desk, lit an Italian cigar, eyed his subordinate Frank Mallgrave and said through a haze of blue smoke: "We're out to get Inslaw."

McWhorter had just asked Mallgrave to oversee the pilot installation of PROMIS, a job Mallgrave refused, unaware at the time that he was being asked to participate in Inslaw's deliberate destruction.

"We were just in his office for what I call a BS type discussion," Mallgrave told *Wired*. "I remember it was a bright sunny morning... (McWhorter) asked me if I would be interested in assuming the position of Assistant Director for Data Processing... basically working with Inslaw. I told him... I just had no interest in that job. And then, almost as an afterthought, he said 'We're out to get Inslaw.' I remember it to this day."<sup>2</sup>

The position eventually went to C. Madison "Brick" Brewer. Bill Hamilton had previously fired Brewer for poor job performance. Hamilton originally thought Brewer's actions against Inslaw were due to Brewer's personal vendetta, but that was before revelations concerning Earl Brian, the October Surprise payoff and the rest of the sordid mess surfaced.<sup>3</sup> The Justice Department determined that no conflict of interest existed for Brewer in his new assignment. Brewer testified in federal court that he received approval from Deputy Attorney General Lowell Jensen, whose vested interest in the rival DALITE software had been damaged by the contract award to Inslaw in the 1970s, for all of his actions regarding Inslaw. Perhaps revenge had transformed Inslaw's contract disputes into a legalistic attempt to trash the company.

Things could never be that simple in Inslaw's case, however. Joined with Brewer's at Justice was Peter Videniecks, the man who, according to Michael Riconosciuto, had threatened him to discourage him from testifying before the House Judiciary Committee. Videniecks had his own incestuous connection to Inslaw: he had worked in the Customs office maintaining its contracts with Earl Brian's Hadron, Inc. systems consulting group. Videniecks and Brewer led Justice to demand that Inslaw turn over PROMIS just in case an alleged impending bankruptcy made it impossible for the company to live up to its contracts. Inslaw agreed, but with the stipulation that Inslaw retain all rights to enhancements to the program and that Justice only provide it to the US Attorney's office. Justice, predictably, reneged, and made no effort to determine the validity of Inslaw's claims of ownership to PROMIS enhancements. The Justice Department began to withhold payments, making Inslaw's subsequent forced march into bankruptcy court a self-fulfilling prophecy, and beginning the process that originally had attracted Casolaro's attention. As Inslaw's problems mounted, Earl Brian's

Hadron, Inc. made a play to take over the company through Dominic “We have ways of making you sell” Laiti. Another company, SCT, financed by investment bankers linked to Brian, also attempted a buy-out.

Inslaw ultimately hired Leigh Ratiner of Dickstein, Shapiro and Morin, to file suit against Justice to the tune of \$30 million. Ratiner established the bankruptcy court as having jurisdiction in the dispute with the unique argument that Justice had seized control of PROMIS. As Inslaw’s creditor, this violated a tenet of the Bankruptcy Act forbidding creditors from controlling the property of debtors.<sup>4</sup> The strategy led to Judge George Bason’s favorable ruling for Inslaw in 1987, which also led to Bason’s early removal from the bench and, according to Ari Ben-Menashe, possibly also to Leigh Ratiner’s early retirement by a pay-off to his law firm.<sup>5</sup> Federal district court judge William Bryant upheld Bason’s decision after an appeal by the Justice Department, and the Supreme Court denied review in October 1991. A separate appeals court, however, deciding on an appeal made by the Justice Department, ultimately overturned Bryant on the basis of the jurisdictional argument. A three member panel of judges determined that federal bankruptcy court had no jurisdiction in the case. No judgement was ever issued exonerating the Justice Department from its actions in the Inslaw matter.

Casolaro had given some thought to other legal dimensions of the Inslaw predicament. In undated notes, he made an extensive study of computer software and hardware case law, from the point of view of trade secret protection, trademark protection, contract law and patent law and copyright law. From that perspective, he underlined the concept of “a reverse engineering approach” that he felt was applicable to the legal status of PROMIS. Called the “clean room technique,” it is used as a method of avoiding copyright infringement in the developing of software products of similar functions. The clean room uses two teams, one receiving and decompiling the protected work legally and “producing a document setting forth ideas and specifications that are in the unprotected idea domain.” The second team takes the document and, with no further communication with team one, creates a new product without infringing on the protected aspect of the original software. Casolaro noted that such reverse engineering had been used by many computer manufacturers to clone Apple and IBM computers. Apple and IBM never pursued legal action against the clean room technique because they feared an unfavorable legal action.<sup>6</sup> Perhaps for similar reasons, the PROMIS problems were never played out in the copyright arena.

During these legal maneuvers, information concerning the illegal distribution of PROMIS on the international market continued to come in. On January 8, 1991, Communications Canada (AKA the Canadian Workplace Automation Research Centre, or CWARC) wrote a letter to Inslaw requesting information on the program, stating that “CWARC is aware that your company’s



software products are being used in federal departments and agencies.” Inslaw, however, had never authorized a Canadian sale of PROMIS. The Hamiltons’ daughter Patricia also swore in an affidavit that an official of the Canadian Department of Communications informed her that the RCMP were using PROMIS in 900 offices in Canada.

In November 1992, Bill Hamilton learned the identity of a potential client for PROMIS. A man had come to Hamilton in February 1983, was wowed by the presentation of the software, but never came back to purchase. The customer had identified himself as Dr. Ben Orr. Through a photograph identification, Hamilton discovered that Dr. Ben Orr was the chief of Israel’s anti-terrorist intelligence division under Menachem Begin, and director of LAKAM, the scientific intelligence gathering unit of the defense ministry in Israel. He had no doubt been sent by the Justice Department to look at wares promised.<sup>8</sup> Ari Ben-Menashe verified the pseudonym.<sup>9</sup>

On June 9, 1993 two plaintiffs, Brenda James-Soulliere and Virginia Welmas-Nichols, filed a slander suit against enterprises and individuals that had worked to bring one portion of Casolaro’s research—the murder and malfeasance among the Cabazons—to a broader audience through broadcast and print media. The court filing described the plaintiffs as members of the Cabazon tribe and residents of Riverside County. The defendants included several well-known researchers, notably Virginia McCullough, Harry Martin and Dave Emory, radio stations KPFK and KFJC, and Dave Emory’s tape service, *Archives on Audio*. The complaint also listed 600 unidentified “Does” as responsible for the slander as well.

Since 1980, Emory had broadcast commentary on the influence of fascism on contemporary life through various radio programs in the San Francisco Bay area. Beginning in April, 1991, Emory began broadcasting some of the earliest and most in-depth reporting about Casolaro, the Cabazons, and the Inslaw scandal. The court filing listed his November 15 and 17, 1992 shows as the offending programs, along with one from November 22, 1993. The November 15 show had featured a discussion with *NAPA Sentinel* editor Harry Martin about the Cabazon involvement with Wackenhut, the modification of PROMIS, and the development of biological and chemical weapons; the November ‘93 broadcast included comments by Virginia McCullough regarding the Cabazon/Wackenhut venture, tribal gambling operations, and connections to the mob. Emory made tapes of the program available through his tape service, *Archives on Audio*.

Several interesting documents surfaced as court exhibits for the trial, including correspondence between John Philip Nichols and Robert Booth Nichols, a long letter from John Nichols detailing weapons research development by Cabazon Arms, and inter-office memoranda from Wackenhut. A defendant’s motion for dismissal was granted by the court on October 29, 1993.<sup>10</sup>



Jack Brooks



William Barr.

The first congressional investigation of the Inslaw matter came from the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, headed by Sam Nunn. During the course of that inquiry, its chief investigator, Ronald LeGrand, quoted a senior officer at Justice that he refused to name as saying the Inslaw case “was a lot dirtier for the Department of Justice than Watergate had been, both in its breadth and its depth.” Although Inslaw lawyer Elliot Richardson later pointed out that LeGrand “now says he and his friend were only discussing rumors,” he concurred with the sentiment. Richardson was one of the few people to emerge from the Watergate days as a man of integrity, having lost his job for refusing to fire special prosecutor Archibald Cox at Richard Nixon’s direction. Richardson would ultimately call for a special prosecutor for the Inslaw case. “When the Watergate special prosecutor began his inquiry,” Richardson remarked, “indications of the President’s involvement were not as strong as those that now point to a widespread conspiracy implicating lesser government officials in the theft of Inslaw’s technology.”<sup>11</sup>

The Nunn Committee issued a report concluding that the Justice Department had victimized Inslaw and, in addition, had intimidated witnesses before the committee—some of them into silence for fear of their jobs; others into being advised by the litigation division before testifying. Justice also refused access to any records whatsoever, a precursor to the treatment the department would give the next inquiry into Inslaw—the House Judiciary Committee, headed by Jack Brooks.<sup>12</sup>

Brooks’ committee concluded that “The history of the Department’s behavior in the Inslaw case dramatically illustrates its 1. reflexive hostility and ‘circle

the wagons' approach toward outside investigations; 2. inability or unwillingness to look objectively at charges of wrongdoing by high level Justice officials, particularly when the agency itself is a defendant in litigation; and 3. belligerence toward Justice employees with views that run counter to those of the agency's upper management. The fact that the Department failed to recognize a need for an independent investigation of the Inslaw matter for more than seven years is remarkable. Failure to do so has effectively shielded officials who may have committed wrongdoing from investigation and prosecution."

Despite the stonewalling by the Justice Department—in fact, with special mention of it—Brooks' committee reached conclusions favorable to Inslaw. It had reviewed the volume of legal material and history of PROMIS and Inslaw, the Cabazons and Wackenhut, and their relationships to Michael Riconosciuto, Robert Booth Nichols, John Philip Nichols and Earl Brian; the sworn statements of Riconosciuto; the allegations of Ari Ben-Menashe, Charles Hayes, and Lester Coleman; Richardson's 1989 writ of mandamus filing request for independent investigative counsel; and various soft-pedalings and interference by Justice. Although the committee did not include Danny Casolaro's death as part of its formal investigation, it did note the irregular circumstance of his death:

"Mr. Casolaro died on August 10, 1991, and his death was officially ruled a suicide on January 5, 1992, over five months later. The criticism of the investigation of Casolaro's death by the Martinsburg, WV, police center on the following areas: Prior to any coroners' investigation and before his family was notified, Mr. Casolaro's body was embalmed, which may have limited the effectiveness of autopsies or toxicological examinations. Some evidence has also surfaced indicating that immediately following the discovery of the body, the room was not sealed by the Martinsburg authorities, potentially allowing for the contamination of the possible crime scene. Additionally, it was reported that the room in which Mr. Casolaro was found was cleaned before a thorough criminal investigation could be conducted."

The committee took a statement from Richard Stavin about the nature of Casolaro's Octopus research and the involvement of Robert Nichols and John Philip Nichols; and another from FBI field agent Thomas Gates. Gates mentioned that Casolaro's phone book, containing Gates' number had not been located during the police investigation. He also mentioned that Martinsburg police had found "hacking" wounds on Casolaro's arms not consistent with them being self-inflicted. Gates had concluded this was cause to suspect murder.

The House Judiciary Committee reached three conclusions: that the current attorney general, William Barr—who had succeeded Richard Thornburgh the day Casolaro's autopsy report was released—should immediately settle Inslaw's claims in a fair and equitable manner; that Justice department officials with any

prior participation in the Inslaw litigation be excluded from further involvement except as needed to supply information to future investigations as needed; and that the Justice Department appoint and independently conduct “a full, open investigation of the Inslaw allegations of a high level conspiracy within the Department to steal enhanced PROMIS software to benefit friends and associates of former Attorney General Meese, including Dr. Earl Brian.” Ancillary to this last conclusion was a recommendation for an investigation into Danny Casolaro’s death.<sup>13</sup>

Thornburgh had ostensibly regarded the Inslaw affair as a simple contract dispute. Faced with intense criticism from the Justice Department, however, Thornburgh’s successor Barr acceded to the request for a special prosecutor. He appointed a retired federal judge, Nicholas J. Bua, in November, 1991. Unfortunately, and despite the tremendous momentum to decide things in a way satisfactory to Inslaw, Bua’s report, filed in March 1993 with Janet Reno as attorney general, did to the case’s legal standing what had been done to Casolaro.

Incredibly, Bua cleared the Justice Department, the office for which he worked, of wrongdoing in the affair.<sup>14</sup> News of the report did not surface until late May because it was being edited to take out information supposedly relevant to national security.<sup>15</sup> According to Bua, the evidence was not sufficient to support the claim that the Justice Department, specifically Ed Meese and crony Earl Brian, stole PROMIS from the Hamiltons and sold it illegally to police agencies around the world. Bua also apparently complimented Michael Riconosciuto’s story-telling abilities (“a historical novel; a tale of total fiction woven against the background of historical facts”) but pooh-poohed his contention that he modified the software to give it back door access. Bua also maintained that the removal from the bench of judge George Bason, who had originally ruled in favor of Inslaw, was only a coincidence. According to Bua, Bason had not been re-appointed because he was an inefficient administrator. Bua added two final insults to his list of appalling conclusions: Danny Casolaro had committed suicide and there was no evidence that the Justice Department attempted to influence the investigation of his death.

Not mentioned in the report was the \$25 million Bua had offered Elliot Richardson to settle the case—more than triple the amount awarded in the first federal ruling for Inslaw. Bua made the offer in a December 1992 phone call to Richardson and, according to Richardson, they had at least two follow up calls about it.<sup>16</sup>

Bua’s report was deficient in many obvious ways, and Inslaw filed a report on July 12, 1993 to point them out. For instance, Bua failed to do a basic code comparison between PROMIS and the software currently being used by the FBI, instead relying on the expertise of a Georgetown University professor that such

a comparison would be a waste of time. Bua also was selective in his choice of interviewees from Justice Department who had knowledge of the case, neglecting to talk to them all. The Inslaw rebuttal also maintained that Bua's information on George Bason came in large part from Judge Roger Whelan, the judge from whom administrative problems were inherited by Bason, or so went the House Judiciary Committee Testimony of U. S. District Chief Judge Aubrey Robinson. Whelan at the time also worked for AT&T, an Inslaw creditor.'

The July 12 rebuttal contained eighty pages and ten attachments, expanding the particulars and adding to the documentation perhaps more than any other legal document,<sup>18</sup> especially factoring in the twenty-nine page addendum Inslaw released on February 14, 1994. The last items in this chapter highlight some of its many revelations.

### **Robert Maxwell**

[Robert] Maxwell's role as a cutout for a foreign nation's sale of computer software has been implicitly acknowledged by the actions of the FBI. Robert Maxwell's dissemination of computer software was the subject of an FBI foreign counterintelligence investigation in 1984. Ten years later, in January 1994, Inslaw obtained, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), eighteen pages relating to an investigation on this subject in New Mexico in June 1984. The FBI furnished the documents to Inslaw in response to a FOIA request for documents relating to Maxwell's involvement in the 'dissemination, marketing or sale of computer software systems, including but not limited to the PROMIS computer software product, between 1983 and 1992.' The FBI heavily redacted the eighteen pages and ascribed the redactions to the secrecy requirements of national security. One month before the FBI released the documents to Inslaw, it partially reclassified two of the pages that had been officially declassified in their entirety one year earlier. The FBI redacted the newly reclassified portions in the copies given to Inslaw.

Robert Maxwell also developed a business relationship during the latter half of the 1980s with two computer systems executives from the Meese Justice Department, at least one of whom had responsibilities relating to the proprietary version of PROMIS. Robert Maxwell set up a tiny publishing company in McLean, Virginia, in August 1985. That company then hired two senior computing systems executives from a unit of the Meese Justice Department that operated the proprietary version of PROMIS. One was the Director of the Justice Data Center, the Justice Department's own internal computer time-sharing facility where the proprietary IBM version of PROMIS was operating for one of the legal divisions under license from Inslaw. The Director of the Justice Data Center resigned his estimated \$90,000-a-year Senior Executive Service position to become Vice President for Technical Services at the six-employee start-up national defense company owned by Robert Maxwell.

## Submarines

The Navy confirmed to a reporter for *Navy Times* that it has a PROMIS software system and that it operates its PROMIS on a VAX computer in support of its nuclear submarines. The Navy's Undersea Systems Center in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, furthermore, notified the reporter in writing that its engineers had locally developed this VAX version of PROMIS; that its PROMIS is installed only at its land-based facility at Newport, Rhode Island; and that its PROMIS has never been installed on board any nuclear submarine. Inslaw has, however, obtained a document published by the same Undersea Systems Center in 1987 that reveals its PROMIS is not only operating at the land-based 'test facility' in Newport, but it is also operational on board both attack class and 'boomer' class submarines. The Navy, like the CIA and the NSA, clearly has difficulty in giving a credible accounting of its PROMIS software.

## Danny Casolaro

According to written statements of which Inslaw has obtained copies, another undeclared mission of the Justice Department's covert agents was to insure that investigative journalist Danny Casolaro remained silent about the role of the Justice Department in the Inslaw scandal by murdering him in West Virginia in August 1991. Inslaw has acquired copies of two relevant written statements furnished to a veteran investigative journalist by a national security operative of the US government, several months after Casolaro's death. The individual who reportedly transmitted these written statements to the journalist by fax has testified under oath to being a national security operative for the FBI and CIA. Partial corroboration for his claimed work for the FBI is reportedly available in the sworn testimony of several FBI agents during a recent criminal prosecution. One statement purportedly reflects the operative's personal knowledge and belief that Casolaro was killed by agents of the Justice Department and is allegedly written in the operative's own hand. The other statement is an excerpt from a typewritten set of questions and answers. The questions were posed to a senior CIA official by the investigative journalist; the answers, purportedly from the senior CIA official, were reportedly sent by fax to the journalist by the national security operative, who was acting as an intermediary. The following is the pertinent questions and answer:

*Q: Do you have any information for [San Francisco-based investigative journalist] George Williamson yet regarding the Danny Casolaro matter?*

**A:** Yes. Casolaro appears to have been working as a freelance writer at the time of his death and was gathering material for a book. He was investigating the Inslaw case. He was on the trail of information that could have made the whole matter public and led to exposure of the Justice Department and their involvement in the matter. Apparently he was very close to obtaining that information.

We do not agree with the consensus of opinion among the reporters who looked into this matter, that Casolaro committed suicide. Casolaro was murdered by agents of the Justice department to insure his silence. The entire matter was handled internally by Justice, and our agency was not involved.”

1. Mahar, Maggie, “What Really Sparked the Vendetta Against Inslaw?,” *Barron’s National Business and Financial Weekly*, April 4, 1988.
2. Fricker, Richard L., “The Inslaw Octopus,” *Wired 1.1*, Premiere Issue, 1993, p 80.
3. Richardson, Elliot, L., “A High-Tech Watergate,” *New York Times*, October 21, 1991.
4. Fricker, p. 101.
5. Ben-Menashe, *Profits of War*, p. 141.
6. Casolaro’s notes.
7. Martin, Harry V., “Canadians Begin Probe On Pirated Software From Justice Department,” *NAPA Sentinel*, April 12, 1991.
8. *Wired*, p. 77.
9. Bleifuss, Joel, “The Inslaw Affair Continued,” *In These Times*, December 14, 1992.
10. Brenda James-Soulliere and Virginia Welmas-Nichols, Plaintiffs v. KPFK, Archives on Audio, A California Business Organization, Dave Emory, An Individual, Harry Martin, An Individual, KFJC, A California Corporation, Virginia McCullough, An Individual, and Does 1 through 600, Inclusive, Defendants, Los Angeles Superior Court, June 9, 1993.  
On other broadcasts, Emory outlined a larger context for the “October Surprise,” and thereby Earl Brian’s involvement with the PROMIS software. In the 1995 *Archives on Audio* catalog (POB 170023, San Francisco, CA 94117-0023), Emory explained that, “by 1976, George Bush’s CIA was actively supporting and grooming the Khomeini forces. The subsequent takeover of the US embassy in Teheran, the withholding of the US hostages until after President Carter’s defeat was assured, the Khomeini government itself and the Iran-contra scandal proper were all outgrowths of this profound and long-standing relationship. It should be noted that parts of this relationship have been misunderstood as what has become known as the ‘October Surprise.’ Although there was massive collusion between the Reagan-Bush campaign and the Khomeini forces during the 1980 election campaign, there was no ‘deal’ cut during the campaign. Rather, the ‘deal’ was part of a covert operation begun years before and the collusion during the campaign was an outgrowth of it.”
11. Richardson.
12. Martin, Harry V., “Federal Corruption,” *Napa Sentinel*, March 12, 1991.
13. *The Inslaw Affair, Investigative Report By The Committee On The Judiciary*, 102nd Congress, 2nd Session, House Report 102-857, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, September 10, 1992.
14. Frievoegel, William and Casmier, Stephen, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, June 18, 1993
15. *Washington Post*, May 29, 1993.
16. Bleifuss, Joel, “Inslaw Breakers,” *In These Times*, August 9, 1993.
17. Bleifuss, p. 12.
18. Richardson, Elliot L., et. al., *Inslaw’s Analysis and Rebuttal of the Bua Report*, July 12, 1993.
19. Richardson, Elliot L., et. al., Addendum to *Inslaw’s Analysis and Rebuttal of the Bua Report*, February 14, 1994.



At the funeral. Danny Casolaro's sister Linda (far left), Friend Wendy Weaver, brother John, mother Frances and brother Tony.



Close family and friends attended Danny Casolaro's funeral service: his mom, Frances; his brothers, Tony and John; sister Linda; and girlfriend Wendy Weaver. All of them were no doubt preoccupied with their grief and with the unsettled question of his murder or suicide. Maybe they even thought of the dozens of questions Danny had raised about complex conspiracies and mysterious people.

None of them, however, recognized two other figures in attendance: a man in a tan overcoat and an African-American in Army uniform and regalia. As the casket was lowered into the earth, the soldier placed a medal on it and gave a salute. Then both strangers left in a hurry. Since Danny had never served in the military and never researched or wrote about it, his life had wrought one final mystery.<sup>1</sup>

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1. Ridgeway and Vaughan, "Last Days"; Bischoff, Dan, "One More Dead Man," *Village Voice*, August 27, 1991; Danny's cousin, Jim Gualteri pointed out that the family made a videotape of the funeral, but he could not track it down.

## CHAPTER 20:

# Whitewater Currents

Octopus tentacles arose briefly from under the relatively calm waters of a new administration's first year in office. Danny Casolaro had been dead for two years and the key players in the investigation he began had ostensibly left power after the 1992 election.

Columnist William Safire reported that Bill Clinton and George Bush struck a secret deal after Clinton's election that the former president would withhold criticism of the new administration for one year in exchange for Clinton's soft-pedaling of the Iran-contra investigations.<sup>1</sup> A month before the end of that deal, a month before the former Arkansas governor's first anniversary as president, the Clinton administration reopened the Inslaw investigation. In December 1993, the FBI began again to interview Casolaro's close associates and friends with an eye toward resolving the question of his death—was it a suicide or murder?

Under the new administration, the FBI was not satisfied with the determination of Judge Bua's report. It was still concerned with "Danny's state of mind at the time of his death," Casolaro girlfriend Wendy Weaver told the *San Francisco Chronicle*. "They said they were going to interview all these people and then bring the findings back to their experts to determine if he was suicidal... I told them I thought it was murder."<sup>2</sup> Press reports were silent as to why the case was being reopened at this time; indeed, few papers other than the *Chronicle* reported on it at all. Only the dim political purpose of the coming end to Bush's year of silence even suggested an answer. Did the new administration take interest in this high profile case, touching as it did on the intelligence backgrounds of prominent Republican personalities, as protection against Clinton-bashing from the Bush camp? Or was there more to it?

The review of the case had been ordered by Associate Attorney General Webster "Webb" Hubbell, then the third-ranking official at the Justice Department (seen by some as the Department's *de facto* head), a Clinton family

friend. In noting that Hubbell had been assigned to review the Inslaw case, long-time Washington watcher Sarah McClendon also noted that Casolaro had maintained that additional details about the Inslaw relationship with the Justice Department could be had from employees in the office of Senator Robert Byrd.<sup>1</sup> McClendon affirmed Casolaro's story that he had scheduled an interview with these employees for the Friday preceding his death. Senator Byrd's chief of staff was the wife of Peter Videniecks, contracting officer at the Justice Department during the Inslaw period. McClendon quoted Bill Turner as saying that Casolaro told him that he planned to meet with two members of Robert Byrd's staff. McClendon also noted the Hamilton's complaints that Hubbell and FBI investigator Scott Erskine had plans to release a report without having talked to important Casolaro associates or investigating curious incidents, including a threat against Casolaro made by a friend of Videniecks, Joseph Cuellar, who apparently was also trailing the writer.<sup>4</sup>

Hubbell himself had already been connected to the Inslaw case through the confessions of Danger Man. In April, 1992, Michael Riconosciuto told *Village Voice's* Frank Snapp of the link between guns-and-drugs operations at an airstrip in Mena, Arkansas—a story that already loomed as a major Clinton-era scandal because of Clinton's failure to investigate the situation as governor<sup>5</sup>—and Park-On-Meter (POM), a parking meter manufacturer in Russellville, Arkansas, that figured prominently in making Webb Hubbell one of the early victims of another Clinton debacle, the Whitewater affair.<sup>6</sup> Riconosciuto claimed to have worked with Terry Reed, the Mena pilot whose revelations first brought the Oliver North-styled smuggling operation to national attention.

Riconosciuto also told Mark Swaney, the head of a University of Arkansas student group responsible for a petition drive to investigate Mena, that he had been involved in developing chemical and biological weapons in a project connected to POM—apparently never explicitly that this was also connected to the work he did on Cabazon tribal lands—and that the company also manufactured external fuel tanks for C-130 transport planes. Riconosciuto had already confided to Alexander Cockburn that he had supervised high-tech equipment transfers and developed software to help launder money at Mena<sup>7</sup> and explained that POM, in conjunction with the infamous Wackenhut and Stormont Labs in Woodland, California, began production of the delivery system for the new chemical and biowarfare weaponry for use in the contra war in 1983. Long-range transport missions require the use of external fuel tanks, but again Riconosciuto was not explicit in connecting this with his tales of space aliens or the bizarre aircraft at Area 51 that had attracted Casolaro's attention.<sup>8</sup>

Riconosciuto told Cockburn that Park-On-Meter made the tanks for unconventional guerilla warfare against the contras. POM was to receive chemical agents from the 354th Chemical Company of the Army Reserve, located on property across from the barn housing the POM facilities, for use in explosive devices made with the same equipment POM used to produce parking meters.<sup>9</sup>

Stormont Labs acknowledged only discussions with Wackenhut regarding biological weapons, and Wackenhut denied working with POM. POM president, Seth “Skeeter” Ward III, also Webster Hubbell’s brother-in-law, admitted that the company had some Pentagon contracts, but only for “re-entry nose cones for the nuclear warheads on the MX missile and nozzles for rocket engines,” not chemical or biological weapons delivery systems, although he confessed to not knowing what kind of aircraft parts POM made for one of its contracts with McDonnell Douglas.<sup>10</sup> Ward also denied another central charge made by *Danger Man*: that POM received the first industrial development loan made by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA), a controversial state authority co-written by Webster Hubbell in 1985. Bill Clinton appointed every member of the ADFA’s governing board and was required to approve its every bond issue, apparently with no other legislative means of guaranteeing that the money would be spent as intended.

The ADFA primarily served two masters: the Stephens, Inc., investment bank that received seventy-eight percent of ADFA’s underwriting fees and sales of housing and industrial bonds (Clinton had appointed two Stephens associates to the ADFA board);<sup>11</sup> and Clinton crony Dan Lasater, whose Lasater and Company firm underwrote \$664 million in municipal bond issues after the creation of the ADFA.<sup>12</sup> Lasater was a party animal renowned for cocaine soirees at his Arkansas mansion, who claimed to have paid off drug debts of the President’s brother Roger. Even after a police investigation of Lasater in 1985 for drugs, Clinton approved a \$30.2 million bond issue to overhaul the state police radio system. In 1986, Lasater was sentenced to thirty months in prison for the distribution of cocaine (Roger Clinton was an unindicted co-conspirator) and was pardoned for it by Clinton. He remained connected to the White House through White House official Patsy Thomasson, manager of Lasater and Company, while Lasater was in jail. In this murky financial atmosphere, and despite Ward’s denials, it is probable that the ADFA did issue one of its first bond issues to POM—with Clinton’s required approval.

