

U.S. ditches sanity in Panama Canal grab Is the Soviet Union ready for self-government? SDI's future a political, not technical question

'A strategy of justice': LaRouche replies to Pope



EIR has commissioned this White Paper to bring the truth of the developing Panama crisis to American citizens and lawmakers, so that decisive action can be taken to stop this campaign before the United States faces a new strategic crisis on its Southern Flank.

NEW EDITION 1987

White Paper on the Panama Crisis

18 months later: the Project Democracy assault on Panama

ect nama

Americans have been told that there is a crisis in Panama because a "narco-dictator" rules. That the United States government has mobilized to drive him from power. That only when Defense Force Commander General Manuel Noriega is out of the way, will Panama be safe for democracy, and U.S. interests in the region protected.

Is this true? The answer is no. On this, the Reagan administration is wrong, dead wrong.

Did you know, that the so-called "democratic" opposition movement which the State Department seeks to install in power is led by Nazis, drug-traffickers, drug-money launderers, advocates of narcotics legalization, and arms-traffickers?

Did you know that the liberal Establishment's "secret government" created the crisis in Panama, lock, stock and barrel, as an excuse to bring those drug-runners to power?

That the campaign against General Noriega is being run by the same team which was caught trading armsfor-hostages in the Iran-Contra scandal?

That the attack on Panama went into full gear when Panama's military angered international bankers, by seizing bank accounts caught laundering drug-money? If you had read *EIR*'s Special Report, you would know.

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From the Editor

Lyndon LaRouche's extraordinary writing in response to Pope John Paul II's new Encyclical, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, was issued just a few days before LaRouche's second nationwide television broadcast of the 1988 presidential campaign, entitled "The Woman on Mars." There is no possibility of capturing in print the beauty of that television program, which featured the music of Mozart's "Dissonant" quartet as the accompaniment to a magnificent journey out of the dark age and into a new Renaissance sparked by space colonization. But EIR is privileged to publish in two parts LaRouche's dialogue with the Pope, beginning in this week's Feature, to follow-up our publication, in last week's issue, of substantial excerpts of the papal document.

The photo of LaRouche on the cover was taken at a conference about a year and a half ago, where the banner was emblazoned with the theme, "Out of the Dark Age and into a New Renaissance" and the image of a space station and our Earth in the background. These images are today's expression of the concept of $agap\bar{e}$ —the Christian notion of love of God and neighbor—which the Pope expressed in his Encyclical, and which LaRouche has made the active center of the political movement he is building, by naming and defeating organized evil in the world.

To back up his point, that there can be no shrinking from identifying the fundamental threat of the Russian imperial system, the articles on pages 45-49 trace the steady advance of fascist policies throughout the Soviet-controlled domains. Our on-the-spot reports from the Brussels NATO summit (page 42) and NATO exercises (page 53) give an alarming picture of the West's paltry defenses against this "evil empire" under the prevailing policies of Washington.

For an account of the sheer lunacy in Washington, read the lead report in *National* on page 62, concerning how the "Panama policy" has been shaped. Back-up articles on what is occurring inside Panama, and the Ibero-American side of the Washington script, appear on pages 50-52.

Finally, the review of the "Brundtland Commission's" blueprint for extinction on page 16, and the note on a scientific analogy to this movement on page 21, show the usurious Western oligarchy, which is the other face of evil in the world today.

Nora Hamerman

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Lyndon LaRouche, at a conference in Virginia, September 1986

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The response of U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche. Jr. to the Encyclical, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. This response "is intended to express ecumenical solidarity of the good men and women of the United States with the commitment to promote the true sovereignty of nations and persons, to recognize the inalienable right to economic development as intrinsic to such sovereignties, and to acknowledge the persistence of a great. intolerable wrong intrinsic to the present ordering of relevant features of the affairs among and within nations." Part 1 of 2.

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The leading-indicator lies of the U.S. government

by Chris White

The government's index of leading economic indicators, made public Tuesday, March 1, is another example of the lengths the powers that be will go to maintain their own self-consoling illusions that there is no real risk of an economic recession, until after this year's presidential elections are well and truly over.

The January results showed a fall of 0.6%. However as the January results were released, revised numbers for December were also put out. The revised December numbers reversed the earlier reported decline of 0.2%, to instead offer an increase of 0.3%. The 0.5% margin of error from first to revised report could be stated as a revision of 6% on an annualized basis, about three times what the government is forecasting economic growth to be over the year as a whole.

Funnily enough in this crazy world, it wasn't the bad news, of the 0.6% decline in January that perked up enthusiasm among the pollyannas and pundits. It was the revised December figures which showed that the economy is growing.

The index of leading indicators is the government's principal economic forecasting tool. Leading indicators are those, such as unemployment claims, orders for consumer goods, plant and equipment orders, building permits, and so on, which are assumed to move in advance of changes in rates and levels of economic activity, as distinct from coincident, or lagging indicators, which are respectively assumed to move with, or after, developments in the economy as a whole. The rule of thumb employed by officialdom's pundits is that declines in the index of leading indicators for three months in a row usually mean that the economy is heading into what they are accustomed to call a depression.

That's why the revision of the December index was more important than the January numbers. If the December num-

bers had not been revised, the series would have declined for four months in a row: October, November, December, and January. The revision of the December figures broke the series, and now another two months will have to go by before the pundits are able to assert with confidence whether the economy is "slowing down" or heading into what they call "a recession."

If you think this all sounds like irresponsible word games, you're not too far off the mark. Behind the games, the fraud which pervades the preparation of these kinds of indices, and to which, over the years, one becomes almost habituated, has reached new levels of blatancy. The revision of the December leading indicators was necessitated because the government underestimated the amount of credit that had been extended that month. The downturn in the indicators becomes an upswing because the country's consumers went deeper into debt than was first thought to be the case.

Does this mean that the faster the economy goes deeper into debt the better it is doing? Of course not. Anyone capable of thinking sanely on the matter would readily recognize that the very reverse is actually the case. The more so because it's the month of December that is under consideration. The period from Thanksgiving to Christmas is the most important in the retail sales calendar. Over those few weeks, some estimate, about one-third of the total volume of the year's retail sales is accounted for. It was already known that the level of such sales during last year was flat relative to the year before. The increase was not even enough to offset the imputed rate of inflation from one year to the next. Now we learn that the level of credit extended during the December part of that period was sufficient to account for 0.5% of a swing in the totality of the government's index of leading indicators.

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Not too much was actually bought or sold this past Christmas time. It went on to the good old Master, Visa, or American Express card.

The thinking here is congruent with the view that the President has frequently expressed since Black Monday, Oct. 19. There is no danger of a recession, the fable goes, with the one small exception: that consumers panic, stop buying, and that produces a downturn. In this view, the question of economic policy becomes reduced to the public relations manipulators' management of the perception that "everything is really OK," so it is safe to keep on buying.

The targets of the manipulation are twofold: those who can still "consume," and the proverbial markets. In the latter case, the truth of the public relations exercise isn't so important as the perception that the powers that be still do have sufficient power to keep on churning out the lies without getting caught. Therefore, the word of the day is, "no recession in 1988, but rather, a gradual slowdown." This prognosis, the revised indicators, with their faster plunge into deeper indebtedness, are supposed to bear out. Then, if enough people, of sufficient stature, repeat the refrain often enough, and sincerely enough, the rest of us are evidently supposed to assume it to be true.

Appearance or reality

There's many a slip twixt cup and lip, the saying goes. And so it does here, too. The difference between wanting that result for 1988, and the capability to bring that result about, is immense. As the very nature of public relations activities implies, the truthfulness of the report is not so important as the appearance of truthfulness, or credibility. The issue, for these degenerates, is not what's really going on in the economy, but can appearances be kept up till after the elections in November? And, more especially, can the appearance of a solvent financial system be maintained through that time-frame?

Adjusting the indicators on the basis of increases in debt betrays the whole game. Economic capacities and potentials are being stripped out, at an accelerating rate, to maintain the appearance of solvency for the financial and banking system, when the official earnings of the banking system, at 0.16% of assets for the whole of 1987, reflect the reality that the whole shebang is actually bankrupt many times over.

The more the economy is stripped out, the less stable the bankrupt financial system becomes, since the money side of the system is ultimately only worth the production which the money can buy. In this respect, things are rapidly being brought to a new financial breaking point, by the very apparent success of maintaining the fiction that the financial system is in good shape.

The auto industry, for example, is one of the mainstays of the consumer sector, and its sales for the end of February were up 24% over the same period the year before. Production of autos is down nearly 30% over the same period. Up

to 20% of the facilities of some companies are shut down. Production plans for the first part of March envisage a 30% reduction also. Sales are up because the inventories that have been built up are being run down. The run-down of inventories permits companies like Chrysler and General Motors, which are running their operations with negative operating capital, to keep going for the moment. Not too far down the road, the sector will be deprived of the buffer of excess inventories, and the reality will hit.

Housing sales and construction are not in too different a shape. New construction spending of all types is way off from the previous year. Sales of existing houses are back to the levels of official "recession" years 1981 and 1982. Further, one of the country's largest producers of small electric appliancs for the home, Armco, which owns Sunbeam and Oster, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, no doubt to protect itself from the strength of consumer spending.

In the steel industry, smaller companies have been running a campaign against the Commerce Department to break the government's restrictions on imports of semi-finished steel. The companies have requested that the amount of such steel imported be tripled from one year ago, up to about 800,000 tons. That's small potatoes relative to total U.S. steel consumption, but again it reflects the reality that the economy cannot produce for itself at a competitive price.

Then the currently ongoing collapse in the price of oil is throwing another wrench into the works.

The collapse of economic activity increases the amount of debt service and other speculative claims that are to be extracted from the part of the economy that is still functioning. The efforts to paper over the consequences of last October's stock market crash have made that little problem worse, to the point that some in Europe's financial circles see the next phase of the financial collapse coming by May, while others think that June or July, the end of the second quarter, is perhaps a more likely time-frame.

Reality contrasts with the public relations line that Alan Greenspan at the Fed, and James Baker at the Treasury continue to utter. Greenspan continues to insist that the economy is "slowing down" but "recession" is not in the cards. Baker now thinks that things are about right, and that includes the battered dollar. Greenspan though also insists that the key will be continuing to bring the budget deficit under control, by continuing to cut expenditures.

Meanwhile, the policies that he and his buddies are imposing are ensuring that the budget deficit will do the very opposite. It will grow faster than the Congress can ever cut the expenditure side, because Greenspan and company are destroying the economy, and therefore, the basis for tax revenue, faster than the budget can be cut.

They can therefore lie about what's going on. But sooner or later the reality of what they are doing will prove what's the truth, and what is the lie.

More austerity hits Mexico's labor force

by Peter Rush

After suffering a brutal cut in real wages over the previous three months, the Mexican population was hit on Feb. 29 with Phase II of the "Economic Solidarity Pact" promulgated by the Miguel de la Madrid administration. Inflation rose 15.5% in January, and official estimates put it at a further 8% in February, representing a combined drop in real income of 20%, while wages were frozen. Against this, the government granted a negligible 3% wage increase in March. With the population having already suffered a more than 50% cut in real income from 1982 to December 1987, the standard of living for most Mexicans is by now well under 40% of its level in 1982. Hunger is becoming the order of the day for more and more Mexicans, as more and more foods join meat and milk as unaffordable "luxuries."

As happened last December, the de la Madrid government has compelled the leader of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) to "reluctantly" sign his name to this phase of the pact. He merely whimpered that if business doesn't keep to its promise to hold down prices, "it will have to pay the consequences" in higher wages later.

However, wages have been cut so deeply that the population, especially the organized working class, is very close to the explosion point. While the CTM has so far prevented an outbreak of wildcat strikes and other labor actions against the pact, the disgust of workers with labor officialdom's compliance with it, has manifest itself in mass defections of workers from support of the presidential candidate of Mexico's traditional ruling PRI party. It is to try desperately to show an improvement in the inflation level before the elections—no matter what disasters will hit just after—that Phase II is directed, in hopes to bring workers back behind the PRI candidate.

Accompanying the virtual wage freeze, is a freeze on the prices of goods and commodities controlled by the government, including water and electricity rates, airfares, gasoline, and sugar. In addition, the business sector is supposed to "voluntarily" honor the freeze as well, and not pass on the 3% wage increase by higher prices. Given the multitude of means business has to effectively increase prices, the latter portion of the pact is a foreordained farce.

Further, the government announced a reduction in the interest rate by 50 points, from over 150% a year to just over 100%, and a freezing of the peso-dollar exchange rate at its

present level. Finance Secretary Gustavo Petricioli announced that the Central Bank would be setting aside \$2 billion of its dollar reserves of \$13.5 billion, to support these policies. The immediate response to these measures in Mexico was a rush by depositors to take their money out of banks, and to exchange them for dollars. And the lowering of the interest rate is a purely financial measure, with no economic significance—there was no money allocated for investment at 150%, and there is no more available now at 100%. Most investment has ground to a halt.

