

# WASHINGTON LETTER

by Leon E. McKinney

---

California Congressional Delegation Report

---

## Clinton abets Red China espionage

White House/Democrats ignore evidence of missile technology transfers; punish whistle-blowers; stall release of Cox Committee report.

**A**ccording to his obnoxious attack dog **Sidney Blumenthal**, President **Bill Clinton** complained during the **Monica Lewinsky** investigation that he felt like the fictional character **Rubashov** in **Arthur Koestler's** anti-communist novel **Darkness at Noon**. Actually, after observing the unfolding **China** treason scandal, I'd say Bill Clinton has more in common with **Karla**, the Soviet master-spy in **John Le Carre's** **Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy**.

In the past two columns, your correspondent has described evidence that the biggest individual contributor to **Clinton/Gore** and the Democrats, **Bernard Schwartz**, head of the New York-based aerospace company **Loral**, allowed China's military to obtain U.S. launch vehicle and satellite technology that improved the payload capability, range, and accuracy of Chinese nuclear missiles. When the **Justice Department's** investigations of Loral got a little too hot, Clinton quickly issued a satellite launch waiver allowing Schwartz to do legally what DOJ was about to put him in jail for: assisting Chinese engineers in upgrading their launch vehicles' capabilities by "inadvertently" giving China sensitive U.S. technology.

Since that close call, it appears Clinton told Attorney General **Janet Reno** to stop anyone at DOJ from asking awkward questions about China. **Charles LaBella**, who left his post as interim U.S. Attorney in San Diego after being hand-picked by Reno to head up DOJ's investigation into the connection between Clinton/Gore and the Chinese, refused to be a good boy and whitewash King Bill, so Reno stiffed him and buried his report. Then Reno stood by in stony silence when Senator **Barbara Boxer** replaced LaBella with one of her minions in his former U.S. Attorney slot rather than letting him return to it.

Well, there's been a lot more going on than just covering up Clinton's and the Democrats' venality and contempt for election laws and Schwartz's anything-for-a-buck willingness to endanger his country. As published reports have thoroughly documented, the Chinese had spies inside the extremely sensitive U.S. **Department of Energy Laboratory at Los Alamos** since at least 1985. This is apparently the source of design information the Chinese obtained on our **W-88 nuclear warhead**, which government officials call America's most advanced. Very small but very powerful, the W-88 enhances U.S. capability to put multiple re-entry vehicles (RVs), each with one nuclear warhead, on top of a nuclear missile's post-boost vehicle (PBV). The Chinese have used W-88 technology to enhance the "throw-weight" of their existing missiles, increasing the number of warheads and the range of missiles already in production and improving the deadliness of their new missiles currently being developed.

This bad news first became public in early March, thanks to the indefatigable **New York Times** re-

---

*California Political Review Contributing Editor Leon E. McKinney is an engineering consultant in St. Louis, Missouri.*

porters, **Jeff Gerth** and **James Risen**, who dug this story up with old-fashioned gum-shoe work. Vice President **Al Gore** took a break from inventing the Internet to say that this all happened long ago in a galaxy far away, under the evil empire of **Ronald Reagan**. But in early 1995, top nuclear weapons experts at Los Alamos decided that, based on recent Chinese underground nuclear tests, China had a nuclear warhead similar to the W-88. By February 1996, five possible suspects in the apparent theft of W-88 data had been tagged. On March 27, 1996, DOE received **FBI** information indicating the Chinese had apparently also stolen top-secret **neutron bomb** data from Los Alamos. Around this time, DOE Director of Intelligence **Notra Trulock** traveled to **CIA** headquarters and briefed CIA's head of counterintelligence and the man who uncovered **Aldrich Ames**, **Paul Redmond**, who said "This is going to be just as bad as the **Rosenbergs**" and "This was far more damaging to the national security than Aldrich Ames."