Mena did not provide the only evidence that the Octopus swam in White-water currents, however. Its tentacles also stretched toward the most infamous scandal of the Clinton era: the Vincent Foster death. POM’s admitted jobs for the Pentagon and the funny finances of the ADFA remained obscure for the most part in the media. Webster Hubbell’s representation of POM became the official

reason for his resignation from Clinton's Justice Department, one month after his reopening of the Inslaw investigation. The Rose Law Firm declared that Hubbell had failed to provide documentation for expenses he had charged to the firm and that POM lost \$1 million in litigation expenses when Hubbell unsuccessfully pursued a patent infringement case he took on a contingency basis for his brother-in-law "Skeeter" Ward. "Unfortunately, because of public speculation about me and my former law firm," Hubbell said in his resignation letter, "I will have to spend a significant amount of time on an internal matter with my former partners."<sup>13</sup>

In addition to bringing POM out of the Washington spotlight, the resignation shielded Hubbell from other accusations regarding the Whitewater Development Corporation real estate investments. Specifically, Hubbell served on the Resolution Trust Corporation during its takeover of the Madison Savings and Loan, owned by Whitewater partner James McDougal and previously represented by Hubbell. Hubbell failed to inform the RTC of the potential conflict.<sup>14</sup> Unofficially, Hubbell was the second victim of Whitewater, following White House counsel Bernard Nussbaum's forced resignation for questionable meetings with federal regulators looking into the Whitewater Development Corporation real estate investments. Nussbaum had been responsible for removing Whitewater files and a diary from the office of White House aide Vincent Foster less than three hours after Foster's death from a gunshot wound. He was accompanied on that visit by Patsy Thomasson. Foster's last weekend had been spent in the company of Webster Hubbell, his wife and another couple—White House counsel Michael Cardozo and his wife. Hubbell joined the group in Maryland after leaving the meeting that informed William Sessions of his dismissal as FBI director. After returning from a Hawaiian vacation, Bill Clinton spent the weekend in Arkansas dining with David Edwards, a former Stephens Inc. employee and conduit for \$23 million from the king of Saudi Arabia for the Middle Eastern studies program at the University of Arkansas. Clinton had one last twenty minute conversation with Foster the Monday night before his death.<sup>15</sup> Oddly, one of Foster's last phone conversations on the morning of his death was with Brantley Buck, the Rose Law Firm partner assigned to investigate Webster Hubbell and POM.<sup>16</sup>

In 1995, new suspicions arose concerning the use of PROMIS in the world banking system. One post on the Internet charged (or, rather, sarcastically reported the "false" charge) that Systematics, a subsidiary of Alltech Corporation comprised of Systematics Financial Services Inc., Systematics Information Services Inc. of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Systematics Telecommunications Services Inc. of Dallas, Pennsylvania, had modified the PROMIS software for sale to private banks, with the attendant back-doors to allow the NSA to spy on banking operations. The post went on to charge that Webster Hubbell had

“helped work out strategies to use Systematics software to spy on commercial and central banks.” The anonymous source encouraged Internet readers to verify the charge (or “the utter falsehood of these malicious lies”), and attached a long list of bank and financial service addresses, executive names and capsule histories of their conversion to Systematics software, replete with citations in *American Banker*.<sup>17</sup>

The Systematics information and Vince Foster’s last weekend with Webster Hubbell and Michael Cordoza came together to float the last odd rumors about the PROMIS program. Instead of the recreational affair it was described as during the Congressional Whitewater hearings, the source of this new speculation suggested that the Clinton cronies met to plot damage control over a burgeoning scandal involving PROMIS. Nearly \$3 billion had been emptied out of Swiss bank accounts belonging to dozens of high-powered political types—both Democrats and Republicans—by a CIA faction known during this period as “the Fifth Column.” The Fifth Column group served as expert hackers, collecting routine foreign intelligence data, presumably through the PROMIS back-door, when they encountered Vince Foster’s name in the Mossad system. From there, they tracked Foster’s bank trail to the Banca Della Svizzera Italiana, a small Italian border bank, where the Israelis deposited \$2.73 million. The rumors only speculated about what Foster gave the Israelis: high level intelligence information; encryption codes; data on black operations subcontractors—he was dead before it could be figured out. Whatever it was, the Fifth Column tipped its hand to Foster that he was under investigation by removing the money, although according to the story his was not the only account raided. Making another apparently regular one-day trips to Geneva, Foster discovered the missing money, and later perhaps someone mentioned to him that he was under investigation for espionage, and thereafter he became suicidal.<sup>18</sup>

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1. Safire, William, “No Wonder Bush Is Quiet About Clinton,” *Houston Chronicle*, September 10, 1993.

2. Taylor, Michael and Littman, Jonathan, “Death of Conspiracy Investigator Probed,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, February 12, 1994.

3. Sarah McClendon’s *Washington Report*, January 6, 1994.

4. McClendon.

5. The Mena story begins with a drug dealer named Barry Seal who apparently began smuggling drugs through the airstrip in 1982. The operation continued past Seal’s 1984 drug conviction in Miami. As Seal began working deals with the Drug Enforcement Agency and Ollie North’s network after that conviction—trading undercover work against the Sandinistas for leniency—a

second wave of questionable businesses descended upon Mena. These businesses described themselves variously as aircraft and parts delivery services, but stories of drug traffic continued.

In 1989, new allegations were made by a former investigator for the US military, Gene Wheaton, that the airfield was also used for commando training. The Arkansas state police investigated and reported to the US attorney, but expected indictments were never returned, leading to the suspicion that the Reagan administration could add one more small cover-up to its tally. Apparently, Bill Clinton did not become involved with the story until a pair of students at the University of Arkansas—Mark Swaney and Tom Brown—appealed directly to their then-governor to investigate. The appeal, and another call for a state grand jury from Arkansas' deputy state prosecuting attorney, was stonewalled. When Arkansas representative Bill Alexander met with Governor Clinton, he was told that \$25,000 in state money had been set aside to investigate Mena. The amount was too slight for an effective investigation but even that was never delivered. The prosecuting attorney in Mena's Polk County at the time said he never received the offer from the then-governor's office.

The IRS began an investigation of Barry Seals' operation in Mena after Seal was murdered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana by Columbian drug traffickers, but according to Bill Duncan, a former IRS investigator, the investigators were warned off, causing Duncan to quit and testify before a House committee about all he had learned of money laundering, covert operations and drug smuggling in Mena.

The claim that Clinton was remiss in not investigating Mena was first made public by Larry Nichols in a defamation suit against the governor. Clinton had hired Nichols as marketing director for the Arkansas Development Finance Authority but fired him when his alleged contacts with the contras became too apparent, citing the charge that Nichols had made unauthorized phone calls to Central America as a reason for the firing. In Nichols' subsequent lawsuit contesting that charge, he also first publicized the claims of Jennifer Flowers.

The court case of Terry Reed also added much to the Mena story. In 1988, Reed was charged with postal fraud for receiving insurance money on a false claim. Reed claimed that his airplane had been stolen as part of an Ollie North-styled project called "Project Donation," wherein "donations" to the contra cause were filed as lost or stolen with insurance companies and then reimbursed. According to Reed, he had no awareness of "Project Donation" at the time of his plane's disappearance, and so reported it as a legitimate loss. The plane reappeared after Reed learned of the Donation project and warned his contacts in the Ollie North network that he would have no part of it. Reed told his story with co-author John Cummings in *Compromised: Clinton, Bush and the CIA*, published by SPI Books/Shapolsky.

The person who first reported the discovery of what turned out to be Reed's plane to the National Crime Information Center was Raymond L. "Buddy" Young, then working for Bill Clinton as security chief and since chosen by Clinton to head the Dallas regional office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Federal Judge Frank Theis later said that Young and an associate "acted with reckless disregard for the truth" in their version of how they came to realize the plane was not stolen. Charges against Reed were dropped.

6. Snepp, Frank, "Clinton and the Smuggler's Airport," *Village Voice*, April 14, 1992.

7. Cockburn, Alexander, "Meters and Mortars," *New Statesman*, March 27, 1992.

8. In "The Crimes of Mena," an article published in the July 1995 issue of *Penthouse*, authors Sally Denton and Roger Morris report that logs found in the plane flown by Eugene Hasenfus—shot down over Nicaragua in October 1986, beginning the Iran-contra scandal—linked it to Area 51. The plane was owned by Barry Seal. The Denton/Morris article does much to document the Mena episode. It was commissioned and later rejected by the *Washington Post*.

9. Cockburn.
10. Cockburn.
11. Davis, L. J., "The Name of the Rose," *The New Republic*, April 4, 1994.
12. "The Lasater Affair, Ghosts of Carelessness Past," *The Economist*, May 7, 1994.
13. Davis.
14. Davidson, Joe, "Hubbell Resigns Key Justice Post In Surprise Move," *Wall Street Journal*, March 15, 1994.
15. "The Foster Death," *Washington Post*, January 14, 1994.
16. Isikoff, Michael, "Conspiracy Theorists Find Foster Case Hard To Resist," *Washington Post*, March 13, 1994.
17. Grabbe, J. Orlin, "Allegations Regarding Vince Foster, the NSA and Banking Transactions," published on the Internet and via fax network, March 1995.
18. Norman, James, R., "Fostergate," *Media Bypass*, Vol. 3, #8, August 1995. Additional details for this particular addenda to the PROMIS story appeared in *The Spotlight*, August 7, 1995 edition, which printed a contemporaneous transcript of an interview with James Norman on Tom Valentine's *Radio Free America* program. The transcript was posted to Brian Redman's *Conspiracy Nation* electronic newsletter (bigxc@prairienet.org), August 2, 1995.



By August, 1993, Danny Casolaro had been dead for two years. A man named Gary Eitel testified before a Congressional committee headed by Rep. Charles Rose (D-NC), which examined the misuse of an "historic aircraft exchange program."

As early as 1991, Eitel learned that private air-cargo companies that contracted with the US Forest Service were using aircraft intended for firefighting duty on unauthorized overseas missions, some allegedly for the CIA. The mastermind of this scheme was a former Air Force pilot named Roy Reagan. After leaving the service, Reagan made a career brokering aircraft deals, and one former military C-130 he had brokered later crashed and burned on a CIA mission in Angola.

In an interview with the *Portland Free Press*, Gary Eitel described his May 23 deposition in federal court as more like an interrogation. Present were an obviously hostile group of powerful attorneys, including Stuart M. Gerson, appointed to the Justice Department by George Bush. Gerson was held over as acting Attorney General in the early Clinton Administration, and later represented defendant Roy Reagan.

As Mr. Eitel prepared to testify before Rep. Rose's congressional committee, a shocking and suspicious turn of events occurred. Eitel's friend and associate from T&G Aviation, Jack Chisum, was run down and killed by an automobile while walking along a roadside.

As the May 23 deposition progressed in federal court, attorneys for the companies made repeated references to the fate of Jack Chisum, and clearly made attempts to reveal Mr. Eitel's unlisted home address.

Under questioning by former acting US Attorney General, Stuart Gerson, Mr. Eitel discussed the fact that public service aircraft require no certification, when Gerson suddenly blurted out a totally unrelated question: "Do you know who killed Danny Casolaro?"

Apparently, Gerson believed that Casolaro was murdered. Mr. Eitel believed that Gerson's totally incongruous question was a direct threat.<sup>1</sup>

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1. Titus, John, "CIA Airlines Never Die," *Portland Free Press*, July/August 1995, pp. 4-5.

## ◀ CHAPTER 21:

# Diana

August 31, 1997: intoxicated to some degree with alcohol, Prozac and the sedative Tiapridal, chauffeur Henri Paul took two famous charges, Dodi Al Fayed and Diana, Princess of Wales, on a ride into the Pont D'Alma tunnel underneath the streets of Paris. The only person in the S280 Mercedes sedan to emerge alive from the other end of the tunnel was the accompanying bodyguard, Trevor Rees-Jones. The sedan had passed a white Fiat and, after a blinding flash,<sup>1</sup> it crashed into a concrete tunnel pillar at somewhere between 90 and 110 miles per hour. The car ricocheted and then smashed into the opposite tunnel wall. Paul and the 42-year-old Dodi Al Fayad died instantly. Paramedics gave 34-year-old Diana a blood transfusion at the scene, but her heart stopped in the ambulance en route to the hospital and she died four hours after the crash.

Diana's death made an impact in world history similar only to the Kennedy assassination, which occurred in the year of Diana's birth. Just like that event, the details of how she died became a matter of great debate and conspiratorial theorizing.<sup>2</sup> Just as JFK's death was officially investigated and declared the result of a single gunman acting alone, the official investigation of Diana's death concluded that it was a simple automobile accident. And just as with JFK, a preponderance of unlikely coincidences and unanswered questions left many people suspicious that the crash in the Pont D'Alma tunnel was an orchestrated assassination, done for the sake of keeping Diana from pursuing her relationship with Dodi Al Fayad, an Egyptian, a Muslim and the son of powerful businessman, Mohamed Al Fayed.<sup>3</sup> Some even suggested that Diana was pregnant with Dodi Al Fayed's child at the time of her death.

While such speculation has become not at all unusual in the affairs of public figures, underneath the layers of various competing theories about the death of Diana lie facts, rumors and arcane connections that relate it directly to

Danny Casolaro's Octopus research. Three years after Diana's still unsettled death, which occurred six years after Casolaro's, the disaster in the Pont D'Alma tunnel brought the story of the Octopus, PROMIS software, and Casolaro's world of Iran-contra spies, arms merchants and corrupt politicians back in the news. As noted, the shadowy presence of Adnan Khashoggi once again emerged in the background of Diana's death. Khashoggi was Dodi Fayed's uncle and a well-known broker of military hardware deals involving Saudi Arabia stretching back to the 1970s.<sup>4</sup> Recall that Casolaro had only days left to live when he took his friend Ben Mason down into his basement and proudly showed him several photocopied pages documenting contra arms transfers involving Khashoggi and a partner, Manucher Ghorbanifar, as well as the copies of BCCI checks drawn on Khashoggi's accounts. Mason later reported that Casolaro was elated over a source he was about to meet in West Virginia, someone Casolaro described to Virginia McCullough as being involved in guns-and-drugs transfers. And, of course, Casolaro had told his fellow hotel guest, Mike Looney, that he was meeting with an Arab.

No one has suggested that Casolaro planned to meet Khashoggi or even a compatriot, but he was investigating Iran-contra arms dealings and he did place great importance on that final meeting, and called it something that would wrap up his Octopus research. As with all of his research, however, this tributary led to others involving Octopus entanglements beyond Iran-contra and beyond PROMIS and Inslaw. Casolaro's focus on the Khashoggi documents almost certainly involved knowledge of Khashoggi's April 1986 meeting with Tony Rowland, Australian tycoon, publisher of *The Observer* newspaper and an adversary of Mohammad Al Fayed's attempt to gain British citizenship.<sup>5</sup> Khashoggi, Ghorbanifar and journalist/Israeli foreign adviser Amiram Nir attempted to persuade Rowland to join the Iran-contra effort by helping sell arms to Iran. The attempted alliance bogged down after the meeting, when Rowland inquired into US circles about covert support for such an effort. It seems very likely that Casolaro knew about this alliance between Dodi Fayed's maternal uncle, Khashoggi, and his father's bitter enemy, Rowland. The deeper significance, of course, became clear after Casolaro's death, and after Diana's.<sup>6</sup>

Although Casolaro had apparently wrapped up, or was going to wrap up after that final meeting, his research into Iran-contra, he no doubt also took a strong interest in possible Octopus involvement in other covert arms deals involving Khashoggi. That was no small list. It included such little and well known brouhahas in the world of international arms traffic as the Petromonde scandal, the Litton scandal, the Westland Scandal, the Lockheed scandal, the Northrop scandal, the Lina Al-Bassam scandal and, most importantly, the corruption involving the Al Yamamah contracts and Iran-contra.

The amount of attention and detail Casolaro brought to all this parahistory remains lost in the accordion file that disappeared at his death. Adnan Khashoggi's role in the Northrop scandal of the early 1970s was well known to him, however. In 1972 and 1973 Khashoggi had served as the middle man in corruption pay-offs ("commissions" for various arms-deals, often involving the sale of sub-standard equipment to the Saudis) by the aerospace firm Northrop to the head of the Saudi Air Force, General Hashim M. Hashim and to his successor, General Asad Zuhair. Northrop, which also made illegal campaign contributions to Richard Nixon, paid Saudi prince Khaled bin Abdullah over \$500,000 in bribes, after Abdullah's public complaint that "If I get nothing, then I will make sure Adnan gets nothing." A Security Exchange Commission investigation of the situation led only to Northrop's signing a pledge to no longer conceal the bribes.

The Saudi royal family outlawed the commissions, but with laws that were ill-defined and never enforced. Extra-contractual "commission" payments continued to maintain the wealth of the Saudi royals. Khashoggi continued as the sole House of Saud contact for arms dealers, through a front company incorporated in Luxembourg, Triad America Corporation, with funds Northrop deposited into a Swiss bank for Khashoggi, who continued to funnel much of it to the Saudi royals. Although the Northrop deal eventually did fall apart, Khashoggi continued to use his connections to King Fahd and Prince Sultan to broker arms deals.<sup>7</sup>

Not the least of these deals was the Al Yamamah contract umbrella, a central contractual arrangement signed in Riyadh in February 1986, that supported both the British aerospace industry and the corrupt wealth of the Saudi royal family. Through this series of contracts, the Saudis turned over oil to the Bank of England, which allowed for its sale through Shell Oil and British petroleum. Profits from that were turned over to the UK's defense ministry, which paid the British Aerospace corporation when it provided military hardware to Saudi Arabia. Like the Northrop arrangements, the Al Yamamah umbrella comes replete with "commissions" and bribes, and involves the delivery of substandard military hardware.<sup>8</sup>

In a search for justice in what he regarded as the murder of his son and Princess Diana, Mohammad Al Fayed returned to the history and speculation about the multinational Octopus cabal. In the early fall of 2000, Al Fayed filed a Freedom of Information Act suit against the CIA and several other US intelligence services. He declared his intent to recover documents originally surfaced by a self-proclaimed CIA agent named Oswald LeWinter. LeWinter previously had tried to sell documents to an Al Fayed cohort in Austria, documents purportedly implicating the British government in the Diana crash. LeWinter was arrested as a fraud, however, and sentenced in Vienna to four years in 1998.

LeWinter apparently still holds to the authenticity of the documents, stating that "I had a choice at my arrest to identify the documents as genuine or as fakes. If I said genuine, I would face charges in the US of high treason ... so I said they were forgeries and was arrested for fraud."

Only one of LeWinter's documents surfaced in the British press after being seized by police in Vienna, the document below.

DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION  
Foreign Intelligence Information Report  
Directorate of Intelligence

WARNING NOTICE—INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS  
INVOLVED FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THE INFORMATION  
SUBJECT TO CONTROLS STATED IN BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

REPORT CLASS: TOP SECRET

REPORT NO: 00.D 831/173466-97

COUNTRY: France

DATE DISTR: 17 June 1997

SUBJECT: File Overview: Diana Princess of Wales-Dodi

REFERENCES DCI Case 64376

SOURCE: CASParis/CASLondon/COSGeneva/CASKingston/ UK citizen Ken Etheridge.

1. Relationship initiated between Diana POW and Dodi aF according to reliable intel sources in November 1996. Intimacy begins shortly after they meet. (Report filed)
2. Reliable source reports Palace seriously disturbed by liaison. PM considers any al Fayed relationship politically disastrous. Edinburgh sees serious threat to dynasty should relationship endure. Quote reported: "Such an affair is racially and morally repugnant and no son of a bedouin camel trader is fit for the mother of a future king," Edinburgh. (Report filed)
3. Request from highest circles to DEA attache UK for 6 on Dodi re: Cocaine. See file forwarded to UK embassy DC. (Copy filed)
4. US liaison to MI6 requested by David Spedding for assistance in providing permanent solution to Dodi problem. Blessing of the Palace secured. (Twiz filed)
5. WHuse denies Spedding request. Harrison authorized only to arrange meeting for MI6 representative with K-Team Geneva. (Twiz on file)
6. Meeting in Geneva reportedly successful. (Report filed)

7. Al Fayed Mercedes Limo stolen and returned with electronics missing. Reliable intel source confirms K-Team involved. Source reports car rebuilt to respond to external radio controls. (Report filed.)<sup>9</sup>

Writer Rayelan Allan<sup>10</sup> made the following correlation between the LeWinter document and many of the figures Casolaro had followed as part of the Octopus involvement in Iran-contra:

The connection between Al Fayed and the Iran/contra scandal was difficult to prove, but Richard Taus, former FBI agent states that Al Fayed and Khashoggi were connected to the Iran/contra scandal through Castle Securities. Castle Securities was formerly Drexel Company, which was connected to Drexel, Burnham, Lambert and the junk bonds scandal. Taus states that many people who were involved in Castle Securities part of a group out of Freeport, Long Island known as the K-Team. Most if not all K-Team members were part of the Iran/contra scandal. Taus reported that the K-Team was a CIA operation which included many infamous names such as Oliver North, Admiral John Poindexter, Richard Secord, and Adnan Khashoggi...

Lord Earl Spencer (Diana's father) was the best friend of Adnan Khashoggi's brother-in-law, Mohammad Al Fayed. Al Fayed was connected to the K-Team and its enterprises through Castle Securities. The ten year friendship between Lord Spencer and Al Fayed eventually led to the introduction of Al Fayed's 40-year-old son, Emad 'Dodi' Fayed, to Princess Diana. Mohammad El Fayed and Adnan Khashoggi had been connected to the K-team through their business deals. The K-team was/is made up of CIA operatives who were/are members of Faction 1—the New World Order, and Faction 2—the opposition to the NWO. Al Fayed and Khashoggi were connected to the men who make up Faction 2.<sup>11</sup>

The idea of the factional split in the global police intelligence community had a long life in the Casolaro saga. Danger Man Riconosciuto previously maintained that two factions, COM-12 and Aquarius, had leaked information to Casolaro in order to embarrass and manipulate each other.

As the accumulation of rumor and speculation continued to move Diana and the Octopus closer together in the thinking of conspiracy students, Riconosciuto emerged again to make a connecting link. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, key players in the original tale of the PROMIS software piracy, reopened its investigation into the affair in 1999/2000 when it conducted a series of interviews with a former stockbroker in Ontario named John Belton. Reporters from the *Toronto Star* discovered from Belton that the RCMP had reopened its investigation into the Canadian role in the Inslaw affair and the possible threat it represented to Canadian security. "Belton said RCMP officers have already confirmed to him that they do use the PROMIS software [and the security of the

RCMP has been compromised as a result of trap doors in the software]....The chainsmoking Belton unraveled his story at the kitchen table of his sprawling, ramshackle house near Ottawa. The table is stacked with thick binders jammed with documents detailing his allegations. Court documents, detailed notes of telephone conversations and newspaper clippings are marked up with highlighter and neatly organized.” The *Star* quoted Belton as saying, “You’re not dealing with paranoid crazies, or the UFO guys. I’m very serious about this.”<sup>12</sup>

Belton’s story affirms details that have long been supplied by arms merchant and former Israeli spy Ari Ben-Menasche, who went on to work as a security consultant in Montreal. At the time of Belton’s revelations to the Canadian press, Ben-Menasche reported that renewed interest in the case had led two Scotland Yard detectives to fly over and interview him. Their purpose: to discuss meetings Ben-Menasche had with none other than Mohammad Al Fayed. Details of that contact have yet to surface, but the Scotland Yard investigators were inexplicably accompanied by the two RCMP officers working on the (unofficially) reopened PROMIS case, Sean McDade and Randy Buffam.<sup>13</sup>

Investigators also spoke with Riconosciuto’s lawyer, Louis Buffardi, and Riconosciuto himself repeated the details of his involvement with PROMIS, but both made another unexpected connection of it all to a 1997 Octopus-style double homicide in Hercules, California. Like members of the Cabazon tribe before them, the bodies of 12-year-old Brendan Abernathy and his 43-year-old father Neal, who owned a car repair shop, were found bound in their living room, wrapped in electrical cable and shot execution style. Acquaintance with Riconosciuto may have been among the motives for their murder. Mountie McDade joined Hercules police detective Sue Todd in a prison interview of Riconosciuto, but the details of how the Canadian case related to the California murder, as well as its connection to Ari Ben-Menasche and Mohammad El Fayed, and to the death of Diana, remains unclear.

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1. An internet posting to the *Conspiracy Theory Research List* (CTRL) from September 11, 1997 echoed reports that photographs from the scene at one point reveal a motorcyclist ahead of the Mercedes popping flashbulbs into the eyes of driver Henri Paul. The motorcyclist/photographer was not among the paparazzi arrested at the scene. The report of the flash persisted three years later, as a former MI6 agent named Richard Tomlinsin reported that “Henri Paul was an MI6 informer paid to spy on Diana and Dodi. The Diana crash was chillingly similar to a previous MI6 plot. That plot was to assassinate the Serbian leader Slobodon Milosevic in Geneva using a powerful laser strobe light—similar to that described by witnesses to the Paris crash—to blind the driver.” The laser strobe, publicized greatly in an English documentary entitled *Diana: Secrets Behind The Crash*, was mentioned again by Dodi Al Fayed’s father Mohammed Al Fayed during a press conference announcing his Freedom of Information Act suit against the CIA and other US intelligence agencies for documents pertaining to the crash. One witness, secretary Brenda Wells, made statements strongly discriminating the strobe flash from the paparazzi flashbulbs.

2. The following list outlines some suspicious details about the car crash:

- It took an hour and forty minutes to get Diana to the Pitie Salpetriere hospital. Four other hospitals were closer. The White House, and consequently the US intelligence community, regards the Pitie Salpetriere as the official hospital of choice for officials visiting Paris. (This slowness has been described as part of the French inclination to stabilize a victim before proceeding to hospital and as an attempt by the ambulance to not aggravate Diana's injuries.)
- Early news reports had Diana up and walking around immediately after the crash. She also supposedly was able to speak some words, and reportedly one photograph of the scene showed her utterly unbloodied.
- A few weeks prior to the accident, the Mercedes had been stolen from the garage of the Ritz hotel, where the fatal ride began. Police recovered the car but found that its instrumentation had been tampered with. Shortly thereafter, the car was reinspected and reconditioned.
- Contrary to normal procedures for bodyguards, guard Trevor Rees-Jones fastened his seatbelt before the ride. The others did not. Rees-Jones later claimed amnesia about the event, not due to trauma but to the drugs he received in the hospital for his severe facial injuries.
- Henri Paul appears sober in video footage taken at the Ritz Hotel just before the fatal ride. The notion that Paul was severely alcoholic has been challenged by friends and family.
- A mysterious \$200,000 had been deposited in Henri Paul's bank account just prior to the wreck. Former MI6 agent Richard Tomlinson claims the money came from MI6.
- The French opened up the tunnel roadway only hours after the crash and neglected to collect important evidence. Even establishment apologist Gerald Posner acknowledged the incompetence of the French investigation.
- Seventeen cameras inside the tunnel failed to operate at the time of the crash.
- The paparazzi photographer who may have owned the white Fiat encountered by the death car, James Andanson, died under questionable circumstances in May 2000. Police discovered Andanson's burned body in a charred BMW in the Aveyron woodland, near the village of Nant in Southwestern France. Previously, Andanson's Paris office had been burglarized by three masked and well-trained men who wounded a security guard and for a while kept the office staff hostage. It took four weeks for police to identify Andanson's remains from DNA tests. Official investigators claim that the white paint of Andanson's Fiat did not match that recovered from scrape marks on the Mercedes, and consider Andanson's death a suicide, despite the bizarre circumstances.

3. Mohammed Al Fayed owns the posh Harrod's department store in London. He has worked hard to ferret out government documents held in secret and other information concerning possible plots in the death of his son Dodi and his son's lover Diana. The UK government has long denied Mohammed Fayed's application for British citizenship and has looked askance at the impact his wealth and influence have had on politics in England. The UK government has also deferred his request for a full inquiry into the crash to the official French investigation most people find seriously flawed. Mohammed Al Fayed holds the view that Queen Elizabeth's husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, ordered the deaths of his son and Diana and is now using the CIA, MI5



and MI6 to cover it up. He has, of course, been dismissed as a conspiracy theory nutter. The status of his lawsuit and any new information about his investigative effort can be found at his website, [www.alfayed.com](http://www.alfayed.com).

4. Khashoggi spent three semesters studying economics at Chico State University in California before starting a business renting his truck to companies doing business in Saudi Arabia. After college, he developed those contacts into a role as a liaison between US and Saudi corporations and the Saudi military, primarily under Sultan bin Abdul Aziz. That role, in its various legal and extra-legal dimensions, brought Adnan Khashoggi to great wealth as a broker of long-term deals involving military hardware. In the transformation from renting out his truck to shepherding arrangements for tanks and jet fighters, Khashoggi came to own a dozen estates and a \$70 million yacht docked at Porto Banus, Spain. The yacht, called the Nabila, appears in the James Bond movie *Never Say Never Again*. Khashoggi later sold it to his friend, Donald Trump. The 1987 biography of Adnan Khashoggi, published by Warner Books and written by Ronald Kessler, is entitled *The Richest Man In The World*.

5. Alex Constantine notes, "Tiny Rowland was the publisher of London's *Observer* until reporter Tom Bower researched the financier's past a few years ago and discovered him to be a former Hitler Youth Corps leader. Rowland served a spell in an allied detainment camp toward the end of the war, then migrated to South Africa and found enormous wealth there in the mining industry. Thereupon he relocated to the UK to purchase the *Observer* and rub shoulders with some of the most notorious movers in the world business community, including Daniel Ludwig, a hotel magnate who retains a PR agency solely to keep his name out of the newspapers." (10/13/97)

6. Peter Rushton claimed on the [alt.politics.org/cia](http://alt.politics.org/cia) internet list that he had been given "a large file of allegations against Rowland" by Francesca Pollard as part of a counter-offensive launched by Mohammad Al Fayed against intrigue by Arab industrialist Ashraf Marwan, working as a front for Tiny Rowland, to secure a large number of shares in the House of Fraser, the company that owns Fayed's Harrod's.

The battle between Roland and Mohammad Al Fayed was fought in part with the help of Nemi Chand Jain, known also as Chandraswami. The followers of Chandraswami, one of India's swarm of gurus for the jet-setting elite, include Indian Prime Minister Narasimha, Tiny Rowland and Adnan Khashoggi. At one point Chandraswami circulated a faked tape of Mohammad Al Fayed admitting that he acquired Harrod's with the help of the Sultan of Brunei. He also introduced to Khashoggi a woman named Pamela Bordes, whose wife apparently helped Khashoggi seal deals. Bordes was quoted as saying she was physically afraid of Khashoggi but mentally afraid of Chandraswami.

7. In 1996, the Committee Against Corruption in Saudi Arabia (CACSA) reported, "The reverberations of Saudi Arabia's procurement of over eighty Northrop F-SE/F's are still being felt today, even as the kingdom seeks to replace the top heavy aircraft with newer, sleeker trainer-fighter models. Saudi Arabia also bought F-SNB's from Northrop in 1971, the first phase of the contract, a few years before they bought the F-5EIF's. The deal was worth \$4.2 billion before they bought the F-5EIF's.

"The F-5's still have to be maintained until they are replaced. Three years ago, the Minister of Defense, Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, pressured Northrop to award the maintenance contract to the Al Salam Aircraft Company, which was described as 'poorly managed.' (*Mednews—Middle East Defense News*, April 19, 1993). The joint venture company was established to handle the overhaul of both Royal Saudi Air Force and Saudia, the commercial carrier aircraft. Al Salam's facilities at the Riyadh airport are inadequate because its overhaul hangars are not connected to the runway, rendering them inaccessible to planes, and because the hangars do not have an adequate power supply for the maintenance and repair work Al Salam was set up to do."

Khashoggi's talent at brokering deals emerged again in 2003. In the *New Yorker* ("Annals of National Security, Lunch with the Chairman," March 17, 2003), Seymour Hersh reported that Khashoggi arranged meetings between a wealthy Saudi industrialist named Harb Saleh al-Zuhair and Richard Perle, who served in the Bush administration as chairman of the Defense Policy Board, an advisory group to the Pentagon. Perle was also one of the neoconservative architects of the administration's "pax Americana" foreign policy and a strident advocate of invading Iraq. It was his role as a partner in a venture capital firm that caught Hersh's attention, however. The company, Trireme Partners L.P., produced defense and anti-terrorist technologies. It had sent a letter to Khashoggi stating that war and the fears of terrorism would greatly increase the demand for Trireme's services. Boeing had already contributed twenty million dollars in an attempt to attract investors like Khashoggi and his friends, according to the letter. It was a shameless attempt at war profiteering, but also a clear conflict of interest because of Perle's government position. After the Hersh article, Perle was forced to resign as Defense Policy Board chairman, although he continued to serve on the board (along with the likes of Henry Kissinger). He even threatened to sue Hersh over the controversy.