The government's program is a hybrid of the Bolivian shock program designed by Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs, and the Israeli anti-inflation program applied several years ago. Michael Bruno, director of the Central Bank of Israel, is now in Mexico, invited by Miguel Mancera, Mexican central bank head, where he met with de la Madrid. In Bolivia, the anti-inflation program was "successful," in that inflation did fall sharply—but at the expense of the virtual elimination of industry.

The intention of the Mexican program is to sharply reduce inflation just long enough to ensure the election of PRI presidential candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari in July. It is highly doubtful that this corrupt attempt can succeed. This is because the response to government policies has been the "dollarization" of the economy, in which more and more transactions are conducted in dollars, or where prices are calculated based on the peso-dollar exchange rate. It is expected that by some time in April, there will either have to be a very sharp devaluation—which would cause an instant jump of dollarized prices by the same amount—or the peso will virtually cease to exist as a medium of exchange. Dollarization will become universal. The English-language magazine *The Journal* headlined an article on this question, "Dollar Pricing: Is the Peso Vanishing?"

Labor's response

Labor dissent is not likely to wait for the election to explode. While PRI candidate Salinas de Gortari's campaign so far has been a disaster, PARM candidate Cauhtemoc Cardenas's campaign is drawing huge, enthusiastic crowds, mainly from workers and peasants. His program calls for a debt moratorium, a return to high levels of domestic investment in the economy, and an end to kowtowing to International Monetary Fund austerity programs. Worker pressure was sufficient to force the National Assembly of the CTM, meeting in the last week of February, to call for a radical version of Peru's "10% solution," in a resolution that said Mexico must pay no more than 10% of its non-oil receipts in debt service, and reserve the totality of its oil receipts for investment in development.

The failure of the "zero coupon bonds" scheme cooked up by Morgan bank, which will cost Mexico a net outflow of cash until long after the present crisis is past, is expected to amplify the popular outcry.

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Banks keep Brazil on a short leash

by Mark Sonnenblick

The private banks hurriedly reached an informal agreement with Brazil Feb. 28 on debt payment terms. In return for tiny reductions in interest rates, Brazilian Finance Minister Mailson da Nóbrega agreed to make it easy for creditors to swap debt paper for ownership of prime profit-making assets in Brazil. Brazil also secretly agreed with the United States to practically eliminate protection of its nascent computer industry.

And, as is usual in such cases, Brazil is submitting its internal economy to control by the International Monetary Fund. Since civilian rule was restored in 1985, Brazil had regarded the IMF as incompatible with democratic government and national sovereignty. The first IMF negotiating mission since 1984 arrived in Brasilia, Feb. 29. The IMF staff is scheduled to complete Brazil's letter of intent by the end of April, with formal ratification by the IMF directors taking place in mid-June. The IMF is expected to lend Brazil only half of the \$1.1 billion Brazil repaid it last year. But, an IMF agreement is the *sine qua non* to get off the blacklists of the United States, other governments, and the World Bank. Last year, it faithfully paid them interest, but was cut off from new lending.

The bank advisory committee tentatively agreed to lend Brazil \$5.8 billion toward 1987 and 1988 interest bills. After deducting the \$4.3 billion not paid them during Brazil's 1987 debt moratorium, only \$1.5 billion is left toward the \$6.6 billion interest due the banks in 1988.

The deal leaves Brazil in a cash squeeze, which is expected to require it to crawl to the U.S. Treasury in April for the first of several "bridge loans." This is because (except for some advances made at New Year's to facilitate Brazil's breaking its moratorium), the banks will not put forward any money until at least July. Their "threat to lend" is conditional on Brazil getting IMF approval and on almost all creditor banks signing on to the terms. By some time in March, Brazil will have stripped its foreign exchange reserves down to dangerous levels with sizable payments on overdue and current interest. Brazil will not have enough cash to pay all the interest due starting in April. The finance minister promised the banks he would keep current on interest payments, al-

though he is not honest enough to admit in Brazil that the moratorium has been formally ended.

"The creditors' strategy is to keep the debtor on a short leash, as has been happening with Argentina and Mexico, which are continually needing bridge-loans," an aide to former Finance Minister Dilson Funaro commented Feb. 29. When Funaro declared a debt moratorium on Feb. 20, 1987, he aimed to force interest rates to be renegotiated to levels low enough that Brazil could fully service its debt, without having to take on new debts to pay old ones or starve Brazil's people. Nóbrega accepted a 0.8% interest reduction, so that, if London dollar rates remain unchanged, Brazil will be paying about 7.5% interest on state-guaranteed borrowings. Brazil will also pay 0.37% front-end fees on each new loan or roll-over.

A year ago, in retaliation for the moratorium, foreign banks cut Brazil's short-term revolving credit lines by about \$2 billion, shortened them from 90 days to, often, only 10, and charged premium interest on them. The banks now promise to restore \$600 million of these lines.

The United States put the screws on Brazil in October by announcing its intent to restrict Brazil's imports to the United States. It might not be a coincidence that the Reagan-Bush administration iced the sanctions the day after Brazil settled with Wall Street. Brazilian newspapers reported that Nóbrega had secretly promised Washington he would end protection of the fledgling computer industry in return for a rapid deal on debt.

Brazil needs a huge trade surplus with the United States if it is to expand last year's \$11.2 billion global surplus to the \$14 billion needed to meet debt payment schedules. Under IMF policies, each dollar added to trade surplus entails \$2-10 taken out of domestic consumption. Real wages at the end of 1987 were about 26% lower than at the beginning. Food processing was down 15% in January and Funaro-epoch food imports were gone.

State sector austerity is more difficult, since President José Sarney is trying to extend his term through political payoffs to his supporters. Recessionary conditions and reduced consumption caused federal tax revenues in January to fall 8% in real terms from a year ago, despite a 23% increase in income tax collections. A car sold in Rio brings in taxes worth more than its production cost. If exported, it pays nothing. Normally a deficit month, January had a trade surplus of over \$1 billion for the first time ever.

Inflation last year was 396% and it has climbed since Nóbrega began financing foreign debt payments by printing money. In February, prices rose 17.96%. They are rising so fast workers cannot keep track of how much they are losing or even know what will be in their next pay envelope.

Nóbrega has announced draconian austerity against state and local governments. But he is so unsure of his power that he persists in lying to Brazilian audiences that "the IMF has changed" and will not insist on further budget cuts.

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'Roundtable' slashes West European jobs

by William Engdahl

One of the oldest and largest European industrial companies, Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken NV of Holland, announced Feb. 26 that it plans to cut an unprecedented 200,000 jobs in its more than 170 European manufacturing facilities and close 70 of the plants. The company chairman, Cor van der Klugt, announced the draconian measures at the annual meeting of shareholders, saying that future policy will transfer more of the production activities to what he called low-cost dollar-based countries such as Mexico. The moves are the most dramatic in the history of the company which, for years, has exercised its political clout among European governments policy by threatening to cut jobs if it didn't get its way, according to one informed insider.

The move was announced in the context of a corporate earnings drop of 19% in 1987 and an alarming 51% drop in worldwide sales from October-December in the wake of the stock market crash.

Within days, the world's largest heavy electrical engineering and power plant group, the newly merged Asea-Brown Boveri, announced its pre-merger results for 1987. Brown Boveri chairman Fritz Leutwiler, former head of the Bank for International Settlements, the elite private "central bankers' central bank," announced that group profits in 1987 were up 94%—which he called "unacceptably low"! Asea-Brown Boveri is taking steps to improve its profits. On March 1, it announced it will slash 2,500 jobs from its Swiss payroll, and cut an additional 4,000 jobs from its Mannheim facilities in West Germany in the coming months. Similar cuts are planned for the group's plants in Italy and Finland.

Siemens, the German electronics giant, has just announced plans to dump at least 3,000 employees. Bosch, a significant electronics and industrial robotics producer, is getting rid of 600 workers. The French-German aerospace group Thomson-Brandt is axing 1,000 jobs in Germany alone.

The knights of the roundtable

These enormous cuts in the industrial workforce of Europe are being justified by reference to the Oct. 19 stock market crash and the propaganda buzzword, "competitiveness," for the emerging unified "Single Europe" planned for the European Community (EC) by 1992. Under the Single

Europe Act, the 323 million residents of the 12-nation EC are supposed to dissolve all major tariff, border, and capital restraints to form a market which some imagine will be like the United States.

The 1992 Act is moving ahead under the heavy lobbying of an elite and well-financed private industry lobby with the presumptuous title, European Industrialists Roundtable. The head of the Roundtable is Wisse Dekker, director of Philips of Holland. Other members of the Roundtable include Asea chairman Curt Nicolin of the Swedish Wallenberg group; Bosch's Hans Merkle, Siemens' Karlheinz Kaske, Olivetti's Carlo De Benedetti, Fiat's Agnelli, and Volvo's Pehr Gyllenhammer. All in all, they are heads of 29 European companies.

"The Roundtable is very vocal and very visible. The European Commission listens to those who cry the loudest," one well-informed British insider stated. "The Roundtable is an industry pressure group and Brussels [EC headquarters] is a paradise for such organized pressure groups. Even though they don't reflect the majority by far, they are the most visible and well-financed."

"The Sunday speeches of politicians are irrelevant in the movement toward European unity. . . . What matters in Europe are the very impressive people with a global approach to banking and financial problems, people like Sweden's Gyllenhammer, Italy's Agnelli, and Holland's van der Klugt," a senior consultant to the Committee for a European Currency Union of former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and former French President Giscard d'Estaing asserted in recent private discussions. The "impressive people" praised by the Schmidt-Giscard circle, in their own public drive for creation of a single European Central Bank modeled on the U.S. Federal Reserve, are the same European Roundtable elite.

What will be the future of Europe in the relentless drive for this "spirit of '92"? Clearly, as the early actions of the Roundtable suggest, a prime focus will be a deregulation of protective labor laws and other safeguards built carefully over decades through the social disruptions of war and depression. Under the banner of "competitiveness," a tiny but powerful elite of European companies has fired the first shots in what will be a bloody restructuring of Western Europe. "European industry sees that it has overcapacity of production in too many small units. The Roundtable companies see 1992 as the possibility to introduce a sea-change in the possibilities of what business is allowed to do," stressed a London insider who has been privy to many of the discussions shaping 1992.

Significantly, most of these same Roundtable companies are at the front of the reception lines in Moscow looking for "joint venture" deals with the Russians. Philips just signed such a venture for a microchip plant in the U.S.S.R. Their restructured Europe is projected to be one large supply-line for the Russians.

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Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

No jobs in the post-industrial age

German steel and mining workers have no real interest in industrial dismantling.

Immediately after World War II, Allied occupation policy called for, under the Morgenthau Plan, total dismantling of Germany's heavy industry. Labor unions fought the dismantling policy until it was dropped in 1952. The reconstruction of the Ruhr region, as Germany's main industry belt, could begin.

Dismantling is the policy again in early 1988, this time disguised behind ecologist slogans like "production compatible with conservation of nature." The difference to 1945 is that today, many labor bureaucrats view themselves as followers of the Green conservationist movement, rather than leaders of an industrial labor union.

For example, metalworkers in the Ruhr region campaign for a shift topost-industrial production. Translated into figures, this means cutting 37,000 jobs in steel and another 30,000 in coal mining, plus some 140,000 in the feeder industries to the two sectors, and all within the next 5-10 years. In all seriousness, union officials declare there is no future for steel production, nor for steel jobs, because of "shrinking world markets." The future of labor and new jobs lies in production for conservation of nature, they argue.

In the case of the Krupp steel plant at Duisburg-Rheinhausen, the focus of current steel labor unrest in the Ruhr, this ideology took a very concrete form. The executive of the metalworkers, backed by the Social Democrats, argued that to save jobs for the 6,000 steelworkers of the plant, an "employment pool" should be creat-

ed, keeping workers employed for several years. Workers in such a "pool" would no longer produce steel, but tear the plant down, clean the plant area from all relics of former production such as toxic waste, reconverting the soil to a "pre-industrial condition."

This, argues Franz Steinkühler, the national chairman of the German metalworkers, would provide "work" for workers who would otherwise be jobless over the "transition period of seven to ten years required to build up new production sites." Steinkühler thus boosts technetronic production as "work of the future."

But since Steinkühler and other labor 'crats accept limits to growth, their "industry of the future" will provide far fewer jobs than today's industry. The Steinkühler argument is that work for 7-10 years in an "employment pool," is a far better choice to a worker than to face no job and depend on low unemployment checks.

Labor 'crats like Steinkühler, who took part in the Bonn government's "roundtable on the coal-steel crisis" Feb. 24, accepted a program of investment incentives for projects in "anti-pollution" and "readjustment of production." The program is to fund small-sized pilot projects like computer centers which will employ 5-50 workers each. A data center on pollution factors, planned in Duisburg by the Nixdorf company, will create a mere 15 jobs, for example. "Adjustment" from steel to "new products" will kill 10-15,000 jobs in Duisburg alone, however.

Is a worker of 30-40 years of age

buying 10 years of work in an "employment pool," that also has no guarantee of employment after that "transition period"? Do the majority of steelworkers in Duisburg really believe that instead of three steel plants, there will be 500-1,000 computer shops in the city by the year 1998 employing the same workforce?

