Project Democracy: 'glasnost' submarine in U.S. intelligence

by Scott Thompson

Of late, leading "anti-Communist" conservative figures in the United States have been taking to the print and broadcast media in praise of Mikhail Gorbachov's glasnost (openness) policy. Such "right-wing" Social Democratic leaders as Jeane Kirkpatrick, Leo Cherne, Arch Puddington, and others are doing their best to certify glasnost a genuine "democratization" of Russia. On this basis, they propose to justify pressing ahead with "New Yalta" agreements with Gorbachov's new Soviet Union, handing him much of the world.

The very same crowd had earlier helped the National Security Council's Soviet expert, John Lenczowski, win over the President to a proposal for a "Project Democracy," which Reagan formally launched in a 1982 speech before the British Parliament. Through Project Democracy and its spin-off, the National Endowment for Democracy, millions in U.S. government funds have been funneled to "democratic" causes around the world, for example, the Nicaraguan Contras. As a matter of fact, Lt. Col. Oliver North's notorious network for diversion of funds proves to be one and the same as Project Democracy. Tracing the origin of Project Democracy to such operations as Leo Cherne's International Rescue Committee, one finds it to have been a conduit for massive penetration of U.S. intelligence by a nest of "Bukharinite" moles.

Kirkpatrick's crush on Gorbachov

Former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Kirkpatrick, a leading "conservative" by virtue of her floor fights with her Soviet counterpart over Central America, returned from a Feb. 1-8 trip to Moscow to write the first in a series of op-eds for the Washington Post on Feb. 16, gushing that Gorbachov "appeared vigorous, intelligent, charming, manipulative, and supremely self-confident." In an interview with the Mexican newspaper La Jornada, Kirkpatrick was even more emphatic, saying: "There is a new current of thinking in the U.S.S.R. which must be very carefully considered. . . ." She added a "New Yalta" footnote: "We concluded Russia is willing to pull out of Afghanistan, after a non-aligned government is installed there."

The "we" Kirkpatrick referred to is the Council on Foreign Relations delegation that accompanied her to Moscow. This included such leading Soviet agents of influence within McGeorge Bundy's Eastern Establishment as Henry Kissinger and William Hyland. At the time that John Lenczowski wrote his 1981 article for the Heritage Foundation's *Policy Review*, which rallied Kirkpatrick's fellow Social Democrats behind "Project Democracy," he was serving as aide to another veteran of Kissinger's dealings with Moscow, former NSC staffer Lawrence Eagleburger, who became Al Haig's undersecretary of state. Henry Kissinger is himself on the board of the National Endowment for Democracy, created in 1983 under the chairmanship of Social Democrat Carl Gershman. It was the National Endowment for Democracy that, with Oliver North, laundered funds to the American Institute for Free Labor Development (Project Democracy's South American labor wing), the Contras, and other programs that are the implicit focus of the Tower Commission report.

Leo Cherne's New Yalta

Questioned about Kirkpatrick's strange CFR bedfellows and even stranger crush on Mikhail Gorbachov, Social Democratic leader Leo Cherne, in an interview made available to EIR, denounced her "single-dimensionality," but went even further in the "New Yalta" deal he proposed to offer the Soviets. Cherne believes that Gorbachov's glasnost policy means the Soviets want "a somewhat new kind of détente." What is now needed is for the United States to take steps that would effectively "decouple" it from the NATO alliance.

Cherne specifically endorsed the latest strategic insanity of his friend, Zbigniew Brzezinski, to pull 100,000 troops out of Europe.

Some top Pentagon officials privately believe that Brzezinski's record as a KGB "mole" dates to the time that he was part of a special Harvard study group led by British Round Tabler William Yandell Elliot, which Kissinger joined shortly after his recruitment to a KGB homosexual-blackmail ring penetrating the EUCOM G-2 headquarters in Oberammergau, Germany at the end of World War II. While Elliott groomed this "Trusting" group of future policymakers, his associates in British intelligence created the IRC pipeline for Bukharinite moles into U.S. intelligence. The latest Brzezinski "New Yalta" scheme, endorsed by Cherne, calls for the redeployment of 100,000 U.S. troops from Europe into a Vietnam-style confrontation with the Sandinistas in Central America—just what Kirkpatrick has often called for.

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Kirkpatrick burnt her bridges to the Reagan administration when she threw a temper tantrum because she had not been chosen as successor to National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane. But Leo Cherne's delusions about *glasnost* are more dangerous. He is vice-chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, which, he claims, "is the quality overseer of intelligence from the point of view of the President and those who make foreign policy."

