National News

Bush starts presidential tour of Europe

Vice-President George Bush held a press conference in Washington Jan. 27 to announce a grand 11-day tour of Europe during which he will meet with 10 uncrowned and two crowned heads of state, and with Pope John Paul II. Although President Reagan and Bush have described the trip's purpose as "consultations with our allies concerning the Geneva Intermediate Nuclear Force negotiations," it will have all the pomp and cermony of a presidential visit, including emotional appearances at the Berlin Wall, a round of state dinners, and numerous press appearances.

The Vice-President will be accompanied on his trip by Richard Burt, an operative for Britain's International Institute of Strategic Studies, currently U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, and Martin S. Feldstein, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Bush announced that the reason for Feldstein's presence is that he would be prepared "to discuss the full range of economic issues."

It is widely believed, despite public denials, that Bush will be organizing the European allies to help carry out a compromise arms-control agreement.

Episcopal leader runs cover for FALN

Bishop Paul Moore, Jr., of New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine, appeared in Federal District Court in Brooklyn, New York Jan. 19 in support of the five Puerto Rican activists summoned before a grand jury investigating the terrorist activities of the U.S.-based Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional (FALN).

Bishop Moore, a leader of the nuclearfreeze movement, later told the press that the grand jury was being used for a "witchhunt" and as "a means of intimidating people who want to participate in the Puerto Rican independence movement."

The FALN has claimed responsibility for more than 130 terrorist attacks against

federal buildings and corporations in Puerto Rico and the United States, in which five people have been killed and several dozen more injured. The most recent attack occurred in New York City on New Year's Eve, when a sequence of bombs went off in front of police and court buildings in Manhattan. Three policemen were severely injured in the incidents.

Bishop Moore's actions confirm allegations made by EIR investigators since 1977 that Moore has been the controller of the Puerto Rican terrorist movement through the Hispanic Commission of the National Council of Churches. The five suspects called before the grand jury, who according to the FBI are the "remaining unincarcerated leadership of the FALN," are led by Carlos Alberto Torres. When the FBI raided his home in 1980, they found a cache of weapons and several sticks of dynamite stolen from a Denver construction company, from the same lot used in the New Year's Eve bombings.

Council calls for coherent global strategy

The U.S. Global Strategy Council, a new non-profit organization, called on President Reagan and the U.S. Congress to make a joint effort to design a clear and coherent foreign policy, and explain it to the American population and America's "friends abroad" at a Washington press conference Jan. 27.

Asserting that the country does not now have any such strategy, the Council outlined intentions to "work with every group" and educate everyone in the United States" to achieve one.

The council includes such anti-growth anglophiles as Kissinger protégé Brent Scowcroft, Maxwell Taylor, and Arnaud de Borchgrave, but many of its founding members favor restoring U.S. military and economic health, including Dr. Edward Teller, former CIA head Adm. Bobby Inman, Gen. Daniel Graham, Dr. Ray Cline of Georgetown CSIS, and Dr. Lewis Tambs.

When asked by *EIR* correspondent Ron Kokinda about Council members' response to reports of Soviet tests of a directed energy-beam weapon, General Graham stated

that although he did not believe the Soviet test reports, "the question tends to show how technical questions impact not only security and military problems, but help solve our economic problems as well. . . . Military solutions can pay for themselves.

Senator Richard Stone (D-Fla.) who was chairing the meeting, added that President Kennedy had faced a Soviet advantage when he came into office. His way of coping with this, Stone stated, was "a better space science program than the Soviets' and to land on the Moon . . . [which] led to tremendous spinoffs." Ray Cline stated that he thinks the Council as a group "lean towards assured defense" rather than the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction—MAD.

NCLC suit to end Balto. FBI harassment

The National Caucus of Labor Committees went into federal court Jan. 27 to ask for a preliminary injunction restraining agents of the FBI from harrassing former contributors to the Baltimore congressional campaign of NCLC member Debra Freeman. The motion was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York as part of an ongoing case, LaRouche vs. William Webster, protesting FBI harassment from 1969 to the present.

Debra Freeman, a leader in the National Anti-Drug Coalition and opponent of Rep. Barbara Mikulski in the 1982 Democratic primary, has been the subject of outrageous harrassment against herself and her campaign contributors. On Dec. 31, 1982, the Baltimore Sun and Baltimore Evening Sun announced in page one articles that the FBI was conducting an investigation of alleged violations of election laws in connection with the Freeman campaign. Since then, Freeman has learned that former campaign contributors were being contacted and interviewed by the FBI.

In a supporting affidavit to the NGLC case, Freeman charges that the investigation "has no lawful basis and is designed solely to harrass and intimidate my campaign contributors. I believe it is also designed to insure that any capacity I have as a future candidate in Maryland is destroyed by emphasizing to my supporters that the penalty

for support of Lyndon LaRouche and his ideas is an endless stream of defamations, political harrassment, and prosecution."