As long as there is a feasible alternative, the average worker won't buy such nonsense. This is proven by the fact that when the Patriots for Germany party intervened with the slogan "Steel for the World, Work for at Home," almost every steel worker at Krupp-Rheinhausen took a sticker to put on his car or motorbike, or to take home. Framed by the slogan, the sticker depicted the shape of the African continent, as the envisaged consumer of giant shipments of steel and other industrial products within a program of rapid economic development. The sticker went out together with an open letter by Patriots party leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche, detailing a number of big infrastructure projects in Africa which require a lot of steel. These proposals excited and remoralized many steelworkers, who dislike the "new world without steel" propagated by the labor 'crats and the government in Bonn.

Naturally, steelworkers prefer producing steel, and they sense the difference between the "employment pool" concept and the Patriots' proposal, as being one between a scheme offering jobs to some and another offering jobs to all, and more. The "employment pool" concept is no way out of the Ruhr crisis, because tearing steel plants down and cleaning the soil simply won't feed workers' families in a region, which, like the Ruhr, has an average jobless rate of 17-20%. The other side of the Steinkühler coin, "readjustment of production," would add at least 5% to this jobless rate.

Agriculture by Sue Atkinson

USDA shuts down rural America

The farm production decline means a population decline in the small towns and disappearance of businesses.

Small-town, rural America is disappearing. Despite all the federal government rhetoric in recent years about "development perspectives for rural America," etc., if you look around in the farm states, people are disappearing.

In Iowa, for example, there is a negative population growth rate. Not overnight, but gradually, people are migrating to metropolitan areas. What is causing this phenomenon? The shutting down of the family farm-based production section of our agricultural economy.

Several years ago, a government study concluded that only large corporate farms were efficient. Therefore, the government, in its "infinite wisdom," decided that official farm policy would be the encouragement of large corporate farming.

There has been a lot of talk about help for the small, family farm, but USDA policy—especially during the tenure of U.S. Agriculture Undersecretary Daniel Amstutz, the 25-year Cargill executive who led the USDA from from 1983 to 1987—has fostered the mass shiftover into food cartel-connected corporate farm and processing system.

According to the latest Census Bureau survey, the number of Americans now living "down on the farm" has dwindled to 4,986,000, the lowest number in over a century. This does not represent the large-scale application of farm technologies, and increased productivities, but rather, the displacement of the family farm system, by vertically integrated corporate-owned food production, or by the

shutdown of output capacity.

This has had a severe ripple effect on all phases of farm input industries—equipment, fuel, fertilizers, etc. There have been mass layoffs in farm machinery-manufacturing centers. Equipment imports have increased.

How has the government handled this situation? Why, it adopted an official farm policy of discouraging food production. The subsidy payments kept certain larger farms in business, but the smaller ones have been gradually liquidated.

This, by the way, shows what is now on the agenda for family farms in Western Europe, where the USDA policies are now being imitated by the European Community in its plans for restructuring farm policy between now and 1992.

All the while, the government, and major media and others, argue that farms are expendable because they have been producing "too much food." In line with the prevalent zero-population-growth outlook, the USDA calls for less food to be produced.

With less food being produced, naturally the demand for seeds and chemicals drops even further. Supply outlet stores and companies have been forced to either go out of business or be taken over by larger, more diversified corporations.

The people being forced out of food production, out of machinery production, out of seed production, out of chemical production, and the associated sales and administration jobs have been in the age group 20-60. These are the child-rearing years, the income-producing years, the so-

ciety-contributing years. The wants and needs of this group of people create the jobs for most of the service sector.

As these people leave an area, the demand for services decreases and the costs of providing the services to those remaining increase.

Eventually, the businesses involved in services cannot remain open, and they, too, close. People associated with those businesses leave to find work elsewhere.

The state of Iowa, which is over 80% rural, recently completed a study of what was happening in its rural areas. During the 1980s, the rural areas lost 20% of their grocery stores, 22% of their movie theaters, 29% of their variety stores, 35% of their gas stations and apparel stores, 49% of their student enrollment.

When you consider the fact that many small towns only have one of each of these businesses, it is devastating to the area to have them leave.

Just what is lost? Lost are the income taxes of those people not on retirement income, the income taxes of businesses, and property taxes (due to a reduction of property values). This is the money used by local, county, and state governments to fund the infrastructure. Infrastructure decay is becoming rampant as these government agencies try to prioritize needs against decreasing tax revenues.

Many once-thriving agriculturebased communities are now in their final death throes. Each one is hoping some production plant will locate there so they will not fade into oblivion.

Unfortunately there is not enough production left in this country to save all of these towns. Because production is being either eliminated or transferred to other countries, America is dying the same way small towns are dying.

Medicine by John Grauerholz, M.D.

Steps in the right direction

The AIDS commission's interim report reflects a compromise, between perception of the true threat, and the official lies.

The recommendations of Adm. James D. Watkins (ret.), chairman of the Presidential Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, are exemplary of the problem even seriously concerned individuals have in facing the full implications of the HIV epidemic. Rather than confront the thorny issue of testing, Watkins chose to recommend immediate action on intravenous drug abuse, patient care, and basic research/drug development, leaving the testing issue for the final report this June.

This column will deal with the drug abuse issue and subsequent columns with the health care and research recommendations.

This report reflects a compromise between recognition of the seriousness of the problem and the current "line" on the epidemic. This "line" was put forward in a series of articles in the Feb. 5, 1988 issue of Science magazine. The sum and substance of these articles, is that AIDS is a serious problem which will have major impact in a few areas, such as San Francisco and New York, but is still primarily a disease of homosexuals and drug addicts with little spread into the general population, and that primarily through the drug addict population. Therefore, widespread testing is not indicated, since spread among homosexuals is being controlled by "safe sex," and we should focus on giving clean needles to drug addicts and condoms to minority groups, while protecting the civil liberties of the virus.

The strongest part of Watkins's recommendations concerns intrave-

nous drug abuse, "because it is this group that poses the greatest long-term potential for spreading the AIDS virus." He proposes "a ten-year comprehensive strategy to address IV drug abuse." The centerpiece of this effort is a massive upgrading of personnel, facilities, and research in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse, based on the concept of "treatment on demand."

What is good about Watkins's approach, is that he views drug addiction as something to be defeated, not to be adjusted to by supplying clean needles. Exemplary of his view is the following statement. "In addition to focusing on the demand side of the drug abuse equation, we must not slacken in our efforts to address the supply side by including illicit domestic and international drug trafficking in our policy decisions. Although the recommendations made in this interim report deal solely with the demand side of drug abuse, the international section of our final report will include a discussion of the supply side, drug trafficking."

Among the specific recommendations proposed is the addition of 32,000 drug abuse treatment specialists and construction of 3,300 new drug abuse treatment facilities, with voluntary HIV testing offered to IV drug abuse treatment clients, their sexual partners, and at-risk children in conjunction with counseling. Other recommendations concern model demonstration programs for community-based organizations, and research into the problem of IV cocaine abuse.

Watkins identifies the problem of

addicts, who, when counseled on risk reduction, ask for treatment of their addiction and are unable to obtain such treatment. He also identifies the necessity of a drug-free environment in the local community, if a significant impact is to be made in reducing the problem of drug abuse in general, and the recruitment of new addicts from the youth population. In fact, the sum total of his recommendations represent a serious approach to a "War on Drugs," including certain judicial measures.

One such proposal is to place drugusing criminal offenders into drug treatment programs as an alternative to other forms of non-jail probation, with the proviso that failure to adhere to the treatment program would result in serving out their sentences in prison

There is little doubt that these proposals, if implemented, would have a substantial impact on the drug abuse problem in general and would significantly slow the spread of AIDS in this particular group. Implementation, however, will require a substantial expenditure of funds and a radical change in current administration economic policy. Perhaps the additional 32,000 drug abuse treatment specialists will be hired from among the 33,000 troops scheduled to be cut from the U.S. military this year under the strictures of Gramm-Rudman.

In addition to the direct costs of this program, if it were successful, it would substantially affect the revenues of the drug traffic, causing significant damage to the "informal economy" of which President Reagan is so fond. The reaction of the administration to these particular proposals will be an extremely interesting litmus test of the sincerity of the commitment to a "War on Drugs" which recently reappeared on the President's cue cards.

Britain's euthanasia movement declares war on Western culture

by Mark Burdman

"The sort of opposition we have to overcome, is from those who insist that human life is sacred. This is only a dogma."

The speaker is a leading figure in the United Kingdom's Voluntary Euthanasia Society (VES), the oldest such outfit in the world. It was created in 1935, under the name, Voluntary Euthanasia Legalization Society. The Society is now on an organizing offensive, to culturally, politically, and juridically legitimize euthanasia in the United Kingdom and the West as a whole.

On March 21, EIR has learned, a doctors' group inside the Society, will be meeting privately in London, to discuss formally launching a pro-euthanasia medical professionals' group within the VES. The existence of this group had been first publicized in November 1987, when British newspapers reported that the spread of AIDS had motivated a group of British doctors to demand the legalization of euthanasia. The organizer of the confidential March 21 event is Dr. Colin Brewer, who became notorious after his declaration to the Scottish branch of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, later re-published in the newsletter of the Hemlock Society in the United States, advising readers not to shy away from using plastic bags as a means to commit suicide. As Brewer put it in a recent private discussion, "The plastic bag is a jolly efficient method, people should not be put off with it, just because it is inelegant."

From April 7-10, a group from the Voluntary Euthanasia Society will be visiting San Francisco, to participate in the biannual summit of the World Federation of Societies for the Right to Die, the host-organization for which will be Derek Humphry's Hemlock Society.

Then, on May 21, the VES will be holding a joint conference at the Royal Society of Medicine together with Britain's Hospice Movement, presided over by Dr. Douglas Black, one of Britain's most prominent physicians. The theme will be: "Voluntary Euthanasia and the Hospice Movement: Can We Work Together?" This is the first time the two groups

have ever held a public meeting together, since, in the past, the Hospice Movement has shied away form public advocacy of euthanasia. Nonetheless, the Hospice Movement's director, Dame Cicely Saunders, has headed the St. Christopher's Hospice, which invented the notorious "Brompton Mix," for "easing" the patient's "death with dignity."

In praise of suicide

The British population is being psychologically softened up to accept euthanasia by a propaganda blitz in the media.

On Feb. 14, for example, the Sunday Times of London published an article by Mick Brown, extolling those prominent British couples who have made "suicide pacts." He highlighted the case of Prof. Arthur Ramsay, a retired zoologist and fellow of the Royal Society, who, while "rational and lucid," committed suicide with his wife on an overnight train to London. They were people, wrote Brown, who believed that "the quality of life" was the most important thing, and under conditions of aging (he 78, she 76), sickness, and decline of mental faculties, they decided to commit suicide together now, because "a sudden deterioration in their health" might have resulted in them being unable to carry out their plan cleanly. Their daughter was quoted by Brown: "It is a decision they took which is accepted sadly by the family. They were very brave people."

Author Brown reported that in the United States, "the rate of geriatric suicides has multiplied dramatically in recent years. The Hemlock Society—the American equivalent of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society—can find evidence of only six recorded double suicides involving elderly people between 1920 and 1980; but 92 documented cases between 1981 and 1987."

He also described the case of writer Arthur Koestler and his wife Cynthia, who killed themselves in March 1983, he because he was suffering from leukemia, Parkinson's Disease, and chronic depression; she because "she could not

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bear life without her husband." Koestler described voluntary euthanasia as "a means of reconciling individuals with their destiny. He left a final letter, "To whom it may concern," expressing "timid hopes for a de-personalized afterlife beyond the confines of space, time, and matter, and beyond the limits of our comprehension."

The article coincidentally notes that Hemlock Society head Derek Humphry formerly worked for the Sunday Times of London. Not so coincidental, is the fact that Brown received the material for his article from Jean Davies, the chairman of the VES, who describes herself as the "resource center" of the Society. According to her own account, she was drafted into becoming a pro-euthanasia activist by the British-born Humphry, who recruited her out of the antinuclear movement, by telling her that the peace movement already had enough true-believer activists, while the euthanasia movement had far too few.

Also during February, a play opened at London's West End Whitehall theater, to much publicity in the press, which graphically depicts an act of euthanasia on-stage. Entitled "Curtains," the play, in the words of the Daily Telegraph, "touches a subject enjoying renewed topicality." Playwright Stephen Bill claims, "We need to look at the quality of death as well as the quality of life. . . . There are people who would rather be dead and who would be better off dead, and that is not a very satisfactory state of affairs. . . . I don't see it as my place to try to tell people what to think; rather it is to provoke the debate, get the blood pulsing, to get them thinking. . . . I see the theater as a forum for discussing things people find difficult to discuss privately. . . . Death is the last taboo, because we have distanced ourselves from it." The high point of the play comes when the daughter places a shopping bag over her mother's head, and then (in the Telegraph's description), "finishes the job with a cushion over the face."

Other elements of the propaganda barrage, include sensational revelations made last year, that King George V had been put to death in a "mercy killing" by the prominent British Dr. Lord Dawson of Penn. According to Jean Davies, this had a noticeable effect in shifting popular attitudes in Britain toward acceptance of euthanasia: "If it's good enough for the King, it's good enough for the subjects, is the kind of reaction it produces."