8. Information about Al Yamamah comes largely from the dissident group within Saudi Arabia, since British Aerospace does not reveal terms of the contract and the British press has been slow to investigate. The Committee reported that "The Saudi Arabian government has British Aerospace wrapped around its finger because revenues from the al-Yamamah deal saved the company from going under. In the early 1990s, it was losing as much as \$1.8 billion dollars a year... British Aerospace agreed to supply Saudi Arabia with forty-eight Tornados, thirty Hawks, thirty Pilatus PC 9s, two Jetstream trainers, and a variety of missiles and ground based equipment in exchange for oil. Two years later, under Al-Yamamah, the Saudi government ordered forty-eight more Tornados.

In January 1993, immediately after the company reported one of the worst annual losses of any British company ever, Saudi Arabia ordered more Tornados. The focus of the Al-Yamamah contract is money, not weapons. In the words of George Galloway, the Saudi government has ordered "vast amounts of unusable weapons" which were worth millions of pounds to British aerospace. The Saudi government does not care whether the weapons work. The royal family is using the al-Yamamah deal as a cover." (Internet posting, September 19, 1997.)

Researcher DasGoat summarized, "It was in the context of the joint US-British trade in arms in the Middle East, camouflaged by Operation Desert Storm—that Khashoggi's brother-in-law Mohammad Al Fayed apparently managed somehow to bring down the British government, or rather the conservatives around Thatcher (and her protege John Major) who, indistinguishable from Republicans around Reagan and Bush, turned their nation's treasury into a personal slush fund, making their fortunes from investing in corrupt and criminal activities (whitewashed as covert operations or wars) in the arms and drugs market." (To CTRL list, 9/11/97.)

9. "Edinburgh" here refers to Prince Phillip; "WHuse" refers to the White House; and David Spedding is the head of MI6.

10. In 1997, Rayelan Allan provided a fanciful but fascinating discussion of the history behind the fateful crash site, under the pseudonym "Ru Mills" via Brian Redman's *Conspiracy Nation*:

Princess Diana and her soon-to-be husband, Dodi Fayed, were fatally injured in the Pont de l'Alma tunnel. The site is ancient, dating back to the time of the Merovingian kings (ca. 500—751 A.D.), and before. In pre-Christian times, the Pont de l'Alma was a pagan sacrificial site. Note that in the pagan connotation, at least, sacrifice is not to be confused with murder: the sacrificial victim had to be a willing participant.

In the time of the Merovingian kings, the Pont de l'Alma was an underground chamber. Founder of the Merovingian dynasty was Merovaeus, said to be descended from the union of a sea creature and a French queen. Merovaeus followed the pagan cult of Diana. In Middle English, "soul" (Alma) has as etymology "descended from the sea." "Pont" has as a Latin root "pontifex," meaning a Roman high priest. (See also pons, pontis –bridge; passage.) "Alma" comes from the Latin "almus," meaning nourishing. One translation of Pont de l'Alma would be "bridge of the soul." Another would be "passage of nourishment." All true European royalty is descended from the Merovingians, which are believed to be descendants of Jesus Christ.

During the Merovingian era, if two kings had a dispute over property, it was settled in combat at Pont de l'alma. According to legend, anyone killed there goes straight to Heaven and sits at the right hand of God, watching over all his foe was to do. The person killed in combat was actually considered to be the "winner," since he became God's eyes on earth and could even manipulate events.

The current British royal family are imposters. The House of Windsor is a fraud. But the lineage of Lady Diana Spencer goes back to Charles II House of Stewart. The House of Stewart is of "true" royal blood. Diana's sons, William and Harry, have three quarters true nobility in their blood.

Rayelan Allan developed her thesis that Diana's death was arranged in order to use her image to create a world-controlling religion in the book, *Diana, Queen of Heaven*, available at the web site [www.dianaqueenofheaven.com](http://www.dianaqueenofheaven.com).

11. Allan, Rayelan, "Diana Was Not The Target," *Paranoia Magazine*, Issue 24, Fall 2000.
12. Lawton, Valerie and Thompson, Allan, "Rigged Software Claimed To Hack Intelligence Files," *Toronto Star*, August 28, 2000.
13. Lawton, Valerie, "Spy Trap Probe Now Tied To US and Britain," *Toronto Star*, August 29, 2000.

## ◀ CHAPTER 22:

# Jim Keith

Jim Keith often sat at a Reno bar, drinking Coronas with lime served by his friend, the bartender Seth Jameson. Some nights he also met with a person Seth knew as Keith's Sufi contact.

Seth knew Keith well;<sup>1</sup> he knew little of the Sufis. Sufism has origins in the early Islam of the desert nomads, although the Sufi Order of the West was founded in London in 1910 for the "transmission of spiritual truth in a manner that is consistent with modern, Western culture."<sup>2</sup> For years, Jim Keith collected obscure bits of information for various zines<sup>3</sup> and books that featured his writing. Unlike Danny Casolaro, whose story so intrigued Keith that he helped write this book on Casolaro, Keith did not operate in total obscurity. He was well-known, practically a celebrity in the world of marginals publishing. He lectured regularly at conspiracy and UFO conferences and had several acclaimed titles to his credit.<sup>4</sup> Keith regaled conspiracy theorists for many years. He was pleased that he had found such an obscure source from a mysterious, religious/mystical background, the Sufis. He had a second column due for a new online newsletter called *Nitro News*.

Keith's Sufi friend told him of returning from a trip to London for *Dhikr*, a celebration of Allah that often involved ecstatic trance states. He told Keith that the ceremony was attended by the personal physician of Dodi Fayed, the man who died with Diana on the fateful day of the Pont D'Alma tunnel crash. The doctor, a non-Sufi Muslim, privately revealed a great secret to Keith's Sufi friend: Diana was pregnant when she died. The doctor had personally made the examination and verified the pregnancy.

Keith felt that this was just the thing to follow the *Nitro News* column he had written on the possible conspiracy in the plane crash that killed JFK, Jr. A question remained, however. What was that physician's name? Keith hoped he could get two columns out of this, one asserting the idea of the pregnancy, another giv-

ing the name of the physician. Nitro News had been slow in paying, so he wanted to stretch out the writing chores. The Sufi provided him with the name after another assurance that his own name would be kept anonymous.

Perhaps Keith thought of Casolaro as he parted company with the Sufi and determined to go home and knock out that column. Home those days was a trailer outside of Reno. Keith returned to it and wrote this column:

#### PRINCESS DIANA WAS PREGNANT; FAYED'S PHYSICIAN EXAMINED HER

Recent French findings have not put to rest the suspicion that a conspiracy was responsible for the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, millionaire Dodi Fayed, and driver, Henri Paul, in Paris on August 31, 1997. The case for conspiracy is familiar enough to those who delve into the hidden side of world politics.

Diana had crossed the reigning House of Windsor, and had taken on the color of an enemy to the throne of Great Britain. Born of competing Stuart Royal line, she had been a thorn in the side of the British Monarchy virtually from the beginning of her marriage to Prince Charles. She was far more popular than the aloof Charles, and a perception of unfair treatment by the Royal Family only added to already numerous calls for the abolition of the Monarchy.

It is fair to think that the House of Windsor may have seen Diana as becoming dangerously powerful, and as a threat to its future. She was also viewed as a threat to other elements of the British establishment, including the arms industry, whose lucrative business in death was challenged by her calls for an international ban on land mines. Diana had already been targeted with surveillance and wiretaps by Britain's domestic intelligence agency, MI5, and through the leaking of her private conversations to the press.

At least two persons close to Diana and Dodi Fayed have told the press that the couple was planning on marrying. They had been dating for nine months, and Dodi's purchase of a quarter million dollar diamond ring for her provided additional confirmation.

The British establishment would have seen a marriage to Dodi Fayed as an alliance with the Muslim world, and there was the real possibility that Diana would convert to the Islamic faith. Equally important, Dodi's father was billionaire Muhammad Fayed, related to the Saudi Royal Family. He is alleged to have compromised many British politicians through the use of his bribes and other incentives.

Of central importance to the belief that Diana may have been murdered are unconfirmed reports that she was pregnant by Dodi Fayed at the time of her death. Certainly, the birth of a child with Egyptian blood, half-brother to Diana's sons, would have been seen as a devastating event to the rulers of Britain. So far, however, no conclusive proof has been offered that she was

pregnant. I have now obtained the closest thing to proof that will probably ever be revealed.

Confirmation of Diana's pregnancy comes from a unique source: through the network of the Middle Eastern religious group called the Sufis. The Sufis are a meditative, mystical offshoot of the Islamic faith, and several members of this group are friends of the author.

One of my Sufi contacts, who chooses to remain anonymous traveled to London to participate in *Dhikr*, a remembrance of Allah. Both Sufis and orthodox Muslims attended this ritual. My contact reports that while participating in this ceremony, he met Dodi Fayed's personal physician, a man who is a Muslim, but is not a Sufi. In private conversation, the physician told him that Diana and Dodi Fayed had planned on getting married, and that he had personally examined her and determined that she was pregnant.

If this is the case, why has this physician not come forward and told the press? One can only speculate. Perhaps this information is being kept secret as part of a larger indictment when Muhammad Fayed finally weighs in with proof of a conspiracy.

Keith sent the new column to his editors at *Nitro News*, planning to use the physician's name in the next one next. He planned to do this after a visit to the Burning Man festival in Black Rock, just north of Reno.<sup>5</sup>

The lore of the Burning Man attracted Keith. Larry Harvey, Jerry James and twenty sympaticos started the event by burning an eight-foot stick figure of a man on Baker Beach in San Francisco in June of 1986. Harvey did it to purge himself of feelings from a romance gone wrong; the others had their own reasons to create a symbolic break from the past. The stick burning had long been moved to Black Rock and had become a massive 50-foot effigy for over 15,000 heavily dosed revelers. Keith did not have a past to purge, but he did have a reputation to protect and promote as Reno's top party animal. As a top barfly on the Reno scene, especially for his UFO conspiracy talk group at the Planet 9 bar on East Fourth Street, how could he not go? Burning Man consisted of intense mass hedonistic revelry, fireworks and pyrotechnics, thousands of free spirits practicing amateur performance art and drug-abundant celebration.

He eventually found himself on one of the many stages at Burning Man. He was seen by many in the party atmosphere shaking hands, laughing with the rest of the crowd, bumping into people. At some point, however, he lost his balance and fell off the Burning Man stage.

Keith's long-time friend, Wayne Henderson, later imagined Keith's situation the following morning:

He is disheveled; still wearing most of what he was wearing last night (good performance; GREAT party) and the first thing he notices is that he's got a monumental case of dragonmouth, and a headache. Oh, and his leg hurts.

He rises, goes to the bathroom with a cup of strong coffee in his hand and some Led Zeppelin on the stereo. The aspirin starts to kick in, the headache begins to fade. His leg hurts. He gargles, showers. Gets another cup of 40-weight coffee.

He rummages through a pile of papers on his work desk. Book manuscript (GOT to finish that intro) e-mails, articles, letters (got to answer that one from IllumiNet), back issue of *Steamshovel Press* (his leg hurts), more letters, more e-mails (should get online today, *Conspiracy Journal* is due), dog-eared invitation to a party at the Burning Man festival, what was I looking for anyway?

God-all-MIGHTY, what the HELL did I do to my LEG? On the phone, make arrangements to go to the hospital and have a doctor look at this, put a splint on the darned thing, I've got work to do, for Chrissakes..."<sup>6</sup>

The pain was such that Keith called paramedics, who delivered him to the Washoe Medical Center in Reno. He balked at the idea of anesthesia and surgery, but the Washoe doctors explained to him that the tibia fracture he suffered at Burning Man required both. Keith's nephew Chris Davis came out to be with him at Washoe. Keith told him, "I have a feeling that if they put me under I'm not coming back. I know if I get put under, I am going to die."<sup>7</sup> The doctors insisted that the surgical procedure was routine.

Keith called his old friend from Planet 9, George Pickard, and told him that one of the hospital attendants had the same name as someone he debated months ago on MSNBC. The topic had been black helicopters and this person represented the Pentagon in arguing that the choppers just do not exist.<sup>8</sup> Ordinarily Keith liked these kinds of coincidences. They were fodder for his writing. This time, he told Piccard, it was getting a bit too weird. His came out to Washoe to be with Keith. "I was told that Jim was in room 106, on the first floor," Pickard later reported, "When I checked that room, 106, I found an elderly lady with a completely different name. A nurse refused to tell me what happened and directed me to an unidentified family spokesperson for information."<sup>9</sup>

Somewhere between nephew Davis' visit and George Pickard's attempt, Keith assented, very reluctantly, to the anesthetic and the surgery. He died on the operating table.

On September 7, 1999, a blood clot traveled from Jim Keith's leg to his lung during or shortly after surgery that Washoe Medical Center doctors assured him was routine, and killed him. "There's no conspiracy here," Washoe County

deputy coroner Steve Finnell later assured a Reno *Gazette-Journal* reporter, “This could happen to anyone. We see it all of the time. This is considered an accidental death.”<sup>10</sup>

A great outpouring of grief at the passing of this celebrity of the conspiracy circuit appeared in the form of several memorial web pages, but none of the comments stated the overriding sentiment at news of Jim Keith’s death more succinctly than that of writer Jim Hougan:

“A fucking knee operation?”<sup>11</sup>

A debate followed for many months about whether or not to regard Keith’s death with suspicion. The strange coincidence that *Nitro News*, which posted Keith’s column about Princess Diana to the web the day before Keith left for Burning Man, went mysteriously offline for two weeks just before the news of Keith’s death, fanned the flames of suspicion. Had Keith’s demise been orchestrated by the Octopus? Had someone whacked Keith’s knee at Burning Man? Did the Pentagon send an assassin to Washoe Medical? As with Danny Casolaro, a proper investigation never happened and most accepted deputy coroner Finnell’s explanation, as disquieting as it seemed to other potential patients in Washoe County.

Keith himself would have noted the coincidences: that he died shortly after writing about Diana’s pregnancy, but before he named the physician; that even that column mysteriously disappeared from the web; that he died prematurely, at age 49, under unusual circumstances; the strange coincidence of the name of that hospital attendant. Death by blood clot in this way is rare, despite the assertions of the deputy coroner. It should not have happened. That it happened to Keith was one more of those bizarre coincidences that leave people scratching their heads, like all of the deaths surrounding Danny Casolaro’s research.

Among Keith’s professional associates, news of his death hit Ron Bonds the hardest. Bonds ran IllumiNet Press in Lilburn, Georgia. IllumiNet published the majority of Keith’s books. Bonds wrote to one memorial site, “He was more like a partner here. He did all of our proofreading, he typed up stuff for me and we talked on the phone every day! He was like a consultant. It’ll be a real drag to keep on without his help and input.”<sup>12</sup> Keith’s death took a large toll on Bonds and IllumiNet. Although he continued to publish—he had at least three of the prolific Keith’s manuscripts on hand<sup>13</sup>—he and his wife began making plans to move into the real estate business.

Bonds began IllumiNet after a brief career as a record producer and promoter for a Label called *Elvis On Drugs*, and at one point he started a church called the Church of Beaver Cleaver. A perverse sense of humor and a Southern charm characterized everything that Bonds did. One of his early discoveries as a publisher was Kerry Thornley, the Marine corps chum of Lee Harvey Oswald. Bonds



had published *The Idle Warrior*, a novel Thornley wrote about Oswald long before the assassination, and *The Principia Discordia*, a Monty Pythonesque lampoon of religion. Bonds also reprinted *The Mothman Prophecies*, a classic work of UFO literature by the writer John Keel, was sold as a Hollywood movie, but even in death, Jim Keith was his top-seller as well as his close friend.<sup>14</sup>

Bonds carried on half-heartedly for months. Then, on April 7, 2001, he and his wife Nancy went to lunch at an El Azteca restaurant near their home in Lilburn, Georgia. Later that night, at about 9 PM, Bonds headed to the bathroom following an attack of nausea. For the next six hours, his condition worsened, with diarrhea and vomiting, and he asked Nancy to call an ambulance before he collapsed on the floor of the bathroom. He was unconscious when the ambulance arrived. It took him to Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta because it had a better trauma unit than nearby DeKalb General. Medical personnel inserted tubes through his mouth and nose and into his lungs and intestines, but nothing stopped the swelling and massive bleeding in his stomach and colon. On April 8, at 5:30 AM Ron Bonds died from the bleeding at age 48.<sup>15</sup>

After an autopsy the following day, the Fulton county coroner, Dr. Henninger, determined that the bacteria *clostridium perfringens* caused the swelling, and that it came from contaminated food Bonds ate at the El Azteca. Health inspectors were called out and they discovered that the beef served at El Azteca contained bacteria in excess of what could be considered harmful to health, although an acceptable level for many people. Reactions to *clostridium perfringens* vary greatly among individuals and Bonds had suffered from chronic gastritis. Through credit card receipts, the health inspectors tracked down 118 El Azteca customers from that day. Only seven had diarrhea in the period following their consumption of food at the restaurant, five had cramps and three vomited. A 1999 study by the Centers for Disease Control indicated that a fatal reaction to *clostridium perfringens* food poisoning occurs in .0005 percent of cases.<sup>16</sup>

The last book Bonds published by Jim Keith was *Biowarfare in America*, which discussed targeted biotoxins. In it, Keith quoted Larry Wayne Harris, a man who had been arrested by the FBI in February 1988 for possession of the anthrax bacterium, as claiming that an attempt was made against his life by a needle wielding a cobra venom that induces massive clots to the lungs.<sup>17</sup>

Then in November 2001, a half-dozen additional cases of suspicious circumstances surrounding knee surgery operations were reported across the country. The first of these was a 23-year-old student in Minnesota named Brian Lykins, who died from a *clostridium* infection. The other cases also involved variants of the *clostridium* bacteria, eventually traced to a tissue bank in Atlanta, near Ron Bonds' home.<sup>18</sup>

Another strange coincidence: Keith had written specifically about clostridium bacteria previously for FATE, the newsstand digest of paranormal stories. In typical Jim Keith fashion, he had tied it to another offbeat conspiracy topic, cattle mutilations. “Many mutilated cattle have been found marked with fluorescent paint,” wrote Keith, “probably to help identify them in the dark. But most telling is that a large percentage of mutilated cattle have also been injected with strains of clostridium bacteria (a genus that includes bacteria that cause blackleg and malignant edema). In a 1970 investigation of bacteriological warfare, Senator Frank Church’s Senate Select Committee on Intelligence determined that the CIA had stockpiled canisters of this same bacteria.”<sup>19</sup>

How odd that Keith’s friend and publisher died of poisoning from the same bacteria, that many knee injuries ended in death due to clostridium and that the clostridium caused “blackleg” in cattle, a term that resonated eerily with the knee injury that claimed Keith’s life.

1. Jameson, Seth. E-mail correspondence with author, August 15, 2001.

2. Bowker, John, ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of World Religions*, Oxford University Press, 1997, p. 925.

3. Jim Keith’s work as a writer for small circulation zines included *Dharma Combat*, published by Keith himself. Typically, one issue of *Dharma Combat* (“a magazine about spirituality, metaphysics and reality” according to its indicia) consisted of 8.5x11 sheets of brightly colored paper, folded in half and side-stapled. The following issue would be printed on several sheets of 11x17 paper, stapled in an upper corner, with a “Permanent Universal Rent Strike” poster as a back cover. Article titles included “Around Again To Armageddon,” “Sympathy for the Revel,” “The Dulce Base,” “Operation Majority,” “Demolish Serious Culture,” and “Hallucinogenic Hypno-Vision and the Plasmatic Cells of Gaia.” Although Keith’s zine world of the late 1980s and early 1990s foreshadowed the conspiracy theorist internet free-for-fall, it had the imprimatur of his unique personality. It also included many well-known personalities of the ongoing info underground, such as G. J. Krupey, X. Sharks Despot, Wayne Henderson and Len Bracken.

4. Keith graduated from zines to books, eventually producing many well-known titles highly regarded by readers of conspiracy and parapolitical literature. They include *The Gemstone File* (IllumiNet, 1992); *Black Helicopters: Strikeforce for the New World Order* (IllumiNet, 1994); its sequel, *Black Helicopters II: The Men In Black* (IllumiNet, 1997); *OK Bomb: Conspiracy and Cover-Up* (IllumiNet, 1996); *Mind Control—World Control* (Adventures Unlimited Press, 1997); *Secret and Suppressed* (Feral House, August 1993); *Casebook on Alternative Three* (IllumiNet, 1997); *Saucers of the Illuminati*; *Mass Control: Engineering Human Consciousness* (IllumiNet, 2000); and *Biowarfare In America* (IllumiNet, 2001). Keith also co-authored the first edition of *The Octopus: Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro*, published by Feral House in 1996.

5. *Bad Day At Black Rock* is a famous Spencer Tracy movie released in 1955. Wilhelm Reich called it one of his favorites, in fact, and Keith was great admirer of Reich. Movie reviewers have identified the location of the town of Black Rock in that movie as Arizona, California, and “remotely western.” The movie includes a character named Reno Smith, however, and it seems likely that it took place in the same town as the Burning Man festival.

6. Henderson, Wayne, "Dimly Visible Through a Fog of Evasions," *Steamshovel Press* #17, 2000, p. 53.
7. Vankin, Jonathan, "Jim Keith: Gone But Not Forgotten." *Conspiracy Currents* Number 54, Conspire.Com, October 22, 1999.
8. Pickard, George, *Erskine Overnight* radio program, September 30, 1999.
9. Pickard, George, from a no longer extant memorial web page for Jim Keith.
10. Damon, Anjeanette, "Rumors Abound in Death of Conspiracy Theorist," *Reno Gazette-Journal*, September 28, 1999.
11. Hougan's books include *Spooks: The Haunting of America—The Private Use of Secret Agents* (William Morrow, 1978); *Secret Agenda, Watergate, Deep Throat and the CIA* (Random House, 1984); and *Kingdom Come, A Novel of Conspiracy* (Ballantine, 2000).
12. Ron Bonds on the *Steamshovel Press* memorial website for Jim Keith, 2000.
13. Powell, Kay, "Ronald Bonds, 48, published conspiracies," Georgia newspaper, April 11, 2001.
14. *Ibid.*
15. Comments by Ron Bonds' widow, Nancy Kratzer, to author, August 2001.
16. Shalhoup, Mara, "Widow sues restaurant: Rarely fatal bacteria contributed to diner's death," *Creative Loafing*, Atlanta, Georgia, August 2001.
17. By the end of 2001, mysterious deaths among microbiologists specializing in infectious disease began to accumulate. They included: Dr. Benito Que (11/12/01, attacked by four men, at least one wielding a baseball bat, in Miami); Don C. Wiley (11/16/01, found dead after jumping, falling or being pushed from a bridge in Memphis, Tennessee); Vladimir Pasechnik (11/23/01); Robert M. Schwartz (12/10/02, stabbed); and Set Van Nguyen (12/14/01), suffocated in a laboratory airlock.  
This list moved from the conspiracy rumor circuit to front page news with the Casolaro-like "suicide" of David Kelly on July 18, 2003. Kelly, a microbiologist, had served as the head of the biological inspections team in Iraq before the US invasion. He was outspoken about "sexed up" intelligence reports concerning Iraq's biological weapons used by the US and Britain as a justification for the war. Like Casolaro, Kelly warned of "dark actors playing games" because of what he had researched and discovered before being found dead with a slit wrist not far from his Oxfordshire home.  
Kelly also had a direct connection with a previous name on the microbiologist death list. In 1989 he had helped debrief the Soviet defector Vladimir Pasechnik. (Fountain, Nigel and Smith, Sarah A., "Obituary: David Kelly, Biological weapons expert with a reputation for thoroughness," *Guardian*, July 19, 2003.)
18. Lykins' bacterial infection was traced to cartilage taken from a cadaver and supplied by Cryolife, a tissue bank outside of Atlanta. Marcus, Adam, "Knee Surgery Suspended in Minnesota After 3 Die," Yahoo News, November 20, 2001. Majeski, Tom, "Knee Surgery Probe Turns To Cadavers," Pioneer Press, December 7, 2001.
19. Although the exact issue of *Fate* in which this appears is unknown, it appears with a *Fate* copyright on the web at <http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Shadowlands/6583/cattle003.html>.

## ◀ CHAPTER 23:

# September 11 Epilogue

Ever expanding and morphing into new, more sinister applications, the PROMIS software remains a thing of legend and fact. Legend has it that the ECHELON satellite system, which can photograph automobile license plates from outer space, utilizes some mutation of PROMIS' extrapolation capabilities to fill in the visual contents of those long distance photos.<sup>1</sup> Fact has it that the coming "smart card," a credit-card-sized surveillance tool that can hold over five gigabytes of information on its holder, has been pioneered in the Hong Kong transit system under the name, "the Octopus card."<sup>2</sup>

Fact and legend about PROMIS came together after the world-changing disasters that occurred on September 11, 2001. An Irish nationalist known as "McGuffin" gave an unsourced report that Osama Bin Laden avoided capture by the US military in the months after the World Trade Tower and Pentagon crashes by using PROMIS. He asserted that the FBI turncoat Robert Hanssen passed the version of PROMIS used by British and German intelligence onto Russia, where it proceeded to find itself in the hands of the notorious chief Arab terrorist.<sup>3</sup>

The Justice Department reporter for the *Washington Times* picked up the story and concluded, "The sophisticated software gives Bin Laden access to databases on specific targets of his choosing and the ability to monitor electronic banking transactions, easing money-laundering operations for himself or others."

The Justice department's complaint against Hanssen charged that he made extensive use of FOIMS (Field Office Information Management Systems) and COIN (Community On-Line Intelligence Systems), two of the FBI's known case management software systems. The *Times* quotes sources as saying "FOIMS and COINS are believed to be upgraded versions of the PROMIS software program."<sup>4</sup>

"McGuffin" claimed that Inslaw's Bill Hamilton told him that Osama Bin Laden paid the Russians \$2 million dollars for an upgraded version of the soft-

ware, called “Enhanced PROMIS.” The *Times* quotes Hamilton as having no specific information about Hanssen, but suggested that a technical manual given by Hanssen to the Russians according to the FBI, was “related to the use of PROMIS as the standard software of the US intelligence community.” “McGuffin” argued that “Hanssen, before his arrest, had played an important role in installing [PROMIS] in MI5, MI6 and [Germany’s] BND.”

Michael Riconosciuto himself claimed to have met Bin Laden in the Spring of 1986 while networking with representatives of the anti-Soviet mujahadeen. Danger Man proposed to sell shoulder-held missile launchers—called MANPADS, or Man Portable Air Defense Systems—for use against Soviet helicopters. According to the story, Bin Laden at the time traveled under the name “Tim Osman,” a pseudonym supplied “by the CIA for his tour of the U.S. and U.S. military bases, in search of political support and armaments.” Apparently the meeting ended when Riconosciuto explained that his faction of intelligence world connections did not think Bin Laden represented the true mujahadeen. The story ended with another plea to release Riconosciuto from his current prison residence in Springfield, Missouri: “If the war against Osama Bin Laden (Tim Osman) is not a total fraud, then what is Michael Riconosciuto doing in prison? Why doesn’t he have an office next to Colin Powell so he can give realistic advice on Bin Laden’s thinking?”<sup>6</sup>

Another writer/editor team, Tom Flocco and Michael Ruppert, made the case for the use of PROMIS in the insider trading deals that preceded the September 11 tragedies. They received a non-denial from CIA spokesperson Tom Crispell that “the CIA had been using PROMIS beyond American borders to scrutinize world financial markets for national security purposes,” and one from the FBI claiming that “the FBI has discontinued use of the PROMIS software.” Flocco notes that the latter denial “followed almost seventeen years of denial by the FBI and the Department of Justice—in court and under oath—that they used the software at all.” Nevertheless, Ruppert and Flocco maintain that stock screening and short selling that came in the days before the plane crashes were accomplished with PROMIS, as was the financial tracking of Bin Laden’s assets that happened in the aftermath.<sup>8</sup>

Research tributaries leading to PROMIS keep alive Casolaro’s sense of history and parapolitics, and his foreboding about the developing world of perpetual surveillance and war. Despite the push to transform the tragedies of September 11 into simple-minded, war-hungry patriotism—and whether or not PROMIS is ever proven to be a part of the manipulations—many Americans more readily accept the notion that Osama Bin Laden came to power under Octopus-like funding. Plans to strengthen US military power in Afghanistan, where US “retaliation” for 9/11 was felt first, began as early as 1990, when oil was struck in the

eastern portion of the Caspian Sea, in Kazakhstan. The democracy-warping results of the American presidential election in 2000 returned to power the same crew of secret government cronies that Casolaro had tracked through Iran-contra and on back to drug traffic in the Golden Triangle of Southeast Asia. The “anti-terror” war seems more about building a pipeline to the Caspian, exploiting the opium crop in Afghanistan and expanding the weapons trade than about protecting America from terrorists.<sup>9</sup>

1. Internet posting, 12/15/01.

2. Mailloux, Jacqueline, “Octopus Cards Back In Business,” June 17, 1998. About four million Octopus cards had been issued for Hong Kong’s Mass Transit Railway Corporation by the transport consortium Creative Star. The supplied was exhausted and the consortium at the time planned to order three million more. It planned another increase of seven million increase for the following year. This is a relatively small growth pattern due to the fact that “the Octopus card uses proprietary technology.”

Chow, Tinnie, CNN EbizAsia Correspondent, “Smart Cards Offer Shorter Queues and More Risks,” February 16, 2001. Chow quotes Mac McGolpin, the CEO of AsiaWebCo, as saying that the new card uses biometrics to encode “some part of your physical presence or being on the card,” and notes “new ways of using Octopus cards are being initiated....”

3. “McGuffin” Dispatch 265, received from *Lobster* publisher Robin Ramsay September 21, 2001.

4. Seper, Jerry, “Software likely in the hands of terrorist; FBI’s Hanssen seen as provider,” *The Washington Times*, June 14, 2001, p. A1.

