

FALL, 1987

He's bold! He's mad!
He can run U.S. foreign policy
from any parking lot
in the western
hemisphere!



The passionate saga from the sands of Teheran
to the jungles of Central America...

Cartoon by Rafael Edwards. Available as a poster at the Peace Center of Marin. Available as a t-shirt from Babylon Burning, 1017 Valencia, S.F.

Christic Institute Comes to Marin

Jacquie Harmes

The makings of the Iran-Contra scandal could have begun more than 20 years ago under a "secret team" guided by some of the major players in the scandal, according to a \$17 million suit filed by Christic Institute and its general counsel Danny Sheehan.

The Christic Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based interfaith center for law and public policy, has filed a \$17 million suit that implicates Reagan Administration allies in illegal actions - including Richard Secord, Theodore Shackley, Albert Hakim and John Singlaub.

Sheehan brings the tale of our "shadow government," the institute's suit and his particular brand of social activism to Marin County on October 8 & 9, sponsored by the Peace Center of Marin and the Marin Interfaith Task Force on Central America.

The \$17 million lawsuit, filed in Miami federal court in May 1986, charges some Iran-Contra hearing "stars" with being king pins in a conspiracy to wage a private war in Nicaragua. It further alleges that several of the 29 defendants have been members of a private, extremist effort vowed to battling Communism in South America and that they helped create a "secret team" whose anti-Communist operations (including "illegal gun running, drug smuggling, and assassination programs") have wreaked havoc in Cuba, Chile, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

The suit was filed on behalf of Martha Honey and Tony Avirgan, freelance journalists who initiated their own investigation after Avirgan - then an ABC cameraman - was seriously injured in a 1984 bombing of a La Penca, Nicaragua press conference. The husband and wife team said they found evidence of a secret CIA network of spies and other links that lead them to believe the bombing was an effort to trigger direct U.S. intervention in Nicaragua.

After three years of research, the suit was filed under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act (RICO), which will give the institute more subpoena power. To win the lawsuit, the institute has to prove that

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Continued from page 1

the defendants had a previous history of racketeering; as of now, it has gathered evidence showing the the La Penca bombing is a singular incident in a plethora of worldwide illegal activities, including assassinations and illegal arms shipments.

Sheehan is a Harvard-trained lawyer and theology student who is familiar with battles for social justice: he worked on the Karen Silkwood case and with the Sanctuary movement. He founded the Christic Institute in 1980 with others to actualize the philosophy of "christic," a Teilhard de Chardin term referring to a spiritual faculty that allows us to know the unity and harmony of all things in the universe.

Sheehan is touring the country both in person and via a Christic Institute video tape that explains the suit and his proof of the "secret teams." At each appearance he asks us to read the 44-page affidavit (available on loan at the Peace Center) and to demand of our legislative representatives to call for congressional investigations of the La Penca bombing, contra-related drug activities and the role of the "secret team" in Iran, Central America and elsewhere.

Daniel Sheehan will appear in Marin on Thursday, Oct. 8, at 8 p.m., at the Dance Palace in Pt. Reyes and on Oct. 9, at 8 p.m. at Angelica Hall, 1520 Grand Avenue, San Rafael. Tickets are available at the Peace Center, 1024 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo.

OLLIE "IRANBO" NORTH



Democracy was getting in the way. The bosses wanted to cheat... but they needed someone really crazy to do it for them.

GEN. "DICK" SECORD



He did it all for love and his high ideals, but he settled for a Porsche and a two-week trip to a German fat farm.

ALBERT HAKIM



Weapons dealer. His love for Iranbo was worth an initial investment of \$200,000. "The radiation of that love penetrated my system."

FAWN HALL



The holy secretary. She could type, but...boy, could she retype! "Sometimes you have to go above the written law."

"BUD" Mc FARLANE



The president's "crisis man" developed a little crisis of his own, but a jar-full of valiums couldn't bring him down.

ELLIOT ABRAMS



The State Department's enfant terrible. "I never said I had no idea about most of the things you said I said I had no idea about."