The British media also continues to draw attention to a poll taken during 1987, which purported to show that 70% of respondents supported the legalization of euthanasia.

AIDS, austerity, and euthanasia

Three factors are motivating the renewed euthanasia drive.

One, as indicated, is the spread of AIDS. In mid-November 1987, Dr. Colin "Plastic Bag" Brewer and Dr. Jonathon Miller wrote a letter to the *British Medical Journal*, announcing plans to form a medical section within the VES that would fight for legalization of euthanasia. They wrote that the need

for euthanasia legalization had increased since the founding of the VES in 1935, "because more people now survive to suffer the sort of physical and psychological distress which cannot be adequately relieved even by the best medical and hospice care. The acquired immune deficiency syndrome has added a new and rapidly growing group of often well-informed patients who may not want to risk the dementia which so often supervenes." Brewer told the *Times* of London Nov. 13: "The fact is that there have been some cases in which people with AIDS have committed suicide. . . . It seems

Says Dr. Colin Brewer, organizer of a pro-euthanasia group of medical professionals, "The plastic bag is a jolly efficient method, people should not be put off with it, just because it is inelegant."

very likely that some sufferers in whom the condition is far advanced will want to consider euthanasia."

He and his co-thinkers were sharply attacked by Britain's LIFE organization Nov. 12, which stated, "It is arrogance to assume that people want to be hastened out of this world just because at the moment they are looking at a disease that is incurable, but where one may be found."

The second factor is the budgetary-financial situation. As ex-"peacenik" Jean Davies puts it privately: "With the advances in medicine today, the amount one could spend on keeping people healthy is infinite. If we chose to keep alive every handicapped and every seriously ill person, we would have nothing left, and," she sneered, "we would have to cut, God forbid, our precious defense budget."

Third, and ultimately most significant, these creatures are using the current economic crises to destroy the notion of the sanctity of human life in Western Judeo-Christian culture.

From 'sanctity of life' to 'quality of life'

Aside from its being the oldest of euthanasia societies, what makes the British group special, is the philosophical, political, and cultural support it receives from influential figures within the gnostic-liberal faction of the British Establishment. These individuals are clever and learned enough, to understand that they are using the question of euthanasia as a weapon to undermine the basic values of Judeo-Christian civilization. They draw upon those philosophical traditions of radical liberalism within the past two centuries of British

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philosophy, which have been the focus of evil in the world, including the utilitarian "hedonistic calculus" of Jeremy Bentham, the utilitarian writings of John Stuart Mill, the "pragmatic" philosophy of Bertrand Russell, to provide a justification for murder, and the liberal-gnostic philosophies of Arnold Toynbee.

Oxford-based VES chairman Jean Davis says that the "sanctity of life principle" of Judeo-Christian civilization, must be replaced with a new "quality of life principle." She lauds the work of Australian "moral philosopher" Helga Kuehse, who has written books attacking ideas like "keeping grossly handicapped alive," and advocating euthanasia as the positive alternative. "She contrasts the Judeo-Christian idea that life is sacred, and pulls it apart, since it only means human life."

The president is 81-year-old Lord Listowel, who served in the India-Burma theater under Lord Mountbatten.

A leading member of the Society's executive committee is retired Oxford professor of "moral philosophy" Patrick Noel-Smith, who this year will be named president of the World Federation of Societies for the Right to Die. Noel-Smith said that his approach to euthanasia comes from a combination of the "pragmatism of Russell" and the "utilitarian approach, the rights approach. People have a right to die. . . . Bertrand Russell believed in having no legal obstacles to what people want to do, so that there could be maximum freedom."

He added: "The sort of opposition we have to overcome, is the notion that human life is sacred. The traditional idea is that we ought not to commit murder. Very few people, in the past, wanted to die. It's only in the last 20 years that there has been a pressing problem of people who want out. Anyway, the notion that human life is sacred, is only really a dogma."

He advised that Holland is "the place to go," to see how the pro-euthanasia policy is being best implemented, but added that important developments on the euthanasia front are also developing in France and Switzerland.

'Becoming a post-Christian society

One of the prime movers of the Society is vice-president Sir Alfred Jules (A.J.) Ayer, well-known to university students worldwide who have had to pore through his horrifying texts on logical positivism, empiricism, and pragmatism, in introductory philosphy courses. Ayer is in the philosophical tradition of Bertrand Russell, and backs Russell's argument that the world is overpopulated by "nonwhite" races. Cutoffs of bank lending to the Third World, and the imposition of authoritarian regimes in Africa and the Indian Subcontinent, are among the "cures" he demands to "redress the racial imbalance" in the world.

He is also one of the seminal figures in the British Humanist Association, which was known as the Ethical Union from the point of its founding in 1896, until it was renamed the BHA in 1963. Its work was supported by Russell until his

death. In 1963, Ayer and Sir Julian Huxley, and founder of the UNESCO organization, launched the BHA in the British Parliament. On May 14 of this year, they are commemorating its 25th anniversary, in an event hosted in the British House of Commons by Michael Foot, a top figure in the Fabian wing of the British Labour Party. The work of the BHA is also supported by Austrian-born philosopher Sir Karl Popper.

In an early-March discussion, a BHA official said that the organization supported euthanasia because, "We support a lot of social causes that we think are better formulated in rational rather than religious terms. The religious attitude to the absolute sanctity of human life outweighs caring for the incurably ill. . . . In fact, the idea of the absolute sanctity of life is not accepted by most people. . . . The question is, how can we adapt to becoming a post-Christian society."

The leading pro-euthanasia doctor in Europe, Holland's "Dr. Death," Pieter Admiraal, told a Swedish daily Jan. 24 that he felt no compunctions about committing euthanasia, since he was not a "Christian," but a "humanist." By humanist, these creatures, of course, mean "bestialist."

"Post-Christian society" is, indeed, the clarion call of the euthanasia movement. Arnold Toynbee was for decades the head of the research department of the Royal Institute for International Affairs and one of the co-founders of the World Council of Churches in the late 1930s. In 1976, Toynbee stated during a discussion with a leading Japanese philosopher: "My Hellenic education has prevailed over my Christian education. Consequently, I feel that suicide and euthanasia are fundamental and indispensable human rights. I feel that a human being's human dignity is violated by other people when he is kept alive by them against his will. . . . I also hold that a human being is violating his own dignity if he fails to commit suicide in certain circumstances."

Toynbee defended euthanasia and the "right to suicide" from a so-called "pre-Christian" Greco-Roman standpoint, and cited, favorably, examples of some of his own friends who had committed suicide. He complained: "There is, in Britain, a historical reason why suicide is discountenanced and is made humiliatingly and cruelly difficult. According to Christian doctrine, a human being who commits suicide is committing an offense against God. He is trespassing on God's prerogative. God alone has the right to decree the moment at which a human being is to die."

One of the other executive committee members of the VES, Dr. Jonathon Miller, is identified in the 1985 book, *The Cambridge Apostles*, as the leading contemporary member of that Cambridge secret society. Leading lights of the "Apostles" earlier in this century included Bertrand Russell and John Maynard Keynes.

Other VES executive-committee members include writer and newscaster Ludovic Kennedy, who has helped Davies produce pro-euthanasia shows on British Broadcasting Corporation; Life Peer Baroness Barbara Wootton; and Lord Reverend Donald Oliver Sopeer, one of the leading figures in the British and world Methodist church.

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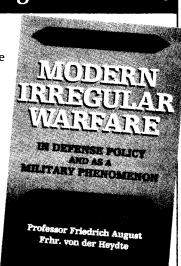
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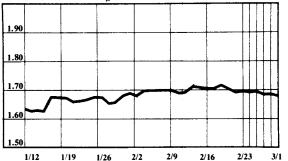
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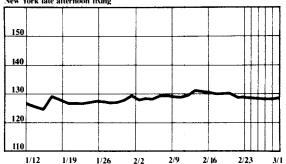
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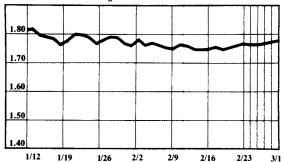
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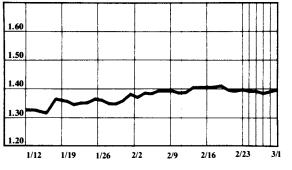
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New York late afternoon fixing



Book Reviews

Brundtland Commission proposes ecologists' fascist world order

by Mark Burdman

Our Common Future

The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 1987
400 pages paperback, £5.95, \$9.95.

The back cover of the *Our Common Future* edition released by Oxford University Press in the United Kingdom makes the modest claim: "This is the most important document of the decade on the future of the world." The book, based on the findings of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) headed by Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, "serves notice that the time has come for a marriage of economy and ecology," it claims.

The policy perspectives of this book, insofar as they are influencing and transforming the policies of governments and institutions, are not leading the world to a marriage, but to "our common funeral"—which would be a more appropriate title for the book. Would that the contents were nothing more than deranged world-federalist ravings. Regrettably, they are not. The "Brundtland Commission" is the regroupment of the world malthusian movement under a new organizational framework, with the sanction and participation of many governments and prominent institutions around the world.

It proposes, and is seeking to implement, a new international financial, economic, political, and legal order, that would "enforce," as the report states, the genocidal notion of "sustainable development" globally. This should be accomplished, in the commission's view, by "transforming" the Brundtland Commission into a permanent "U.N. Program on Sustainable Development" that would "change human attitudes" through "a vast campaign of education, debate, and public participation." As a commission declaration made in Tokyo, on Feb. 27, 1987, said, "A successful transition to a sustainable development through the year 2000 and beyond

requires a massive shift in societal objectives. It also requires the concerted and vigorous pursuit of a number of strategic imperatives. The World Commission on Environment and Development now calls upon all the nations of the World, both jointly and individually, to integrate sustainable development into their goals and to adopt the following principles to guide their policy actions."

To accomplish what ends? 1) To "limit" global population to appropriate "ecological" limits. 2) To reinforce the notion of "limits" in the minds of the world's population. 3) To implement deindustrialization, by phasing out "energy-intensive" modes of industry. 4) To skew international financial aid flows, to bring about aims 1, 2, and 3. 5) To establish an international legal policing system, to force these aims to be accomplished with the power of the law, by bringing about "changes in the legal and institutional frameworks that will enforce the common interest." Less politely put, to create an international ecologists' gestapo.

Behind all the rhetoric, liberal phraseology, and populist-participatory images that ooze throughout *Our Common Future*, what the WCED is substantively calling for is a universal-fascist world order that would implement genocide, with the appearance of "democracy." As is usual with the past years' programs for "fascism with a human face," a big-shot in the Socialist International, in this case, Mrs. Brundtland, has been appointed to oversee the project.

From Brandt and Palme to Brundtland

The World Commission was mandated in December 1983, by the United Nations. As Mrs. Brundtland writes in the "Chairman's Foreword": "My reflections and perspective were also based on other important parts of my own political experience: the preceding work of the Brandt Commission on North-South Issues, and the Palme Commission on Security and Disarmament Issues, on which I served. I was being asked to help formulate a third and compelling call for political action: After Brandt's 'Program for Survival and Common Crisis,' and after Palme's 'Common Security,' would

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come 'Common Future.' "

It is noteworthy that the commission was launched not long after the launching of the Helmut Schmidt and Takeo Fukuda's Inter-Action Council of Former World Leaders, which also grew out of initiatives by the United Nations, in the latter case the U.N. Development Program in New York City. Together, these two entities represent an upgrading of the malthusians' structure to include heads of state and former heads of state.

Under the chairmanship of Brundtland and the vice-chairmanship of Sudan's Mansour Khalid, some of the leading individuals brought onto the commission, include:

- Susanna Agnelli, Italian senator and undersecretary of state for foreign affairs, and sister of Fiat magnate Gianni Agnelli;
- Volker Hauff, vice chairman of the West German Social Democratic Party Parliamentary Group, and former minister for research and technology in the late 1970s, who mandated anti-nuclear policies within Helmut Schmidt's government;
- Saburo Okita, Executive Committee member of the Club of Rome, and chairman of World Wildlife Fund-Japan;
- Sir Shridath "Sonny" Ramphal, secretary general of the Commonwealth, who is also chairing the Inter-Action Council Policy Board panel on the "economy of black Africa," at the policy board's next meeting, in Harare, Zimbabwe, from March 20-22 of this year;
- William D. Ruckelshaus, former head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in both 1970-73 (when his action to ban DDT was responsible for spreading disease and famine that killed millions of people worldwide) and 1983-84, senior vice president for law and corporate affairs of the Weyerhaeuser Company in the 1976-83 period, and acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and deputy attorney general in the U.S. Department of Justice in 1973;
- Vladimir Sokolov, director, Institute of Evolutionary Animal Morphology and Ecology, Soviet Academy of Sciences;
- Maurice Strong, Canadian energy magnate, top patron and member of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies and the Club of Rome, executive director of the United Nations Environment Program from 1973-75, and secretary general of the 1970-72 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

The annex to the book lists close to 1,000 collaborators, advisers, etc., and reads almost like a telephone directory of the world-federalist, malthusian movement:

- Worldwatch Institute, U.S.A. (Lester Brown, President)
- International Federation of Institutes for Advanced Studies (IFIAS)
 - International Union for the Conservation of Nature
 - Ramphal's Commonwealth Secretariat
 - Global Tomorrow Coalition, U.S.A. Greenpeace
 - World Association of World Federalists

- Indigenous Survival International
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
- Sussex University Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU)
- International Institute for Environment and Development
 - World Council of Indigenous Peoples
 - World Wildlife Fund-U.S.
 - World Resources Institute
 - Natural Resources Defense Council
 - Friends of the Earth
 - Conservation Foundation
 - Earthscan
 - Society for International Development
 - World Vision International
 - Canadian Association for the Club of Rome
- various U.N. bodies, including UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNEP, and the "U.\$.-based International Development, Environment, and Population NGOs" or non-governmental organizations.