Freeman's campaign was backed by the National Democratic Policy Committee, of which 1980 Democratic president primary candidate LaRouche is a leader. Freeman overturned all the odds by winning 19 percent of the total primary vote, and 30 to 48 percent in working-class districts of South Baltimore.

AFL-CIO: Third World 'trying to rip us off'

Proposals from the developing sector for a new world economic order that would create billions of dollars worth of export-related high-technology jobs for U.S. workers are a "cheap trick designed to make the developed nations pay through the teeth," a top economist for the AFL-CIO told a reporter Jan. 25. The same spokesman, however, said the federation would not oppose a multibillion-dollar bailout for the big New York banks through the International Monetary Fund, at U.S. taxpayers' expense.

Although the Lane Kirkland leadership claims the AFL-CIO has no formal policy on the New World Economic Order or the IMF bailout, the economist vocally insisted that the Third World is "trying to rip us off." A New World Economic Order, said the spokesman, "says that we must pay for their development, and it's quite expensive and unaffordable.

"Countries like Mexico, with their big debts, are always trying to blame the United States for their crises and problems," he complained. "I don't think that we should let them get away with that. They urged the big banks to loan them ridiculous amounts of money for stupid development programs. This money could have been better used here, but it fled to the South. And now they blame us because they can't pay. We may have to bail out the banks, but it won't be because we want to let Mexico or Brazil get off scot free. It will be because we don't have any other way to save our banking system.

"We are in favor of sacrifices, but we want the sacrifices to be fair," added the economist. "The banks will have to sacrifice, the countries will have to sacrifice, and our populations will have to sacrifice.

"We are probably going to have to very reluctantly come in and save the banks. It comes down to a question of at whose expense are you going to try to solve the crisis."

U.S. nuclear energy: progress is dismal

The record for 1982 with the U.S. nuclear energy program can be summed up in one word: dismal. As of year's end, various electric utilities across the country had made decisions to delay 28 different nuclear projects already underway. These reactors would have provided more than 31,000 megawatts of the cheapest form of electricity yet available. A 1,000 megawatt nuclear plant can provide the entire electricity needs for an average city of approximately 1 million people.

Additionally, utilities cancelled altogether 18 reactors which were already in varying degrees of completion. These totaled more than 22,000 megawatts. Among the cancellations were two units from the five of the Washington State Public Power Supply System (WPPSS). Additionally, Duke Power cancelled five of its projects, a major blow to the Southeast electricity grid development, and the Tennessee Valley Authority cancelled four in the same region.

Only six new reactors were given operating licenses to produce power by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Those six reactors have raised the total of U.S. nuclear reactors with operating license to 83, producing 65,703 megawatts, or 11 percent of total U.S. electrical generating capacity. In addition, another 22 nuclear plants are more than 75 percent complete.

Not one new order for a nuclear reactor was placed domestically in 1982. This has been the case since 1978, and the two orders for that year have been deferred indefinitely. By contrast, in 1973, just before the OPEC 400 percent oil price "shock," U.S. utilities ordered 41 new reactors. At that time, official U.S. Atomic Energy Commission policy called for building 1,000 reactors by the end of the century. Reactors operating, under construction and on order, now total no more than 147 for a total of approximately 136 gigawatts through the early 1990s.

Briefly

- THE AMA has just instituted a three-year study on cutting medical costs incurred by insurance companies, according to AMA executive director Dr. James Salmons. One cost-cutting option is eliminating firstdollar coverage. The study will be conducted by Nixon Labor Secretary John Dunlop, the Business Roundtable, and other prominent economists, insurance companies, and foundations. Salmons told EIR that he is a friend of Harry Schwartz, who advocates euthanasia as a fiscal measure.
- THE HERITAGE Foundation announced in late January that it is founding a new Asian policy institute to be headed by former National Security Adviser Richard Allen. Other members include former NSC staffer Jeffrey Gaynor.
- GEORGE SHULTZ is being pushed for President by the same Boston Brahmin circles that control George Bush. According to Godfrey Sperling's column in the Christian Science Monitor, "a growing number of influential Republicans are saying of a Shultz candidacy: 'what a great idea!' They go on to say that maybe voters are ready for a man with Shultz's impressive credentials . . . Some TV people were discussing Shultz the other day. 'Funny thing,' one said, 'but Shultz comes over well on television.' . . . Maybe a new kind of charisma is emerging.'
- PETER WEINBERG, producer of the Public Broadcasting System's "Great Performances" series, told EIR that the PBS airing of Richard Wagner's Ring of the Niebelungen this winter is intended as "a soap opera" to rally Americans against industrial society, nuclear power, and nuclear weapons. Wagner always intended the Ring to warn audiences against technology, said Weinberg, who is closely associated with the BBC.