



The Public Parade

Looking the Other Way

One aspect of the Iran-Contra hearings now hearing completion in Washington has not received the attention we believe it ought to have been given. We are talking about the business structure used to finance the operation.

Here we have one agency of the government, the CIA, ordering up arms from another agency, the Department of Defense, at bargain basement prices, and then turning them over to another "agency," Lake Enterprises, to be sold at enormous profits, which were then diverted to support the resistance movement in Nicaragua.

So far as we have been able to discern, nobody on the Joint Committee seems to question seriously the basic nature of this setup; it is only the final step, the diversion of profits to the Contras, that is receiving all the attention.

But what it all amounts to is the sale of taxpayer-owned property to raise funds to pay for secret operations, to maintain, in the words of the late William Casey, CIA director, an organized unit which he could take off the shelf any time he needed it.

Lt. Col. Oliver North, who masterminded the operation as a member of the National Security Council staff, was adamant in his testimony that he could see nothing wrong with it. His immediate superior, Adm. John Poindexter, testified he thought it such a neat idea that he didn't bother to tell the President about the diversion of funds.

Leaving aside statutory prohibitions of aid to the Contras, of the exporting of arms to the Iranians and all the lies told in an effort to cover up the operation, it is still important that somebody, somewhere address the policy of selling government assets to maintain covert operations.

If the CIA can do it, so can the Department of Interior, the Department of Agriculture or almost any other department of the federal government, thus raising and appropriating money without going through Congress. What's to keep the Department of Interior, for example, from selling drilling rights on the North Slope or timber rights in some of the national parks and using the money to support some cause deemed noble by the appropriate people? Or the Department of Agriculture from selling off government

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Teenager Dies In Accident

A teenager who would have celebrated his seventeenth birthday Tuesday drowned Sunday during a family reunion near Snug Harbor.

Jake Wilson Hobbs, Box 371-A, Hobbsville, was pronounced dead at Chowan Hospital after the noon accident. The victim was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie C. Hobbs of the same address.

According to Dr. Robert E. Lane, medical examiner, the Hobbs family was holding a reunion at the Wallace Hobbs property near Snug Harbor.

The victim was among family members wading and playing in the water, but could not swim and got into water over his head.

He called for help and was pulled from the water by the family, which began CPR. The Perquimans Rescue Squad was called and continued emergency treatment while transport was made to the hospital, where CPR was administered without success.

Heavy Rains, Prolonged Heat Cause Reappearance Of Algae

By JEANETTE WHITE
Owners of property adjoining Albemarle waters are facing the unpleasant affects of the first significant algae bloom since 1980.

Capt. Alfred Howard, USN (Ret.) of Arrowhead Beach, said the first blooms there were noticeable about two weeks ago and now are accompanied by the smell of "dead fish."

On the algal index, an instrument used to measure density, Howard said the green growth is registering seven to eight on a scale of 10.

Ernest Knighton of United Piece Dye Works said he had seen a green growth on Edenton Bay

adjacent to his home on Blount Street, but he would not call it algae yet.

"But here at the plant it's terrible," Knighton said. "It's as green as grass." The plant is located on Chowan River at the Rocky Hock community.

Knighton said he had been expecting the problem this year. "Everything is just right for an algae bloom," he said.

Heavy spring rains and a lengthy time of hot weather combined to unleash conditions that promote the dreaded bloom in area waterways.

Howard said released floodwaters traveling down Roanoke

River to Albemarle Sound slows normal flow that flushes nutrients into the sound.

The slimy growth has been spotted in Chowan River, Edenton Bay and the lower Perquimans River. Blooms have also been reported in the Neuse River.

Howard said no fish kills had been reported around Arrowhead Beach, but as the algae caused stress for marine life, fish could be seen jumping from the water to get oxygen in late afternoon.

When rains wash nutrients into the waterways, hot weather causes nutrients to sit on the lower part of the water.

The algae begins to grow and causes solid matting on some parts of water's surface and streaking in other areas.

The next phase of development comes when the algae blooms and begins to turn blue, covering parts of the water with a blue foam.

As the blue-green algae begins to die, the foam looks white and the next cycle begins.

At United Piece Dye Works, the bloom causes other problems when algal water deposits a green dye on drying cloth. If this happens, the plant must strip the cloth of color after the water supply is switched from the river to the county's lines.

Wynn Hampton of Arrowhead Beach, who voluntarily tests Chowan River water for state agencies, said he noticed the first algae at Holiday Island near his home while on a fishing trip June 20.

Hampton said in 1986 the river had seven parts per thousand of salt in its water. This year, the ratio is two parts per thousand. "I have an idea that's a factor. Concerning the algae, I look for it to get worse," Hampton said.

He thinks the low salt is affected by both Oregon Inlet on the Outer Banks being closed to the ocean and the floodwaters from the Roanoke River.

Hampton said he also believed underwater springs in the river may be helping fish to survive.

Hampton said some bream with red sore disease had been caught. The disease is believed to be

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FIRST APPEARANCE—William O'Neal (left) and William Dail are escorted into the old Chowan County Courthouse Tuesday morning. O'Neal has been charged with the murder of Jeff Newsom and received a first appearance hearing. Dail is charged with shoplifting. Partially hidden is Sheriff Fred Spruill.

O'Neal Charged In Death

One Chowan County man is dead and another is jailed on a first degree murder charge following a shooting incident Sunday evening at Arrowhead Beach.

Charged with murder is William Clarence (Bill) O'Neal, 30, of Arrowhead Beach. Fatally injured was Jeffrey Allen Newsom, 20, of Route 3, Edenton.