It's a small world

In terms of the "moving forces" actually pushing this report and its follow-up forward, it is safe to say, that for the "small is beautiful" crowd, it is indeed a small world, although a world very largely patronized by oligarchist interests, in foundations, multinational corporations, banks, and the like.

Take, for example, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), which has its headquarters in London, and which was created by the late Lady Barbara Ward Jackson, the guru of the 1972 U.N. Conference of the Environment. This was the conference where, for all intents and purposes, the environmentalist-ecologist movement was launched in earnest. The IIED provided numerous advisers and consultants to the WCED, and is now attempting to mobilize U.N. NGOs, at a conference in April, to carry out the next phases of the *Our Common Future* perspective, to establish a permanent WCED office, and so

The IIED's chairman is Robert O. Anderson, chairman of Atlantic Richfield, whose initial funding to Friends of the Earth in the late 1960s financially launched the environmentalist movement. Its treasurer is Sir Arthur Norman, former chairman of the World Wildlife Fund, United Kingdom. Among its board members and advisory board, there are several Brundtland Commission members, including Jim MacNeill, Saburo Okita, Sir Shridath Ramphal, and Maurice Strong. The directors and advisers' group also includes former World Bank President Robert McNamara; Lazard's banker and former British Steel Corporation chief Sir Ian McGregor; Inter-Action Council founder Bradford Morse; British liberal establishment scientist Lord Zuckerman; and ARCO and RCA chief Thornton Bradshaw, Robert O. Anderson's alter ego.

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The IIED's own activities are closely intertwined with those of numerous other world-federalist, ecologist groups, including the World Wildlife Fund, the European Cultural Foundation, the Institute for European Environmental Policy, and more.

Some special roles

At the same time, the preparation and composition of Our Common Future, reveal certain interesting features of what is happening in the neo-malthusian environmental movement. One is the extraordinarily high percentage of participants from Indonesia and Brazil, evidence in itself of strong gnostic-environmentalist movements in these countries. The second is the extraordinary participation of representatives, from within government institutions and otherwise, from Canada; of the 1,000 or so listed advisers and collaborators, about 300 are Canadians or individuals from organizations based in Canada. Purely from the evidence presented on paper in Our Common Future, one would draw the conclusion that Canada has become the ecologists' playground. On a coordinating level, there is not only the case of Canadian Maurice Strong, but the fact that Jim MacNeill was former Canadian deputy minister for urban affairs, and Canadian commissioner general at the U.N. Conference on Human Settlements, both in the mid-1970s, before becoming director of environment for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris from 1978 to 1984.

Brundtland's Norway is also a key contributing country. Not only does that involve herself, yet another Socialist International figure engaged in promoting genocidal policies, but one special adviser to the report was Norway's current Defense Minister, Johan Holst, a friend of convicted Soviet spy Arne Treholt. Whether or not Norway's key role in such a report has anything to do with the recent decision by the Norwegian State (Lutheran) Church to drop the *Filioque* creed in services with the Orthodox Church is not known, but certainly both events indicate a strong movement of gnosticism and pro-Eastern sentiment in this NATO-member country.

The Soviet angle

Which brings us to the third singular feature of the report: the prominent role of East bloc, particularly Soviet, institutions, in preparing the report. Two among them worth noting are Nikita Moiseyev, of the Computer Center of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and Ivan Frolov, former editor-inchief of the theoretical magazine *Kommunist*, and the key Soviet link to the Club of Rome, to ecological movements, and to Western "New Age" institutions. On page 39, Frolov is quoted: "We need new social, moral, scientific, and eco-

Zero growthers form unified command

Discussions to implement the findings of the Brundtland Report were held on Feb. 1-10, 1988, in Costa Rica, during one of the largest environmentalists' meetings of the postwar period.

Under the auspices of the Geneva-based International Union for the Conservation of Nature, some 1,000 environmental scientists and administrators, as well as financiers and representatives from international development aid agencies, met under the overall theme, "Sustainable development and economics."

According to the IUCN's mid-February newsletter, the meeting resolved to implement "recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development Report to the United Nations—the Brundtland Report of 1987." To achieve this end, the meeting took the important step of merging the "conservation of nature" and neomalthusian population-reduction movements into one tighter bureaucratic command structure. It also set up an international lobbying mechanism to pressure for redi-

recting financial aid flows to the developing sector, to favor: phasing-out of heavy industry; "ecological" projects; and so-called "debt-for-nature" swaps. A new "economics of conserving resources" was discussed, as justification for such ends.

The IUCN has been the coordinator of the "conservation" movement since its founding in the late 1940s, on the basis of joint initiatives from the same British gnostic crowd around Julian Huxley which created UNESCO, and those Swiss oligarchical families that, in the early 20th century, had launched the ecological-environmental movement by creating the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature in 1909. Today, it shares the same office complex in Geneva as Prince Philip's World Wildlife Fund.

The IUCN has several hundred member-organizations. Among those attending in Costa Rica were such Western-based groups as the Conservation Foundation, World Wildlife Fund-U.S., the Center for Environmental Education, the World Resources Institute, and Wildlife Conservation International. The East bloc also sent representatives from the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, the Turkmenistan Society for the Conservation of Nature, and others, including from Czechoslovakia and Poland.

An IUCN release on the conference stated: "The 17th Triennial General Assembly of the IUCN was the biggest and most productive in the Swiss-based Union's 40-year

logical concepts, which should be determined by new conditions in the life of mankind today and in the future."

Moiseyev is the co-author, with Carl Sagan, of the "nuclear winter" hoax. During February 1988, he has been featured in both the internationally circulated magazine *New Times* and in the Russian-language *Kommunist* magazine, writing world-federalist "New Age" articles nominally from the standpoint of discussing the ideas of the great Russian scientist V.I. Vernadsky. In the *New Times* article, he introduces the bizarre notion of "Russian cosmism," as one important component of an emerging "ecological" state of mind.

Soviet participation in the report is further evidence of intensified Soviet cultivation of United Nations-centered world-federalist institutions, a subject which *EIR* has recently reviewed (most recently, Vol. 14, No. 45, Nov. 13, 1987, "Mayor Zaragoza caper at UNESCO tickles the Soviets . . . pink"). Toward such ends, the Soviets have expanded the international activity of Raisa Gorbachova's Soviet Cultural Fund, and have created, in the first weeks of 1988, a new "International Fund for the Survival and Development of Humanity," whose founding meeting included Armand Hammer and Robert McNamara.

An agenda for genocide

While the verbiage of the report is world-federalist, ecol-

ogist mush, the idea-content is genocidal in policy effect. The first chapter is entitled, "From One Earth to One World." Under a subheading, "The Global Challenge," the chapter begins with a compendium of disasters, ranging from drought in Africa, to Chernobyl, that occurred in the period from the time that the WCED first met in October, 1984, to the time it published its report 900 days later.

Soon thereafter, there is a subheading, "Sustainable Development." These two words are the *leitmotif* for the whole report, repeated with an obsessiveness reminiscent of a rock n' roll song or Hare Krishna chanting.

"Sustainable development" is the content of the "marriage" of ecology and economy, and really amounts to the way in which the ecologists destroy economy, if the latter is properly understood as *physical economy*. The term "sustainable development" grew out of the early 1970s work of such as the Club of Rome's co-founder, Dr. Alexander King of Great Britain, and as elaborated by such institutions as the Austria-based International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). Both derive "sustainability" from a correlated notion, "carrying capacity." The latter perverts a real idea, namely, what is the *relative potential population-density* of a region or nation, into a purely reductionist, formal idea of what is the maximum population and resources that can be "carried" in such an area. IIASA has worked out a

history. . . . For the first time, the World Bank, the Inter-American, African and Asian Development Banks, development aid agencies, and a number of major U.S. philanthropic foundations participated strongly. . . . In San Jose, the Union reviewed a World Conservation Strategy for the 1990s that will feature the interaction of population and conservation tactics."

Highlights of the meeting were speeches by Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive-Director of the U.N. Fund for Population Activities and Bradman Weerakoon, president of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, who outlined how the IUCN could serve as the body through which the "population and conservation movements" might collaborate more closely.

In 1986-87, the IUCN had made first moves to integrate the structures of the two movements which, while sharing a common gnostic worldview, had been somewhat separated in day-to-day practice. The IUCN had brought to Geneva Perdita Huston, formerly a staffer in Washington for Helmut Schmidt's Inter-Action Council of Former World Leaders, to head its new "population studies" division.

A related focus of the Costa Rica meeting was the "economics of conserving resources." Reports the newsletter: "Economics was a thread weaving through all the official hearings and the busy marketplace of contacts,

lobbying, and fund raising in the corridors. Costa Rica provided one of the first examples of a new mechanism for financing conservation called 'debt-swap for nature.' This involves a donor purchasing government dollar debt from private banks at a discount—currently around 75%—and turning it back to the government through a foundation in exchange for bonds paying interest and principal in national currency at full value."

Costa Rican Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines Dr. Alvaro Umana "lobbied at the meeting for direct donations of debt-for-conservation by creditor banks. In the U.S., such donations are partially tax-deductible. He announced a \$254,000 donation from the Fleet/Norstar National Bank of Rhode Island, and said that another, for more than a million dollars, was being negotiated in the U.S. He also announced new debt-swap arrangements for \$5.4 million (non-discounted value) with the World Wildlife Fund-U.S., the Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups and foundations.

"The debt-swap innovation was praised by HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who addressed the delegates as vice-president of IUCN and president of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, and by Dr. Mostafa Tolba, Executive Director at UNEP. Environmental ministers from 13 countries were among participants following new financing ideas closely."

number of projects, with the Food and Agriculture Organization and other institutions, to provide the supposed theoretical infrastructure for justifying the neo-malthusian arguments of the 1970s-1980s "ecologist," "environmentalist," "conservation," and other movements.

The 1985 annual report of IIASA has a description of its "Environment Program," whose lead subsection is titled, "Ecologically Sustainable Development of the Biosphere," in which subsection one finds IIASA publications referenced, such as, "Sustainable Development of the Biosphere."

As for the Brundtland Commission's view on "sustainable development," we read,, "Sustainable global development requires that those who are more affluent adopt lifestyles within the planet's ecological means—in their use of energy, for example. Further, rapidly growing populations can increase the pressure on resources and slow any rise in living standards; thus sustainable development can only be pursued if population size and growth are in harmony with the changing productive potential of the ecosystem."

All this, of course, soon leads to the modern-day voice of Malthus: "In many parts of the world, the population is growing at rates that cannot be sustained by available environmental resources. . . . The issue is not just numbers of people, but how those numbers relate to available resources. . . . Urgent steps are needed to limit extreme rates of population growth."

Elsewhere, the point is made this way: "Many of us live beyond the world's ecological means, for instance in our patterns of energy use. Perceived needs are socially and culturally determined, and sustainable development requires the promotion of values that encourage consumption standards that are within the bounds of the ecological possible [sic] and to which all can reasonably aspire. . . . Growth by itself is not enough. . . . An expansion in numbers can increase the pressure on resources and slow the rise in living standards in areas where deprivation is widespread. Though the issue is not merely one of population size but of the distribution of resources, sustainable development can only be pursued if demographic developments are in harmony with the changing productive potential of the ecosystem."

What level, or quality, of relative population potential-density does this polemic imply? The answer is given in this form: "Tribal and indigenous peoples will need special attention as the forces of economic development disrupt their traditional life-styles—life-styles that can offer modern societies many lessons in the management of resources in complex forest, mountain, and dryland ecosystems" (emphasis added).

The international financial and legal system, says the report, should be re-adapted to enforce such aims: "The sustainability of ecosystems on which the global economy depends must be guaranteed. . . . Multilateral financial institutions have a crucial role to play. The World Bank is presently reorienting its programs toward greater environmental

concerns. This should be accompanied by a fundamental commitment to sustainable development by the Bank. It is also essential that the regional Development Banks and the International Monetary Fund incorporate similar objectives in their policies and programs. A new priority and focus is also needed in bilateral aid agencies."

Similarly, "growth rates" could be "environmentally sustainable if industrialized nations can continue the recent shifts in the content of their growth towards less material and energy-intensive activities and the improvement of their efficiency in using materials and energy. . . . The energy-industry connection is also changing, with a strong tendency towards a decline in the energy intensity of industrial production in industrial countries."

