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Overstreet

(Continued from Page 11) ment is supposed to serve and represent.

Because of our collective apathy as citizens, we have allowed a "government of the people, by the people, for the people" to become a "government of the politicians, by the lobbyists, for the privileged class"...vox populi of the masses be damned!

At this point, are you thinking that I have taken another tumble off my rocker? Do you also have this mental picture of me running around the "crazy house" with a pad and pencil, writing this column with the delusional expectation that Ramon Savoy is also crazy enough to run it? Well, in case you do, let me cite some examples to build a case for me being granted outpatient status.

How government operates at any level, including our national administrative, legislative and judicial branches, is a highly dependent variable function of our nation's budgetary and fiscal policies. Decisions on how to spend the revenue our government collects in taxes and other sources fall into the area of budgetary policy. How our government controls the supply of money through the Federal Reserve represents fiscal policy.

Now ask yourself the following series of questions:

1. Why do prescription drugs cost so much?

2. What was the hidden purpose for introducing the profit motive into building and operating prisons?

3. In a country as enterprising as the United States, how could it be that the U.S. runs a trade deficit of \$150 billion a year with other nations around the world? Ironically, through our NATO alliance we are responsible for the defense of these countries, at little, if any cost to them.

4. At a time when our nation is fighting an international war against terrorism, and attempting to improve relations with Russia, why would our country announce that it is

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The results were immediate and devastating. Thousands were expelled from schools, lost jobs, evicted from their homes and offices, and publicly slandered. Few of these individuals were indicted, convicted or even accused of any crimes. FBI documents released in 1976 revealed that the agency devoted less than 20 percent of its spy activities to organized crime, solving bank robberies, murders, rapes and interstate theft, By contrast, more than half of its spy targets were political groups.

In 1967, the FBI dredged up yet another ominous tactic in its secret war-preventative detention. FBI officials in the Philadelphia office boasted that they had jailed members of the Black Nationalist group, the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), on any charge they could think of. RAM members were held for months with no charges filed and with no hint that any would be. Hoover was thrilled at the illegal detention tactic and ordered all 41 FBI field offices to copy it.

Three decades later it has carbon copied this tactic to round up and detain more than 1,000 persons in its search for accomplices in the Sept. 11 terror massacre. Most of the detainees, as was the case with the RAM members, have not been charged with any crimes. A study by the Justice Department found nearly 70 percent of the detainees were released with no charges filed. Not one of those currently in custody is charged with conspiracy in the Sept. 11 terror massacre. The Justice Department has given no indication any indictments are forthcoming for terrorist activities.

With the death of Hoover in 1974 and Congressional disclosure of the illegal program, the Justice Department publicly assured that COINTELPRO was a thing of the hideous past and it had implemented ironclad control over FBI activities. The obituary was premature. During the 1980s the FBI waged a five-year covert war against CISPES, and 215 religious and pacifist groups and leaders that opposed American foreign policy in Central America. In the 1990s it mounted covert campaigns against Silo Plowshares, an anti-nuclear weapons group, Earth First, the American Indian Movement, and Arab-American groups during the 1991 Gulf War. The FBI tactics were reruns of those the Justice Department swore were dead and buried.

Ashcroft hasn't yet decided whether he'll scrap the guidelines. If he does, he solemnly promises that the FBI will not trample on the rights and liberties of religious and political groups. That's a promise the thousands whose lives were ruined by COINTELPRO will find hard to believe.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is an author and columnist.

unilaterally abandoning an IBM treaty we signed with Russia- then called the Soviet Union- back in 1971? I can hear Native Americans saying, "there goes the good old USA, breaking another treaty."

Is your answer the same as mine? Warning- think before you respond- if not, your friends may think that you, also, are crazy.