According to Chowan Sheriff Fred Spruill, preliminary investigation shows that some people had gathered at the O'Neal home, apparently for a cookout.

As the result of an argument, it is believed that O'Neal shot Newsom in the neck with a .357 magnum pistol inside the O'Neal home. Newsom was pronounced dead at the scene by the medical examiner.

Newsom was the unmarried son

of Kay Cullipher Newsom and Roy Rudolph (Rudy) Newsom and lived with his parents. He was an employee of Ivey Meadows Upholstery Shop in Edenton.

O'Neal is married and has one child, but Spruill said the wife and child were not home at the time of the shooting.

A first court appearance was held for O'Neal Tuesday to ascertain that the defendant understands charges filed against him and has counsel of an attorney. The defendant was not granted privilege of bond at the appearance.

Investigation of the murder is continuing by the sheriff's department and SBI.

The SBI mobile crime lab was called to the scene Sunday night.



TROUBLED WATERS—Wynn Hampton of Arrowhead Beach holds a jar of water from Chowan River. The cloudy water shows just how quickly algae is getting a stranglehold on the nutrient sensitive river and its marine life. Water experts say unless the area gets heavy rainfall or cooler weather, the problem will worsen.

Junk Owners Are Warned

Officials of Edenton plan to get rid of junkyards and abandoned vehicles inside town limits by getting tougher on enforcing the zoning ordinance.

City fathers are requesting property owners to remove all junkyards and abandoned vehicles within 30 days. If property owners do not comply, the town will take action against offenders.

By definition, the town ordinance says a junkyard is the "use of property for indoor and outdoor storage, sale or resale of junk including, but not limited to, scrap metal, rags, paper or other scrap materials, used lumber, salvaged house-wrecking and structural steel, materials and equipment, or for the dismantling, demolition, or abandonment of automobiles and boats or other vehicles or machinery or parts thereof."

An abandoned vehicle is one without a current license plate, or dilapidated and left to deteriorate. Chowan Manager Cliff Copeland recently provided a way for county residents to remove the eyesores from their property free of charge.

Few Attend Public Hearing

Attendance was light Monday when the Economic Improvement Council held a public hearing to summarize a proposed anti-poverty plan.

The project, Community Services Block Grant Program, aids low income families to locate and maintain steady employment and housing that meets standard guidelines.

Funding for 1988 is expected to be \$231,931, with the possibility of another \$26,438 from the State Community Action Partnership Program. The funding has remained unchanged for five years.

Goals of the project this year in the 10 counties of Region R are to place 150 residents in permanent employment and to remove 80

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A Currituck business will come into the county and remove junked vehicles at no cost to owners. The vehicles are collected, crushed and taken to Virginia to be sold for scrap metal.

Residents who are interested in the service should call the town manager's office at 482-2155.

Failure to comply with the town's request will bring a \$50 per day fine after 72-hour notice.

Large Crowd Attends Legion Post Tractor, Truck Pull

By JACK GROVE

Traffic was bumper-to-bumper Saturday evening as fans flowed into Edenton's American Legion Post 40 for a tractor and truck pull. The crowd, estimated at 3,500, filled the bleachers and many sat on the grass along the sidelines. The event Sunday drew a crowd estimated at 1,200 to 1,500 spectators.

They came to see souped-up tractors, mini-tractors and trucks pull heavy sleds down a 300 foot

track, competing for \$8,600 in prize money and trophies.

John Yeats, president of the East Coast Tractor Pullers Association, said, "It's excellent," in reference to the track installed for the event. "The pullers have been impressed with the facilities and the hospitality shown them."

Yeats predicted, "This pull will be a third bigger next year." He said that a competing pull in South Carolina had attracted some of the larger machines. He also com-

mented that the Edenton event filled a void in this area left when Roper discontinued tractor pulls there.

There was no scarcity of pullers as competitors came from South Mills, Hertford, Raleigh, Danville, Va. and Chowan County, among others.

Leon Nixon of Chowan missed a first place in his truck class by five feet. He was edged out by national point champion Thomas Carneal of Tappahannac, Va.

Carneal, who earns his livelihood in pulls, drove a 541 Chevrolet while Nixon pilots a 526 Chevrolet.

Nixon called the course a "super power track, the tightest track we've pulled this year." He said that the wellpacked clay surface caused some pullers to return

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Suspect Being Sought In N.Y.

Pasquotank County Sheriff's Department is continuing the search for a migrant worker believed to have beaten another migrant to death this past weekend.

Both men were part of a crew picking watermelons in Chowan County, but were staying near Elizabeth City in an abandoned house.

Pasquotank Sheriff Davis Sawyer said it appeared that robbery was the motive when Moises Guzman Rios of Mexico was slain.

Sawyer said he believed the suspect, Leonardo A. Morgan, about 38-years-old, of El Salvador, hired a taxi in Elizabeth City to transport him to Norfolk and then caught a bus to New York.

Rios was found around 8 a.m. Saturday and a machine hammer, thought to be the murder weapon, was lying near the body.

Police say the murder appears to have occurred around 13 hours prior to discovery of the body.



CAR CRUSHER—This vehicle, parked in front of Hoke Motor Co., attracted a stream of admirers and the curious Friday. Hoke Roberson (left) and WZBO radio D.J. Pat Flanagan keep both feet on the ground. A younger three-some got a loftier view. They are, (l. to r.) Wayne Cale, Tim Hickman and Rusty Currin.