As for the application of the force of law to the WCED's aims: Under the heading, "Providing the Legal Means," the report states, "National and international law is being rapidly outdistanced by the accelerating pace and expanding scale of impacts on the ecological basis of development. Governments now need to fill major gaps in existing national and international law related to the environment, to find ways to recognize and protect the rights of present and future generations to an environment adequate for their health and wellbeing, to prepare under U.N. auspices a universal Declaration on environmental protection and sustainable development and a subsequent Convention, and to strengthen procedures for avoiding or resolving disputes on environment and resource management issues."

Later, the point is made more bluntly: "Sustainability requires the *enforcement* of wider responsibilities for the impacts of decisions. This requires changes in the legal and institutional frameworks that will enforce the common interest" (emphasis added).

All of this is being codified, we read in Our Common Future, in another report of the WCED with the title, "Legal Principles for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development." In a "summary of proposed legal principles for environmental protection and sustainable development adopted by the WCED experts group on environmental law," a principle for "Conservation and Sustainable Use" is put forward: "States shall maintain ecosystems and ecological processes essential for the functioning of the biosphere, shall preserve biological diversity, and shall observe the principle of optimum sustainable yield in the use of living natural resources and ecosystems." Another principle on "Sustainable Development and Assistance" states: "States shall ensure that conservation is treated as an integral part of the planning and implementation of development activities and provide assistance to other States, especially to developing countries, in support of environmental protection and sustainable development."

A Soviet-backed world ecologists' police state? That is what stares us in the face, if the authors of "our common funeral" have their way.

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On slime mold, and the 'One Worlders'

by Jonathan Tennenbaum

The Reagan-Gorbachov summit of last December seems to have triggered a new period of growth and proliferation of the phenomenon known variously as the "One World Movement," the "New Age Conspiracy," or the "New Globalism." More and more politicians, religious leaders, business executives, scientists, and artists have declared that they, too, are part of "the Movement." The Soviets are expected to announce soon that the entire Red Army has joined.

The most prominent characteristic of "the Movement" is its instinctive urge to dissolve all political, cultural, and institutional boundaries separating mankind, and engulf the entire human race into a new kind of "global Organism." The One Worldists think of themselves as seeds or spores of "the Organism," proud little spores of the great "Thing" that one day will envelop the planet! They reveal the inner ambitions of "the Organism" as soon as they open their mouths; for, they are always talking about the "the world family," "the global ecology" and "the new planetary conciousness."

Although the "One World Movement" believes itself to be something very new and revolutionary, it is actually many hundreds of millions of years old. Indeed, anyone familiar with the elements of mycology—the scientific study of fungi—will immediately note the striking similarities between "the Organism" of the One Worldists, and the ubiquitous slime mold *Physarum polycephalum*. The two are so nearly identical in their instincts and behavior, that we are practically forced to regard the "One World Movement" as the reincarnation of a slime mold!

It may therefore be of interest for those concerned with the present rapid growth of "Globalism," to make themselves familiar with the habits of the slime mold. For this purpose, we provide the following brief summary. (More details are available in any standard text on fungi.)

First, as their name suggests, these organisms leave a thick trail of slime behind them wherever they go. But their most remarkable feature is their mode of proliferation, which involves two distinct phases, the "liberal phase" and the "collective phase." In the "liberal phase," the organism exists as a large number of individual amoebas, moving about without any apparent coherence or order. Although they insist on absolute freedom of motion and reproductive behavior within the oozing mass as a whole, these liberal amoebas are all completely alike. The term, "liberal" is especially appropri-

ate, in view of the fact that these organisms attempt to reproduce themselves by both sexual and asexual means.

It is most remarkable that sooner or later, the liberal phase invariably develops into the "collective" or totalitarian phase. At some invisible signal, the amoebas abandon their chaotic motions and gather into a great mass called a plasmodium. Here we see the clear manifestation of a "collective soul." The amoebas actually fuse together and disappear into a great undifferentiated blob of protoplasm. Within the plasmodium, all vital processes are strictly regulated and synchronized.

Now, a plasmodium can grow in several ways. First, it can simply expand and take over larger areas. Second, it can fuse with or absorb other plasmodia. When it encounters obstacles to further growth in either of these modes, it sprouts structures called "fruiting bodies," which scatter spores in large numbers. These spores spread far and wide, and, wherever they find favorable conditions, proliferate into new colonies of liberal amoebas. These, in turn, relaunch the whole process.

So, by a constant "ying-yang" alternation of liberal and collective phases, the slime mold expands and proliferates, driven by an *inexorable biological urge to envelop the entire Earth*.

But, our organism has a fundamental limitation: It is a parasite. It can only feed on the activity of higher forms of life, and only prospers in conditions of degeneration and decay of the higher forms. Thus, if our slime mold would ever actually succeed in its goal—covering the whole Earth with its imperial ooze—that moment would be its downfall. For then it would have nothing more to feed upon.

A horror movie become reality?

There is an unmistakably nightmarish, but at the same time realistic, quality to this account of the slime mold's life cycle. We are reminded of those horror movies, common in the late 1950s, whose generic title was "The Invasion of the Abominable Blob." The Blob would engulf its victims, dissolving them somehow into its own disgusting, slimy mass. Indeed, the thought of a Homo sapiens being taken over by a lower form of life awakens a kind of elementary horror in us, a justifiable feeling that this would be a fate worse than death. So, when we witness the elites of entire nations, and together with them myriads of normal, seemingly sensible people, suddenly begin babbling about "planetary consciousness," "dissolving institutional barriers" and "joining with the Russians in a new global community," we cannot help but think of "The Invasion of the Abominable Blob."

Has Nature expended countless millions of years of evolution, to develop a life form capable of divine Reason, only to watch it degenerate into a pathetic fungus, a slime mold? It must not be so. For those of us who are still human, it is worth recalling one of the earliest discoveries of the human race: It is easy to outsmart a lower form of life, once one has become familiar with its instincts and habits.

Business Briefs

Agriculture

FmHA to write off billions in debt

The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) will write off up to \$7 billion in farm debt, officials of the agency have announced.

Under the Agricultural Credit Act, which President Reagan signed in January, the FmHA will have to write off the debts of the tens of thousands of farmers who are delinquent on their payments. That could total \$7 billion, \$4.5 billion in principal, and another \$2.5 billion in interest.

"I think there are at least \$4 billion in loans out there that are uncollectible," said Vance Clark, FmHA administrator. "The majority . . . are three to four years overdue."

There is a total of \$7.8 billion in delinquent debt owed by more than 80,000 borrowers, he said.

The Trust

British, Soviets exchange delegations

The British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce is planning to expand its operations in the Soviet market, TASS news agency was told by Grant Sutherland, representative of the group in Moscow.

Sutherland noted that nine delegations of British businessmen have visited the U.S.S.R. recently, and that the Chamber of Commerce hopes for the visits of at least 14 such delegation in 1988. He said that "fact-finding trips" have been made to Leningrad, the Soviet Baltic republics, Georgia, and Armenia. New visits are planned.

The group's activity brings together businessmen facing depression in the West with Soviet government officials anxious for Western supplies of goods and technology. Under arrangements with Western financial interests stemming from the Lenin era, called "The Trust," the Soviets have always depended on massive Western economic inputs for the margin of their economic and

military expansion.

In the future, the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce is planning to assist British firms in holding exhibitions in the Soviet Union, including in the provinces. It will also assist two Soviet organizations in exhibitions to be held in Britain.

The important trends in the work of the chamber are as before, said its representatives in Moscow: assistance to small and medium-sized firms to establish themselves in the Soviet market, attracting new corporate members, and advertising-publication activities.

The Recovery

Single-family home sales down sharply

New single-family home sales have hit a five-year low, according to Commerce Department figures released March 2.

The Commerce Department announced that the sale of new single-family homes had dropped 9% in January, and that sales were 26% below where they were this time last year.

"It is especially disconcerting to see home sales sag so appreciably in the face of declining mortgage interest rates," said Stephen S. Roach, senior economist and a principal at Morgan Stanley & Company. He was quoted in the New York Times.

"We had expected that sales would be sluggish in the aftermath of the [Oct. 19 stock market] crash, but this goes beyond what we had anticipated."

Development

South Korea aiming for more scientists

South Korea is aiming to have 30 high-caliber scientists and technicians per 10,000 population by the year 2001, by which time it is also planned to increase the country's investment in science and technology to 5%

of GNP, according to the Feb. 13 issue of Korea News Review.

In 1987, about 3% of GNP went into research and development—approximately 51% of such expenditures were made by the government, and 49% by the private sector. In December 1986, the government established an award for outstanding achievements in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and genetics.

The number of scientific research institutes in Korea has risen steadily. Research institutes operated by private firms numbered 152 in 1984, 183 in 1985, 290 in 1986, and 436 in November 1987.

A high-tech industrial complex, covering computer, semiconductor, and aircraft parts industries is planned for construction at the Taedok Science Town in Taejon, Chungchongnam-do. The government also plans to relocate the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology there.

Southeast Asia

Thailand, Vietnam sign trade deals

A Thai company has agreed to a purchase of logs from Vietnam which, should the deal go through, will constitute the largest trade transaction ever between the two countries. The agreement was reached in mid-February between Saigon Vientiane Import and Export Co. and a Thai representative.

At the same time, a representative of Sirichai Fishing Co. visited Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) to complete negotiations with Vietnamese authorities over fishing rights. Their agreement will allow more Thai trawlers to fish in Vietnamese waters.

In mid-February, the company had signed an agreement with Vietnam's Sea Produce Export Corp. allowing seven Thai trawlers to fish legally inside Vietnam waters for the first time.

Meanwhile, a major dam project inside Thailand has come under intense political pressure from environmentalists. More than 100 non-governmental agencies and member countries of the International Union for Conservation of Natural Resources and Nature resolved to withhold support for the Nam Choan Dam project. The resolution was reached at the IUCN's meeting Feb. 1-10 in San Jose, Costa Rica (see page 18).

On Feb. 22, M.R. Kukrit Pramoj, a former prime minister, warned that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda's government runs the risk of collapse if it insists on building the dam. In an interview with the *Bangkok Post*, he said that if the government continues to be "stubborn," it may face an incident as serious as the uprising of Oct. 14, 1973.

Pramoj said that he opposes the project because it is "against the will of the majority of the people. It is not worth going against the will of the people." He said that the country is not in grave need of electricity from the proposed dam. Electricity could be generated from other fuels," he said.

Usury

Pakistan holds talks with IMF

Pakistan began talks with the International Monetary Fund toward the end of February. The country is seeking special loans of up to \$900 million to help offset balance of payments problems. The IMF, typically, is demanding that the government find ways of curbing government spending.

The Pakistani government is having difficulty finding funds to finance its five-year plan for 1988-93. Expenditure in the plan has already been cut from \$41.2 billion to roughly \$37 billion because of a shortage of funds.

Pakistan's payments deficit last year rose to 8.8% of gross domestic product. The 1987 current account deficit dropped by 39% to \$752 million, but is rising again to an estimated \$1 billion in 1988. Exports grew by 27% in dollar terms in the first seven months of 1988, but imports are up by 16% compared with the budget forecast of only 9-10%

Remittances from Pakistanis working abroad are now dropping by about 10% annually. The country's debt service ratio has risen to 28%, which the IMF says too high.

In the current five-year plan, the govern-

ment has included politically unpopular fundraising measures, including a sales tax on educational, medical, and other services, and a tax on rural land holdings. IMF pressure for further austerity could bring social unrest.

Monetary Affairs

Soviets moving toward IMF membership?

The Soviet Union and Czechoslavakia have agreed to a limited convertibility of their currencies in commercial relations—the first members of the Warsaw Pact to take this step. A report by the Czech party paper Rude Pravo seemed to indicate that the move was not only a prelude to broader ruble convertibility in the Comecon, but full international convertibility of the Soviet currency.

A forthcoming meeting of Comecon ministers in Prague is expected to recommend the establishment of exchange rates and eventually, multilateral convertibility between the currencies of the Soviet Union and her satellites, says London's Financial Times.

A report in the Feb. 11 Rude Pravo stressed the Soviets' "intention to achieve full free international convertibility of the ruble by 1995," saying that this "generated exceptional interest at the recent world economic forum" in Davos, Switzerland. "This subject has been addressed often of late by Soviet economists, but it was officially proclaimed for the first time in Davos to be one of the objectives of the new Soviet economic policy.

The Czech paper continued: "Also connected with this is the changed attitude toward the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, and the U.S.S.R.'s conditional interest in possibly joining these organizations. . . . The IMF is . . . one of the most important world economic institutions and has great influence on international economic events. In the spirit of its new economic policy, the Soviet Union wants—and rightly so—to exert influence on these events."