My answer to the questions is that lobbyists of special interest corporations and organizations are paying the bar bill of politicians who need to stay high on the intoxicates of power and celebrity. In case you are wondering, the annual tab to support these binges at the federal, state and local levels is in the hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

I hate to break it to you, but the fact is that there "ain't no more" such a thing as "government of the people, for the people, by the people." If you do not believe me, give anyone who is referred to as a politician a phone call, and wait to receive a return call. If you think your call will be returned, you are welcome to join me on my rocker at the "loony bin."



mately 16,000 square feet of suspended perforated metal ceiling panels and metal linear ceiling in the Rotunda, with sound attenuating blankets behind. Also included are upgrades of the fire alarm and sprinkler, as well as public address and lighting systems. Since, for structural reasons, the sprinkler system upgrades cannot be attached to the existing concrete shell ceiling, artificial palm trees with concealed sprinkler pipes will be installed. Also included are painting of the Security Check area as well as installation of new carpeting throughout.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE: Wednesday, January 9, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. LOCATION: North Mezzanine, Room No. 2, McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas, NV

The purpose of the Conference is to review and discuss the Bid Documents as well as the Drawings, specifications and the County's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise policy.

Bids will be received in the Department of Aviation, 2nd Floor, McCarran International Airport, Terminal 1, Office of Construction/Engineering, 5757 Wayne Newton Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 on January 23, 2002. Bids must be time-stamped at 1:30 p.m. or before. Bids time-stamped at 1:31 p.m. or after will be subject to rejection in their entirety.

The Engineer's Estimate for this work is between \$1,600,000.00 and \$2,000,000.00

Full-size and half-size sets of plans are available at the McCarran International Airport Office of Bechtel Infrastructure Corporation, located in Terminal 1, on Level 2, south balcony, ticketing building, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, the Telephone Number is (702) 261-5091. The Post Office Mailing Address is P.O. Box 11068, Las Vegas, NV 89111-1068. The Overnight Delivery Address is McCarran International Airport, 5757 Wayne Newton Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

Full payment must accompany orders for sets of Bid Documents. Checks shall be made payable to Clark County Department of Aviation.

Sets of Bid Documents with full-size plans may be obtained for a nonrefundable cost of \$100.00 each. Overnight shipping charges are a nonrefundable \$35.00.

Sets of Bid Documents with half-size plans may be obtained for a nonrefundable cost of \$75.00 each. Overnight shipping charges are a nonrefundable \$20.00.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA ublished: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice — December 20, 2001

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EMPLOYMENT

The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District Las Vegas, Nevada is recruiting for:

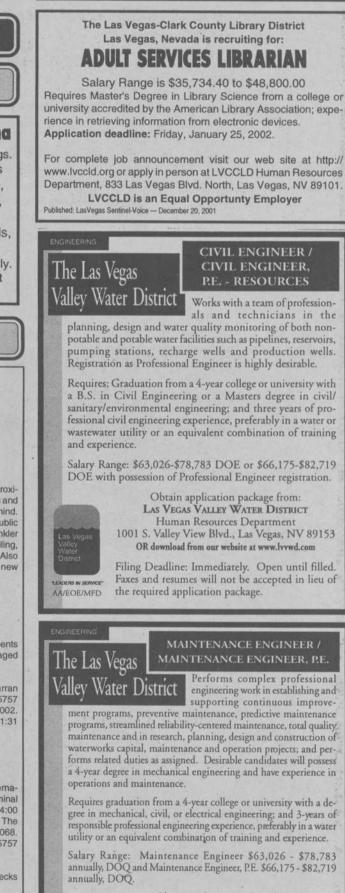
Part-Time Networking & PC Monitor

Salary Range is \$11.17 to \$15.27 Hourly Requires High school diploma or GED equivalency; one (1) year of work experience in troubleshooting and instructing users on personal computer hardware and software operations.

Application deadline: Thursday, January 3, 2002.

For complete job announcement visit our web site at http:// www.lvccld.org or apply in person at LVCCLD Human Resources Department, 833 Las Vegas Blvd. North, Las Vegas, NV 89101. LVCCLD is an Equal Opportunty Employer

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Obtain application package from: LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT Human Resources Department 1001 S. Valley View Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89153 OR download from our website at www.lvvwd.com

Filing Deadline: Immediately. Open until filled. Faxes and resumes will not be accepted in lieu of the required application package.

AA/EOE/MFD