5. John Judge expressed a cautionary note about all of this: “Well, it seems bin Laden has lots of talents and lots of time on his hands. What the hell would it take to monitor all that information from all those agencies? On the other hand, if bin Laden is their creature, perhaps one agency lets him know what another is doing against him. Sounds more like an elaborate cover to explain why we have not caught him or will not. Hanssen is a double agent case I think planted to feed disinformation into the Soviet hands. His links to Opus Dei and COINTELPRO make me think he was really a very clever plant. So, I’d be cautious with these conclusions. Perhaps he did install something that would allow US intelligence to track Bin Laden, etc. That would make sense.” Correspondence with author, September 21, 2001.

The issue returned again with the June 2003 resignation of Paul Redmond, the Assistant Secretary for Information Analysis for the Homeland Security department. Described by some as a “legendary spy catcher”—he had a role in the capture of Aldrich Ames—Redmond resigned for “health reasons.” Most took that as polite cover for Redmond’s frustration with underfunding of the department, but others connected it to a rumored secret investigation Redmond was conducting into Hanssen’s role in delivering PROMIS to Osama. According to this rumor, Redmond had discovered shockingly long-standing common interests between the Bush and bin Laden families and was forced to resign. PROMIS, in fact, also had been given to Saddam Hussein by the senior Bush in the early 1990s. (Casolaro reported that Iraq was one of the countries that purchased the software illegally.) Although the story provided an opportunity for Inslaw’s story to be discussed anew in various opinion and editorial pieces, it seemed to trace to a single source. Thomas, Gordon, “Riddle As US Spy Chief Quits,” *Sunday Express* (UK), July 6, 2003.

6. Grabbe, J. Orlin, "When Osama Bin Laden Was Tim Osman," *Laissez Faire City Times*, Vol. 5, No. 46, November 12, 2001. Grabbe's web site is at [orlingrabbe.com](http://orlingrabbe.com). He gives Michael Riconosciuto's current address as 21309-086 Box 4000, US Medical Center, Springfield, MO 65801-4000. Another web site with information on Riconosciuto's possible connections to current world events appears on the web at [mindgallery.com/hiddenroom/wizard/index.html](http://mindgallery.com/hiddenroom/wizard/index.html).

7. A short selling spree also preceded the Kennedy assassination, as documented in the book *Mind Control, Oswald and JFK* (Adventures Unlimited Press, edited by Kenn Thomas).

8. Flocco and Ruppert's three part story linking this information to a banking entity called Deutschebank/A.B. Brown as well as CIA executive A. B. "Buzzy" Krongard, can be found at Ruppert's "From The Wilderness" web site, [www.copvcia.com](http://www.copvcia.com).

9. Even as the war moved into the Philippines, echoes were heard of Casolaro's cross-connections between the domestic and the foreign in the global strategy of tension. Adam Parfrey gave the most detailed and succinct report:

The ACLU worked tirelessly on behalf of Abraham Ahmed, who the legal organization claimed was a victim of racist profiling. On the same day as bombing, Ahmed attempted to fly from Oklahoma City to Amman, Jordan, but was stopped at Heathrow Airport after American Airlines flight security notified the FBI of the Middle Easterner's suspicious behavior. Ahmed was cuffed and returned to the US after his luggage was found to contain such things as two car radios (the sort used to bomb Pan Am 103), silicon, solder, shielded and unshielded wire, a timing device, a photo album with pictures of weapons and missile, and a blue jogging suit similar to that seen worn by an Arab suspect in front of the Murrah building on the morning of the blast. Perhaps prompted by ACLU's media tirade, the FBI promptly released suspect Abraham Ahmed, and President Clinton apologized to the Arab-American community.

Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols had continual contacts with known terrorist entities up to the day of the Murrah Building blast. Nichols was married to a Filipina woman, and took trips to Cebu City, Philippines (*without* his wife) in late '92 and early '93 to meet with such friendly folk from the Abu Sayyaf terrorist org as Ramzi Yousef, Abdul Hakim Murad, Wali Khan Amin Shah and several others to discuss the bombing of the OKC building.

Murad was arrested in 1995 for the initial World Trade Center bombing, and after viewing the Oklahoma City Bombing on a New York jail television set, he remarked to a guard that the "Liberation Army of the Philippines"—a group connected to Abu Sayyef, was responsible for the blast. Later, Abu Sayyaf leader Edwin Angeles corrected Murad for the record: "It was the Palestine Liberation Army and the Islamic Jihad which Murad was referring to. This army is associated with Hamas and is based in Lebanon."

After the Oklahoma City Bombing, Saudi intelligence told the FBI that Iraq had hired Pakistanis to do the Murrah Building job. Edwin Angeles is a Pakistani."

Parfrey, Adam, "The Oklahoma City Bombing Jihad," *Konformist newswire*, October 10, 2001 ([www.konformist.com/911/ok-jihad.htm](http://www.konformist.com/911/ok-jihad.htm)).



Bill and Nancy Hamilton.



◀ APPENDIX 1:

## An Interview with William and Nancy Hamilton

The following interview with Bill and Nancy Hamilton was conducted by Kenn Thomas at the Inslaw office in Washington, DC on June 8, 1995.

**Q:** How did you first get in contact with Danny?

**Bill Hamilton:** You should contact Terry Miller, president of Government Sales Consultants, which provides advice to companies that sell computer-related products to the United States government.

**Q:** He worked with Danny Casolaro at Computer Age Publications.

**Bill:** That's right. He was an old friend of Danny's. In August of 1990, he talked to Danny and suggested that he look into investigating this thing. Again, that's the month that Danny contacted us. He contacted us when we were on vacation at the beach in Delaware. He wanted to come down and see us at the beach, which was not convenient for us, so it didn't happen. But that began our conversations with him. That lasted for a year until he died in August 1991.

**Q:** Do you know anything at all about his relationship with *Computer Age* at the time?

**Bill:** He owned it.

**Q:** Was he in the process of selling it?

**Bill:** He had already sold it. I don't know how many months before this.

**Q:** Did he talk about it at all?

**Bill:** He talked about it.

**Q:** Was he disappointed in the terms of the sales?

**Bill:** I don't know. That's his private business. I worked with him mostly on the investigation of the Justice Department. He was not a person who exhibited much interest in financial matters. I don't ever recall much of a conversation about terms of the sale of his newsletter.

**Q:** It goes to the question of whether or not he was suicidal. Some people have suggested the poor terms might have contributed to that.

**Bill:** That's ludicrous. That's the most ludicrous thing I have ever heard.

**Nancy Hamilton:** In the year of talking to this man, there was never any evidence that he was depressed about anything, much less that. He never mentioned that he was disappointed in that to my knowledge. He was excited about his investigation.

**Bill:** It was much too serious a matter. He spent a year full-time looking into malfeasance by the government and the government has been unwilling to allow an independent investigation of his death. The malfeasance was in the Justice Department and the Justice department insists that only it will be the judge of whatever happened down there and the local Martinsburg authorities who are not the kind of places you'd think about going if you were looking for sophisticated investigative capabilities.

**Nancy:** If anything bothered him, it was what he was finding out about the way his government worked. He was a person who found it difficult to believe that the government was capable of such skullduggery. He didn't want to believe it, just as we don't want to believe it. But when presented with fact, you have to accept it. And that is depressing.

**Q:** When you first met, at what stage was the case?

**Bill:** We had already had three weeks of trial in 1987, and this was 1990. We had already the three hundred ninety-nine findings of fact that had already been upheld by a separate opinion in the United States district court.

**Nancy:** It was already under investigation by the House Judiciary committee. It had already been investigated in part by the permanent subcommittee on investigations, which found stonewalling, blocking and intimidation at the Justice department.

**Bill:** There had been an extensive public record at that time.

**Q:** So you were kind of like the story behind the story he was pursuing.

**Nancy:** No, we were the story. Terry Miller told him that he should get on this story, that is was a very interesting story. He then called us to find out more about the story. He was into the Inslaw story. His investigation into Inslaw took him into other areas and at one point he expressed frustration that he was getting all this information on these other things connecting, he thought, to Inslaw and was frustrated at getting the hard stuff he needed on Inslaw. Just a week before he died he expressed to different people that he finally got the final evidence on Inslaw, pieces that directly affect Inslaw.

**Q:** Was he sharing his research on the other topics with you as he went along?

**Bill:** He was willing to. We didn't really have time to entertain it. We're trying to operate a business here and so we had limited interest in BCCI and the rest of it. Our meetings primarily consisted of telephone conversations with him every day.

**Nancy:** And asking questions as he went about his investigation, because as he picked up information it would raise questions that he needed to ask us. We would answer his questions and he would proceed with his investigation. If something puzzled him about what he was told, how could this be, you know. That was the main thing.

**Q:** At any point did he say he had a contract to get published?

**Bill:** No. He was working on one and he was optimistic. He expressed optimism about getting one. In fact, he was planning a party in the final few weeks of his life. He was planning the guest list of a party to celebrate the book contract.

**Q:** As time went along, you put him in contact with Michael Riconosciuto.

**Bill:** Yes. But you have to understand how that works. We gave him lots of contacts. He'd take those contacts and get other contacts of his own.

**Q:** How did you know Riconosciuto?

**Bill:** Riconosciuto called us a few months before Danny came on this case, in May in 1990, and spoke to us for two and a half hours, talking to us about the Wackenhut/Cabazon joint venture, Earl Brian, Peter Videnieks and people like that.

**Q:** How soon was it after that talk with Riconosciuto that you had him talk to Casolaro?

**Bill:** August/September, 1990. We had one conversation with Michael Riconosciuto in May, 1990, and we didn't hear from him again until almost the end of that calendar year.

**Q:** Did you find Riconosciuto believable at that time?

**Bill:** A lot of what Riconosciuto said we found hard to believe but we attempted to find out whether or not it was true. I would say that 75% of it turned out we found corroborating evidence about it. So, most of what he told us about during that first telephone conversation seems to have been true. And we talked to people he worked with at the Wackenhut/Cabazon joint venture who expressed hostility toward him, disliked and disparaged him but who corroborated most of what he said in his affidavit to us. What they did not corroborate was the part of the affidavit that is most important to Inslaw's case. And that is that the joint venture, in addition to producing fuel-air explosives and biological and chemical warfare weapons, night vision goggles and machine guns, was modifying the PROMIS software for Earl Brian. They didn't deny it. They said they didn't know about it. Over time they have admitted, these former colleagues who don't like Riconosciuto, that there was an NSA project on the Wackenhut/Cabazon joint venture and that it's extremely highly classified, more highly classified than any other projects. And no one has ever explained what that project was.

**Q:** So these people were hostile to Riconosciuto but they were actually saying the same thing.

**Bill:** They're not admitting PROMIS, but they are admitting that a colonel from NSA flew out to the Cabazon reservation one day and chewed out some FBI agents who were investigating the homicides of the vice-chairman of the tribe and a couple of other guys, Alvarez and a few other guys, and told them to keep their noses out of the NSA project and that Riconosciuto was involved in the NSA project. So it seems likely to me that what they're doing is express-

ing some healthy fear about violating espionage laws by affirming some of the stuff that Riconosciuto was saying about the NSA project. I think the NSA project is very likely the PROMIS project.

**Q:** Over time, Casolaro became more and more skeptical of Riconosciuto because, in addition to everything that could be verified about what he said, he said some pretty wild stuff after a while.

**Bill:** I wouldn't characterize it that way. He was disappointed when he went out to see him in jail after he was arrested. He was not able to get a copy of what Riconosciuto claimed to have, which was a tape recording of Peter Videnieks threatening him. Whether that existed or not, I have no way of knowing. But a lot of the things that Riconosciuto talks about that are extreme sounding are things involving the United States intelligence agencies. And most of that stuff is probably true. US intelligence agencies use people like Riconosciuto.

**Nancy:** That is very clear from what we have learned over all these years. They hire people like Riconosciuto. And they are the first to say that if you bring Riconosciuto in, look at him, you can't trust anything he says. But in the Noriega trial, the government brought in just such witnesses. But we think what happens, from what we've learned, the government hires these people, they do things for the government that normally American citizens wouldn't do, and then they do some things for themselves that normal American citizens don't do and the government can't say anything about it because they're their boys.

**Q:** Let me bring up Robert Booth Nichols' name. Would he fall into that category?

**Nancy:** Of having worked for the government? Yeah.

**Bill:** Oh, yeah.

**Q:** Now you introduced Nichols to Casolaro as well, right?

**Bill:** Yes.

**Q:** Could you go over exactly how that happened?

**Bill:** We contacted some reporters to see if they ever heard of Riconosciuto. West Coast reporters. And Nichols had been interviewed by people who contacted him on the savings-and-loan matter. He talked to us a little bit about the savings-

and-loan matter first time. That's why we contacted Mary Fricker and Steve Pizzo, who did this book called *Inside Job*.

**Nancy:** ... *The Looting of America's Savings and Loans*.

**Bill:** We got a phone call from Michael Riconosciuto and a small part of what he told us had to do savings-and-loan. It sounded like he knew a lot about the bilking of the savings-and-loans, too. Did they ever encounter him? They had interviewed him and they also had interviewed at least one or two other people that had worked on that Wackenhut/Cabazon joint venture. They introduced us to Peter Zokosky, and we interviewed him and he introduced us to Bob Nichols. We talked to Nichols. Nichols and Zokosky both have a low opinion of Riconosciuto but both verified everything he said in his affidavit except the PROMIS stuff.

We talked a number of times with Nichols and met with him on a couple of occasions, once here in Washington, once in California when we were out there for some other reason. And he met with Danny here and Danny talked to him quite a bit. He's more presentable than Riconosciuto in the sense of looking more middle-class, and bright, as is Riconosciuto. What he really is, I'm not sure. He obviously has had extensive dealings with intelligence agencies, both in our country and probably in other countries.

**Q:** So what was his relationship with Casolaro like?

**Bill:** He talked a lot to Casolaro.

**Q:** Did it grow along the same lines as the one with Riconosciuto? Did he accept everything he said?

**Nancy:** He did not accept...

**Bill:** That predicate is wrong. Casolaro did not accept everything that...

**Nancy:** ... anyone...

**Bill:** ... Riconosciuto said, that I said, or that Nichols said. What Casolaro believed about Nichols and Riconosciuto at the end, I don't know. I talked to Danny everyday, sometimes several times a day. I was intensely involved with him, but I couldn't tell you about at the end of his life what he thought about those two guys. At various times he thought Nichols had been part of his Octopus and had broken away from it. But I'm not at all sure that he still thought he

had broken away from it at the end. I'm just not clear. He had a lot of misgivings about both of them, he found them both useful. They told him things that you won't get from the Justice Department, about the Justice Department. he never took anything at face value.

**Q:** Is it too far afield not to talk a little about PROMIS and when it first developed.

**Bill:** That's already documented. We can give you some documents on the history.

**Q:** Let me ask about the current status of the case. Is there an appeal left?

**Nancy:** No. We're back in court

**Q:** Back in court?

**Nancy:** The US Congress, the Senate, passed a unanimous Congressional reference sending the Inslaw case over to the government courts.

**Q:** Are you familiar with the fact that Webster Hubbell reopened the investigation?

**Bill:** He was appointed by Janet Reno to look into the responses to the Bua report, which was commissioned by her predecessor but released by Reno. So we dealt with Hubbell.

**Q:** Didn't Bua essentially close the investigation?

**Bill:** Bua was appointed by William Barr. In December of 1992, Barr recused himself of Inslaw because he was going back to his old law firm, which in the meantime had been representing Earl W. Brian in the Inslaw case. Even that was a little too much for a person like Barr, I guess. It didn't look too nice. So Bua supposedly didn't submit the report to Barr and then there was an interregnum between Barr's departure and the beginning of the Democrat confirmed as Attorney General. During that interregnum there was a Republican holdover of the Attorney General.

**Q:** Stuart Gerson.

**Bill:** Why Bua didn't submit it to Gerson is hard to explain. He supposedly submitted—I don't necessarily believe any of this stuff—submitted it to Reno when Reno was confirmed. Gerson was the Attorney General under Clinton for the

first few months because Clinton couldn't find an Attorney General that could be confirmed. Gerson was the acting Attorney General but Hubbell was really running the department.

**Q:** What happened to Hubbell's investigation?

**Bill:** He didn't do an investigation. Hubbell did a whitewash.

**Q:** He just dropped it?

**Bill:** No, he pretended to do an investigation, focusing on the Danny Casolaro aspects.

We did a very detailed rebuttal of the Bua report a month after Reno released it and submitted it for rebuttal a month after Reno and Hubbell went to the House and Senate Judiciary committees. Then we met with Hubbell a few months later, in the fall of 1993, October of '93. That was the first and only time.

The rebuttal is striking in its disrobing of the Bua report. The Bua report is flimsy, on its own terms unconvincing, it contradicts the fully litigated findings of fact of two sitting federal judges and it contradicts the investigative findings of a major committee of congress. Just flatly contradicts all of that. So if you accept the Bua report, you have to accept simultaneously that the legal system is a joke. That not only can you have one set of litigated findings that are meaningless, but that you can have two sets of litigating findings that are meaningless, and a congressional investigation. While that's possible in theory, it's unlikely in practice. It's also alarming, and if the press had any brains they should have said, "Wait just a minute!" Because if that's true, we've got real problems.

**Nancy:** The judges, of course, had sworn testimony from both sides, in a court of law, whereas Bua talked only a few minutes to me and Bill. That was the end of discussion. And no key Justice people were put under oath.

**Q:** Was there not an offer made before the Bua report was issued to make a settlement?

**Bill:** Bua will lie about it. You ought to ask him. Bua has denied that he made an offer, and he's a distinguished former judge who probably wouldn't lie. But Bua called Elliot Richardson and said to him, "Have you given any thought to a global settlement figure?" He did this in November or December of 1992 when Barr was still Attorney General. And Elliot Richardson explained to him that it's hard to come up with a global settlement when your own Justice Department



won't candidly discuss the scope of what they have done. What is the scope of the damages? What is the relative magnitude of the damages? How many copies have you made of this software and what else have you done with it?

**Q:** What was the dollar figure at that point?

**Bill:** He thought that Attorney General Barr would approve a settlement of \$25 million quickly if he would make such a proposal. He also told three different reporters that he was considering recommending this in his report. The reporters were being used as trial balloons for us. In the same time frame, the fall of 1992, he was considering recommending that the Department of Justice pay Inslaw twenty five to fifty million dollars. And when he mentioned \$25 million to Elliot Richardson, one of the reporters, an investigative producer at CNN, said he means fifty.

**Q:** So the whole impetus had to come from you. These were just suggestions that Bua was dropping.

**Bill:** Elliot said that he was a little surprised that the criminal investigator is the civil negotiator.

**Nancy:** We had given the evidence of broad malfeasance in the department and to have the response be, "How much do you want?" we felt was inappropriate for someone who was supposedly an investigator.

**Bill:** It's a farce.

**Q:** Now Bua denies it all.

**Bill:** He denied it to the press and then Elliot offered to make available these detailed contemporaneous notes of the various conversations and then he shut up. He didn't talk about it anymore.

**Q:** All that happened before the report was issued.

**Bill:** That's right.

**Q:** So the report comes out and that supposedly settles it or was there an appeal after that?

**Bill:** But it can't settle it. It's the Justice Department exonerating itself.

**Q:** What I'm trying to determine is where Hubbell tried to focus the investigation, the appeal.

**Nancy:** Appeal is the wrong word. This isn't a court. Bua is not a judge. He's a former judge hired by Barr using Justice department lawyers.

**Bill:** Paid by Barr and reporting to Barr. That's not a judge.

**Nancy:** But it gives the coloration of a judicial finding.

**Bill:** But he is a lawyer for Attorney General Barr. He cannot put something down on paper, he can't do anything without his client Bill Barr. So what happens is that that report is released by Reno in March and she appoints another person with the honorific title of judge. Judge Hubbell will now review any problems that people have with the Bua report. So we submitted our rebuttal and we met with them in October. And we acknowledged that there were two areas of problems with the Bua report. Not problems, but two pieces of unfinished business...

**Nancy:** Two that required further investigation, because our rebuttal made it pretty clear that this report was ludicrous on its face.

**Bill:** And the two that he had acknowledged Bua hadn't done a good enough job on were Danny Casolaro and whether the FBI was using our software. So that's what he initially acknowledged that he would look into.

**Q:** Did he make a public statement of some sort?

**Bill:** Well, he told us.

**Nancy:** We really don't want to go into what Hubbell said to us. We don't think that we should.

**Q:** The only reason I ask is that when they originally announced that they were going to reopen the original investigation, very few newspapers reported on it all.

**Nancy:** Actually, reopening the investigation they didn't. They said Bua had done a good job. And so the only two areas that they would look further at were the ones we mentioned. On those they ended up siding with the Bua report also.

**Q:** That Danny Casolaro committed suicide and that there was no malfeasance on the part of the FBI.

**Nancy:** That the FBI software was not our software.

**Bill:** You have to understand that this is like ... the former Justice department lawyer who is in the front page of the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* today, Michael Abell, who has just been indicted for obstruction of justice with regard to the Bolivian Cali cartel. It is no different than for that person to say "I was in the Justice Department for seventeen years and I am issuing a report that finds me innocent." Thank you, Mr. Abell. the Justice Department is the defendant. The institution is the defendant. It is the same institution that is sitting in judgement on itself and contradicting the results of every single independent review of its conduct. In other words, the bankruptcy court, the US District court, the House Judiciary committee, the Senate permanent investigations subcommittee, all of those independent tribunals are wrong and we're right about ourselves. We're blameless. So when you look at it that way...

**Q:** But when you're talking about Hubbell's investigation...

**Bill:** Hubbell is the Justice Department.

**Q:** But it's a whole different set of personnel than these other investigations.

**Nancy:** Not really. Same career people.

**Q:** One of the most alarming things about the whole business is Hubbell's connection to Park-On-Meter and how Riconosciuto makes claims to be connected to Park-on-Meter. It's all such an inbred thing. The people that were involved in all this in the first place do seem to be Republicans—Earl Brian, Ed Meese and Reagan—and here, a new administration, Democrats, different people and they're all connected to it too.

**Bill:** Well, if you follow Mena, which I'm sure you have, they seem to have been a kind of partner to Reagan/Bush administration on some of these covert things.

**Q:** Did you see a lot of evidence for that connected to your problems? Did you know about Park-On-Meter?

**Nancy:** We read about it. But you look at the Hubbell-Reno investigation, or handling of Inslaw, I should say, because it was no real investigation, when the Congress said let's get it to an independent tribunal. Last fall, Charlie Rose introduced, last summer, actually, that they would send the case to another independent tribunal and while it was in committee, Reno rushed a letter to committee members to vote against it and summarizing their report which they hadn't even copied and made available. So intense was their effort to keep us out of court again. You have to ask, why are they so intent, if there is nothing to it? What do they to lose by having people looking at this case again?

**Bill:** There were two people we knew in the lobbying effort in the House of Representatives last fall to try to keep us from getting back to court, Edwin Meese and Janet Reno, personally.

**Nancy:** And so when it was re-introduced this spring by Senator Hatch it passed by the unanimous consent of the Senate.

**Q:** Is it their point that the software that is being used now by Interpol, the Mossad, the FBI and so on, is not PROMIS?

**Bill:** They do not acknowledge any of this.

**Q:** I know one of the failures of the Bua report is that it didn't do a code comparison. I take it that Hubbell investigation didn't do one either.

**Bill:** No.

**Nancy:** We haven't been anywhere near the FBI's software.

**Bill:** The US Attorney's stuff, that's what the court case was about. That's all we knew about at the time. The US Attorney's office have never paid us for the software. So we used the subpoena power and got the software and compared it with our privately financed enhancements, the records of the department, who paid for it and all that, and we proved at the time of the trial we did not know that the software had been disseminated outside the US Attorney's office. We didn't find that out until subsequent years. First of all, Bua hired a professor at Georgetown University, the computer science department, the head of the department. She's the one who declined to compare the code and made a fatuous statement that PROMIS tracks judicial proceedings and the FBI system tracks investigations, so they couldn't possible be the same software. Just a fatuous comment.

Our software tracks investigations at the state and local level, all over the United States. That's a stupid thing to say.

Then Hubbell hired a new professor from MIT, and they offered to have us attend his examination of the code. But they made it clear to us that we would not be permitted to look at the code he would look at, the FBI code. We told them that we were not interested in pretending to support another phony examination. If there was going to be any credibility, the people who developed the PROMIS code have to be able to see that code. What are you afraid of in letting us look at it? We don't mind that you have your own experts there, but we want to see it. We don't, frankly, trust the government and we wouldn't believe anything the Justice Department said under any administration.

**Q:** Did they respond to that at all?

**Bill:** They said no, you can't look at it. So then they had their MIT professor say it's not the same code and who knows what he looked at?

**Q:** Are you familiar with this company in Little Rock, Arkansas called Systematics, Inc.?

**Bill:** Yes.

**Q:** The story there is that somehow PROMIS has been applied to the banking industry. Do you know anything about it?

**Bill:** We are fairly confident that it was installed in the World Bank in 1983 and the International Monetary Fund. Danny Casolaro introduced us to two former computer employees at the World Bank who told us all of this. There have been published articles in the international banking regulator newsletter that independently verified that. So if you put it in the World Bank and the International Monetary fund, it's not likely that you've just put it there. Any effort to take software as flexible as it is, you have to really think through how you're going to use it in a different application area and think about how you're going to use it in banking and then just put it in one bank, that doesn't make sense. So the hardest evidence we have has to do with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, but logic supports the idea that it is much more widely used.

**Q:** You hear a lot of different things about the way PROMIS has been applied. There has even been a report that one of its earliest uses was to extrapolate Soviet sub launches out of the Arctic ice.

Bill: I haven't heard that one.

Q: You haven't?

Bill: There was supposedly an application by the military, that it was out on loan from the Justice Department.

Nancy: The software wouldn't launch things.

Q: No, the story is that it had the ability to track...

Nancy: It does have that ability. It can track anything.

Q: They apparently had a very difficult time prior to using it, using whatever it was they used, tracking submarines through the Arctic ice. The Soviets would just go in there and they would lose track of them.

Bill: We are fairly confident that they use PROMIS on the nuclear submarines to track other submarines. They call it PROMIS.

Nancy: It doesn't do the tracking. You give it the information to make it keep track of your information. It has no capacity to do the tracking itself.

Bill: It's just keeping track of the tracking transactions, where you last saw it, when, the last sighting.

Q: It doesn't extrapolate from there? That's the rumor, why PROMIS is so attractive to people, is that it has great predictive capabilities.

Bill: Not really.

Nancy: It depends on how you use the information you have. It organizes it for you and it's valuable that way, but it's up to the human being using it to go from there.

Q: Now you have two brothers in St. Louis, right? And one of them was the secretary to the police board in the early 1970s?

Bill: I don't know what years anymore. He was secretary of the police board once.

**Q:** He was there at a time when they implemented something called REGIS. Is that connected to PROMIS?

**Bill:** No. He created REGIS.

**Q:** A different kind of software altogether?

**Nancy:** REGIS isn't software. It's an organization.

**Bill:** Regional Justice Information System.

**Q:** So you say you have never seen what the FBI uses. Have you seen a demonstration of the software of any of the groups that supposedly have PROMIS, like the Mossad or the Mounties, or whatever?

**Bill:** Oh no, no, they won't let us.

**Nancy:** We'd love to see a demonstration. Although the demonstration isn't...

**Bill:** You have to look at the source code.

**Nancy:** That's what was wrong with the professor at Georgetown, saying, "I just looked at the screen and I don't need to see any more." That's ludicrous.

**Q:** So do you still own PROMIS? Or does the Justice Department?

**Bill:** Why would the Justice Department own it? Because they stole it? You think that's how it works? If I steal your glasses, they're mine?

**Q:** Of course, you're right.

**Nancy:** If you make a copy of the Lotus software, you don't own the software. You just have a copy.

**Q:** So you still make PROMIS available to your clients?

**Bill:** We sell it.

**Nancy:** We don't give it away. And the software is always changing. That's what we're about here, is developing new software, adding to it, creating new enhancements to it, keeping up with the times.

**Q:** Does it have a version, like PROMIS 1.7?

**Nancy:** You can call it that, but it doesn't matter.

**Q:** Who are your clients? If the Justice Department supplying everyone with it...

**Bill:** We don't sell it to intelligence agencies. And we don't sell to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. We sell to state and local courts, prosecutors. We sell to big corporations. But we don't sell to US and foreign intelligence agencies.

**Nancy:** You may be thinking of a smaller program. It's five hundred thousand lines of code approximately. So it's not something you easily copy and disseminate. It's a complicated, sophisticated system.

**Q:** Are you familiar at all with Casolaro's investigation of Hughes Aircraft? That's one of the theories, that in investigating Inslaw and the Octopus, he just kind of brushed up against manufacturing fraud involving Hughes Aircraft and that led to his death.

**Nancy:** What he brushed up against was someone who was interested in Hughes Aircraft, who used to work for it, Bill Turner. As you may know, when a reporter works on a story, or even for Inslaw having a story, everybody and his brother who has some kind of problem think maybe they can handle my problem. So Bill Turner went to Danny hoping to get Danny interested in Bill Turner's problem at Hughes Aircraft. And that's how he got into that.

**Q:** You have no reason to believe there was more to it than that?

**Nancy:** What do you mean by more than that? That's how he came into Hughes Aircraft. He met with Turner the night before he died and Turner had given him, according to Turner, a stack of documents.

**Bill:** I don't think there is anything particular to Hughes Aircraft. That may all be true or not true, I don't know. But in setting out to investigate the Justice Department's theft of PROMIS, this is the point Nancy made, he ended up picking up stones and finding stuff about BCCI, about the October Surprise, sales of high technology to Iraq, to Saddam Hussein, before the war, and about Iran-contra, and I think that reason he did is that some of the same people are involved with all of these things, making money. They don't say, "Let's do something bad. Let's make some money." That's what Danny told me this whole thing was about, people set out to make money by selling drugs, weapons, stolen software.



**Nancy:** I think that when he died, a lot of the headlines and news shows said, “Reporter Investigating BCCI” because BCCI had just broken on to the scene. That meant something to someone. But what we’ve told you is actually what happened.

**Q:** So you are convinced that he was murdered.

**Bill:** We think that there has never been an honest investigation of what happened to him and that there are all of the indications that we are aware of strongly suggesting that he was murdered. But we’re not saying that OK, there—accept that he was murdered. We’re saying, get out of the way and let an independent investigation, by an independent counsel...

