

EIRSpecialReport

The fight in Europe over Reagan's strategic defense doctrine

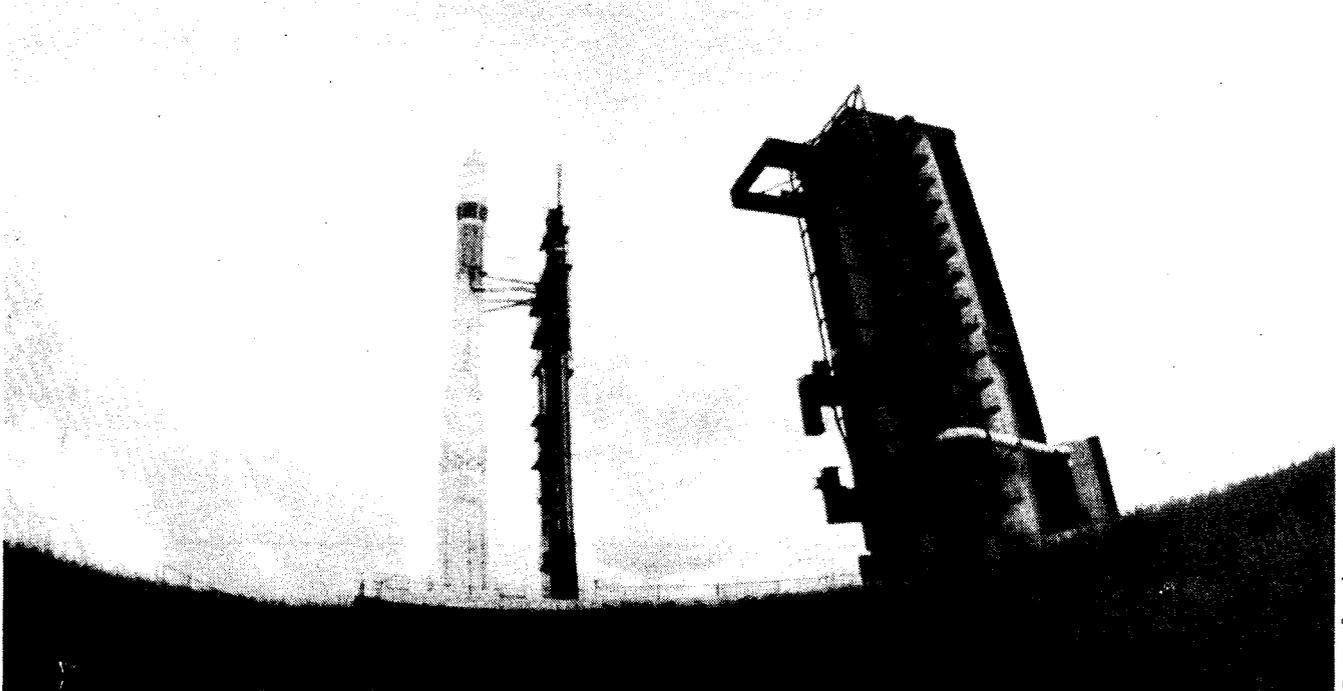
by Vivan Freyre Zoakos

It is an open secret to those in international government and other policy-making circles that the NATO alliance is now undergoing its greatest crisis since its founding in the 1950s, a crisis from which the Alliance may very well not emerge intact in the coming years.

From a strategic standpoint, the crisis began to erupt as the credibility of Western nuclear deterrence began to sharply erode under pressure of the growing military superiority of the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. This went hand in hand with aggressive Soviet actions in all corners of the globe, signaling that Moscow was on an expansionist drive not unlike that carried out earlier in the century by Hitler's Germany. Europe was targeted as a center of Soviet destabilizing operations, with Moscow actively seeking a Finlandization of the continent, in part through the unleashing of mass terrorism in the form of the U.S.S.R.-controlled "peace" and disarmament movements. In keeping with its increasingly Nazi foreign policy, the U.S.S.R. has gone so far as to join forces with the powerful Nazi International, whose capabilities in the various European separatist movements and similar operations have joined forces with the Soviet terrorist assets to generate the European "hot autumn" now underway, aimed at making the continent ungovernable.

