

Medicine Tribe protests co-op recruiting by CIA

Group accuses agency of involvement in drugs

By Sherri Roberts

STAFF WRITER

In a protest against recruitment efforts by Central Intelligence Agency representatives at Texas A&M, members of the student group Medicine Tribe gathered in the MSC Monday afternoon, attempting to discourage students from joining the agency. Sponsored by the MultiCultural Services Center, the agency visited campus to present a program focusing on the agency and cooperative education opportunities it makes available to students.

Accusing the agency of being involved in drug smuggling, Derek Kalahan, a sophomore psychology major and member of the group said "We don't want to obstruct students' rights, we're trying to say 'Look at what they do.'"

However, protest efforts were kept to a minimum due to the presence at the program of officials from the University Police Department.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and university police said, "They can protest, but it's a violation to obstruct a meeting held by a legally recognized organization."

A bag of powdered sugar, labeled "CIA cocaine — 100% pure", was quickly removed after a member of Medicine Tribe placed it alongside the cookies and punch on a refreshment table inside the meeting room.

Members of the group told students entering and leaving the meeting that the CIA was involved in covert illegal activities, likening it to the "government's branch of the mafia." This information was well publicized, group members said, noting that it had been reported by newspapers and the television show "West 57th."

The meeting progressed free of disruption.



Photo by Jay Janner

Stephanie Burnett, a junior English and forestry major and Medicine Tribe member, dresses as a stereotypical CIA agent at Monday's protest of the agency's co-op recruiting program. Members of the student group also carried bags of sugar marked, "CIA cocaine — 100% pure."

Congress may close loopholes

Legislators have \$61 million left over

WASHINGTON (AP)—Members of Congress sensitive over their pending pay raise are moving toward closing a loophole in a federal law that allows almost half of them to convert \$61 million in old campaign accounts for their own use.

The money is what is left over after campaign bills have been paid and is in the accounts of 191 House members and 71 senators who were in Congress when the law was passed in 1980.

"I didn't go out and spend all the money because that's not the way I operate my own home," Rep. Larry J. Hopkins, R-Ky., said. "I spend what I think is appropriate to win."

Hopkins, who cruised to reelection on a 3-to-1 margin last year, had \$604,824 left over in his campaign account, according to records at the Federal Election Commission.

That puts him in the 10th place among members of the House.

On the average, House members exempted from the law hold about \$224,000 in their campaign accounts, while senators, whose campaigns usually are considerably more costly, have an average of \$341,000, according to FEC records.

Many of the accounts have grown with successive campaigns. The top spot in the House belongs to Rep. Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., with more than \$1.1 million. But Solarz is a co-sponsor of a bill that would abolish the so-called "grandfather clause," which lets him keep the money for himself if he wants.

Candidates for Congress can use leftover campaign money to support political organizations or other candidates. In addition, members of Congress can use the money to "defray any ordinary and necessary expenses" arising because of their position.

Legislation now before each house would eliminate the possibility of letting the grandfathered members convert leftover funds to their own uses but would continue permitting it for the other uses allowed under the law.

The House Ways and Means Committee chairman, Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., has more than \$1 million — up from \$596,000 since January 1987 — and has not expressed an opinion on the issue of abolishing the loophole, according to an aide.

In the Senate, the list is topped by Sens. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., with nearly \$2.1 million and Phil Gramm, R-Texas, with \$1.9 million. However, those amounts are not unusually big war chests as both of those senators face reelection campaigns next year.

And, unlike the House, the Senate has a rule forbidding its members from converting their campaign money for personal use, although it does not have the force of law and its effect on former senators or their survivors is unclear.

Proposals to abolish the exemption in both the House and Senate have come up as members of Congress are about to pick up 50 percent pay raises, boosting salaries from \$89,500 to \$135,000 annually for rank-and-file lawmakers.

The grandfather clause is "an embarrassment to them," said Norman Ornstein, a political analyst for the American Enterprise Institute. "I think it's a foregone conclusion that they'll do away with it."