**Nancy:** Who doesn’t have any interest...

**Bill:** ... who doesn’t have anything to hide, do an investigation. Let it take place.

**Nancy:** There’s too many questions about his death for any reasonable person to say, yes, this was suicide. And there’s a lot of misinformation out there that worry about his finances. We didn’t see it. He was not a guy who gave a damn about his finances. We know other things, that his family had money, offered him money.

**Bill:** Friends offered him money. He didn’t kill himself for that.

**Q:** So do you believe it was because of his investigation of the Inslaw case, or do you think that with all these things, it could have been anything, therefore, let’s find out.

**Nancy:** We can’t know. If we knew, we wouldn’t be wondering any longer. But he certainly was into a lot of things during his investigation. BCCI is a major, major scandal.

**Bill:** And it looks increasingly convincing to us that the PROMIS software was installed throughout the BCCI empire to keep track of wire transfers of money and letters of credit so that NSA could monitor. I believe that the PROMIS software was used in all kinds of things. There are two things knitting all this together. One is that the same people are making money in all these different kinds of businesses. And the other thing that is in many instances PROMIS was the useful way of keeping track of everything that was happening.

## APPENDIX 2:

# Casolaro's Newsclippings File

The clipping references below are from a database of Danny Casolaro's known clippings as compiled by an intern working at Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE).

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY: RESEARCH AND PROCUREMENT  
FILE: BULL, GERALD  
NO.: PR/AI/BG-02  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: FAME MAGAZINE ARTICLE ABOUT MURDERED BALLISTICS GENIUS GERALD BULL WHO ATTEMPTED TO BUILD A SUPER GUN FOR IRAQ.  
KEYWORDS: GOLDNER, PROJECT BABYLON, PROJECT HARP, SADDAM HUSSEIN, CHARLES MURPHY

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: BULL, GERALD  
NO.: PR/AI/BG-01  
YEAR: 81  
SUMMARY: MONTREAL GAZETTE PROFILE OF WEAPONS SCIENTIST BULL AFTER HIS RELEASE FROM JAIL FOR SHIPPING WEAPONS TO SOUTH AFRICA  
KEYWORDS: SPACE RESEARCH CORP, JOSHUA NKOMO, LES POUDIERES REUNIES BELGIQUE, HARP

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: BULL, GERALD  
NO.: PR/AI/BG-03  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE ARTICLE ON HOW MURDERED BALLISTICS GENIUS SUPPLIED SADDAM HUSSEIN  
KEYWORDS: MCGILL UNIVERSITY, HARP, GH N-45, PROJECT BABYLON, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: BULL, GERALD  
NO.: PR/AI/BG-04  
YEAR: 91  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL ON AMERICAN NON-INTERVENTION ON BALLISTIC GENIUS' DESIGN AND SALE OF SUPERGUN TO IRAQ  
KEYWORDS: MALONE, SPACE RESEARCH CORP, GHN-45, ERFB, VOEST ALPINE STEEL

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: BULL, GERALD  
NO.: PR/AI/BG-05  
YEAR: 92  
SUMMARY: NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE PROFILE OF MURDERED BALLISTICS GENIUS  
KEYWORDS: PROJECT BABYLON, MOSSAD, HARP, POUDRERIES REUNIES DE BELGIQUE

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: BULL, GERALD  
 NO.: PRAI\BG-06  
 YEAR: 93  
 SUMMARY: MACLEANS MAGAZINE PROFILE ABOUT "ROCKET SCIENTIST" GERALD BULL  
 KEYWORDS: CANADIAN ARMAMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHMENT

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: BULL, GERALD  
 NO.: PRAI\BG-07  
 YEAR: ?  
 SUMMARY: UNIDENTIFIED NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON HOW SUPERGUN DESIGNER WAS FUNDED BY THE ATLANTA GEORGIA BRANCH OF BANCA NAZIONALE DEL LAVORO  
 KEYWORDS: FRIEDMAN, BNL, SPACE RESEARCH CORP, HENRY GONZALEZ, TDG, TEG

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-01  
 YEAR: 88  
 SUMMARY: L.A. TIMES ARTICLE ON ORIGIN OF BOMBER AND WEAPON USED IN KILLING OF MARINE BATTALION IN 1983  
 KEYWORDS: CIA, FBI, HAFEZ ASSAD, SMILING DEATH, HEZBOLLAH, ISLAMIC JIHAD, ALVIN P. ADAMS

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-02  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: JACK ANDERSON COLUMN ON CHILEAN ARMS MERCHANT CARLOS CARDOEN'S DEALINGS WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN  
 KEYWORDS: IRAQ, CHILE, CLUSTER BOMBS, CARDOEN INDUSTRIES, GLOBAL HELICOPTER TECHNOLOGY INC.

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-03  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: JACK ANDERSON COLUMN ON CARDOEN INDUSTRIES AND MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A BRITISH JOURNALIST.  
 KEYWORDS: JONATHAN MOYLE, ANTHONY MOYLE, JORGE OCHOA, IRAQ

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-04  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: VILLAGE VOICE ARTICLE—"GULFGATE: HOW THE US SECRETLY ARMED IRAQ  
 KEYWORDS: MURRAY WAAS, SARKIS SOGHANALIAN, WILLIAM EAGLETON, HAWK, CIA

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-05  
 YEAR: 91  
 SUMMARY: WALL STREET JOURNAL—US CUSTOMS EXAMINE MIAMI DEVELOPMENT COMPANY FOR ILLEGAL ARMS SALES TO IRAQ.  
 KEYWORDS: CARLOS CARDOEN, INDUSTRIAS CARDOEN S.A., SWISSCO DEVELOPMENT CO.

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-06  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER—IRAQ BRAGS OF NEW MISSILE AND ARMS INDUSTRY EVALUATES HUSSEIN'S CLAIM.  
 KEYWORDS: DON KERR, TAMMUZ MISSILE, FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, FUEL-AIR EXPLOSIVE, ARGENTINA, EGYPT

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
 NO.: PRAI\IP-07  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: MIAMI HERALD—PENTAGON DISPUTES REPORT OF NEW IRAQI MISSILES  
 KEYWORDS: FUEL AIR EXPLOSIVE

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
NO.: PRAIMP-08  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: ATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL REPORTS—CHILE'S CARDOEN CLAIMS TO NO LONGER EXPORT WEAPONS TO IRAQ  
KEYWORDS: ADVANCED FUSE TECHNOLOGY, JONATHAN MOYLE, BELL HELICOPTERS, GEC-MARCONI

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
NO.: PRAIMP-09  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: TIMES STAFF PROFILE ON CARLOS CARDOEN, CHILEAN ARMS EXPORTER  
KEYWORDS: IRAQ, CLUSTER BOMB,

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
NO.: PRAIMP-10  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—US CONFIRMS THAT IRAQ HAS POWERFUL NEW GAS BOMB  
KEYWORDS: FUEL AIR EXPLOSIVE; HENRY SOKOLSKI (CASOLARO NOTES JOHN BRODER-293-4650 MELISSA HEALY 213-237-5000)

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: IRAN/IRAQ PROCUREMENT  
NO.: PRAIMP-11  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: ASSOCIATED PRESS—ARI BEN MENASHE ACQUITTED OF ILLEGAL ARMS SALE CHARGE  
KEYWORDS: ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT, RICHARD ST. FRANCIS, C-130E, YITZHAK SHAMIR

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: KHASHOGGI, ADNAN  
NO.: PRAI\KA-01  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: THE HOUSTON POST—NEW YORK JURY CLEARS IMELDA MARCOS AND KHASHOGGI OF LOOTING AND CONCEALING FILIPINO ASSETS.  
KEYWORDS: GERRY SPENCE, OTTO OBERMAIER, PHILIPPINES

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: KHASHOGGI, ADNAN  
NO.: PRAI\KA-02  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: POST ENERGY—KHASSHOGI ANNOUNCES JOINT VENTURE WITH NRG RESOURCES INC.  
KEYWORDS: OIL, NATURAL GAS, PHOENIX OIL & GAS CO., BILL TURNEY, JERRY ALLEN

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: KHASHOGGI, ADNAN  
NO.: PRAI\KA-03  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN MAGAZINE—PROFILE ON KHASSHOGI'S ROAD FROM RICHES TO RUIN  
KEYWORDS: TRIAD AMERICA CORPORATION, SALT LAKE CITY, EMMANUEL FLOOR, TRIAD INTERNATIONAL

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: RESEARCH & MISC.  
NO.: PRAI\RM-01  
YEAR: 71  
SUMMARY: THE PRESS DEMOCRAT—SONOMA ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH INC. ANNOUNCES THEIR FIRM WILL EXPAND  
KEYWORDS: RADAR, ARTHUR B. VANE, VERNON E. DUNN, MICROWAVE

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
FILE: RESEARCH & MISC.  
NO.: PRAI\RM-02  
YEAR: 83  
SUMMARY: THE INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR—"TITANIUM: A STRATEGIC METAL" DESCRIBES MILITARY USES OF THE METAL AND THE THREAT FROM THE USSR  
KEYWORDS: PRATT AND WHITNEY, SOVIET UNION, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, CONSOLIDATED RUTILE LTD.

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: RESEARCH & MISC.  
 NO.: PRAIARM-03  
 YEAR: 83  
 SUMMARY: BRISBANE COURIER—THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT GAVE FINANCIAL BACKING TO A MUNITIONS FACTORY LINKED WITH CORRUPT "PAINTERS AND DOCKERS"  
 KEYWORDS: AUSTRALIA, COSTIGAN COMMISSION

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: RESEARCH & MISC.  
 NO.: PRAIARM-04  
 YEAR: 89  
 SUMMARY: TIME MAGAZINE—A REVIEW OF INDIA'S ARMS BUILDUP AND ITS CHANGING ROLE IN WORLD POLITICS.  
 KEYWORDS: MALDIVES STRIKE, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BALLISTIC-MISSILES, FIJI, RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS WING

SUBJECT: ARMS INDUSTRY  
 FILE: RESEARCH & MISC.  
 NO.: PRAIARM-05  
 YEAR: 91  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—NAVY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOUND GUILTY OF SELLING GOVERNMENT SECRETS TO DEFENSE FIRMS  
 KEYWORDS: OPERATION ILL WIND, DICK THORNBURGH, FBI, MAZLAT LTD., ISRAEL, SPERRY CORP., MARTIN MARIETTA

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
 FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
 NO.: PRICW\CR-01  
 YEAR: 81  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—OVERVIEW OF CONFLICTS ON THE CABAZON RESERVATION DUE TO GAMBLING CASINOS AND THE LEADERSHIP OF JOHN PHILLIPS NICHOLS, A NON-INDIAN  
 KEYWORDS: PRO-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, MAFIA, HOOPA RESERVATION

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
 FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
 NO.: PRICW\CR-02  
 YEAR: 81  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—PROFILE OF SLAIN INDIAN WHO PROTESTED THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CABAZON RESERVATION BY JOHN PHILLIPS NICHOLS  
 KEYWORDS: BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, CASINO, GAMBLING, INDIO

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
 FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
 NO.: PRICW\CR-03  
 YEAR: 82  
 SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—PHILIP ARTHUR THOMPSON IS HELD IN CONTEMPT FOR REFUSING TO TESTIFY IN A MURDER TRIAL. (CASOLARO NOTE: THOMPSON WORKED FOR CIA, ASSOCIATED WITH JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS.

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
 FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
 NO.: PRICW\CR-04  
 YEAR: 82  
 SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—PHILIP ARTHUR THOMPSON RECANTS PREVIOUS TESTIMONY IMPLYING GUILT OF MURDER DEFENDANT.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLY WISELY

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
 FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
 NO.: PRICW\CR-05  
 YEAR: 82  
 SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—ROBBERY VICTIM OF PHILIP ARTHUR THOMPSON AND WILLY WISELY HAS HAD LIFE DISRUPTED WITH PROTECTIVE CUSTODY WHILE THE ALLEGED ROBBERS ARE FREE. FBI ALLEGEDLY INTERVENED ON BEHALF OF THOMPSON TO HELP HIM AVOID JAIL.  
 KEYWORDS: ARTHUR SUEL, JOHN ABBOTT, CANADA

## THE OCTOPUS

- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-06  
YEAR: 82  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—WISELY CONVICTED OF MURDER AND DECIDES TO FIGHT FOR LIFE SENTENCE. PHILIP ARTHUR THOMPSON IS FREE ON BAIL.  
KEYWORDS: ARTHUR SUEL
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-07  
YEAR: 83  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES MAGAZINE—A PROFILE OF JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS AND HIS EFFECT ON THE CABAZON RESERVATION.  
KEYWORDS: BINGO, GAMBLING, ALVAREZ, INDIO
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-08  
YEAR: 84  
SUMMARY: DAILY NEWS, INDIO—FORMER CABAZON SECURITY CHIEF SAYS HE HAS BEEN GIVEN IMMUNITY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN EXCHANGE FOR TESTIMONY ABOUT THREE MURDERS  
KEYWORDS: PETER ZOKOSKY, WAYNE REEDER, JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS, COVERT ACTION
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-09  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: DAILY NEWS, INDIO—JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS ARRESTED FOR SOLICITATION AND CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MURDER. FORMER SECURITY HEAD ALLEGES THAT NICHOLS ALSO INVOLVED WITH COVERT ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.  
KEYWORDS: HIT MEN, EL SALVADOR, GAMBLING, "THE SHOW AND TELL" EQUIPMENT SHOW
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-10  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS ARRESTED FOR SOLICITING MURDER.  
KEYWORDS: JOHN PAUL NICHOLS, INDIO, JAMES HUGHES, PETER ZOKOSKY
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-11  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE—AN OVERVIEW OF JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS DETRACTORS AND SUPPORTERS.  
KEYWORDS: ARTHUR WELMAS, LINDA STREETER, JAMES HUGHES, PAUL MORASCA, NASA, WACKENHUT, A.R. FRYE, ARMS MANUFACTURE, PAUL MORASCA, CIA, FBI
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-12  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER—ALLEGATIONS THAT JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS HELD WEAPONS DEMONSTRATIONS FOR EDEN PASTORA (THE CONTRAS).  
KEYWORDS: COMMANDER ZERO, MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO, PAUL MORASCA, PETER ZOKOSKY
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-12  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: 20/20 TRANSCRIPT—A GERALDO RIVERA INVESTIGATION INTO GAMBLING AND MURDER ON THE CABAZON RESERVATION.  
KEYWORDS: JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS, LINDA STREETER, FRED ALVAREZ, ROCCO ZANGARI
- SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-13  
YEAR: 88  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—VARIOUS INDIAN RESERVATIONS INCLUDING THE CABAZON RESERVATION, PLAN TO USE A SATELLITE-LINK TO CREATE A GIANT BINGO GAME.  
KEYWORDS: GAMBLING, JOHN PAUL NICHOLS

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-14  
YEAR: 85  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—RESERVATION BINGO PROFITS ARE GOING TO OTHER THAN NATIVE AMERICANS. MENTIONS CABAZON RESERVATION AND MAFIA INVOLVEMENT.  
KEYWORDS: JOHN PHILIP NICHOLS, JOHN PAUL NICHOLS, ROCCO ZANGARI

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-15  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER, ON ZOKOSKY CORP. STATIONARY—PHILIP ARTHUR THOMPSON SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO TRUCK HIJACKINGS.

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: CABAZON RESERVATION  
NO.: PR\CW\CR-16  
YEAR: 91  
SUMMARY: YORKSHIRE POST (ENGLAND)—INSLAW COURT DATE WILL REVEAL CABAZON RESERVATION ALLEGEDLY USED TO DEVELOP FUEL AIR EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER MILITARY HARDWARE, SOME USED BY THE CONTRAS. USES MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO AS SOURCE.  
KEYWORDS: PROMIS, EARL BRIAN, EDWIN MEESE, PETER VIDENIEKS, WILLIAM HAMILTON

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-01  
YEAR: 84  
SUMMARY: WALL STREET JOURNAL—WACKENHUT CORP. INVESTORS APPROVE BUYOUT PLAN BY LEVERAGED INVESTORS.  
KEYWORDS: GEORGE WACKENHUT, MERRILL LYNCH

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-02  
YEAR: 88  
SUMMARY: MIAMI TODAY—AN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE WACKENHUT, FOUNDER OF WACKENHUT CORP.

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-03  
YEAR: 89  
SUMMARY: THE ASSOCIATION OF CITADEL MEN ALUMNI NEWS—A PROFILE OF WACKENHUT WORLDWIDE BY THE CO.'S DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RELATIONS. MENTIONS BOARDMEMBERS CLARENCE KELLY, FRANK CARLUCCI, ADM. WILLIAM RABORN JR., ALL FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE GROUPS.  
KEYWORDS: FBI, CIA, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-04  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: INVESTOR'S DAILY—WACKENHUT DIVERSIFIES INTO DOING BACKGROUND CHECKS, WEAPONS TESTING, AND AN INTERNATIONAL DETECTIVE AGENCY WHILE UPGRADING ITS BASIC SECURITY GUARD SERVICES.  
KEYWORDS: PRISONS, STATE DEPARTMENT, GEORGE R. WACKENHUT

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-05  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY SUN—COUNTY HIRES WACKENHUT FOR PRISONER TRANSPORT.  
KEYWORDS: WACKENHUT CUSTOM PROTECTION DIVISION

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-06  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: FORBES—WACKENHUT GROWTH IS UP DUE TO INCREASE IN CRIME. CO. HANDLES PRISON MANAGEMENT IN SEVERAL STATES AND SECURITY FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS FACILITIES.  
KEYWORDS: RICHARD WACKENHUT, CORAL GABLES

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: CABAZON ARMS AND WACKENHUT  
FILE: WACKENHUT CORPORATION  
NO.: PR\CW\WC-07  
YEAR: 89  
SUMMARY: AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN—ARTICLE EXAMINING WHETHER PRIVATE PRISONS ARE REALLY MORE EFFICIENTLY RUN. WACKENHUT IS ONE OF THE COMPANIES EXAMINED.

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-01  
YEAR: 88  
SUMMARY: SCIENCE NEWS—RESEARCH INDICATES THAT A SMALL PART OF THE Y CHROMOSOME MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTUAL GENDER DETERMINATION. BUT ALL AGREE FURTHER STUDIES ARE NEEDED.

KEYWORDS: M.I.T.

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-02  
YEAR: 89  
SUMMARY: SCIENCE—THE COMMISSION OF EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY DECIDES TO DELAY THE START OF A HUMAN GENOME PROJECT IN EUROPE BECAUSE THE RESEARCH PLAN DOES NOT PAY ENOUGH ATTENTION TO ETHICAL AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROJECT.

KEYWORDS: FILIPINO PANDOLFI

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-03  
YEAR: 89  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST HEALTH—AN OVERVIEW OF THE US HUMAN GENOME PROJECT, AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY EVERY ONE OF THE ESTIMATED 100,000 GENES IN THE HUMAN BODY. THE EVENTUAL COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT SHOULD ALLOW SCIENTISTS TO ELIMINATE THE GENETIC ROOTS OF DISEASE.

KEYWORDS: COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY, DNA, ROBERT MAYZIS, LOS ALAMOS

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-04  
YEAR: 90  
SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—SCIENTISTS INSERT A HUMAN GENE LINKED WITH ARTHRITIS INTO A RAT. THE RAT SUBSEQUENTLY DEVELOPS ARTHRITIC SYMPTOMS.

KEYWORDS: HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE, HAROLD C. SIMMONS, LOCKHEED

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-05  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: WALL STREET JOURNAL—RESEARCHERS HAVE ISOLATED A SPECIFIC GENE IN HUMANS AS MAKING THEM HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO CANCER. DESCRIBED AS A STARTLING RESULT OF THE NEWFOUND ABILITY TO MAP THE HUMAN GENOME.

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-06  
YEAR: 89  
SUMMARY: NEW YORK TIMES—MAJOR TECHNICAL ADVANCES ARE SPEEDING UP THE PROCESS OF MAPPING THE HUMAN GENOME.

KEYWORDS: DR. JAMES D. WATSON, DR. FRANCIS CRICK, DNA, COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY

SUBJECT: GENETIC RESEARCH  
FILE: GENETIC RESEARCH  
NO.: PR\GR\GR-07  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN MAGAZINE—A PROFILE OF JAMES WATSON AND THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT WHICH WILL ATTEMPT TO MAP ALL THE GENES ON EVERY HUMAN CHROMOSOME  
CASOLARO NOTE: TO CASOLARO—ARTHUR PALLOTTA 703 524 1021 "DANNY—CANNOT THINK OF ONE PROJECT SO MASSIVE AND COMPARABLE TO "MAN IN THE MOON."

KEYWORDS:



SUBJECT: PERSIAN GULF WAR  
 FILE: GULF WAR  
 NO.: PR\GW\GW-03  
 YEAR: 3/15/91  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—PROFILE OF DIPLOMAT APRIL GLASPIE WHO WAS ACCUSED OF GIVING THE "GREEN LIGHT" TO SADDAM HUSSEIN'S INVASION OF KUWAIT.

SUBJECT: PERSIAN GULF WAR  
 FILE: GULF WAR  
 NO.: PR\GW\GW-02  
 YEAR: 3/5/91  
 SUMMARY: VILLAGE VOICE—AN EXAMINATION OF US POLICY THAT ALLEGEDLY FORCED THE GULF WAR IN ORDER TO ULTIMATELY SECURE THE MIDDLE EAST FOR THE US AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

KEYWORDS: MARGARET THATCHER, KING HUSSEIN, CIA, JIDDA, KUWAIT

SUBJECT: PERSIAN GULF WAR  
 FILE: GULF WAR  
 NO.: PR\GW\GW-01  
 YEAR: 90  
 SUMMARY: BOOK EXCERPT "SADDAM HUSSEIN AND THE CRISIS IN THE GULF"—CHAPTER 9 'THE MANUFACTURE OF DEATH' DETAILS IRAQ'S ARMS PURCHASES AND THE GOVERNMENT POLICIES THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE. ALSO INCLUDES A LOOK AT HOW IRAQ MADE NON-MILITARY INVESTMENTS IN US CHEMICAL PLANTS THAT ACTUALLY SUPPLIED THE BUILDING BLOCKS TO ITS CHEMICAL WEAPONS EFFORT.

KEYWORDS: CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY, SAAD 16, WILLIAM H. WEBSTER, PFLAUNDLER CO., NUCLEAR WEAPONS

SUBJECT: PERSIAN GULF WAR  
 FILE: GULF WAR  
 NO.: PR\GW\GW-041  
 YEAR: 4/1991  
 SUMMARY: VANITY FAIR—A LOOK AT THE ASSASSINATION OF ABU AYAD, ARAFAT'S SECOND-IN-COMMAND IN THE P.L.O. ALSO AN EXAMINATION OF THE P.L.O.'S ROLE IN THE POST-GULF WAR MIDDLE EAST.

KEYWORDS: YASSIR ARAFAT, HAMZA ABU ZEID, IRAQ, CIA, SADDAM HUSSEIN

SUBJECT: GULF WAR  
 FILE: GULF WAR  
 NO.: PR\GW\GW-01  
 YEAR: 7/30/91  
 SUMMARY: VILLAGE VOICE—A REPORT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FALSIFIED AND ALTERED 88 IRAQI EXPORT LICENSES SUBPOENAED BY A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE. THE ACTS INCLUDED RELABELING AN INVENTORY OF US-MADE MILITARY TRUCKS AS "COMMERCIAL UTILITY CARGO TRUCKS."

KEYWORDS: SADDAM HUSSEIN, ROBERT GATES, RICHARD THORNBERG, CONSARC

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
 FILE: CAROLINA  
 NO.: PR\HW\C-01  
 YEAR: 5/15/90  
 SUMMARY: CHARLOTTE OBSERVER—THE NUKEM AND THREMALKEN CO.'S STRESS THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED ZERO VIOLATIONS FROM STATE REGULATORY AGENCIES FOR THEIR INCINERATOR PLANTS.

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
 FILE: CAROLINA  
 NO.: PR\HW\C-02  
 YEAR: 8/5/90  
 SUMMARY: THE SALISBURY POST—AN COMPUTER ENGINEER CHALLENGES THE PLACEMENT OF A HAZARDOUS WASTE INCINERATOR IN HIS COUNTY

KEYWORDS: NUMEROUS NOTES WITH REGARD TO THE ARTICLE AND THE COMPANY AMERICAN NUKEM.

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
 FILE: CAROLINA  
 NO.: PR\HW\C-03  
 YEAR: 8/9/90  
 SUMMARY: UNKNOWN PAPER—POSSIBLE ACTION MAY BE TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE E.P.A. AGAINST VIOLATIONS AT A HAZARDOUS WASTE INCINERATOR. ALSO: "MARTIN IS ACCUSED OF PLAYING TWO SIDES"—NORTH CAROLINA'S GOVERNOR SUPPORTS ALABAMA'S BAN ON IMPORTING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE, BUT ALSO SAYS THAT THEREFORE N.C. MUST BUILD A WASTE INCINERATOR.

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-04  
YEAR: 9/12/90  
SUMMARY: THE RALEIGH NEWS AND OBSERVER EDITORIAL—CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WITH CERTAIN STATE OFFICIALS SHOULD NOT DERAIL NORTH CAROLINA'S ATTEMPT TO FIND SAFE WASTE DISPOSAL.  
KEYWORDS: SANDOZ CHEMICALS, CHEM-NUCLEAR INC.

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-05  
YEAR: 9/29/90  
SUMMARY: THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER—AN ENGINEER HIRED BY COUNTIES OPPOSED TO PLAYING HOST TO CHEMICAL WASTE COMPLEXES SAYS THE STATE MANIPULATED DATA IN SCREENING THE SOIL FOR THOSE COUNTIES, MAKING THE SITES ELIGIBLE FOR ACCEPTING THE PLANT.  
KEYWORDS: WESTINGHOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES, PEI ASSOCIATES

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-06  
YEAR: 10/14/90  
SUMMARY: GREENSBORO NEWS GUEST COLUMN "EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES TO INCINERATION"  
KEYWORDS: THERMALKEM, HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-07  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER—AN INCINERATOR NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR JIM MARTIN PREVIOUSLY LISTED AS GOOD HAS PREVIOUSLY PAID MORE THAN \$3 MILLION IN A SINGLE FINE FOR IMPROPER BURNING.  
KEYWORDS: THERMALKEM, PCBS

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-08  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER—AN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP SAYS A PROPOSED N.C. INCINERATOR IS OVERSIZED FOR THE STATE'S NEEDS.  
KEYWORDS: E.P.A., NORTH CAROLINA WASTE AWARENESS AND REDUCTION NETWORK

SUBJECT: HAZARDOUS WASTE  
FILE: CAROLINA  
NO.: PR\HW\C-09  
YEAR: ?  
SUMMARY: UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER—WASTE COMPANY THERMALKEM CONTRIBUTED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OF FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR A SOUTHERN LEGISLATOR'S CONFERENCE.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PR\IN\BE-01  
YEAR: 1/20/70, 12/19/70, 6/10/72  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE, ALL, "HEALTH CARE CHIEF RESIGNS; EX-ARMY DOCTOR IS NAMED"—EX-CHIEF TO BECOME A PRIVATE HEALTH CARE CONSULTANT. GOV. RON REAGAN NAMES EARL BRIAN TO THE POST." SOLON, SOCIAL WORKERS DEMAND OUSTER OF DR. BRIAN AS MEDICAL PROGRAM HEAD"—ASSEMBLYMEN ACCUSE BRIAN OF SABOTAGING HEALTH PROGRAM FOR THE POOR.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PR\IN\BE-02  
YEAR: 1/22/70  
SUMMARY: THE SACRAMENTO BEE—A PROMOTER OF CALIFORNIA'S STATE HEALTH PROGRAMS OPPOSES EARL BRIAN'S APPOINTMENT TO DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES.  
KEYWORDS: MEDI-CAL, GOV. RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-03  
 YEAR: 1/29/70  
 SUMMARY: UNKNOWN PAPER, EDITORIAL—EARL BRIAN IS DESCRIBED AS INEXPERIENCED TO RUN CALIFORNIA'S STATE HEALTH CARE.  
 KEYWORDS: MEDI-CAL

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-04  
 YEAR: 3/29/70  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—A PROFILE OF THEN 28 YEARS-OLD EARL BRIAN AS HE PREPARES TO BECOME MEDI-CAL DIRECTOR.  
 KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-05  
 YEAR: 2/6/72  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—A PROFILE OF EARL BRIAN'S TENURE AS DIRECTOR OF THE STATE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM  
 KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-06  
 YEAR: 4/29/70  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—EARL BRIAN IS APPROVED AS STATE DIRECTOR OF STATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-07  
 YEAR: 1/12/71  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS REFUSES TO DISCIPLINE EARL BRIAN, DIRECTOR OF MEDI-CAL, FOR CUTBACKS IN THE MEDI-CAL PROGRAM.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-08  
 YEAR: 2/22/71  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT SAID THAT MEDICAL DIRECTOR EARL BRIAN BECAME UPSET WHEN THE CMA BEGAN ADVISING MEMBERS THAT MEDI-CAL FACED A FISCAL CRISIS.  
 KEYWORDS: RALPH W. BURNETT

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-01  
 YEAR: 4/29/71  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—A JUDGE IN A HEARING ADMITS A MEMO CONTRADICTING MEDI-CAL DIRECTOR EARL BRIAN'S PREVIOUS TESTIMONY THAT HE HADN'T KNOWN OF PROGRAM DEFICIT.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-10  
 YEAR: 6/10/72  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—OUTGOING MEDI-CAL DIRECTOR EARL BRIAN IS SUED IN A CLASS ACTION SUIT TO RAISE STATE HEALTH CARE REIMBURSEMENTS.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PR\IN\BE-11  
 YEAR: 06/30/72  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—PHOTO OF EARL BRIAN NAMED AFTER BEING SWORN-IN AS CALIF. SECR. OF HUMAN RELATIONS

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SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-12  
YEAR: 11/19/72  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—CALIFORNIAN EARL BRIAN NAMED AS POSSIBLE NIXON WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER.  
KEYWORDS: RICHARD NIXON, RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-13  
YEAR: 2/12/73  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION ATTEMPTS TO LURE CALIFORNIA BUREAUCRAT EARL BRIAN TO A WASHINGTON POST. CURRENT HEW SECRETARY IS CASPAR WEINBERGER.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, ROBERT CARLESON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-14  
YEAR: 9/21/72  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—NOW AN AIDE FOR GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN, EARL BRIAN MAKES RADICAL CHANGES TO THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-15  
YEAR: 9/9/73 AND 7/24/77  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE '73: GOVERNOR REAGAN URGES EARL BRIAN TO RUN FOR US SENATE. '77: A CALIF. STATE REPORT ON GOV. REAGAN'S LAX HANDLING OF THE NURSING HOME INDUSTRY ALSO MENTIONS AN ON-GOING INVESTIGATION INTO THE FINANCING OF EARL BRIAN'S ABORTIVE US SENATE CAMPAIGN IN '74.  
KEYWORDS: BEVERLY ENTERPRISES, RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-16  
YEAR: 1/2/74  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—CALIF. HEALTH AND WELFARE HEAD EARL BRIAN CREATES A 'NEWSLETTER FILM' FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-17  
YEAR: 1/18/74  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—CALIF. SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE RESIGNS TO RUN FOR US SENATE AGAINST INCUMBENT ALAN CRANSTON.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-18  
YEAR: 1/19/74  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—GOVERNOR REAGAN ANNOUNCES EARL BRIAN'S REPLACEMENT FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE. BRIAN IS RUNNING FOR US SENATE.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, JAMES E. JENKINS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
NO.: PRIN\BE-19  
YEAR: 2/13/75  
SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—FORMER CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY CHIEF EARL BRIAN IS ANGRY OVER THE CANCELLATION OF A BRIAN RESEARCH PROJECT BY THE NEW BROWN ADMINISTRATION.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, ROBERT CARLESON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PRIN\BE-20  
 YEAR: 6/22/78  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—AFFIDAVITS BY TWO FORMER US SENATORS SAY FORMER SECRETARY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND WELFARE TOOK CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE NURSING HOME INDUSTRY IN EXCHANGE FOR INCREASING NURSING HOME PAYMENTS FROM THE STATE.  
 KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PRIN\BE-21  
 YEAR: 2/28/88  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—EARL BRIAN NOW THE CHAIRMAN OF INFOTECH CORP WHICH HAS AN INTEREST IN COMPANIES SUCH AS FINANCIAL NEWS NETWORK AND UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL.  
 KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, DWIGHT GEDULDIG

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PRIN\BE-23  
 YEAR: 11/28/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—PROFILE OF EARL BRIAN AS EMPIRE BUILDER AND OWNER OF INFOTECH.  
 KEYWORDS: HADRON, FINANCIAL NEWS NETWORK, COMTEX SCIENTIFIC

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PRIN\BE-24  
 YEAR: 11/28/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—OVERVIEW OF EARL BRIAN'S PLANS TO SAVE UPI.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: BRIAN, EARL  
 NO.: PRIN\BE-13  
 YEAR: 2/12/73  
 SUMMARY: SACRAMENTO BEE—THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION ATTEMPTS TO LURE CALIFORNIA BUREAUCRAT EARL BRIAN TO A WASHINGTON POST. CURRENT HEW SECRETARY IS CASPAR WEINBERGER.  
 KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, ROBERT CARLESON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INFOTECH  
 NO.: PRIN\IT-01  
 YEAR: 10/25/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—INFOTECH ASSET FINANCIAL NETWORK NEWS HAS INSUFFICIENT CASH FLOW TO MEET COSTS.  
 KEYWORDS: EARL BRIAN, ALAN HIRSCHFIELD, ALLAN TESSLER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INFOTECH  
 NO.: PRIN\IT-02  
 YEAR: 10/29/90  
 SUMMARY: BARRON'S—FINANCIAL NEWS NETWORK AND INFOTECHNOLOGY STOCK BOTH DROPPED IN THE MARKET AND OTHER TROUBLES.  
 KEYWORDS: EARL BRIAN, SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INFOTECH  
 NO.: PRIN\IT-03  
 YEAR: 11/12/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—AN ACCOUNT OF INFOTECH AND FNN'S ATTEMPT TO RESTORE THEIR IMAGE.  
 KEYWORDS: HADRON, INC.