Briefly

- ITALY is the first nation to begin industrial production of superconducting magnets, and an Italian company, Ansaldo Componenti of Genoa, has delivered 242 of the magnets, worth 100 million deutschemarks, for the construction of an accelerator-ring at the Deutsche Elektro-Synchrotron facility in Hamburg, West Germany.
- COLOMBIA is planning to import some 20,000 tons of rice to prevent a rise in the domestic price. But domestic rice growers are up in arms over the measure, which they say threatens to bankrupt them. They charge that the threatened price rise stemming from shortages is due to hoarders and speculators, not any real shortfalls in domestic production. One local mayor declared that 10,000 tons are being hoarded at local mills in his area alone.
- ◆ KARL OTTO POEHL, president of the Bundesbank, has stated that he has long favored the establishment of a European Central Bank and a unified European currency. He made his remarks in a March 2 interview with the Süddeutsche Zeitung. Poehl said, however, that he doubted that governments were willing to give up the sovereignty necessary for the bank's creation.
- HANS PETER STIHL will replace long-time president Otto Wolff von Amerongen as the head of the West German Industry and Trade Association. Stihl, who represented the metal industry in labor negotiations, "has a good way with the labor unions," said one source.
- ENVIRONMENTALISTS and population-reduction goals define all World Bank lending policies, reported the *Daily Telegraph* March 4. As a result, 800 development projects being financed by the bank are under review and may be cancelled. The bank is, however, financing the provision of condoms, birth-control pills, and diaphragms in East Africa.

EIRScience & Technology

Will the SDI survive? a political question

The technical successes are there, but with the White House refusing to even propose adequate funding, and Congress set to cut more, the SDI is not surviving in any meaningful form.

The Strategic Defense Initiative Organization has had two series of successful tests over the past several months. Below, Charles B. Stevens reports on important developments with the Alpha laser, and also summarizes the results of more recent tests of sensing equipment.

But the reality is, that despite its technological successes, the program is being gutted beyond the point of feasibility within the decade. President Reagan may intend to defend the SDI from his Soviet and congressional opponents, but no rhetoric can compensate for failure to adequately fund research and development.

While in 1982 and 1983, Lyndon LaRouche called for a \$100 billion crash program to develop directed energy weapons, the proposal adopted by President Reagan in March 1983 called for a mere \$5 to \$6 billion in R&D funds, toward deployment in the early 1990s. Congress has cut his program by as much as 30% over this period. As a result, no decision on deployment is planned before 1993.

The Pentagon had sought \$5.2 billion for FY 1988, but received only \$3.6 billion. In the same two-year budget, they had planned to seek \$6.3 billion, but Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci has now cut this request back by \$1.7 billion, to \$4.6 billion.

One result has been a shift in emphasis from research on directed energy weapons to off-the-shelf rocket capabilities for more limited point defense. This, of course, completely vitiates the strategic focus of the President's original conception: a multi-layered defensive shield for the United States and its Western allies.

Gramm-Rudman budget cuts in the FY 1988 for SDI ended two highly important programs. How the fiscal 1989 budget's proposed \$4.6 billion fares in Congress is any man's guess, but judging by past history, the program's enemies will demand disastrous cuts.

This year's cuts have meant that plans to build a highpower free electron laser at the White Sands Missile Test Range in New Mexico, a prototype of a functional laser missile interceptor, have been considerably delayed. A contract to McDonnell Douglas Astronautics to design, fabricate, and test a high-energy neutral particle beam device in space has also been canceled by the SDIO.

The White Sands FEL was planned to produce millions of watts of power, and to demonstrate the engineering feasibility of a system to destroy Soviet rockets in the boost phase. The neutral particle beam experiment was intended to discriminate real warheads from decoys. The neutral beam device, whose contract was awarded last May, also had the potential of being developed at a higher power, into an actual ABM weapon. The experiment was copied from a device described in Soviet literature, and presumably being developed by them. Research at the Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore labs has been cut by 25%.

The Delta tracking and targeting test of Feb. 8 was apparently successful in the main. Its announced purpose, as reported in *Aviation Week* Feb. 15, was to provide a comprehensive space sensor data base. It also demonstrated rudimentary battle management fire control computations. The main problems appear to have emerged when two computers disagreed, apparently because they could not handle the amount of data flowing into them.

One purpose was to accumulate background data which would be used to help sensors to discriminate objects against different backgrounds. This part of the test was extremely successful. The sensors were also successful in detecting the launch of a Strypi rocket from Hawaii, observing the 34-second burn of the Strypi's Star-27 third-stage solid rocket motor against the dawn light, through different atmospheric layers.

Alpha: the first space-based defense

Charles B. Stevens

Just before Christmas, the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) initiated secret tests of its prototype Alpha chemical laser weapon designed for space-based missile defense at the Capistrano, California TRW laser test range. The tests are being conducted in a simulated space environment carried out under the direction of the New Mexico-based Air Force Weapons Laboratory and are scheduled to be completed by the spring of 1988. Published reports indicate that this multi-megawatt laser system could be flight tested in space by 1990 as part of the Martin Marietta Zenith Star project, which includes the 4-meter-diameter LAMP (Large Advanced Mirror Program)—an adaptive optics, segmented mirror developed by the ITEK Corporation.

What is generally not known, though, is that while a single Alpha laser module would not be capable of intercepting ballistic missiles, continuing technological breakthroughs with multi-element phased array mirrors, phase conjugation firing and coupling systems, and, techniques for distributed phased array coupling of laser modules already promises to provide the means of transforming the firepower of a couple of dozen space-based Alpha laser modules to a level sufficient to destroy thousands of ballistic missiles launched from any geographical location within a few minutes. Such a system could conceivably be deployed within a couple of years, given a crash program to do so.

Even in its first stages of deployment—a handful of lasers in orbit—the system could be utilized to actively discriminate and target warheads in space and thereby immensely improve the capabilities and effectiveness of even the most primitive types of ABM rocket interceptors.

The MIRACL chemical laser

In the mid-1970s, scientists scored major breakthroughs in developing efficient, high-power chemical lasers. In particular, high-power and efficient hydrogen fluoride laser modules were demonstrated. Because of its inherent characteristics the hydrogen fluoride (HF) chemical laser offered the potential of a compact, reliable, and versatile system with many possible military applications. In the late 1970s, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) of the Department of Defense initiated a combined program to realize a space-based prototype HF laser and large mirror. The original objective was to develop a system which was publicly presented as a potential anti-satellite interceptor and/

or disrupter, but which had a classified mission capability of aiding in the discrimination and targeting of ballistic missile warheads.

The HF laser's operation is essentially quite simple. Hydrogen and fluorine gases are mixed in a high pressure chamber. An electron beam, or other means, is used to spark these highly reactive gases. The resulting hydrogen fluoride molecules are "born" in an excited vibrational state. And this is the essential precondition for laser action at a primary wavelength of 2.7 microns, the wavelength which correlates with HF molecular vibration. The primary energy for running the HF, therefore, comes from the HF chemical reaction itself.

Because these gases can be stored at high pressures, the entire system—and, most significantly, the primary energy source—can be quite compact. The lasing action is quite efficient, so that the potential energy of these easily and compactly stored gases can be readily converted into powerful beams of 2.7 micron light. (Actually, 2.7 microns is in the infrared radiation range. Optical wavelengths, which we can see, have five times shorter wavelengths. The excimer krypton fluoride laser has a wavelength 10 times smaller at about 0.27 microns.)

With the initiation of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) on March 23, 1983, the DARPA chemical laser and LAMP mirror programs were taken over by the SDIO. And on Sept. 6, 1985, the Mid-Infrared Advanced Chemical Laser (MIRACL) successfully destroyed the second stage of a Titan I booster in tests conducted at the High Energy Laser System Test Facility at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.

Actually, by this time the HF laser and LAMP projects had secretly been transformed into a directed energy weapon demonstration project, codenamed Zenith Star. The basic concept was to develop and deploy a space-based laser demonstration capable of being immediately scaled to a power level capable of intercepting a few ballistic missiles. Such a demonstration project had been called for by the Fusion Energy Foundation's director of research, Dr. Uwe Henke v. Parpart, on NBC's "Today" show a few days following President Reagan's March 23 speech.

Long versus short wavelength lasers

In space, a laser's firepower is primarily determined by its brightness—its ability to deliver a certain level of power

density on target. At a given range, this power density can be measured as the number of watts of light hitting a square meter of the target. In general, existing missiles will be destroyed during their boost phase if a laser beam with a power density of several million watts per square meter irradiates it for more than a second. If the laser beam had a power density 10 times greater, it would destroy the missile booster 10 times faster-within one-tenth of second. In other words, the firepower of the laser—the number of boosters it can kill per minute—is directly proportional to its brightness. (Thinskinned missile boosters are much softer targets than the warhead re-entry vehicle, which has a thick shield for surviving re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere at high velocities. In general, today's RVs, or warhead and re-entry vehicles, take upward of 100 times more energy density to destroy than boosters. That is, several hundred million watts per square meter delivered over a timespan of one second.)

The firepower of a laser falls off with the square of the distance over which it is fired. That is, the firepower of a laser will decrease hundredfold, if the range over which it shoots is increased from 100 to 1,000 kilometers. A tenfold increase in the range leads to a hundredfold decrease in firepower.

Two other factors generally determine the firepower of lasers: wavelength and diameter of the focusing mirror. All four factors—the total laser power output, the target range, the laser wavelength, and the mirror diameter—can be combined to give a rough determination of the laser's firepower:

$$F = (PDD)/(WWRR)$$

where F is the firepower in watts per square meter, P is the laser power output in watts, D is the mirror diameter in meters, W is the laser wavelength in meters, and R is the distance to the target in meters. As an example, a million-watt output, 2.7 micron (1 micron is one millionth of a meter) HF laser operating with a 4 meter diameter mirror would be able to intercept one missile booster per second at a range of 1,000 kilometers—a million meters:

$$F = \frac{1,000,000 \times 4 \times 4}{.0000027 \times .0000027 \times 1,000,000 \times 1,000,000}$$

= 2,100,000 watts per square meter

on target. At a range of 10,000 kilometers, the firepower would drop to one missile every 100 seconds. With an 8 meter mirror, the firepower would increase to 4 missiles per second at the 1,000 kilometer range.

It can immediately be seen, that shorter wavelength lasers have a significant firepower advantage over longer wavelength lasers. Keeping everything the same in the first example, a 0.27 micron krypton fluoride (KrF) excimer laser would have 100 times the firepower of the HF chemical laser—a million-watt KrF, 4 meter mirror at a 1,000 kilometer range could kill 100 missile boosters per second.

There are qualitative advantages to shorter wavelength, too. The shorter wavelength lasers generally operate in a

pulsed, high-power mode. This, combined with the more efficient coupling of laser light to a target at shorter wavelengths, leads more readily to the more efficient type of shock kill. That is, instead of burning a hole through the missile skin, as is the case with continuous chemical lasers, the shorter wavelength and pulsed KrF could generate a shockwave which would punch a hole through the missile. Furthermore, the shorter shock-action kill and more efficient coupling of the short-wavelength laser is almost impossible to defend against, while in the case of the longer acting, "thermal killing" chemical laser, the missile can be coated with heat-absorbing materials and rotated to disperse the laser's heat over a greater area.

Taking these factors into consideration, it would appear that comparable-power, shorter-wavelength lasers have a firepower potential thousands of times greater than that of long-wavelength chemical lasers.

Target discrimination and location

Despite these apparent, relative drawbacks, the chemical laser program was maintained. While not publicly disclosed, the most likely initial reason for doing so, besides the mature status of HF technology, was the fact that the HF has the ideal wavelength for aiding other types of missile defense in terms of target discrimination and location. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, advances in microelectronics have revolutionized infrared radiation detection technology—what had previously been termed "heat detectors." Actually, the older, crude "heat detectors" bare little resemblance to the modern microelectronic infrared detector.

By the late 1970s, infrared detection technology had advanced to the point that, under certain circumstances, long wavelength infrared telescopes were capable of distinguishing the signature of a real warhead and a decoy over thousands of miles of space. This was a key step toward reviving "technical" interest in missile defense by the United States.

DARPA had recognized that these infrared detection systems could be vastly improved in performance, in virtually any conceivable circumstance, if the warheads and decoys were illuminated with an infrared laser. And this was one of the major, though secret reasons for originally pursuing the space-based chemical laser concept. The chief point being, that once the real warheads had been distinguished from decoys, a wide variety of systems could be utilized to intercept and destroy the real warheads during the relatively long, 20 minute period that they take to complete their flight through space.

Given sufficiently powerful laser beams, the decoys could even be destroyed or pushed away from the warheads.

Because of these potential applications, the SDIO retained and accelerated the DARPA space-based chemical laser programs. Later on, it was determined to further enhance the program as "demonstration" of directed energy weapon technology. The general goal being to deploy a single prototype within five years. But with the Space Shuttle Chal-

Phase conjugation

Prior to the realization of the laser in 1961, it was generally believed that the science of optics was a closed book. But with the advent of high-power, coherent light sources—that is, lasers—nonlinear optics rapidly emerged as one, if not the leading, frontier of physical science. Today, scientists at Bell Labs are perfecting "soliton" optical transmission techniques, which utilize nonlinear optical interactions to prevent the dissipation of light pulses as they travel through optical fibers, and which could thereby increase optical data transmission over existing lines by many orders of magnitude with no increase in cost.

Theoretically, these same solitons are now being utilized to understand such diverse phenomena as high-temperature superconductors and anti-matter interactions. Phase conjugation is among the most advanced applications of nonlinear optics.