North's trial begins Tuesday; Reagan still 'subject to call'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Oliver North's Iran-Contra trial will begin Tuesday with President Bush free of a subpoena seeking his testimony but with former President Reagan still "subject to call," the judge in the case said Monday.

Portions of Reagan's diary also might be required as evidence, U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell ruled. However, he rejected North's subpoena seeking Bush's testimony in the trial in which North faces 12 criminal charges.

North, who was indicted last March, will become the first figure in the Iran-Contra affair to stand trial.

Many of the same witnesses who testified in the nationally televised congressional hearings two years ago are expected to be called by the prosecutors, including former Attorney General Edwin Meese III and North's secretary, Fawn Hall.

At North's side will be Brendan Sullivan, an aggressive Washington lawyer who also represented North before the congressional panels investigating the Iran-Contra affair.

At a hearing Friday, the government had sought to quash North's subpoenas seeking testimony from both Reagan and Bush as well as records from Reagan.

Gesell said, "(North's lawyers) made no showing that President Bush has any specific information relevant and material to the charges of the indictment which makes it necessary or appropriate to require his appearance."

But President Reagan remains subject to call on the subpoena served on him by North in December, Gesell said in a three-page order.

The judge said Reagan wouldn't be called as a witness "unless and until" the court issues another order after giving the Justice Department and Reagan's lawyers an opportunity to list their objections at a hearing.

Gesell quashed North's subpoena for Reagan's diary, except for what he described as a "narrow exception."

The judge said the diary subpoena would be "subject to renewal" if North's lawyers support a claim that "President Reagan ordered, directed, requested or, with advance knowledge, condoned any of North's alleged false statements, document-removal or destruction" or other alleged crimes in the affair.

In congressional testimony in 1987, North said he had authorization from higher-ups in the administration for all of his actions.

Gesell said Reagan has cooperated with independent counsel Lawrence Walsh and been responsive to requests for documents. "He remains willing to assist," Gesell said.

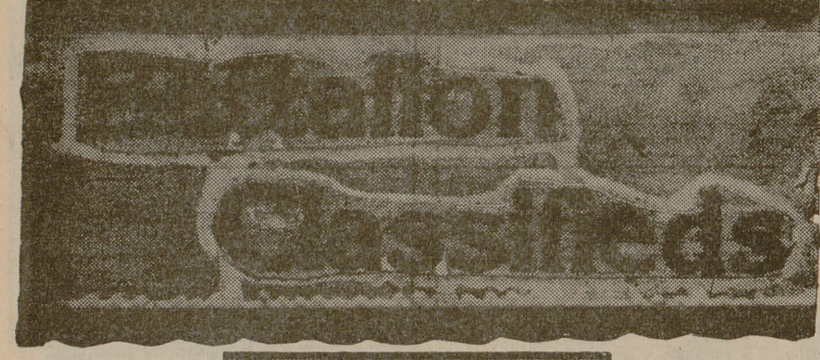
Lawyers from Walsh's office were permitted to review typewritten excerpts from Reagan's diary a year ago, it was disclosed at a hearing Friday.

North is accused of concealing from Congress in 1985 and 1986 his efforts on behalf of the Nicaraguan Contras and of falsely telling then-Attorney General Meese that the National Security Council had no role in diverting money from the Iran arms sales to the Contras.

The former Marine and White House aide also is accused of illegally accepting a \$13,800 security system at his home from co-defendant Richard Secord, converting it to his own use at least \$4,300 in traveler's checks from Contra leader Adolfo Calero and conspiring to defraud the Treasury of tax revenue in connection with charitable contributions supporting the Contras.

On Jan. 13 Gesell dismissed the two central charges against North, conspiracy and theft counts accusing him of illegally diverting more than \$14 million in U.S. Iran arms sale proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels.

Those charges were dismissed after a panel of intelligence experts in the Reagan administration, for national security reasons, refused to declassify many portions of classified documents that were deemed necessary for the prosecution or defense.



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