

Constituents rally in capital for beam weapons

by Nancy Spannaus

More than 600 people, representing more than 30 states of the Union, turned out in Washington, D.C. on April 13 to learn about the strategic, military, and economic implications of the new strategic military doctrine announced by President Reagan on March 23. The all-day conference, sponsored jointly by the Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) and the Club of Life, featured in-depth scientific presentations by the FEF staff, and a political keynote speech in the evening by *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, who is an FEF board member and the U.S. political leader who has most aggressively promoted a policy of beam weapon defense against ICBMs.

LaRouche's speech, reprinted below, focused on how the beam weapons defensive strategy can immediately contribute to a solution to the Euromissile crisis between the United States and the Soviet Union. After describing the effect this decision will have on the strategic posture and the economic future of every nation, LaRouche called on Moscow as well as the United States to prepare to negotiate arms control from the standpoint of the new doctrine, which will permit deployment of a first generation system probably by 1987.

In his keynote speech, LaRouche lambasted congressional foot-dragging and sabotage aimed against the President's beam program, emphasizing that Reagan spoke on March 23 as the commander-in-chief of the U.S. armed forces and that no congressional effort at blockage can change that fact.

Focus on Congress

The conference attracted attendees from over 16 foreign embassies; daytime panels were also heard by about a dozen officials from government departments. But Capitol Hill, controlled in large part by the Malthusian Neanderthals clinging to the Mutually Assured Destruction policy which the

President's policy sent to its demise, tried to ignore the major educational event.

The conferees did not ignore Congress. About 80 of them spent both April 12 and part of April 13 seeking out their congressmen and senators on the Hill, and demanding that they support the President's policy. Over 125 congressional offices were reached—almost a quarter of the total number—with an impact that will continue to be felt.

The constituents insisted, among other things, that the nuclear freeze, being debated on the Hill at the same time, be defeated. Also directed toward Congress was a 250 person rally sponsored by the National Democratic Policy Committee, the political action committee established by LaRouche to form a rallying point for Franklin D. Roosevelt Democrats after the universally despised Jimmy Carter was nominated for a second term. The crowd rallied on the Capitol Hill steps under the banner "Democrats Support Beam Defense Systems," while the "freeze" debate went on inside the building, and was addressed by NDPC-backed candidates as well as Hulan Jack, the former borough president of Manhattan, who is an NDPC advisory board member and leading black Democrat.

An education in strategy

The morning panel of the conference featured presentations on the strategic implications of the President's new policy of building defensive weapons against ICBMs. All three panelists stressed the fundamental fact that while the President has not eliminated the doctrine of deterrence overnight, his new doctrine of strategic defense gives the United States the potential to address the fundamental causes of war.

Dr. Keith Payne, vice-president and director of National



National Democratic Policy Committee spokesmen on the Capitol steps April 13.

Security Studies for the National Institute for Public Policy in Fairfax, Virginia, explained how the President's strategic defense posture would limit damage to the American homeland. The new doctrine will enhance U.S. credibility, and thus help stabilize the international situation with the Soviet Union, Dr. Payne argued. Under the Schlesinger doctrine of deterrence, for example, Washington appeared to have adopted a punitive extended deterrent which committed the United States to employing tactical nuclear weapons to defend allies in distant countries. But there was considerable question as to whether America would ever risk 160 million of its own population to carry out this defense of our allies. The United States is on much safer ground in preparing its defense posture to best ensure that nuclear weapons are not employed.

Uwe Parpart-Henke, research director of the FEF, followed Dr. Payne with an outline of how the transition from deterrence to defense can be made. He outlined the two-phase strategy proposed by the FEF, the first phase of which could, within five to seven years, be fully in operation against accidental launch, against third country launch, and for point defense. He went on to deride the Malthusian systems analysis theory that underlies the deterrence argument as totally incompetent and unrealistic.

The final speaker on the first panel was Frederick Wills, former foreign minister of Guyana and a founding member of both the Non-Aligned Movement and the Club of Life. Wills endorsed the new Reagan policy as a reaffirmation of the American Revolution which will make it possible for the United States to drop the Rapid Deployment Force and other preparations for population war against the Third World. Then, said Wills, we can rededicate ourselves to our true

purpose, as the poet Shelley put it: "Science, poetry, and thought are the lamps of liberty."

One hundred fifty to two hundred high school students attended this first panel; they were extremely excited by the potential for escaping thermonuclear MADness. These young people and millions like them no doubt represent the most active potential for following through on the President's program in the weeks ahead.

The third industrial revolution

Following the lunchtime demonstration, over 350 people returned to hear six panelists outline the scientific and technological frontiers laid open by beam weapon development. Dr. Steven Bardwell, editor-in-chief of *Fusion* magazine, keyed the panel on the theme of beam technologies representing the core of a third industrial revolution.

Unleashing this revolution, Bardwell argued, will be the most potent force toward eliminating the threat of war. He then described the incredible accuracy and power required in the first generation of beam defense, only to conclude that this system will probably never be built because the science necessary for the second is already so far advanced!

With the second generation, the relevant time of all industrial processes now known could be shortened by a factor of 1000, he specified.

Bardwell was followed by Dr. John Cox of the University of Florida at Gainesville, who discussed the nuclear-pumped laser program on which he works, indicating its tremendous efficiency and potential use in space and fusion power, as well as in ABM systems.

The third speaker, Dr. Ned Rosinsky of the FEF, outlined the impact of the high-frequency laser on medical and biological research.

Mobilizing the economy

David Goldman, *EIR*'s economics editor, kicked off the second part of this panel with a discussion of how laser and beam technologies represent the necessary productivity shock to restart the U.S. economy. To help his audience understand the revolution, he told them that this application would be comparable to the cheapening of the production of computers over the past 20 years. Had the cost of an automobile decreased as rapidly as that of a computer, Goldman argued, it would now cost \$6.

Goldman was followed by *EIR* economic specialist Richard Freeman and Nicholas Uwazie, a nuclear engineer from Nigeria. Freeman elaborated the dirigist model of mobilizing the economy which President Roosevelt carried out during World War II. Uwazie issued an impassioned plea for export of nuclear energy to the Third World, where there is no problem with "greenies." Uwazie also endorsed the President's new strategic doctrine, underlining its potential for reviving the Eisenhower administration's Atoms for Peace program of nuclear export.