The Western European response to this phenomenon has been in part a repeat of the 1930s appeasement policy, when strata within ruling European and U.S. circles sought to bargain with Hitler. The latter day appeasers faction, best identified with Lord Peter Carrington, Claude Cheysson, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Henry Kissinger, and Bettino Craxi, has today developed a strategy of seeking to make private bargains with the Soviet Union, in the process progressively decoupling Western Europe from the United States.

President Reagan intervened into this situation on March 23 with his announcement of a new military strategic policy based on the development of directed energy beam weapons as the core of an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system. The creation of such a defensive "umbrella" over the Western Alliance could head off the otherwise threatened East-West thermonuclear confrontation, replacing the



European Space Agency

The Ariane rocket launcher, a project of the European Space Agency. European scientific capabilities could accelerate the development of a beam-weapon defense program for the Western Alliance.

unworkable NATO policy of Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) with that of Mutual Assured Survival (MAS). The President's policy offer from the outset began to dominate European policy debates, to shift those debates from the terms of reference initiated, particularly, from the time of Henry Kissinger's entry into the National Security Council in 1969 and later with the 1971 signing of the SALT I treaty under Kissinger's traitorous aegis.

At an extraordinarily successful conference on beam weapons held in Rome, Italy, Nov. 9, *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche laid out the terms of that debate and the stakes involved. The conference, the latest in a series sponsored by the *EIR* in various European capitals, brought together over 120 representatives of the highest echelons of government, the military, and industry from the leading European capitals.

LaRouche explained the conundrum to which the MAD doctrine has lawfully led: "The combined Soviet and NATO deployment of what are called Forward Nuclear Defense capabilities, including the Soviet SS-20s and the [American] Pershing IIs, had brought the world to the brink of policies of 'launch on warning.' Whenever one superpower places a first-strike nuclear assault capability within 10 minutes or less of targets in the opposing superpower's homeland, the threatened power is forced to adopt a policy of launching a full-scale thermonuclear barrage against the homeland of the other at the first indication of launch of forward-based systems. Since Defense Secretary James Schlesinger's announcements of 1974 and Henry A. Kissinger's proposing the NATO double-track policy in 1979 [the decision to station the medium-range Pershing IIs on European soil, now sched-

uled to occur by the end of this year], the world has been moving at an accelerating rate toward a condition of 'launch on warning.' . . . The point has been reached at which any continuation of the nuclear deterrence (MAD) doctrine means a high probability for thermonuclear war during the months ahead."

These are facts which, together with the collapse of the so-called "NATO-triad" and hence of the underpinnings of deterrence doctrine, are well known to European leaders. Michael Liebig, *EIR*'s European Executive Director, outlined in some detail in his presentation at the conference the abysmal state of the Atlantic Alliance's military arsenal. Liebig pointed out that, "Should the United States not have deployed beam weapon ABM defense systems even before the end of this decade, the Soviet Union will have achieved a first-strike capability against the nuclear potential of the United States. If present trends continue . . . the surviving second strike capability of the U.S.A. will represent merely a limited and calculable risk for the Soviet Union. . . . The military reality today, however, is that the U.S.A. is not threatened with a Soviet second strike, but rather with a disarming first strike against the strategic 'Triad.' collapses the entire inner logic of NATO doctrine of flexible response, based on the so-called NATO-triad, consisting of 1) the (weakened) U.S. 'Triad,' 2) the American nuclear short- and medium-range systems in Europe, and 3) the combined conventional forces of the NATO partners (in which NATO has a vast inferiority relative to the Warsaw Pact)."