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SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INFOTECH  
NO.: PR\IN\IT-04  
YEAR: 11/12/90  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INFOTECH FIRMS REPORTEDLY TARGET OF CRIMINAL FRAUD PROBES RELATING TO INSLAW.  
KEYWORDS: F.B.I., S.E.C., CHALLENGER LTD.,

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INFOTECH  
NO.: PR\IN\IT-05  
YEAR: 11/19/90  
SUMMARY: BARRON'S—AN INDEPTH LOOK BEHIND THE PROBLEMS AT FNN AND INFOTECH.  
KEYWORDS: HADRON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-01  
YEAR: 4/83  
SUMMARY: LEGAL TECH—INSLAW, INC. SIGNS AN AGREEMENT WITH EASTERN INFORMATION SERVICES IN WHICH INSLAW ACQUIRES AN EIS ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE AND INTEGRATES IT WITH INSLAW'S MODULAW, A LAW PRACTICE SUPPORT SOFTWARE.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-02  
YEAR: 9/3/83  
SUMMARY: THE ECONOMIST—A SHORT SIDEBAR ABOUT INSLAW INC. AND THEIR SOFTWARE.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-03  
YEAR: 10/12/86  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—D. LOWELL JENSEN, FORMER NO. 2 JUSTICE OFFICIAL IS ACCUSED BY THE INSLAW LAWSUIT OF HELPING FORCE THE SOFTWARE COMPANY INTO BANKRUPTCY.  
KEYWORDS: PROMIS, WILLIAM HAMILTON, RONALD REAGAN, EDWIN MEESE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-04  
YEAR: 12/9/86  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—A FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY JUDGE REFUSES TO DISMISS INSLAW INC.'S LAWSUIT AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: RONALD REAGAN, PROMIS, DALITE, LOWELL JENSEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-01  
YEAR: 6/11/87  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY JUDGE DELAYS DECISION ON INSLAW SUIT FOR 2 DAYS.  
KEYWORDS: JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON JR., DEAN COOPER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-06  
YEAR: 6/13/87  
SUMMARY: PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER—US BANKRUPTCY JUDGE GEORGE BASON RULES THAT THE US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT UNLAWFULLY TRIED TO PUT INSLAW OUT OF BUSINESS AND THAT TWO DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS GAVE "UNBELIEVABLE" TESTIMONY.  
KEYWORDS: LOWELL JENSEN, PROMIS, EDWIN MEESE, THOMAS STANTON, C. MADISON BREWER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PR\IN\IA-07  
YEAR: 6/13/87  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—A US JUDGE RULES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT MADE "UNDUE AND IMPROPER ATTEMPTS" TO DRIVE THE INSLAW SOFTWARE CO. OUT OF BUSINESS.  
KEYWORDS: JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON JR., WILLIAM HAMILTON, C. MADISON BREWER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-08  
 YEAR: 6/22/87  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—INSLAW ATTEMPTS TO REMOVE THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S TRUSTEES FROM THE SOFTWARE COMPANY'S BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-09  
 YEAR: 9/21/87  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IGNORES US JUDGE GEORGE BASON'S RULING THAT THEY APPOINT AN INDEPENDENT OFFICIAL TO REVIEW INSLAW'S LIST OF ALLEGATIONS.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, D. LOWELL JENSEN, JOHN BOLTON, DAVID MARTIN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-10  
 YEAR: 9/29/87  
 SUMMARY: ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH—A US JUDGE ORDERS THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO PAY INSLAW INC. FOR FIVE YEARS USE AND DUPLICATION OF THE COMPANY'S SOFTWARE.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, GEORGE F. BASON JR., ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-11  
 YEAR: 9/29/87  
 SUMMARY: ARIZONA REPUBLIC—US BANKRUPTCY JUDGE GEORGE BASON JR. RULES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ENGAGED IN "OUTRAGEOUS AND INDEFENSIBLE" CONDUCT AGAINST INSLAW INC.  
 KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON, WILLIAM HAMILTON, D. LOWELL JENSEN, JANIS A. SPOSATO, WILLIAM P. TYSON, LAURENCE MCWHORTER, JACK S. RUGH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-12  
 YEAR: 9/29/87  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—US JUDGE RULES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT STOLE INSLAW'S SOFTWARE.  
 KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER, PROMIS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-13  
 YEAR: 9/29/87  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—JUDGE RULES AGAINST JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND FOR INSLAW.  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, PATRICK KORTEN, ELLIOT RICHARDSON, JUDGE GEORGE F. BREWER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-14  
 YEAR: 9/29/87  
 SUMMARY: NEW YORK TIMES—US JUDGE RULES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT USED "TRICKERY, FRAUD AND DECEIT" TO STEAL PROMIS SOFTWARE FROM INSLAW INC.  
 KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER, PATRICK KORTEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-15  
 YEAR: 10/2/87  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON TIMES—A PROFILE OF INSLAW FOUNDER WILLIAM HAMILTON AND HIS BATTLE WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, PATRICK KORTEN, NANCY HAMILTON

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SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-16  
YEAR: 10/5/87  
SUMMARY: CRIME CONTROL DIGEST—US JUDGE SAYS D.O.J. USED "FRAUD" TO DESTROY INSLAW INC. JUDGE ALSO SAYS A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DISPLAYED "COLLECTIVE AMNESIA" WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THE CASE.  
KEYWORDS: LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION, PROMIS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-17  
YEAR: 10/5/87  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—PRO-INSLAW RULING RESTORES COMPANY'S CREDIBILITY.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, NANCY HAMILTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-18  
YEAR: 10/5/87  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—JUDGE GEORGE BASON JR. RULES AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN THE INSLAW SUIT AND FINDS THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE COMPANY HAD A VENDETTA AGAINST THE OWNERS.  
KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER, WILLIAM A. HAMILTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-19  
YEAR: 10/6/87  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE PUBLIC ACCOUNTING OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S BEHAVIOR IN THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER, JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-20  
YEAR: 10/12/87  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS HADRON INC. A 40 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR AUTOMATED LITIGATION SUPPORT. HADRON'S LARGEST STOCKHOLDER IS DR. EARL BRIAN, FORMER CALIFORNIA HEALTH OFFICIAL.  
KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, ACUMENICS, BIOTECH, FAIRFAX VA.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-21  
YEAR: 10/12/87  
SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—A PRESTIGIOUS WASHINGTON D.C. LAW FIRM THAT ORIGINALLY REPRESENTED INSLAW INC. AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS ACCUSED OF CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST.  
KEYWORDS: DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO, AND MORIN, LEIGH RATNER, D. LOWELL JENSEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-22  
YEAR: 10/12/87  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL EDITORIAL RECOMMENDING LAW FIRMS TO DO PRO BONO WORK IN CASES LIKE THE INSLAW SUIT.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN/IA-23  
YEAR: 10/12/87  
SUMMARY: TIME—A SUMMARY OF THE INSLAW CASE TO DATE.



- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-24  
 YEAR: 10/12/87  
 SUMMARY: THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL—A DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE INSLAW CASE AND THE RULING OF JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON.  
 KEYWORDS: EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS, PROMIS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-25  
 YEAR: 12/21/87  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—THE SENATE GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS BEGINS INVESTIGATING THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: SAM NUNN, ALAN EDELMAN, D. LOWELL JENSEN, AMELIA BROWN
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-26  
 YEAR: 1/18/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY JUDGE GEORGE BASON SAYS HE IS NOT REAPPOINTED DUE TO HIS RULING IN THE INSLAW CASE.  
 KEYWORDS: S. MARTIN TEEL JR., WESLEY WILLIAMS JR., PATRICIA M. WALD
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-27  
 YEAR: 1/20/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CLAIMS JUDGE GEORGE BASON IS BIASED AND DEMANDS HIS OUSTER FROM THE INSLAW CASE.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-28  
 YEAR: 1/23/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DENIES JUDGE'S CLAIMS OF RETRIBUTION AGAINST HIM FOR UNFAVORABLE INSLAW RULING.  
 KEYWORDS: JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON, S. MARTIN TEEL JR.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-29  
 YEAR: 2/1/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—BANKRUPTCY JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON JR. SET TO DETERMINE DAMAGES OWED TO INSLAW BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT  
 KEYWORDS: PATRICIA WALD, DEAN COOPER
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-30  
 YEAR: 2/1/88  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—INSLAW CREDITOR DROPS PETITION TO CLAIM MONEY OWED FOR LEGAL FEES  
 KEYWORDS: DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO, & MORIN, EDWIN MEESE, NORMAN OLIVER
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-31  
 YEAR: 2/1/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW ATTORNEYS SEEK EVIDENCE THAT AT&T AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COLLUDED TO DESTROY THE SOFTWARE COMPANY.  
 KEYWORDS: KENNETH A. ROSEN
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-32  
 YEAR: 2/2/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON ORDERS THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO PAY INSLAW \$6.8 MILLION IN DAMAGES.  
 KEYWORDS: MCDERMOTT, WILL, & EMORY

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SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-33  
YEAR: 2/15/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON STRUGGLES TO REMAIN ON THE BENCH AFTER RULING AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: S. MARTIN TEEL JR., NORMA HOLLOWAY JOHNSON, JEROME BARRON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-34  
YEAR: 2/15/88  
SUMMARY: CHICAGO TRIBUNE—SUMMARY/OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR  
KEYWORDS: LEONARD GARMENT, EDWIN MEESE, GEORGE BASON, PROMIS, D. LOWELL JENSEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-35  
YEAR: 2/15/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW ACCUSES AT&T ATTORNEY OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST.  
KEYWORDS: ROGER WHELAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-36  
YEAR: 2/22/88  
SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—REMOVED JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON URGES PROSECUTOR TO PROBE EDWIN MEESE'S CONNECTION TO THE INSLAW AFFAIR.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-37  
YEAR: 2/29/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PLANS TO FIRE AN EMPLOYEE WHOSE STATEMENTS HELPED INSLAW WIN A RULING AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: ANTHONY PASCIUTO

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-38  
YEAR: 2/29/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—IBM AND INSLAW NEGOTIATE A DEAL TO HELP PULL INSLAW OUT OF BANKRUPTCY.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-39  
YEAR: 3/7/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL EDITORIAL RECOMMENDS A SPECIAL PROSECUTOR TO LOOK INTO THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: ANTHONY PASCIUTO

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-40  
YEAR: 3/7/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—SENATE EXAMINES JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROPOSALS FOR AUTOMATION TO SEE IF STOLEN PROMIS SOFTWARE WILL BE USED.  
KEYWORDS: PROJECT EAGLE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRINMA-01  
YEAR: 9/88  
SUMMARY: HE WASHINGTON POST—A PROFILE OF US ATTORNEY JAY B. STEPHENS AND HIS ROLE IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
KEYWORDS: IRAN-CONTRA, OLIVER NORTH, PROMIS, C. MADISON BREWER III

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-42  
 YEAR: 3/18/88  
 SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—PROBLEMS WITH JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE MECHANIZATION "PROJECT EAGLE"

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-43  
 YEAR: 3/21/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF PREVIOUS JUDGE GEORGE BASON, INSLAW BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS REMAIN DORMANT.  
 KEYWORDS: AT&T, KENNETH ROSEN, S. MARTIN TEEL

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-44  
 YEAR: 3/21/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL LETTER TO THE EDITOR—BASON SAYS HE NEVER PERSONALLY BELIEVED HE WAS REMOVED FROM BENCH FOR HIS INSLAW RULING, BUT THAT OTHER BARRISTERS HAVE TOLD HIM THEY THINK HE WAS.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-01  
 YEAR: 3/22/88  
 SUMMARY: L.A. DAILY JOURNAL—OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW CASE  
 KEYWORDS: PAUL SIMON, CORNELIUS BLACKSHEAR, PROMIS, LEAA, LEONARD GARMENT

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-46  
 YEAR: 4/4/88  
 SUMMARY: BARRON'S—AN OVERVIEW THAT EXAMINES MAJOR CHARACTERS IN THE INSLAW SCANDAL  
 KEYWORDS: ANTHONY PASCIUTO, S. MARTIN TEEL, C. MADISON BREWER, EARL BRIAN, HADRON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-47  
 YEAR: 4/4/88  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—A SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE PREPARES TO QUESTION JUSTICE OFFICIALS ON THE INSLAW CASE.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, KENNETH ROSEN, LEONARD GARMENT, ARNOLD BURNS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-48  
 YEAR: 4/4/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ASKS COURT TO DROP BARRING OF THREE KEY SOURCES, EMPLOYEES PETER VIDENIEKS, JACK RUGH, AND C. MADISON BREWER  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, PROJECT EAGLE, JUDGE WILLIAM BRYANT

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-50  
 YEAR: 4/16/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—EX-WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL JAY B. STEPHENS WAS NOMINATED FOR US ATTORNEY GENERAL BY PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN. IN 1983, STEPHENS OPTED NOT TO INVESTIGATE BIAS IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: OLIVER NORTH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW A  
 NO.: PR\IN\IA-51  
 YEAR: 4/15/88  
 SUMMARY: DATAMATION—AN OVERVIEW OF INSLAW OWNER AND FOUNDER BILL HAMILTON AND HIS WIFE AND THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: AT&T, SOFTWARE AND SERVICES INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-52  
YEAR: 4/15/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL—JUDICIARY PANELS SHOULD GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
KEYWORDS: SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERMANENT INVESTIGATIONS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-53  
YEAR: 4/18/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—PROJECT EAGLE BECOMES CAUGHT UP IN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT-INSLAW DISPUTE.  
KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER III, PETER VIDENIEKS, JACK RUGH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-54  
YEAR: 4/25/88  
SUMMARY: BARRON'S—LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OF HADRON INC., A COMPANY INVOLVED IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR THROUGH DR. EARL BRIAN, DENIES CERTAIN PUBLISHED STATEMENTS.  
KEYWORDS: DOMINIC A. LAITI

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-55  
YEAR: 5/4/88  
SUMMARY: RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH—A FOLLOW-UP ON THE CONGRESSIONAL PROBE'S LOOK INTO EDWIN MEESE'S ROLE IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
KEYWORDS: CORNELIUS BLACKSHEAR, ANTHONY PASCIUTO, LEIGH RATINER, DOMINIC LAITI

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-56  
YEAR: 5/6/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT IT IS INVESTIGATING DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS FOR POSSIBLE PERJURY DURING THE INSLAW HEARINGS.  
KEYWORDS: JOHN RUSSELL, EDWIN MEESE, SAM NUNN, LEONARD GARMENT

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-57  
YEAR: 5/6/88  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROBING POSSIBLE EMPLOYEE PERJURY IN THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: JAMES C. MCKAY

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-58  
YEAR: 5/6/88  
SUMMARY: US REP. JACK BUECHNER PRESS RELEASE—CALLS FOR RESIGNATION OF EDWIN MEESE AND QUOTES JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON'S RULING ON INSLAW AND THE ABA CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-59  
YEAR: 5/7/88  
SUMMARY: SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT LAWYERS CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR AN INVESTIGATION INTO EDWIN MEESE'S ROLE IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
KEYWORDS: DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO, & MORIN, JOHN C. KEENEY, CHARLES R. WORK

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW A  
NO.: PRIN\IA-60  
YEAR: 5/11/88  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL—CALLS FOR A PUBLIC REPORT OF THE EFFORTS OF INDEPENDENT COUNSEL JAMES MCKAY IN HIS INVESTIGATION OF EDWIN MEESE AND INSLAW.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-01  
 YEAR: 5/16/88  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—FORMER INSLAW LAWYER PRESSURES CBS TO A KILL A NEWS REPORT THAT IT DROPPED INSLAW AS A CLIENT BECAUSE OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PRESSURE.  
 KEYWORDS: DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO, & MORIN; LEONARD GARMENT; LEIGH RATINER; MARTY KOUGHAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-02  
 YEAR: 5/16/88  
 SUMMARY: DIGITAL REVIEW—OVERVIEW OF INSLAW CASE. INCLUDES TIMELINE OF EVENTS.  
 KEYWORDS: EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF US ATTORNEYS, PROMIS, EARL BRIAN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-03  
 YEAR: 5/23/88  
 SUMMARY: BARRON'S—LETTER FROM JUSTICE OFFICIAL CORRECTING ALLEGED ERRORS IN A PREVIOUS ARTICLE.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM P. TYSON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-04  
 YEAR: 5/23/88  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—LETTER FROM FORMER INSLAW LAWYER DENYING THAT HIS FIRM TRIED TO STIFLE A CBS NEWS REPORT ON INSLAW.  
 KEYWORDS: LEONARD GARMENT; DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO, & MORIN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-05  
 YEAR: 8/25/88  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORT FAULTS THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FOR NOT MAKING EMPLOYEES SIGN A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE ACT.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, URSULA MEESE, DICK THORNBURGH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-06  
 YEAR: 6/13/88  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW ATTORNEY'S TRY TO REMOVE AT&T FROM THE SOFTWARE COMPANY'S BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS, CLAIMING CONFLICT OF INTEREST.  
 KEYWORDS: MICHAEL FRIEDLANDER; JUDGE GEORGE F. BASON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-07  
 YEAR: 6/13/88  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—AN INDEPENDENT PROSECUTOR'S REPORT WILL DRAW "UNFLATTERING" CONCLUSIONS ABOUT EDWIN MEESE.  
 KEYWORDS: IRAQ; E. ROBERT WALLACH; WEDTECH CORP.; ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-08  
 YEAR: 6/6/88  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE EDWIN MEESE'S ROLE IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: JOHN KEENEY; LEONARD GARMENT; OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-09  
 YEAR: 6/13/88  
 SUMMARY: BUSINESS WEEK—OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: EARL BRIAN; LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION; D. LOWELL JENSEN

## THE OCTOPUS

- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-10  
YEAR: 6/27/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BLASTS INSLAW CASE VERDICT IN A FILED APPEALS BRIEF.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAMS B. BRYANT; CORNELIUS BLACKSHEAR; ANTHONY PASCUITO
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-11  
YEAR: 7/18/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW SAYS THREE WHISTLE BLOWERS HAVE CORROBORATED THE COMPANY'S CHARGES ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TRYING TO DRIVE IT OUT OF BUSINESS.  
KEYWORDS: MARK M. RICHARD; RONALD L. GAINER; JOHN C. KEENEY
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-12  
YEAR: 8/12/88  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—EDWIN MEESE ATTEMPTS TO BLOCK TESTIMONY TO A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE BY TWO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES, BUT IS REVERSED.  
KEYWORDS: SAM NUNN; GEORGE F. BASON; THOMAS STANTON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-13  
YEAR: 8/25/88  
SUMMARY: SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE—THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE CRITICIZES THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S FAILURE TO REQUIRE EMPLOYEES TO FILE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM FORD, GERRY SIKORSKI, EDWIN MEESE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-14  
YEAR: 9/12/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW FILES ANSWER TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S APPEAL ON INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: EARL BRIAN, WILLIAMS B. BRYANT
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-15  
YEAR: 10/3/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW FILES A RESPONSE TO D.O.J. APPEAL ON THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: AT&T, C. MADISON BREWER, WILLIAM BRYANT
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-16  
YEAR: 10/24/88  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—AFTER TWO JUDGES RECUSE THEMSELVES FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST, BANKRUPTCY JUDGE JAMES SCHNEIDER TAKES OVER THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: AT&T, HADRON INC., EDWIN MEESE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PR\IN\IB-17  
YEAR: 10/31/88  
SUMMARY: NEW TECHNOLOGY WEEK—A SECRET MEMO FROM A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TO A SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE COMPARES THE INSLAW CASE TO WATERGATE.  
KEYWORDS: D. LOWELL JENSEN, EDWIN MEESE, SAM NUNN, JAMES SCHNEIDER, UNIX, DALITE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-18  
 YEAR: 11/28/88  
 SUMMARY: THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL—A MAJOR WASHINGTON LAW FIRM WILL SPEAK BEFORE A BANKRUPTCY JUDGE ON ALLEGED CONFLICT OF INTEREST WHILE HANDLING INSLAW'S SUIT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: SAM NUNN, LEONARD GARMENT, JAMES F. SCHNEIDER, LEIGH RATINER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-19  
 YEAR: 12/28/88  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—INSLAW EMERGES FROM BANKRUPTCY REORGANIZATION WITH HELP FROM IBM, BUT MUST PAY OLD LEGAL FEES TO A LAW FIRM THE COMPANY CLAIMS MISHANDLED THEIR CASE.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-20  
 YEAR: 2/20/89  
 SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ARE CONSIDERING OFFERS FOR ITS "PROJECT EAGLE" OFFICE COMPUTERIZATION PLAN.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-21  
 YEAR: 7/3/89  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—TWO COMPANIES PROTEST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S AWARD OF THE PROJECT EAGLE CONTRACT TO TISOFT INC.  
 KEYWORDS: PRIME COMPUTER INC., FALCON SYSTEMS INC.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-01  
 YEAR: 10/89  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—WHILE AWAITING THE BEGINNING OF IT'S PROJECT EAGLE UPGRADE PROJECT, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT LOOKS FOR UPGRADES OF OTHER COMPUTER EQUIPMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: KRIME COMPUTER INC.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-23  
 YEAR: 7/10/89  
 SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—A SHORT PROFILE ON TISOFT INC. AND THE BOOST THE PROJECT EAGLE CONTRACT WILL MEAN FOR THE COMPANY.  
 KEYWORDS: JOHN A. OAKES, AMICUS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-24  
 YEAR: 9/30/89  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE CONCLUDES THAT JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SHOWED "POOR JUDGEMENT," BUT THAT THEY COULD FIND NO EVIDENCE OF A CONSPIRACY TO BANKRUPT INSLAW INC.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PRIN\IB-25  
 YEAR: 10/2/89  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—A SENATE COMMITTEE FINDS NO CONSPIRACY ON THE PART OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO DRIVE INSLAW INTO BANKRUPTCY BUT SAYS PERSONAL BIASES DID UNDERCUT THE DEPARTMENT'S INTEGRITY.

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- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-26  
YEAR: 11/23/89  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE UPHOLDS A BANKRUPTCY COURT'S RULING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HARASSED INSLAW AND TRIED TO DRIVE IT OUT OF BUSINESS.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM B. BRYANT, AMY BROWN
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-27  
YEAR: 11/23/89  
SUMMARY: ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—A US DISTRICT JUDGE AFFIRMED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE "WILLFULLY AND FRAUDULENTLY" SOUGHT TO DRIVE INSLAW INC. OUT OF BUSINESS.  
KEYWORDS: MICHAEL ROBINSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-28  
YEAR: 8/7/89  
SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—PRIME COMPUTER INC. GIVES UP PROTEST OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AWARDED PROJECT EAGLE CONTRACT TO TISOFT INC.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-29  
YEAR: 12/4/89  
SUMMARY: BARRON'S—FEDERAL JUDGE WILLIAM BRYANT UPHOLDS PREVIOUS INSLAW AWARD AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: GEORGE F. BASON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-30  
YEAR: 12/18/89  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—AN OVERVIEW TO DATE OF THE INSLAW CASE AND THE BEHAVIOR OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. ARTICLE COMPARES THE INSLAW SITUATION TO OTHER FORCED-BANKRUPTCIES INVOLVING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: CAMPAIGNER PUBLICATIONS, CAUCUS DISTRIBUTORS, THE FUSION ENERGY FOUNDATION, LYNDON LAROUCHE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-31  
YEAR: 12/24/89  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL—SUPPORTS THE RECENT UPHOLDING OF AN AWARD TO INSLAW FROM THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: C. MADISON BREWER
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-32  
YEAR: 12/27/89  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—INSLAW SEEKS COURT-ORDERED PROBE OF ITS CASE, CLAIMING THE GOVERNMENT STOLE ITS SOFTWARE.  
KEYWORDS: DICK THORNBURGH, WILLIAM HAMILTON, ELLIOT RICHARDSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRINIB-33  
YEAR: 12/28/89  
SUMMARY: ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—INSLAW ASKS A COURT TO FORCE ANOTHER JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION OF IT'S OWN BEHAVIOR WITH REGARD TO INSLAW INC.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, WILLIAM B. BRYANT, EDWIN MEESE



SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-34  
 YEAR: 12/31/89  
 SUMMARY: THE ATLANTA JOURNAL—INSLAW ALLEGES THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE CONSPIRED AGAINST THE COMPANY AND ASK A COURT TO FORCE MEESE'S SUCCESSOR TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER.  
 KEYWORDS: RICHARD THORNBURGH, URSULA MEESE, EARL BRIAN, HADRON INC.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-35  
 YEAR: 1/4/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES COMMENTARY—EDITORIAL RECOMMENDS THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL DICK THORNBURGH RECONSIDER HIS REFUSAL TO INVESTIGATE THE HANDLING OF INSLAW CONTRACTS BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-36  
 YEAR: 1/6/90  
 SUMMARY: CHICAGO SUN TIMES, JAMES J. KILPATRICK COLUMN—REVIEW OF INSLAW CASE UP TO SECOND RULING IN FAVOR OF INSLAW BY JUDGE WILLIAM BRYANT.  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, JOHN R. BOLTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-37  
 YEAR: 1/8/90  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW ASKS A FEDERAL JUDGE TO SEEK A PROBE INTO ALLEGED DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE SOFTWARE COMPANY.  
 KEYWORDS: RICHARD THORNBURGH, EDWIN MEESE, PROMIS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-38  
 YEAR: 1/15/90  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER MARKET REPORT—INSLAW ACTS TO FORCE ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH TO APPOINT IMPARTIAL SPECIAL PROSECUTOR TO LOOK INTO ITS CLAIMS OF CONSPIRACY.  
 KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON, EDWIN MEESE, LOWELL JENSEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-39  
 YEAR: 1/15/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—AFTER WINNING A \$76 MILLION JUSTICE DEPARTMENT COMPUTER CONTRACT, TISOFT INC. PUTS ITSELF UP FOR SALE.  
 KEYWORDS: PROJECT EAGLE, PATRICK GALLAGHER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-40  
 YEAR: 1/15/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW CLAIMS THAT SEVERAL UNFRIENDLY TAKEOVER BIDS BETWEEN 1983 AND 1986 WERE ORCHESTRATED BY EARL BRIAN.  
 KEYWORDS: HADRON INC., URSULA MEESE, PROMIS, SAM NUNN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-41  
 YEAR: 1/29/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW FILES A GOVERNMENT CONTRACT APPEALS BOARD SEEKING \$2 MILLION IN PAYMENTS WITHHELD BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, RICHARD THORNBURGH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW B  
 NO.: PR\N\B-42  
 YEAR: 2/5/90  
 SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT IT WILL APPEAL THE FEDERAL COURT RULING THAT IT STOLE SOFTWARE FROM INSLAW INC.  
 KEYWORDS: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, PROMIS