On April 13, 1996, Trulock met with **Sandy Berger**, then President Clinton's deputy national security adviser, and briefed him on the theft of the W-88 design, the need to increase security at the weapons laboratories, and the report about the loss of neutron bomb data. You might think this would become an urgent matter. Not so. The FBI started a criminal investigation in June, but made no progress the rest of 1996. After **Frederico Pena** became DOE Secretary in early 1997, a previously approved counterintelligence program was quietly placed on the back burner, and an April 1997 classified FBI report that recommended upgrades to DOE lab security was ignored for 17 months.

Also in April 1997, Trulock discovered new evidence that the Chinese had other, active spies at the DOE labs and tried to meet with Pena, but **Victor Reis**, assistant energy secretary for Defense Programs, and **Kenneth Baker**, the department's acting director of nonproliferation, prevented him from doing so until the following July. After finally meeting with Trulock, Pena sent him back to Sandy Berger, now national security adviser. Trulock laid all the cards out on the table: China had full access to U.S. nuclear weapons designs and there were Chinese espionage operations going on at that very moment inside the weapons labs. Berger claims he "immediately" briefed Bill Clinton.

During that time, Senator **Fred Thompson's** hearings on Clinton/Gore's and the Democrats' Asian connections were sabotaged by **John Glenn** (reward: one space shuttle ride). While Administration officials had responded to curious queries about the matter from congressional staff working for the House and Senate intelligence committees beginning in 1996, they took pains never to paint a complete picture.

It wasn't until late 1998, when Trulock testified before **Chris Cox's** committee investigating American technology transfers to China, that lawmakers began to learn about the extent of the Chinese theft of American nuclear secrets. Washington state Democrat Representative **Norm Dicks**, ranking minority member on the **House Intelligence Committee** and also co-chair of Cox's committee, said, "**Porter Goss** and I were not properly briefed about the dimensions of the problem. It was compartmentalized and disseminated over the years in dribs and drabs so that the full extent of the problem was not known until the Cox committee."

What **Bill Safire** calls the **Clinton Secrecy Brigade** has stonewalled, stalled and delayed "vetting" the 700-page Cox Committee report (removing references to U.S. intelligence sources and methods and other classified U.S. data). Clinton wants to stop release of the report until after April 1999, when the Cox committee goes out of business and his people can spin the media to report the whole matter as no big deal. As for Notra Trulock, he reported to the Senate that in May 1998 he was removed from his position as DOE's director of intelligence and demoted to "acting" deputy director — three days after he made his third report to DOE's inspector general regarding a "steady pattern" of suppression of counterintelligence issues.

CPR



# THE LITIGATION LOTTERY

*Spins Out  
of Control*

*In 1974, Yale Law School scholar Grant Gilmore prophesied that '[t]he worse the society, the more law there will be. In Hell, there will be nothing but law.' The heat here is beginning to become intense.*

by Mark S. Pulliam

THE MODERN state already has awesome powers: legislation, regulation, and taxation. To this arsenal present-day politicians want to add another weapon: litigation. For decades, government power has continually grown, in response to a series of chimerical "crises." In the United States, the 20th century has witnessed the creation of a Leviathan our Founding Fathers wouldn't recognize. As Lord Acton famously pointed out, "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Thus, the New Deal and the Great Society spawned Waco and Ruby Ridge, and the myriad scandals of the Clinton Administration. In recent decades the American Republic has changed in dramatic

ways: unelected judges and administrative agencies now routinely make decisions that were traditionally thought to be the exclusive province of the legislature; the federal government has usurped prerogatives that historically belonged to the states; and the Constitution, intended to serve as a bulwark against governmental oppression, has become an instrument of oppression — the malleable toy of an activist judiciary.

How fitting, then, that the century ends with what could be the most reckless and indefensible development yet in the debasement of American democracy — political entities using lawsuits to impose taxes without the consent of the electorate; to implement public policy despite public opposition; and to loot disfavored industries to the point of driving them out of business. The die was cast in the tobacco litigation, the consequences of which are just now unfolding. In

---

*Mark S. Pulliam, CPR's legal issues correspondent, is an attorney in private practice in San Diego.*