

# CONVERGENCE

*The Christic Institute*

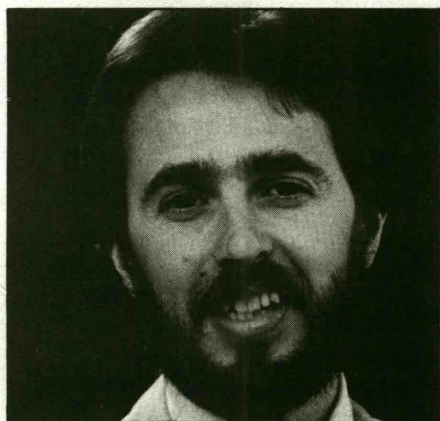
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Two Dollars

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## Iran/contra network faces trial

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### Christic investigation keeps books open on Iran/contra scandal

By DANIEL SIEGEL

While Government officials are closing the books on the Iran/*contra* affair, the Christic Institute's civil lawsuit against the private network behind the scandal is digging deeper into questions left unexamined by Federal investigators.

The lawsuit was filed in May 1986, six months before the Iran/*contra* affair broke nationwide, and names as defendants key figures implicated in the scandal.

The list of defendants includes Richard Secord and John Singlaub, both retired major generals; former Central Intelligence Agency officials Theodore Shackley and Thomas Clines; Iranian businessman Albert Hakim, and *contra* chief Adolfo Calero. They will face a Federal jury later this year on the Institute's charges of drug trafficking, gun smuggling, political assassination and international money deals.

The Institute now has investigative powers protected by the Federal courts, including the power to subpoena bank records and to examine scores of witnesses in the United States and Central America under oath.

The Institute's investigators believe that three Government probes into the Iran/*contra* affair—the Tower Commission, the joint Congressional hearings last summer and the investigation led by Independent Counsel Lawrence E. Walsh—have overlooked or ignored major issues linked to the scandal. Supported by a team of more than 60 lawyers and researchers, the Institute has already revealed:

- A large-scale operation involving *contras*, their private supporters, and certain United States Government officials to smuggle drugs—mostly cocaine—into the United States to help finance the *contra* war.
- The involvement by some of the defendants in illegal covert warfare activity, stretching back 25 years to secret wars in Cuba, Laos, Vietnam, Iran and Nicaragua.

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