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- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-43  
YEAR: 2/2/90  
SUMMARY: THE COMPUTER LAWYER—DETAILED LEGAL OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW CASE.  
KEYWORDS: EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS, PROMIS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-01  
YEAR: 24/90  
SUMMARY: NATIONAL JOURNAL—OVERVIEW OF INSLAW AFFAIR TO DATE.  
KEYWORDS: URSULA MEESE, EARL BRIAN, PROJECT EAGLE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-45  
YEAR: 3/5/90  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—INSLAW FOUNDER WILLIAM HAMILTON REBUTS A PREVIOUS LETTER FROM A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WHO CLAIMED THAT INSLAW HAD MALIGNED THE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: THOMAS G. DOOLEY
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-46  
YEAR: 4/30/90  
SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—INSLAW ALLEGES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS TRYING TO SECRETLY CONVERT INSLAW SOFTWARE AND THEREBY STEAL IT.  
KEYWORDS: MICHAEL ROBINSON, LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-47  
YEAR: 4/3/90  
SUMMARY: ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR TO DATE. INSLAW FOUNDER SAYS THAT 42 US ATTORNEYS OFFICES CONTINUE TO USE TEST VERSIONS OF SOFTWARE STILL UNDER DISPUTE.  
KEYWORDS: D. LOWELL JENSEN, PROMIS, WILLIAM HAMILTON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-48  
YEAR: 3/5/90  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ASKS A FEDERAL JUDGE TO DISMISS AN INSLAW PETITION COMPELLING A PROBE OF THE DEPARTMENT.  
KEYWORDS: EARL BRIAN, SAM NUNN, EDWIN MEESE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-49  
YEAR: 3/17/90  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL—QUESTIONS THE RESISTANCE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO A FULL ACCOUNTING OF THE INSLAW MATTER.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW B  
NO.: PRIN\IB-50  
YEAR: 4/2/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS A COURT-APPOINTED MEDIATOR TO QUIETLY SETTLE THE INSLAW CASE.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRIN\IC-01  
YEAR: 4/2/90  
SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK—NETWORK SYSTEMS CORP. SAYS IT HELPED TISOFT INC. WIN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE "PROJECT EAGLE" CONTRACT AND WAS JILTED WHEN TISOFT PUT ITSELF UP FOR SALE.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-02  
 YEAR: 4/16/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—AFTER MONTHS OF RESISTANCE, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH AGREES TO ASSIST CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS IN THEIR LOOK INTO THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: REP. JACK BROOKS, PROJECT EAGLE, GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-03  
 YEAR: 4/28/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL—COMMENDS ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH FOR FINALLY COOPERATING WITH A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE LOOKING INTO THE INSLAW CONTRACT DISPUTE.  
 KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-04  
 YEAR: 4/30/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW CLAIMS THAT A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOFTWARE BUY IS REALLY A SURREPTITIOUS EFFORT TO CONVERT INSLAW'S PROMIS SOFTWARE.  
 KEYWORDS: CAROL ROTHGEB, MICHAEL ROBINSON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-05  
 YEAR: 5/7/90  
 SUMMARY: NEWS-PRESS, JAMES J. KILPATRICK EDITORIAL—AN OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW DISPUTE TO DATE.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-06  
 YEAR: 5/7/90  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—INSLAW SUGGESTS THAT THE WINNER OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S PROJECT EAGLE CONTRACT IS INVOLVED IN A CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE SOFTWARE COMPANY.  
 KEYWORDS: TISOFT INC., PAT GALLAGHER, WILLIAM HAMILTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-07  
 YEAR: 5/18/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—AN OVERVIEW OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR TO DATE WITH AN ANALYSIS OF PROBLEMS WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S "PROJECT EAGLE," AN OFFICE AUTOMATION PLAN.  
 KEYWORDS: PATRICK GALLAGHER, WILLIAM HAMILTON, JACK BROOKS, TERRY MILLER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-01  
 YEAR: 5/28/90  
 SUMMARY: BUSINESS WEEK—A PROFILE OF US ATTORNEY GENERAL DICK THORNBURGH.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM H. GRAY III, DAVID R. RUNKEL, KENNETH W. STARR

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-09  
 YEAR: 9/10/90  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW REPUBLIC—ARTICLE REVIEWS MAJOR EVENTS TO DATE IN THE INSLAW AFFAIR AND QUESTIONS WHY ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH DOESN'T LEAD AN INVESTIGATION OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S BEHAVIOR.  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, ANTHONY PASCIUTO, CORNELIUS BLACKSHEAR, SAM NUNN

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- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-10  
YEAR: 7/2/90  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—A HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE PROBE FINDS IRREGULARITIES IN THE AWARD OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S "PROJECT EAGLE" CONTRACT TO TISOFT INC.  
KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-11  
YEAR: 8/6/90  
SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—INSLAW'S ACCUSATION THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT STOLE ITS SOFTWARE UNDER THE "PROJECT EAGLE" PROGRAM LEAD THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TO CUT THE PROJECT'S BUDGET IN HALF PENDING AN INVESTIGATION.  
KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS, WILLIAM HAMILTON, EDWIN MEESE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-12  
YEAR: 12/7/90  
SUMMARY: THE PRESS DEMOCRAT—HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JACK BROOKS ACCUSES THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF ENGAGING IN A COVER-UP OF THE INSLAW AFFAIR BY WITHHOLDING DOCUMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE.  
KEYWORDS: STEVEN R. ROSS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-13  
YEAR: 12/5/90  
SUMMARY: SAN FRANCISCO DAILY JOURNAL—THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE LOOKING INTO THE INSLAW AFFAIR SAYS HE WILL LOOK INTO WHETHER THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS WRONG IN CLAIMING "PRIVILEGE" IN WITHHOLDING 200 DOCUMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE.  
KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS, D. LOWELL JENSEN, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-14  
YEAR: 12/6/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, MARY MCGRORY COLUMN—QUESTIONS WHY ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH WOULD USE "EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE" TO WITHHOLD DOCUMENTS FROM A HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE LOOKING INTO THE INSLAW DISPUTE.  
KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON, WILLIAM HAMILTON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-15  
YEAR: 12/6/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—REP. JACK BROOKS ACCUSES THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF WITHHOLDING DOCUMENTS TO FRUSTRATE HIS PANEL'S PROBE OF ALLEGED IMPROPRIETIES IN THE DEPARTMENT'S DEALINGS WITH INSLAW, INC.  
KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS, STEVEN R. ROSS, GEORGE FRANCIS BASON JR.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-16  
YEAR: 12/8/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, EDITORIAL—SUMS UP INSLAW DISPUTE TO DATE AND QUESTIONS WHY ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH WOULD REFUSE TO COOPERATE WITH A HOUSE COMMITTEE PROBING THE MATTER.  
KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-17  
YEAR: 12/10/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MAY ISSUE SUBPOENAS FOR HUNDREDS OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DOCUMENTS REGARDING DEALINGS WITH INSLAW INC. THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS TO DATE WITHHELD.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, WILLIAM BRYANT, JACK BROOKS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-18  
 YEAR: 12/17/90  
 SUMMARY: BOSTON GLOBE—INSLAW LAWYER ELLIOT RICHARDSON ASKS THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEGRITY TO CONTACT 30 WITNESSES TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF INSLAW.  
 KEYWORDS: ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM WELD

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-19  
 YEAR: 1/28/91  
 SUMMARY: FEDERAL COMPUTER MARKET REPORT—A THREE-JUDGE PANEL HAS HEARD THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT APPEAL OF THE INSLAW INC. SUIT. A RULING IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-20  
 YEAR: 2/21/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE LOOKS INTO ALLEGATIONS THAT INSLAW'S SOFTWARE WAS SOLD ILLEGALLY TO IRAQI AND ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.  
 KEYWORDS: CIA, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, BIOTECH CAPITAL CORP., EARL BRIAN, ARI BEN-MENASHE, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-21  
 YEAR: 2/18/91  
 SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT COMPUTER NEWS—A SUMMARY OF THE INSLAW DISPUTE TO DATE.  
 KEYWORDS: MARK B. STERN, MICHAEL FRIEDLANDER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-22  
 YEAR: 2/19/91  
 SUMMARY: THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—AFFIDAVITS IN THE INSLAW DISPUTE CLAIM THAT INSLAW'S SOFTWARE WAS ILLEGALLY SOLD TO THE ISRAELI, IRAQI, AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, ARI BEN-MENASHE, EARL BRIAN, CIA, CARLOS CARDOEN

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-23  
 YEAR: 2/21/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—A HOUSE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATES ALLEGATIONS THAT INSLAW'S SOFTWARE IS BEING USED ILLEGALLY BY VARIOUS FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.  
 KEYWORDS: KISRAEL, CANADA, CIA, BIOTECH CAPITAL INC., PROMIS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-24  
 YEAR: 2/25/91  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—EARL BRIAN CALLS AFFIDAVITS STATING HE ILLEGALLY SOLD INSLAW SOFTWARE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS "A TISSUE OF LIES."  
 KEYWORDS: INFOTECHNOLOGY INC., DENIS LACHANCE, ARI BEN-MENASHE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PRINVIC-25  
 YEAR: 2/27/91  
 SUMMARY: THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DENIES CHARGES THAT IT DELIVERED STOLEN INSLAW SOFTWARE TO THE ISRAELI, CANADIAN, AND IRAQI GOVERNMENTS.  
 KEYWORDS: CARLOS CARDOEN, INFOTECHNOLOGY INC., EDWIN MEESE

## THE OCTOPUS

- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-26  
YEAR: 2/15/91  
SUMMARY: THE MIAMI HERALD, JAMES J. KILPATRICK COLUMN—SUMS UP THE INSLAW DISPUTE TO DATE INCLUDING THE ACCUSATIONS THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOLD THE SOFTWARE TO FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS.  
KEYWORDS: AUBREY ROBINSON, PAUL H. MANNES, MARTIN TEEL, CIA, EDWIN MEESE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-27  
YEAR: 3/18/91  
SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—A DETAILED REVIEW OF THE INSLAW DISPUTE WITH AN EMPHASIS ON MANY OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INVOLVED.  
KEYWORDS: JAY STEPHENS, MICHAEL SHAHEEN JR., CHARLES WORK, ELLIOT RICHARDSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-01  
YEAR: 3/24/91  
SUMMARY: ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—AFFIDAVITS CHARGE THAT WHITE HOUSE AIDE ROBERT C. MCFARLANE ILLEGALLY TRANSFERRED INSLAW SOFTWARE TO ISRAELI OFFICIALS.  
KEYWORDS: ARI BEN-MENASHE, RICHARD H. BABAYAN, RICHARD SECORD, EARL BRIAN, MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO, WACKENHUT CORP, CABAZON INDIANS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-29  
YEAR: 3/25/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORTS THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOLD SURPLUS COMPUTERS WITHOUT FIRST ERASING SENSITIVE INFORMATION FROM THEIR MEMORY BANKS.  
KEYWORDS: ROBERT WISE JR., CHARLES HAYES, HOWARD G. RHILE
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-30  
YEAR: 3/28/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, MARY MCGRORY COLUMN—SUMMARIZES THE INSLAW DISPUTE TO DATE INCLUDING AFFIDAVITS BY A ENTREPRENEUR THAT EARL BRIAN SUPPLIED HIM WITH STOLEN INSLAW SOFTWARE.  
KEYWORDS: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-31  
YEAR: 3/31/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A KEY WITNESS FOR INSLAW INC. IS ARRESTED IN WASHINGTON STATE. MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO HAD CLAIMED THAT PRIVATE INTERESTS HIRED HIM TO MODIFY ALLEGEDLY STOLEN SOFTWARE DEVELOPED BY INSLAW.  
KEYWORDS: PETER VIDENIEKS, PROMIS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-32  
YEAR: 4/4/91  
SUMMARY: THE VANCOUVER SUN—INSLAW SAYS THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WAS "DUPED" INTO ILLEGALLY ACQUIRING INSLAW SOFTWARE. US COURT DOCUMENTS ALSO SHOW A CANADIAN COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT ADMITTING TO USING THE SOFTWARE WITHOUT AN AUTHORIZED SALE.  
KEYWORDS: ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE, EARL BRIAN, RICHARD BABAYAN
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW C  
NO.: PRINVIC-33  
YEAR: 4/5/91  
SUMMARY: VANCOUVER SUN—VICTORIA MP'S WANT THE CANADIAN SOLICITOR GENERAL GRILLED OVER THE RCMP AND CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE USING ALLEGEDLY STOLEN INSLAW SOFTWARE.  
KEYWORDS: PIERRE CADIEUX, JOHN BREWIN, WILLIAM BRYANT

- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-34  
 YEAR: 4/5/91  
 SUMMARY: FINANCIAL TIMES—ARI BEN-MENASHE ACCUSES REAGAN ADVISER ROBERT MCFARLANE OF ILLEGALLY DISTRIBUTING INSLAW SOFTWARE TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.  
 KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-35  
 YEAR: 4/9/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, MARY MCGRORY COLUMN—A PROFILE OF INSLAW LAWYER ELLIOT RICHARDSON AND HIS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY.  
 KEYWORDS: RICHARD THORNBURGH, AUBREY E. ROBINSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-36  
 YEAR: 4/9/91  
 SUMMARY: FINANCIAL TIMES—A COURT GIVES INSLAW THIRTY DAYS TO SUBPOENA WITNESSES AS PART OF AN EFFORT TO SPEED UP AN INVESTIGATION INTO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BEHAVIOR.  
 KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-37  
 YEAR: 4/27/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, EDITORIAL—A RECAP OF THE INSLAW DISPUTE AND HOW THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS RECENTLY AGREED TO LET THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SEE EVERY DOCUMENT PERTINENT TO THE INSLAW DISPUTE.  
 KEYWORDS: JACK BROOKS, WILLIAM BRYANT
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-38  
 YEAR: 4/30/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, MARY MCGRORY COLUMN—ATTORNEY GENERAL DICK THORNBURGH WILL LET THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE VIEW EVERY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DOCUMENT PERTINENT TO THE INSLAW CASE.  
 KEYWORDS: ELLIOT RICHARDSON, BOB FISKE, ELLIOT RICHARDSON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-39  
 YEAR: 5/8/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT THROWS OUT A 1988 RULING AGAINST THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT THAT IT STOLE SOFTWARE FROM INSLAW INC. INSLAW CAN STILL PURSUE ITS CLAIMS IN OTHER COURTS.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWIN MEESE, JUDGE STEPHEN F. WILLIAMS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-40  
 YEAR: 5/8/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WINS AN APPEAL OF A PREVIOUS COURT DECISION THAT IT HAD "STOLEN" SOFTWARE FROM INSLAW INC. HOWEVER THE THREE-JUDGE APPEALS PANEL SUGGESTS THAT INSLAW FILE ITS SUIT IN ANOTHER, MORE PROPER FEDERAL COURT.  
 KEYWORDS: STEPHEN F. WILLIAMS
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW C  
 NO.: PR\IN\IC-41  
 YEAR: 5/11/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, EDITORIAL—STATES THAT A RECENT OVERTURNING OF A PRO-INSLAW RULING WAS BASED NOT ON THE MERITS OF THE CASE BUT THAT THE ORIGINAL BANKRUPTCY COURT RULING WAS OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT.

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SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-01  
YEAR: 3/8/88  
SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—HADRON INC., AN EARL BRIAN COMPANY, REPORTS ITS QUARTERLY EARNINGS DOWN FROM THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-02  
YEAR: 6/16/88  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—MEMOS FROM A WEDTECH INC. CONSULTANT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE INDICATE THAT THEY HELPED LAUNCH A PROBE OF A WEDTECH COMPETITOR.  
KEYWORDS: E, ROBERT WALLACH, GARCIA ORDINANCE CORP.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-03  
YEAR: 6/19/89  
SUMMARY: SUMMARY:THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL—A PROFILE OF GLOBALINK, A COMPUTER THAT TRANSLATES WRITTEN FOREIGN LANGUAGES INTO ENGLISH.  
KEYWORDS: DOMINIC LAITI, HADRON INC.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-04  
YEAR: 10/28/88  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, EDITORIAL—ENCOURAGES LEGISLATIVE “WHISTLE BLOWER” PROTECTION.  
KEYWORDS: K. WILLIAM O’ CONNOR, JOSEPH WRIGHT, PAT SCHROEDER

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-05  
YEAR: 9/12/90  
SUMMARY: OPINION, EDITORIAL—AUTHOR BELIEVES THAT A KENTUCKY MAN’S CLAIM OF HAVING FOUND SECRET INFORMATION ON A USED JUSTICE DEPARTMENT COMPUTER IS A FRAUD.  
KEYWORDS: CHUCK HAYES

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-06  
YEAR: 9/18/90  
SUMMARY: THE LEXINGTON HERALD READER—CONGRESS PLANS TO INVESTIGATE THE ACCIDENTAL SALE OF GOVERNMENT SECRETS IN SURPLUS COMPUTER EQUIPMENT BY THE US ATTORNEY’S OFFICE IN LEXINGTON, KY.  
KEYWORDS: GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE, CHARLES HAYES, BOB WISE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-07  
YEAR: 3/25/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE SAYS IT UNCOVERED A FAILURE BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO SECURE SECRET COMPUTER FILES BEFORE SELLING COMPUTER HARDWARE AS SURPLUS.  
KEYWORDS: HOWARD G. RHILE, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH, HARRY H. FLICKINGER, ROBERT WISE

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIN\IM-08  
YEAR: 3/27/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON TIMES—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DOESN’T KNOW IF SURPLUS COMPUTER HARDWARE CONTAINED SECRET INFO AND/OR WHO BOUGHT IT.  
KEYWORDS: GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE, ROBERT E. WISE, HARRY H. FLICKINGER



SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: INSLAW MISCELLANEOUS  
 NO.: PRV\NIM-09  
 YEAR: ?  
 SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—AN ARTICLE ON HOW DIFFICULT IT IS FOR SMALL COMPANIES TO EMERGE FROM A CHAPTER 11.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: JUSTICE DEPARTMENT  
 NO.: PRV\NJD-01  
 YEAR: 2/5/90  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—A SENATE STAFF REPORT CALLS INTO QUESTION A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ETHICS OFFICER'S POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE IN HIS PROBE OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT OVER THE INSLAW AFFAIR.  
 KEYWORDS: MICHAEL SHAHEEN JR., ROGER PILON, MATTHEW MYERS

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: JUSTICE DEPARTMENT  
 NO.: PRV\NJD-02  
 YEAR: 3/25/90  
 SUMMARY: NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE—A CLIPPING FROM A PROFILE OF THEN-PRESIDENT BUSH'S CABINET. THE CLIPPING FOCUSES ON ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM SAXBE, ED MEESE, JOHN SUNUNU

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-02  
 YEAR: 4/25/77  
 SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—DATA COLLECTED USING PROMIS SOFTWARE SHOWS THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE FELONY ARRESTS IN FIVE JURISDICTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY WERE REJECTED BY PROSECUTORS OR DISMISSED AFTER CHARGES WERE FILED.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-03  
 YEAR: 5/16/77  
 SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION (WHICH DESIGNED THE ORIGINAL PROMIS SOFTWARE) SHOWS THAT ONLY 8% OF WASHINGTON D.C.'S POLICE OFFICERS MADE MORE THAN HALF OF ALL ARRESTS THAT LED TO CONVICTIONS IN 1974.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-04  
 YEAR: 6/10/78  
 SUMMARY: SATURDAY REVIEW—AN ARTICLE BASED UPON INSLAW DATA AND CRITICIZING THE US COURT SYSTEM.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-05  
 YEAR: 12/25/78  
 SUMMARY: WASHINGTON POST—A CASE STUDY OF WASHINGTON D.C.'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM FINDS WIDELY DIFFERING SENTENCING PRACTICES AMONG DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUDGES.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON, INSLAW

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-06  
 YEAR: 2/16/79  
 SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—AN EDITORIAL BY INSLAW DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH BRIAN E. FORST STATES THAT MOST ARRESTS FOR SERIOUS CRIMES DO NOT END IN CONVICTION.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRV\NPS-07  
 YEAR: 4/23/79  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—AN INSLAW STUDY REVEALS THAT PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR BURGLARY, ROBBERY, AND LARCENIES HAVE A 60 PERCENT CHANCE OF AGAIN BEING ARRESTED FOR CRIMES.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON

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- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-08  
YEAR: 8/79  
SUMMARY: DISTRICT LAWYER—AN ARTICLE BY INSLAW PRESIDENT WILLIAM HAMILTON SAYS ONE OF THE TWO MOST COMMON REASONS FOR FELONY CASES BEING DROPPED IS POLICE FAILURE TO COLLECT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE.  
KEYWORDS: LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-09  
YEAR: 10/14/79  
SUMMARY: THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, EDITORIAL—RECOMMENDS PROMIS SOFTWARE AS A WAY OF MANAGING PROSECUTOR CASELOADS AND STOPPING UP THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SIEVE.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-10  
YEAR: 1980  
SUMMARY: 'IMPROVING PROSECUTION?': THE INDUCEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INNOVATIONS FOR PROSECUTION MANAGEMENT' BY DAVID LEO WEIMER—A BOOK EXCERPT THAT QUESTIONS WHETHER USE OF INSLAW SOFTWARE BY PROSECUTORS' OFFICES INSTEAD OF A RIVAL SOFTWARE WAS THE BEST CHOICE.  
KEYWORDS: PROMIS, DALITE, D. LOWELL JENSEN, WILLIAM HAMILTON
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-11  
YEAR: 3/16/82  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—AN INSLAW SURVEY OF 264 FEDERAL JUDGES SHOWS A WIDER-THAN-PREVIOUSLY-BELIEVED DISPARITY IN SENTENCING.
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-12  
YEAR: 4/16/82  
SUMMARY: LOS ANGELES TIMES—AN INSLAW STUDY SUGGESTS THAT THOUSANDS OF LAW-BREAKERS ARE ESCAPING PROSECUTION BECAUSE OF JURISDICTIONAL RIVALRIES BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.  
KEYWORDS: ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM FRENCH SMITH
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-13  
YEAR: 5/11/82  
SUMMARY: WALL STREET JOURNAL—A LOOK AT THE LOS ANGELES CAREER CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNIT, A LEGAL SPECIAL TEAM THAT WORKS TO WIN STIFFER SENTENCES FOR CAREER-CRIMINALS.  
KEYWORDS: BARBARA BOLAND, INSLAW
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-14  
YEAR: 9/13/82  
SUMMARY: THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL—INSLAW STUDIES SHOW THAT CAREER-CRIMINALS ARE NOT BEING PROSECUTED BECAUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS ARE IGNORING WAYS TO IDENTIFY THEM. OTHER CRIMINALS GO FREE BECAUSE LACK OF COORDINATION AMONG THOSE OFFICIALS.  
KEYWORDS: JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY
- SUBJECT: INSLAW  
FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
NO.: PRIN\PS-15  
YEAR: 12/29/82  
SUMMARY: THE DAILY RECORD (BALTIMORE)—VARIOUS FORMS OF ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY ARE BEING BROUGHT TO BEAR IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.  
KEYWORDS: PROMIS, INSLAW

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIN\PS-16  
 YEAR: 1/3/83  
 SUMMARY: NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM INITIATIVES ON DATA REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION POLICY—A SPEECH BY JAMES Q. WILSON QUOTING AN INSLAW STUDY ABOUT WHAT CRITERIA TO USE IN DECIDING PRIORITY OF PROSECUTING CRIMINALS.

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIN\PS-17  
 YEAR: 8/8/83  
 SUMMARY: LEGAL TIMES—US ATTORNEY'S OFFICES NATIONWIDE GO ONLINE WITH INSLAW'S PROMIS SOFTWARE.  
 KEYWORDS: WILLIAM HAMILTON

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIN\PS-18  
 YEAR: 8/10/83  
 SUMMARY: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—A PROFILE OF NEW YORK'S CAREER CRIMINAL PROGRAM WHICH STRESSES JAILING CRIMINALS WHO COMMIT LARGE NUMBERS OF CRIMES, EVEN LESS SERIOUS CRIMES.  
 KEYWORDS: INSLAW

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIN\PS-19  
 YEAR: JUNE-JULY 1984  
 SUMMARY: JUDICATURE—ARTICLE RECOMMENDS THAT COURTS MAKE BETTER USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CASE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE.  
 KEYWORDS: PROMIS, DOCKETRAC

SUBJECT: INSLAW  
 FILE: PROMIS SOFTWARE: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIN\PS-20  
 SUMMARY: THE JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES—AN ANALYSIS OF THE ROLE OF THE PROSECUTOR BASED ON AN INSLAW RESEARCH PROJECT.  
 KEYWORDS: BILL HAMILTON, BRIAN FORST, WILLIAM LANDES

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIO\CB-01  
 YEAR: 3/24/72  
 SUMMARY: NBC NEWS 'CHRONOLOG'—A TRANSCRIPT OF A TELEVISION REPORT ABOUT A CLANDESTINE ARMY TRAINED, EQUIPPED, ADVISED, AND PAID BY THE CIA AND FIGHTING IN LAOS.  
 KEYWORDS: AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VIET NAM, MUNG

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIO\CB-02  
 YEAR: 5/17/84  
 SUMMARY: 20/20—A TRANSCRIPT OF A TELEVISION REPORT ON THE LIFE AND DEATH OF GEORGE WEISZ, A MASTER SPY FOR THE CIA  
 KEYWORDS: BILL HARVEY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: BACKGROUND  
 NO.: PRIO\CB-03  
 YEAR: 9/27/84  
 SUMMARY: THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE—THE CIA DENIES AN ALLEGATION CARRIED BY ABC NEWS THAT THE AGENCY ENGAGED IN A PLOT TO KILL HONOLULU INVESTMENT COUNSELOR RONALD REWALD WHO CLAIMS HIS FAILED COMPANY WAS A CIA FRONT.  
 KEYWORDS: SCOTT BARNES

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
 NO.: PRIO\CR-01  
 YEAR: 8/26/91  
 SUMMARY: NEW YORK TIMES—A TEAM OF EX-GREEN BERETS MAY HAVE BEEN RECRUITED BY A FORMER CIA AGENT TO TRAIN LIBYAN TERRORISTS.  
 KEYWORDS: EDWARD P. WILSON, COLONEL QADDAFI

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SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-02  
YEAR: 8/30/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A FORMER CIA AGENT SHIPPED TWENTY TONS OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES FROM THE US TO LIBYA TO BE USED IN TERRORIST BOMBS.  
KEYWORDS: EDWIN P. WILSON, FRANK TERPIL

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-03  
YEAR: 9/6/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A GROUP OF INTERLOCKING BUSINESSES ASSOCIATED WITH A FORMER CIA AGENT TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST.  
KEYWORDS: EDWIN P. WILSON, THOMAS G. CLINES, FRANK TERPIL, THEODORE G. SHACKLEY

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-04  
YEAR: 9/14/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—AN ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES BROUGHT FORTH BY THE ACTIVITIES OF EX-CIA AGENTS EXPORTING WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY TO TERRORIST COUNTRIES.  
KEYWORDS: LIBYA, EDWIN P. WILSON, QADDAFI

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-05  
YEAR: 9/19/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE MOUNTS A FULL SCALE INVESTIGATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF EX-CIA AGENT EDWIN P. WILSON.  
KEYWORDS: MUAMMAR EL-QADDAFI, FRANK E. TERPIL

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-06  
YEAR: 9/23/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—EX-CIA AIDE SEES "NO WAY" TO BAR RETIRED INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS FROM DOING BUSINESS ABROAD.  
KEYWORDS: VERNON A. WALTERS, EDWIN P. WILSON, FRANK E. TERPIL

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-07  
YEAR: 9/30/91  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DECIDES TO BOLSTER ITS INQUIRY INTO AN INVESTIGATION OF EDWIN WILSON AND FRANK TERPIL, TWO EX-CIA OFFICERS CHARGED WITH SELLING EXPLOSIVES TO LIBYAN TERRORISTS.  
KEYWORDS: WILLIAM H. WEBSTER

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-08  
YEAR: 9/13/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—THE F.B.I. IS INVESTIGATING AN ALLEGATION THAT A COMPANY OWNED BY EX-CIA OFFICER EDWIN P. WILSON BRIBED A KEY-FEDERAL OFFICIAL.  
KEYWORDS: CONTROL DATA CORPORATION, KEVIN P. MULCAHY

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
NO.: PRIO\CR-10  
YEAR: 10/11/81  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—TWO FORMER ASSOCIATES ACCUSE EX-CIA AGENT EDWIN P. WILSON OF TRYING TO DIVERT AMERICAN ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE GATHERING TECHNOLOGY TO THE SOVIET UNION.

- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
 NO.: PRVIO\CR-10  
 YEAR: 10/13/81  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—CURRENT AND FORMER EXECUTIVES OF A SMALL CALIFORNIA ELECTRONICS COMPANY SAY TWO FORMER CIA AGENTS TRIED TO MARKET SENSITIVE AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY ABROAD.  
 KEYWORDS: FRANK E. TERPIL, EDWIN P. WILSON, STANFORD TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
 NO.: PRVIO\CR-11  
 YEAR: 10/24/81  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A 10 COUNT INDICTMENT WAS HANDED DOWN AGAINST EX-CIA AGENTS FRANK TERPIL AND EDWIN P. WILSON FOR SHIPPING EXPLOSIVES TO LIBYA AND TRAINING LIBYAN TERRORISTS. THE INDICTMENT ALSO INCLUDED A VIRGINIA MAN WITH SUPERVISING THE LIBYAN END OF THE DEAL.  
 KEYWORDS: DONALD SCHLACHTER
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
 NO.: PRVIO\CR-12  
 YEAR: 10/25/81  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—AN ASSASSIN TARGETING A LIBYAN STUDENT IN COLORADO IN 1980 FOUND SANCTUARY AT AN ENGLISH FARM OWNED BY EX-CIA AGENT EDWIN P. WILSON.  
 KEYWORDS: EUGENE A. TAFOYA, FAISAL ZAGALLAI
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: RENEGADES  
 NO.: PRVIO\CR-13 & 14  
 YEAR: ?  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE—A TWO-PART ARTICLE ABOUT HOW FORMER CIA ANALYST KEVIN P. MULCAHY WAS DUPED INTO COORDINATING ILLEGAL EXPORTATION OF TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING TO LIBYA TERRORISTS AT THE BEHEST OF EX-CIA AGENTS FRANK TERPIL AND EDWIN P. WILSON.  
 KEYWORDS: MUAMMAR EL-QADDAFI
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
 NO.: PRVIO\CI-05  
 YEAR: 3/1/90  
 SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A COSTA RICAN JUDGE SIGNS AN EXTRADITION ORDER FOR AN ALLEGED CIA OPERATIVE, NOW IN THE US, FOR THE BOMBING OF A NEWS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY CONTRA EDEN PASTORA IN 1984. ALSO: THE WASHINGTON POST—A JACK ANDERSON COLUMN MAINTAINS THAT CONGRESS IS PROTECTING THE OPERATIVE.  
 KEYWORDS: JOHN HULL, MAXIMO ESQUIVEL, PHILIP HOLTZ, TONY AVIRGAN, THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION, JEFFREY FELDMAN
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
 NO.: PRVIO\CI-04  
 YEAR: JUNE 1990  
 SUMMARY: CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION—AN ARTICLE BY A MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIC INSTITUTE CLAIMS THAT THE CIA HAS HISTORICALLY USED DRUG DEALERS AND DRUG SMUGGLING TO SUPPORT THEIR COVERT WAR EFFORTS.  
 KEYWORDS: JOHN F. KERRY
- SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
 NO.: PRVIO\CI-03  
 YEAR: 3/26/90  
 SUMMARY: THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL—SEVERAL CASES WITH RECENT DEVELOPMENTS STEM FROM THE IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR INCLUDING A COSTA RICAN ATTEMPT TO EXTRADITE FROM THE US AN ALLEGED CIA OPERATIVE, THE HARASSMENT OF AN ANTI-CONTRA ACTIVIST, AND THE APPEAL OF A SANCTION IMPOSED AGAINST THE CHRISTIC INSTITUTE.  
 KEYWORDS: JOHN HULL, EDEN PASTORA, JACK TERRELL, F.B.I., JUDGE JAMES L. KING

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-02  
YEAR: 10/11/87  
SUMMARY: THE SACRAMENTO BEE—A LEFT-AND A RIGHT-WING ACTIVIST BOTH CLAIM THE CIA USES A "SECRET TEAM" THAT RUNS GUNS, SMUGGLES DRUGS, AND CONDUCTS ASSASSINATIONS IN THE NAME OF ANTI-COMMUNISM.

KEYWORDS: THE CHRISTIC INSTITUTE, MIAS, FULGENCIO BATISTA, THEODORE SHACKLEY, THOMAS CLINES, RICHARD SECORD, JOHN K. SINGLAUB, OLIVER NORTH, TONY AVIRGAN, MARTHA HONEY

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-01  
YEAR: 2/17/87  
SUMMARY: IN THESE TIMES—THIS ARTICLE CONTRADICTS THE WIDELY REPORTED ACCOUNT THAT IRANIANS LEAKED THE ARMS-FOR-HOSTAGE DEAL. INSTEAD, THE REPORTERS MAINTAIN THAT ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE LEAKED THE PLOT TO PROTECT SOME OF THEIR OWN AGENTS.

KEYWORDS: AL SHIRROA, KHOMEINI, EDWIN MEESE, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, ARIEL SHARON, SAM EVANS NORTHRUP, CYRUS HASHEMI

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-06  
YEAR: 11/5/90  
SUMMARY: SOUTH FLORIDA BUSINESS JOURNAL—A YEAR AFTER THE CONNECTION BETWEEN A TERRORIST/DRUG SMUGGLER AND THE PAN AM 103 BOMBING WAS REVEALED, THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE.

KEYWORDS: MONZER AL-KASSAR, JUVAL AVTV, CIA, THE CONTRAS, ABU NIDAL

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-07  
YEAR: 11/23-30/90  
SUMMARY: THE BOSTON PHOENIX—ARTICLE DETAILS THE COVER-UP OF DRUG TRAFFICKER BARRY SEAL'S ROLE IN IRAN-CONTRA AND HIS EVENTUAL ASSASSINATION BY MEDELLIN CARTEL GUNMEN.

KEYWORDS: TERRY REED, ARKANSAS, JOHN CATHEY, OLIVER NORTH, FELIX RODRIGUEZ, "BLACK EAGLE"

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-08  
YEAR: 12/17/90  
SUMMARY: BARRON'S—A PRIVATE PROBE BY PAN AM ALLEGES A TERRORIST-DRUG LINK IN THE PAN AM 103 BOMBING AND THAT THE CIA AND DEA. WERE VIRTUAL SPECTATORS TO THE TRAGEDY.

KEYWORDS: MONZER AL-KASSAR, RICHARD SECORD, MOSSAD

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-09  
YEAR: 2/11/91  
SUMMARY: THE BOSTON HERALD—A NEW YORK FEDERAL PROSECUTOR WHO WORKED ON THE IRAN-CONTRA CASE CLAIMS HIS BOOK "OPENING ARGUMENTS" THAT THE CIA UNDERMINED THE IRAN-CONTRA PROBE BY BRIBING SENIOR OFFICIALS IN COSTA RICA AND INTERFERING WITH WITNESS TESTIMONY.

KEYWORDS: JEFFREY R. TOOBIN

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
NO.: PR\IO\CI-10  
YEAR: 12/2/90  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—SENTENCING OF IRAN-CONTRA CONSPIRATOR THOMAS G. CLINES WAS POSTPONED AFTER DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ASK TO RESPOND TO PROSECUTION CLAIMS THAT CLINES FINANCIALLY MISREPRESENTED HIMSELF.

KEYWORDS: PAULA M. JUNGHANS, LAWRENCE E. WALSH, OLIVER NORTH

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
 NO.: PR10\CI-11  
 YEAR: 5/4/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A FORMER OPERATIVE IN OLIVER NORTH'S IRAN-CONTRA NETWORK SAYS GEORGE BUSH WAS NOT AWARE OF THEIR OPERATION.  
 KEYWORDS: FELIX RODRIGUEZ, DONALD GREGG, LAWRENCE E. WALSH, RONALD REAGAN

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: CIA: IRAN-CONTRA/DRUG SMUGGLING  
 NO.: PR10\CI-13  
 YEAR: 6/5/87  
 SUMMARY: THE SACRAMENTO BEE—A BURMESE DRUG WARLORD ACCUSED THE ASSISTANT US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND OTHERS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING TO FUND ANTI-COMMUNIST OPERATIONS.  
 KEYWORDS: KHUN SA, RICHARD L. ARMITAGE, THEODORE SHACKLEY, JAMES G. "BO" GRITZ

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-01  
 YEAR: 2/28/92  
 SUMMARY: A HEARING BEGAN ON THE TRIAL OF A GROUP OF FORMER MILITARY AND POLICE OFFICERS FOR THE ILLEGAL SALE OF WEAPONS AND TECHNOLOGY TO DRUG RUNNERS.  
 KEYWORDS: THE COMPANY, LARRY EARL BRYANT, ALVIN SNAPER, ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-02  
 YEAR: 9/13/85  
 SUMMARY: THE LOS ANGELES TIMES—A FORMER NARCOTICS OFFICER ONCE LINKED TO A SOUTH AMERICAN DRUG RING PARACHUTED TO HIS DEATH WITH 77 POUNDS OF COCAINE. (HIS MAIN CHUTE FAILED TO OPEN.)  
 KEYWORDS: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II, THE COMPANY

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-03  
 YEAR: JANUARY 1990  
 SUMMARY: THE AMERICAN SPECTATOR—A PROFILE OF THEN-RULER GENERAL MANUEL NORIEGA AND HIS PROSPECTS FOR THE NINETIES.  
 KEYWORDS:

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-04  
 YEAR: 12/15/90  
 SUMMARY: THE BOSTON GLOBE—IN LOS ANGELES, TWO INDICTMENTS WERE UNSEALED AGAINST A BOLIVIAN IMMIGRANT REPUTED TO RIVAL LEADERS OF THE COLOMBIAN COCAINE CARTELS.  
 KEYWORDS: JORGE ROCA SUAREZ

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-05  
 YEAR: 12/19/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SUSPENDS RAIDS IN PERU AS THE RESULT OF INTERFERENCE FROM THE PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES.  
 KEYWORDS: ROBERT C. BONNER, THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
 FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
 NO.: PR10\DE-06  
 YEAR: 12/19/90  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A TOP COCAINE TRAFFICKER WANTED IN THE UNITED STATES, SURRENDERS TO COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES WITH THE AGREEMENT HE WILL NOT BE EXTRADICTED TO THE UNITED STATES.  
 KEYWORDS: FABIO OCHOA VASQUEZ

## THE OCTOPUS

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
NO.: PRIOVE-07  
YEAR: 1/22/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—A DRUG TRAFFICKER WHO SURRENDERED UNDER THE COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT'S AGREEMENT NOT TO EXTRADITE HIM TO THE UNITED STATES, IS RELEASED FROM COLOMBIAN PRISON AFTER LESS THAN TWO MONTHS.  
KEYWORDS: GONZALO MEJIA, CESAR GAVIRIA, CARLOS GUSTAVO ARRIETA

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
NO.: PRIOVE-08  
YEAR: 2/28/91  
SUMMARY: THE NEW YORK TIMES—A SENATE STAFF STUDY AND TESTIMONY AT A SENATE PANEL REVEALS THAT BRITISH AND ISRAELI MERCENARIES PROVIDED PARAMILITARY ASSISTANCE TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN COLOMBIA IN 1988 AND 1989.  
KEYWORDS: SENATOR WILLIAM V. ROTH, DAVID TOMKINS, YAIR G. KLEIN

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
NO.: PRIOVE-09  
YEAR: 5/3/91  
SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST, JACK ANDERSON AND DALE VAN ATTA—INVESTIGATIONS BY A HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE AND THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S INSPECTOR GENERAL ALLEGE THAT CUSTOMS AGENTS FRATERNIZE WITH DRUG DEALERS IN THE MIDWEST.  
KEYWORDS: REPRESENTATIVE DOUG BARNARD JR., CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER CAROL HALLETT

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: INTELLIGENCE MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIOVM-01  
YEAR: 1/26/90  
SUMMARY: THE BOSTON GLOBE—AN OVERVIEW OF VICTOR OSTROVSKY, A FORMER MOSSAD SPY, WHOSE MEMOIR OF LIFE IN THE SPY SERVICE ALLEGES ASSASSINATIONS, BLACK-MAIL, AND INTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS  
FILE: INTELLIGENCE MISCELLANEOUS  
NO.: PRIOVM-02  
YEAR: 12/5/90  
SUMMARY: BOSTON GLOBE—TWO SENIOR RETIRED ISRAELI MILITARY OFFICERS CONSPIRED TO TRAIN AND ARM ASSASSINS FROM THE MEDELLIN COCAINE CARTEL.  
KEYWORDS: YAIR KLEIN, JOSE GONZALO RODRIGUEZ GACHA, PINCHAS SHACHAR

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
NO.: PRICW\MR-02  
YEAR: 1/20/73  
SUMMARY: RICONOSCIUTO IS CONVICTED OF STEALING \$3,000 WORTH OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.  
KEYWORDS: DAVID F. LADELY

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
NO.: PRICW\MR-03  
YEAR: 5/23/73  
SUMMARY: SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER—MARSHALL RICONOSCIUTO, FATHER OF MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO, TESTIFIES AT HIS SON MICHAEL'S TRIAL FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING THAT HE RAISED \$80,000 FOR HIS SON'S RESEARCH INTO CHEMICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS.  
KEYWORDS: LESTER WOOTEN, JOHN HUTT

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
NO.: PRICW\MR-01  
YEAR: 9/15/72  
SUMMARY: RICONOSCIUTO AND TWO OTHER MEN ARE ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH CONSPIRING TO MANUFACTURE LSD, PCP, AND MDA FOLLOWING A SIX-WEEK SURVEILLANCE BY NARCOTIC AGENTS.  
KEYWORDS: LESTER WOOTEN, STEVEN MICHAEL BERRY



SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-04  
 YEAR: 5/24/73  
 SUMMARY: RICONOSCIUTO CLAIMS THAT HIS LIFE HAS BEEN THREATENED BY BOTH DRUG DEALERS WHO WANTED HIM TO MANUFACTURE ILLEGAL DRUGS AND BY NARCOTICS AGENTS WHO WANTED HIM TO CONFESS TO DOING SO.

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-05  
 YEAR: 5/25/73  
 SUMMARY: RICONOSCIUTO IS FOUND GUILTY OF MANUFACTURING AND POSSESSING ILLEGAL DRUGS BY A SEATTLE FEDERAL JUDGE. THE JUDGE ORDERS A MENTAL EXAMINATION BEFORE SENTENCING.  
 KEYWORDS: JUDGE WALTER MCGOVERN

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-06  
 YEAR: 10/7/73  
 SUMMARY: RICONOSCIUTO IS SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IN PRISON FOR THE ILLEGAL MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS AND IS RECOMMENDED TO A FEDERAL PRISON WHERE MENTAL TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE.

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-07  
 YEAR: 2/13/74  
 SUMMARY: SEATTLE POST INTELLIGENCER—PART 1 OF AN OVERVIEW OF THE INFORMERS INVOLVED WITH THE RICONOSCIUTO DRUG BUST AND ANOTHER RELATED CASE.  
 KEYWORDS: PAUL DESCHAMPS, RICHARD L. TEEFY, IRWIN SCHWARTZ

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-08  
 YEAR: ?/?:73  
 SUMMARY: SEATTLE INTELLIGENCER—PART TWO OF THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO'S 1972 DRUG ARREST.

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-09  
 YEAR: 4/16/81  
 SUMMARY: MARSHALL RICONOSCIUTO, FATHER OF MICHAEL AND PRESIDENT OF HERCULES RESEARCH CORP, ANNOUNCES A POWERFUL ELECTRONIC POWER SUPPLY THAT WILL POWER A PATENTED HEATING AND COOLING DEVICE.  
 KEYWORDS: HENRY RANKIN, INTERPROBE, MODULAR ENERGY TRANSFER CATALYZER

SUBJECT: CABAZON/WACKENHUT  
 FILE: MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO  
 NO.: PRICW\MR-01  
 YEAR: 3/31/91  
 SUMMARY: THE WASHINGTON POST—MICHAEL RICONOSCIUTO IS ARRESTED AND HELD WITHOUT BAIL IN A RURAL WASHINGTON JAIL FOR UNKNOWN CHARGES. THE PREVIOUS MONTH RICONOSCIUTO HAD FILED AN AFFIDAVIT IN THE INSLAW CASE SAYING THAT HE HAD ILLEGALLY MODIFIED INSLAW SOFTWARE AT THE BEHEST OF PRIVATE INTERESTS.  
 KEYWORDS: PETER VIDENIEKS, WILLIAM HAMILTON

### ◀ APPENDIX 3:

## **An Interview with Michael Riconosciuto: the Maury Island Connection**

Michael Riconosciuto's link to Kennedy assassination figure Fred Crisman remains one of his most interesting. Its details are examined in the book *Maury Island UFO* (IllumiNet Press), a prequel to *The Octopus*, for which the following interview was conducted.

**Q:** Do you remember Fred Crisman, or Jon Gold? What can you tell me about him? Are you familiar with his memoir, *Murder In The City*?

**A:** *Murder In the City* really wasn't a memoir for Fred Crisman. *Murder In The City* was about a political episode in Tacoma that Fred Crisman played a role in.

**Q:** But it is written by him, right?

**A:** He's the author of it, yes. He had a talk show there and there was a big, heated political battle in Tacoma. My father was on one side and Dave Rollins was on the other side. These are two guys that grew up together and were rivals.

**Q:** Who is the other one?

**A:** Dave Rollins.

**Q:** This is what's mapped out in Jon Gold's, AKA Fred Crisman's, book.

**A:** Yes. I had known Fred ever since I was a small boy, probably about eight years old. And I traveled all over the world with him. I probably made twenty trips abroad with him.

Q: One of the grey areas with Crisman for me is what role he played in the Maury Island UFO thing.

A: The Maury Island UFO was an event that he created.

Q: He created it out of whole cloth?

A: I have about almost 1600 pages of handwritten notes by Fred Crisman.

Q: Oh yeah?

A: Uh huh.

Q: An unpublished manuscript?

A: Yes.

Q: That's a new one.

A: Fred was working with Mary C. Johnson at Boeing.

Q: What is the name again?

A: Mary C. Johnson. Mary Catrina Johnson. In security at Boeing. And they had done some tests or something and...

Q: This is late 1940s?

A: Yes. And there was a public outcry over it. Too much public scrutiny into what was going on. So Fred came up with this cover story.

Q: The cover story was intended to cover up what was happening at Boeing?

A: Yes.

Q: Which was what?

A: Some sort of test.

Q: Test?

A: Some sort of aircraft.

Q: Aircraft tests at Boeing?

A: Yes. And what happened was that something had gone wrong and some debris had fallen over Maury Island and they had to get the stuff back. Fred did, in fact, get the stuff back.

Q: That is my understanding just from reading the books on the thing, that he held on to it. There is no indication that he turned over everything he had to those two investigators that died.

A: Now the two investigators that died were basically in on it. They were out to investigate the security screw ups at Boeing and the procedures for running their test program.

Q: I see. So you're saying this was a test on an advanced but conventional aircraft that went awry? This is what fell on Harold Dahl and Crisman wasn't actually part of the actual incident, right? He comes in later?

A: He comes in later, yes. But the problem is that a dog that belonged to Harold Dahl died of radiation sickness.

Q: Oh, really?

A: Yes. And there was something...

Q: Dahl's son was also injured.

A: Yes. There was something radioactive on board. It was a big scandal, a big problem. When these Air Force guys died, Fred was absolutely bent out of shape, and he related that to me.

Q: All of this is in this manuscript that you talked about, right?

A: Yes, and personally, he told me what went on behind it.

Q: Do you know anything more about that slag that fell on them? Do you know what it was?

A: No. Other than there was a reactor of some sort on board this aircraft. It was an advanced radar platform of some sort. And Mary C. Johnson has corroborated the story many years later, like in 1982 and 1983 and '84. I spent a lot of time with Mary C. Johnson.

Q: Does she still work for Boeing?

A: Oh, no. She's deceased. She was up there in years.

Q: When you say she corroborated it, you mean corroborated it to you. She didn't talk to the press or anything like that?

A: Oh no. She wouldn't have any reason to. She was a career type person and she was a kind of mentor to our little group up in Seattle. She and Arlen Bell's widow were on the board of directors of one of our companies. I had bought her home out in Lake Bay, Washington. She used to come out and visit us all of the time. I spent a lot of time with her.

Q: OK. So, at the time, Crisman was working for what, military intelligence or something of that sort?

A: He was a point man on cleaning up a mess. And it was just a fluke that those Air Force guys died in that plane crash.

Q: So as far you understand Kenneth Arnold's role, for instance, and Ray Palmer's role in this, is that Crisman helps to inject into the media that this was some kind of UFO event and Palmer kind of glommed onto that. He has no direct role in the cover-up, right?

A: Crisman was a master at emotional contagion. An absolute master at it. In the OSS, over occupied territories in Europe where they were doing nuclear research, Crisman had a deal with some guys out in the Army Air Corps, and they were dropping these do-nothing, sophisticated gizwidgets that were in bombs. The Germans couldn't ignore them. They looked like high-tech surveillance devices, you know?

Q: How large were they?

A: Oh, probably twelve to fifteen pounds each. And there would be several of them in a good-size aerial bomb. The German High Command's attitude

was that they were sophisticated somethings and they were being dropped in their most sensitive areas. The German scientists kept telling them, "No, no, no, nothing." And it was one of the... the story's been documented in a book but I can't think of the name of it. It was a great brain drain on their nuclear program. Fred gave me some astronomical figure on how many man years took away from the scientific effort of their nuclear program at a critical time. And Fred got these scientists from Princeton and the University of Chicago and he got some real eggheads to come up with this scam that he ran on them. Fred was a master of this kind of thing.

Q: We're still talking about late '40s here, right?

A: Right. In Indochina, Fred had a history of doing that stuff.

Q: These widgets that you're talking about were just totally fake little things that they attached to bomb drops?

A: Well, they actually did have some substance. Enough so that they couldn't be ignored.

Q: I have a news article from July 11, 1947 talking about Guy Banister, then working as a SAC (Special Agent in Charge) for the FBI in Butte recovering what is reported as a flying disc that's thirty and a half inches in diameter. I wonder if there's a connection there.

A: In post World War II they had a development phase with these radioactive discs to cloud the film of aerial surveillance platforms. They used different schemes and they had a lot of trouble recovering them. They had a lot of screw ups.

Q: So these things had a function then?

A: Yes. And extreme radiation will destroy most films, especially in sensitive aerial photography. Now Fred was very, very close to George Wackenhut.

Q: I don't know if that's been established before.

A: Oh, yeah. Absolutely. I've known of it since 1963, maybe the first time I ever saw them together. Do you know who Chuck Emmert is?

Q: I haven't heard the name yet, no.

A: OK. His mother was a wealthy Florida socialite who financed George Wackenhut when he originally started Wackenhut.

Q: Is that a name that I could do a Lexis Nexus search on?

A: I doubt it. He managed to stay pretty buried, although his mother—I can't remember her first name—but she was big in southern Florida, with anybody in social circles down there would be able to steer you to her.

Q: Did Crisman ever talk about the Kennedy assassination with you?

A: Yeah, he did.

Q: What about this idea that some people have that he was one of the three hoboes in the railroad yard behind Dealy plaza?

A: Well, I don't know about that. He gave me his version of what happened.

Q: He did give it to you.

A: Oh, yeah. A mutual friend of ours was a former Treasury Department agent who, during the Warren Commission, was one of the investigators for the committee

Q: Do you want to name him?

A: His name is Bob. I don't know where he is now. I lost track of him about ten years ago.

Q: Do you not want to give a last name?

A: I really don't. I think he just wants ... he was very, very ill at the time I last saw him. He was working for us. I was with both he and Fred when Fred found out that he had turned over information to Garrison.

Q: Fred had turned over information?

A: No, this guy Bob.

Q: Bob turned information over to Garrison?

A: Right. What I found astounding was that when Bob was working on the Warren Commission, what the hell was that? Why didn't he turn that over the Warren Commission? And one day I asked him and he said he did. They knew everything.

Q: Now when you say that stuff, what exactly are you referring to here? Crisman's story of his role in the assassination?

A: Right. What had gone on.

Q: Is it possible for you to summarize that briefly, or is that in the 1600 page manuscript you were talking about?

A: Here's something that happens: everybody says, "Hey, how come you know about everything?" Every conspiracy that's ever gone down the pike. It kinda seems that. If something happens, hey, Riconosciuto's got something to say about it. Well, I can't help it that I was raised around Fred Crisman. I mean, I can't help that cosmic act of fate in my life.

Q: I understand what you're saying, and things really are connected. People have trouble accepting that fact at all, that there connections to be made.

A: I get treated like I'm delusional. So I find that around certain things, the less I say, the better off I am because most people are not going to take the time to go check it out. Very few people even know who Fred Crisman is or what kind of a player he was. I tried to tell some reporters from the *Village Voice*, "I knew Fred Crisman." They refused to believe me. "There was a thing written about it." "Yeah, yeah, sure, show us the book..." How can show a book when I'm in a jail cell... I have a friend who was a SAC the day that happened.

Q: The day of the Kennedy assassination?

A: Yeah. I'll tell you what, I got it more than just from Fred.

Q: I'm still curious about exactly what Fred Crisman told you. Is it possible to summarize it?



A: I really don't want to go into that. Calls are taped here. Fred left a momentous...

Q: What about that manuscript?

A: He had it squirreled away and as far as I know, it's safe. The party that has it is very reliable. At this point in time, it is irrelevant to me getting out of prison. The things that concern me are the things connected to this case. I was just fascinated by the fact that Crisman came up. It seems that *Contact* magazine found out that Crisman knew my father and then they found out that he actually knew me and they just went wild. They made a big deal out of it.

Q: Which magazine?

A: *Contact*. And *UFO Magazine*... This Colin Brown was hanging around Ted Gunderson...

Q: Brown was the guy that worked for Technical Consultant magazine.

A: I think so.

Q: And you did an interview with him.

A: Not really. I talked to him on the phone a couple of times and I wanted some help on my case. I didn't want to talk about weirdness. I was research director at Wackenhut and at the time I was there we took over Area 51 in Nevada and we also had the Nevada test site and he was pumping me for all kinds of stuff out of there and I just told him, "Hey, I don't want to get into that. I've got enough problems right now. I'm facing life in prison on drug charges and it all stems from the Cabazon/Wackenhut joint venture and I just don't need to get into this stuff."

Q: Did Danny Casolaro pump you for information about that?

A: Yeah. Danny found out a lot of stuff. In fact, Danny had a lot of information on that and I'm surprised you didn't get it.

Q: The papers that were collected after he died originally went to ABC's *Nightline*. By the time they got to me, they had been picked over pretty cleanly. But there are notes in there about Area 51. Some, not a lot.

A: That whole subject matter with Wackenhut is one that I would want to steer clear of. Again, there's an aura of being delusional and I'm concerned about credibility here and the fact of the matter is that Wackenhut is the only company that has ever had the security contract for any of these places, even though they are supposed to go up for open bid. And this is the way it's been since the early '50s, when these various agencies in these various places were set up. Wackenhut was steered right in and I happened to have been born into a situation by virtue of my father's contacts, my maternal grandfather's contacts. I was just around.

Q: You appear in that book, *Murder of a City*, as wiring your father's office.

A: Well, no. We ran a cable TV company.

Q: I'm currently trying to track this article that has a photograph of you and it talks about a child prodigy, a child genius working with various kinds of sound equipment. It's really this glowing piece about what a genius you are working with sound.

A: I was doing commercial sound as a teenager. I made a lot of money as a teenager doing commercial sound. I was involved with various rock'n'roll groups during what is known as the instrumental sound era. Most of these groups hit the charts. The Viceroy's. The Ventures. The Wailers. Paul Revere and the Raiders. I don't know if you're familiar with any of those groups.

Q: Sure. Who wouldn't be familiar with the Ventures? The guitar groups are what you're talking about.

A: Yeah, the instrumental sound.

Q: And you worked with them?

A: You bet.

Q: Like producing albums and so forth?

A: Kearney Barton and myself.

Q: You did the sound at the gigs or you produced albums?

A: The whole bit. Back then we had Ampex three track recorders. That was the state of the art at that time. I was doing special effects and things like that. I was pretty involved and I made a lot of money.

Q: So as a teenager you were working as an *entrepreneur*?

A: Right. I was building sound systems, building these new huge 300 watt tube amplifiers, transmitting tubes, sound reinforcement systems, you know, PA systems.

Q: And this was at the time that your father was involved with Crisman?

A: He knew Crisman ever since he was in high school.

Q: He has his own business going on.

A: Advertising, public relations. My father worked on Kennedy's campaign staff when he got elected and he got Governor [Al Rosalini] elected up in the state of Washington. He was the point man for former Senator Warren Magnuson, Scoop Jackson. He was one of Scoop's top advisers. So this thing with Fred Crisman is kind of an aside here.

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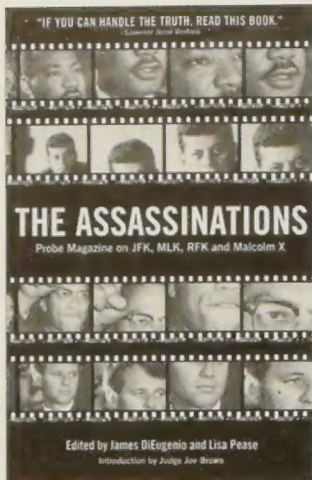
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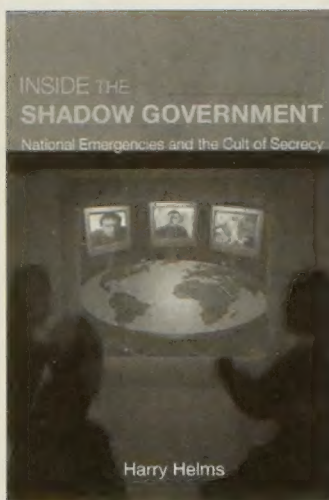
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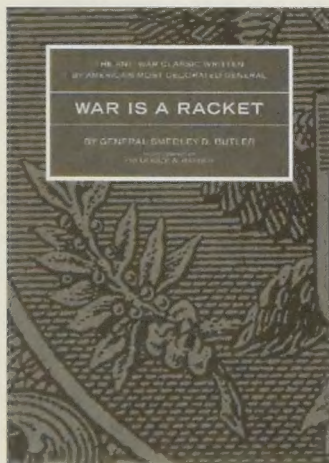
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# OCTOPUS THE



## Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro

Writer Danny Casolaro was on the trail of the Octopus when he was found dead in a West Virginia hotel in 1991. The slashes in his wrists were too deep to be self-inflicted. The accordion file with his recent research was missing. He had told his family to be gravely suspicious if an accident befell him. Casolaro had been suicided.

Pundits dismissed him as a depressed conspiracy crank. But Casolaro's "Octopus"—a transnational power bloc pursuing its own interests through subversion and overthrow of governments, dirty money and extra-electoral manipulation—has arisen again in the post 9/11 world. The players Casolaro identified in his research, including Iran-contra spooks, Middle Eastern weapons merchants, double-dealing politicians, and terrorists, have reappeared.

This book tells the whole story. It starts with the 1980 October Surprise, a trading-with-the-enemy scheme that set the stage for America's quagmire in the Middle East. The tentacles of the Octopus attach themselves to the Inslaw affair, the theft of a super-surveillance software used to spy on criminals and police alike. The grisly saga continues with Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein evading capture through the use of the infamous PROMIS software.

What survived of Casolaro's research fell into the hands of two writers, Kenn Thomas and Jim Keith. In 1996, they finished Casolaro's work with the publication of *The Octopus: Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro*. Jim Keith subsequently died under questionable circumstances. This newly revised edition, with new chapters on Octopus involvements with the events of 9/11, may be the most comprehensive investigation into the tangle of international conspiracy.

*"The Octopus reminds me of Spanish novelist Juan Marse's title If they tell you I failed... because Casolaro gave a similar warning before his supposed suicide. Thomas and Keith capture the many reasons not to believe it was suicide and in doing so, have written a brilliant book about the occult forces at work in our world."*  
—Len Bracken, *Extraphile*

*"Compelling and believable... an immediate conspiracy classic."*  
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