Cherne's claim is an exaggeration on at least two counts.

The first count is the record of at least one PFIAB debate overseen by Anne Armstrong and her deputy, Cherne. The debate ended when Kissinger's friends made a call to William Webster of the FBI to request a witchhunt against staff writers for EIR, on grounds that they had reported to PFIAB members facts from reliable sources that Kissinger was a pederast and that his career as a Soviet "Trust" agent begun at Oberammergau had blossomed through Russell's Pugwash Conferences. Shortly after William Webster's FBI investigated the EIR writers, rather than these substantive charges, Henry Kissinger was appointed to PFIAB.

The second count is the question of the NSC's search for "Iranian moderates," which the PFIAB has never challenged. As Cherne quips, "I'm still looking for them."

The policy debacle around Iranian arms sales and the Contras was only made possible for the Reagan administration, because Cherne's friend, Zbigniew Brzezinski, among others, told President Carter that it would be advisable to topple the U.S. ally, the Shah of Iran, in favor of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Yet, in the interview made available to *EIR*, Cherne said that "Irangate," within the context of ballyhoo about Gorbachov's *glasnost*, might make possible a real "New Yalta" deal:

"[The Soviets] want another arms agreement. And, it does come at a time when it's now even difficult to say whether they want it more than Reagan or not. . . . I think Reagan's going to find himself increasingly in these next several weeks in the position where he better find something that will diminish the adverse attention of such things as the Tower Commission report."

What that might be is a return to Reykjavik, where, Cherne thinks, two things might be accomplished.

First, the Soviets' fear "that the process of achieving SDI is a progenitor of technological breakthroughs that . . . are of a kind that they cannot catch up with." Cherne adds: "I think therefore that if they can come up with modifications (and I don't know how) that offer them some assurance in that direction, I think that's the maximum that they really want." Cherne would consider cutting SDI research.

Second, the President is willing "to sharply reduce the nuclear warheads, the presence of Pershings and cruises on the continent, and with an interesting effect. The Europeans who so avidly objected to those had the 'expletive deleted' scared out of them at Reykjavik. . . . In short, there is a

beneficial effect of that in Europe, in my opinion... because I do think Europe ought to be threatened into a greater reality."

The one additional step that Cherne believes might force "reality" on Europe would be Brzezinski's proposal for substantial troop cuts. It was, of course, Brzezinski's idea to install the Ayatollah Khomeini in power, and Brzezinski who now advocates testing the "reality"-orientation of our European allies by abandoning them to Soviet domination. Cherne, not surprisingly, adds: "Now, I don't have an absolutely firm conviction that the Germans would pass that test."

Cherne acknowledges that "significant concessions" would have to be sought from the Soviet side. "Soviet conventional forces in Central Europe have to be pulled back . . . more than marginally," while other trade-offs might be pleasing to Project Democracy's friends in Afghanistan, Central America, Ethiopia, and elsewhere.

This offer to trade Europe for concessions in Third World areas like Central America was precisely Kremlin boss Yuri Andropov's offer to the U.S. Establishment in a 1982 interview in Germany's *Der Spiegel*.

Bukharinite snakes

Besides *glasnost*, there is another reason that Cherne would entertain a "New Yalta" offer from Gorbachov.

Cherne got his start in the intelligence business prior to World War II in the International Rescue Committee, which saved Communist Opposition followers of Nikolai Bukharin and Leon Trotsky from the Nazis for later recruitment by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) through the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of socialist David Dubinsky. Cherne's partner in the IRC effort was former Communist Party USA secretary general Jay Lovestone, who had been made general secretary of the CPUSA by Nikolai Bukharin in the 1920s and after his ouster is known to have continued working with the NKVD until at least Bukharin's purge in 1938. Another collaborator with the IRC's operations was KGB agent Noel Field, who defected to Communist Eastern Europe after World War II.

European investigators have discovered that, while Lovestone planned the post-World War II "free trade union" against a Communist takeover of Europe, his former CPUSA sidekick Irving Brown, then also with the AFL-CIO, permitted known Soviet GRU agents into trade unions through Leon Jouhaux's Force Ouvrière. Brown also became a central coordinator for the Bukharinite KGB-linked Fourth International of Ernest Mandel and Michel Pablo (Raptis) from AFL-CIO headquarters in Paris. Brown's associate, Boris Souvarine, simultaneously worked with KGB chief Yuri Andropov's top French assets.

This history of how "Bukharinite snakes" penetrated U.S. intelligence with help from Leo Cherne's Social Democratic friends may explain why he now finds Gorbachov's glasnost policy so attractive.

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