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EIR

From the Editor

“An educational revolution” is on in the Soviet Union and has been since the late 1960s, precisely the time when American youth became submerged in the drug-rock culture, and “dropouts” from society—and school—became the rage.

Today the Soviet Union has millions of scientifically trained youth graduating from high schools and universities every year. “The disparity between the level of training in science and mathematics of an average Soviet skilled worker or military recruit and that of a non-college-bound American high school graduate, an average worker in one of our major industries, or an average member of our All-Volunteer Army is so great that comparisons are meaningless.

Izaak Wirszup, professor of mathematics at the University of Chicago drew this conclusion in a report comparing the U.S. and Soviet scientific education systems.

Our Special Report details the facts of the “Education Gap,” exposing one of the biggest scandals in U.S. history. We excerpt the Wirszup report at length, and show the extraordinary applications of the Soviets’ scientific revolution in a profile of the Siberian university city of Novosibirsk.

We also include a commentary on the destruction of scientific education at West Point by Dr. Morris Levitt, Executive Director of the Fusion Energy Foundation. Education, you will see, is the most crucial of national security questions.

But there is even more of a scandal than meets the eye in comparing the one year of training in geometry of an American high school graduate to the eight-year geometry training of his Soviet counterpart. Dr. Steven Bardwell, associate editor of *Fusion* magazine, describes the incompetent “New Math” being taught in U.S. schools and demonstrates why this “educational reform” is destroying our children’s capacity for creative thinking.