It is these hard facts, together with the offer by the United States of a way out of the dilemma into which the West has

been lured by the MAD deterrence doctrine, which has made the beam-weapons debate the centerpiece, directly or indirectly, of European foreign and military policy debates at this time. The accompanying articles give a more reticulated idea of the form this debate takes in the strategically decisive European countries.

The controlled environment which existed prior to the President's March 23 speech was radically broken at that time, a fact whose potential has been increasingly realized in the intervening months. The question of whether to go with President Reagan's policy or risk the only alternative—Finlandization or worse—is cutting across party lines in Western Europe. One dramatic example of the political upheavals beginning to take place on the continent was the recent speech given by Bavarian Governor Franz-Josef Strauss at the Hanns

Seidel Foundation. Strauss, the head of the highly conservative Christian Social Union, roundly chastized his government for refusing to back President Reagan's action against Soviet-directed operations in Grenada. In the process, Strauss cut through the arguments being posed by some among the President's detractors, who sanctimoniously raised the issue of national sovereignty as an excuse to continue, in fact, their practice of condemning any signs of strength in American policy.

Strauss pointed out that in the 1930s, had the allies acted from a standpoint of a true understanding of the meaning of national sovereignty, they would have been morally bound to interfere in the "internal affairs" of Germany's Hitler regime. The world would then have been spared the necessity of undergoing the trauma of World War II.

ROME CONFERENCE REPORT

Political and military leaders deliberate on beam-weapons potential

A conference in Rome titled "Beam Weapons: The Implications for Western Europe," sponsored on Nov. 9 by the *EIR* and the Fusion Energy Foundation, turned out to be a milestone in American-European strategic deliberations. More than 120 persons, representing the military, major industries, research and development centers, and the media, as well as diplomats from more than 20 European and Third World embassies, gathered to follow the debate of military and scientific experts on beam weapon technology.

The goal of the conference, part of a series of such events in Western Europe and North America organized by the *EIR* and FEF, was to get to the heart of the controversy over the new strategic doctrine announced by President Ronald Reagan on March 23, 1983, when he called upon U.S. scientists to develop new technologies capable of rendering nuclear missiles "impotent and obsolete"—beam-weapons.

Never before has such an informed and distinguished panel on the subject been assembled for public discussion by any private group. Along with former U.S. Ground Forces Commander Gen. (ret.) Volney Warner, the panel included space warfare expert Gen. (ret.) Giulio Macri of the Italian army, a former commander of the Tank Warfare Training school in Sardinia and head of the Italian delegation at SHAPE; Gen. Antonio Pelliccia, a fighter pilot and president of a working group at NATO's SHAPE, as well as vice-commander of NATO War College; Col. (ret.) Marc Geneste, currently an engineer at the Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique; Gen. (ret.) Revault d'Allonnes, a Compagnon de la

Libération, and one of the closest associates of the late Gen. Charles de Gaulle; Col. Hans (ret.) Seuberlich of the West German army, a vice-president of the European Organization of Military Associations; Dr. Piers Wooley, economist and military expert from Great Britain, who worked for the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London and has advised the Conservative Party on security and economic affairs; *EIR* Executive Director in Europe Michael Liebig; and physicist Prof. Giuseppe Filippini, president of the FEF in Italy.

A featured speaker and moving force in organizing the conference was the American political figure Lyndon LaRouche, who has campaigned for the development of defensive beam technologies since 1977.

As Fiorella Operto, the chairman of the European Labor Party in Italy, asserted in her opening remarks, the governments of the Western Alliance face the challenge of cooperation in a rapid crash-program for the development of beam systems before the end of the 1980s. She invoked the great tradition of the European Renaissance, challenging the audience to revitalize the research and development capabilities of Italy, the nation of Dante and the great Leonardo da Vinci, as a model for the allied partners.

The conference itself was the occasion of an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation between pro-beam forces and the Italian government of Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, a creation of Henry Kissinger and the Trilateral Commission. Ferocious counter-organizing by Kissinger-allied circles aimed at stop-