With phase conjugation one can, in effect, reverse time. Imagine an ocean wave as it approaches the shore. The wave can be quite uniform while trasversing the ocean depths, but as it approaches shore, it will form into a breaker and then a plethora of turbulent eddies. What happens to a coherent laser beam when it strikes an optically irregular surface can be thought of in the same way. Phase conjugation permits this turbulent "breaking-up" to be reversed in time and the original wave to be reconstructed out of the turbulent eddies.

In the case of phase-conjugated mirrors this means that any bit of incoming light can be reflected directly back to its source.

Phase conjugation, therefore, makes aiming lasers quite easy. For example, scientists have developed what is called four-wave-mixing phase conjugation systems for aiming lasers. All that's required is that the target be illuminated with a low-power laser beam. This indicator beam can come from any direction, but it will reflect in all directions. A tiny bit of it will therefore bounce toward the phase conjugation system. Left to itself, this reflected light will hit the phase-conjugated mirror and bounce right back toward the target. But if a laser-amplifier is placed between the target and the phase-conjugated mirror, the reflected beam will initiate a large laser pulse toward the target. (It should be noted that since the incoming, low-

power beam reflected off the target can be filtered to allow only reflection signatures appropriate to an actual warhead to pass through to the phase-conjugated mirror, the system can act not only as an automatic targeting and fire control mechanism, it can simultaneously act as an automatic decoy discriminator.)

This has immense implications for anti-missile laser weapons. The phase-conjugated mirror and amplifier can fire and aim a defensive laser beam at a speeding missile, maintaining the focus on target despite pockets of turbulence in the atmosphere or irregularities in the trajectory of the missile. (This is due to the fact that relative to the speed of light, the rocket is effectively stationary.) Such procedures are already routinely utilized in laser pellet fusion research.

There are two basic types of phase conjugation systems: 1) The triggering light pulse is at a wavelength unrelated to the laser light pulse that will be generated; 2) The wavelengths are the same.

For example, the four-wave-mixing phase-conjugated mirror makes use of the first type. The mirror consists of a clear plastic or specially prepared crystalline material. A system laser beam irradiates the mirror plate at one wavelength. When a second, incoming pulse from the target, at a different wavelength, hits the mirror plate there are regions on the mirror surface where the light waves overlap. These overlap regions generate "hot spots" which change the reflecting properties of the mirror surface so that the incoming target pulse is reflected back toward the target. It is the hot spots, and not any property of the mirror plate itself, which are responsible for this phase conjugation action.

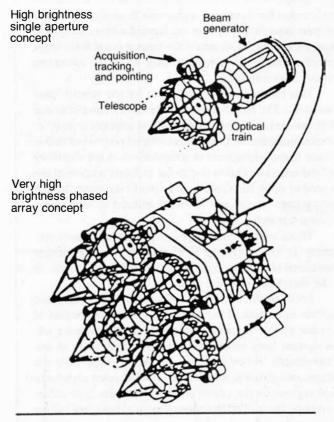
The second type of phase conjugation system can either reflect or pass through the incoming beam. It makes use of a volume of liquid or gas confined in a chamber. As the incoming light pulse passes through the chamber, it nonlinearly transforms the optical properties of the medium. The specific nonlinear effects are called stimulated Brillouin and Raman scattering and usually involve changes in the index of refraction of the medium. These nonlinear changes in the index of refraction throughout the chamber volume can be tailored to match the optical imperfections of the incoming beam. The incoming beam is either reflected or passed through the chamber, but emerges as a perfect optical pulse or as a pulse with characteristics needed to match the measured optical properties of a mirror or for passage through turbulent air.

The second type of phase conjugation can not only be utilized to "clean up" or tailor the outgoing laser pulse, it can also be utilized to compress the pulse so that its power density can be increased many-fold.

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FIGURE 1

The space-based laser concept



Source: SDIO

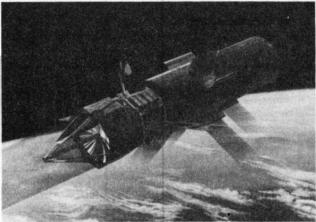
lenger disaster and congressional budget cuts, this target date has been set back by at least two years, to 1990.

Technical breakthroughs transform Alpha

Following four years of coordinated SDI research, major technological breakthroughs have completely revolutionized the potential firepower of space-based chemical lasers.

The primary development in this regard was realized by TRW. TRW carried out major scoping studies on the possibilities of constructing phased array mirrors, which could be made out of relatively small modular components. The basic idea is that a large number of small mirrors could be ganged together to act as one large mirror. The small mirrors could be mass-produced on Earth and more easily transported into space. This would make the system extremely economical. The chief problem with the concept was to design the technology for putting these mirrors together in perfect alignment so that they can act like a single optical surface.

Given the fact that the firepower of a laser beam, that is, its "brightness," is directly proportional to the square of the diameter of the mirror utilized to direct it onto a target, removing the limit on the size of practical optics, deployable in space, TRW had radically transformed the potential fire-



This Martin Marietta artist's concept depicts a space-based laser demonstration called Zenith Star, that would be conducted as part of the Strategic Defense Initiative program.

power of the chemical laser. TRW reported that this single development virtually took the lid off the potential brightness of chemical laser systems.

A key advance in making this possible was the technology of computer-aided adaptive optics and phase conjugation. Adaptive optics permits the shaping of the mirror surface, usually through the intentional introduction of slight distortions in the mirror surface through mechanical means, in order to match imperfections in the laser beam. Phase conjugation permits the same procedure to be applied to the laser beam. That is, the laser beam, itself, can be transformed through phase conjugation techniques to either become optically perfect, or, as is more generally the case, to have imperfections which match up with the predetermined imperfections of an optical mirror. The imperfections of both can then be designed to cancel each other out and an optically perfect laser beam results. (See box: "Phase Conjugation.")

SDIO reports

While the integrated potentials of these developments have been kept top secret, system elements have been openly reported on in SDIO public reports. For example, Figure 1 "The space-based laser concept," and Figure 2, "The ground-based laser concept," are taken from an April 1987 SDIO report to Congress.

The report states:

"The space-based laser [SBL] concept (depicted in Figure 1) envisions self-contained laser battle stations. These battle stations are seen as modular assemblies of laser devices and optical phased arrays that can increase their performance by adding additional modules as the threat grows. The stations would be deployed in orbits to ensure that the required number of weapons can be available to counter ballistic missile launches wherever they occur. Once deployed, such stations could engage ballistic missiles launched from anywhere on the Earth, including sea-launched ballistic missiles and inter-

mediate-range ballistic missiles. The SBL constellation could play other very significant roles. They could destroy post-boost vehicles before all re-entry vehicles are deployed, destroy or identify decoys or penetration aids in the midcourse phase, and defend U.S. satellites. Furthermore, since the beam of some types of space-based lasers could penetrate the atmosphere down to the cloud tops, SBL weapons may be able to provide some capability against aircraft and cruise missiles, and tactical ballistic missiles.

"The primary candidate for the space-based laser concept uses chemical lasers fueled with hydrogen fluoride. Such lasers operate in the infrared at 2.7 micrometer wavelengths. This concept has been under development since the late 1970s. As the first DEW concept identified for ballistic missile defense, it is the most mature. The efforts are well into hardware fabrication for engineering proof-of-principle demonstrations in ground-based tests."

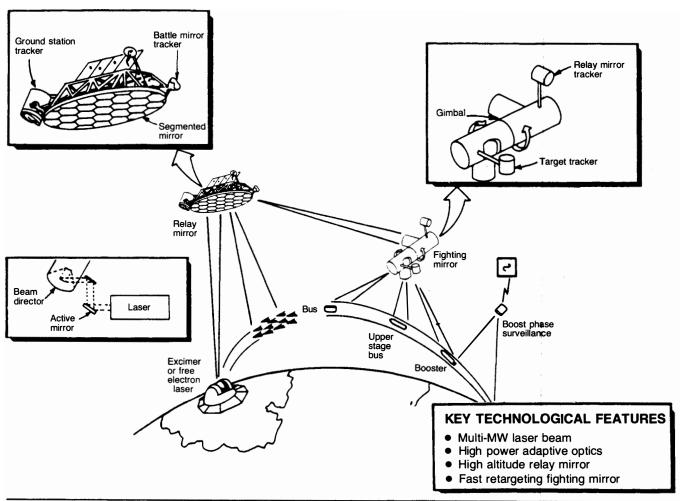
In a "Technical Progress Report," made public, also in

April 1987, under the section called "Coupled lasers" it is revealed:

Brightness levels for BMD [Ballistic Missile Defense] missions may require the mutual coherence, or phasing, of several lasers. The first experimental demonstration of mutually coherent operation of six single-line carbon dioxide lasers, and the first experimental demonstration of mutually coherent operation of two multiline deuterium fluoride chemical lasers recently occurred. . . . An alternative way to preserve high-power laser beam quality as it propagates through the atmosphere makes use of nonlinear optical phenomena such as stimulated Brillouin and Raman scattering. Such approaches may reduce complexity yet improve performance. The research facility for studying such phenomena at significant power levels has been completed at the Capistrano test facility.

FIGURE 2

The ground-based laser concept



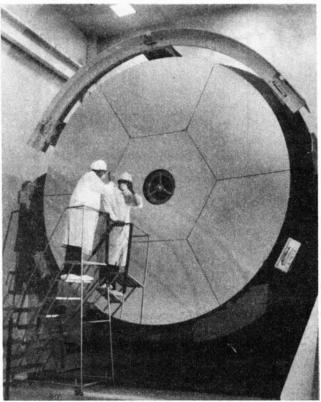
Source: SDIO

Potential architectures

These continuing breakthroughs with optical phased array and phase conjugation systems have not only revolutionized the potential firepower of individual chemical laser systems, but have also completely transformed the possibilities for configuring them into full-scale missile defense. (Also, as noted in the SDIO report to Congress, the system could be utilized for defense against aircraft and low-flying cruise missiles. At the very least the space-based lasers could readily detect these other weapon platforms and pass the information along to other interdiction forces.)

A wide variety of potential defense system architectures are made possible through the integrated effects of these breakthroughs. And they are not mutually exclusive. In fact, the large number of potential combinations possible, make it extremely difficult for an aggressor to locate the weakest point in the overall defense system. A few examples will elucidate this dilemma for the aggressor.

Prior to the TRW breakthroughs with phased array mirrors and developments with phase conjugation and coupled lasers, it was believed that individual laser battle stations



The LAMP mirror is an adaptive, segmented mirror currently in final stages of acceptance testing by ITEK Corporation of Lexington, Massachusetts. Here a technician checks the mirror surface after the seventh and final segment is in place on the supporting backplate. The extremely precise figure (shape) and alignment of the mirror's lightweight facesheets are controlled by actuators attached to the rear surfaces. The overall diameter of the fully assembled mirror is four meters.

would have to engage missiles over enemy territory during the three- to five-minute boost phase. In order to ensure a sufficient number of laser battle stations are in place over enemy territory during the time when the offensive missiles are being launched, a much larger number would have to be maintained in orbit. Thus, a signficant number of orbiting lasers would not be usable during any given attack. Furthermore, the aggressor could arrange to attack and destroy the few laser battle stations which were most threatening to his missile launch.

But with high-flying, large-relay mirrors, like that shown in **Figure 2**, it becomes possible to relay coupled laser beams from one side of the Earth to the other and direct their fire onto missiles originating from any location. Thus, all of the laser battle stations' firepower could be utilized to defeat a launch from any location on Earth. The large-relay mirrors could be deployed in very high, elliptical orbits, which would make it very difficult to attack and destroy them.

In any case, even if they were destroyed, the timespan required for achieving and verifying this would give the defense more early warning time. Even a single minute of increased warning time can vastly increase the prospects for "pop-up" defenses, which are only launched into space upon detection of an attack.

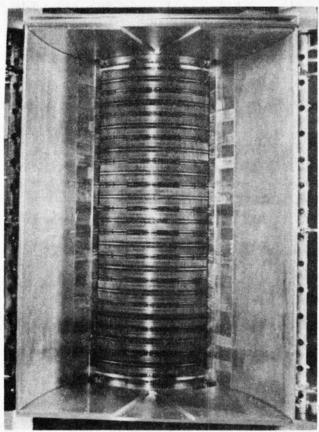
With the recent developments in coupled laser phased arrays, shown in Figure 1, even one pop-up multimodule laser battle station could wipe out the entire Soviet ICBM force during the three- to five-minute boost phase. Such a pop-up defense would also make use of pop-up fighting relay mirrors, shown in Figure 2. Alternatively, large-relay mirrors could be configured to only "open up" and pop down from high elliptical orbits during the time that on-station relay mirrors are being attacked. And finally, pop-up relay mirrors could still be used to re-integrate and reconnect the surviving on-station laser battle stations.

In effect, the aggressor must destroy all visible elements of the deployed space-based defense system worldwide within much less than a minute. This is quite a tall order. But pop-up defense potentials make this task even more difficult to carry out with any degree of certainty.

New possibilities

With phased array coupling of laser modules, the net firepower of the system is multiplied by n^2 , where n is the number of coupled modules. That is, if one has ten 1-million-watt lasers coupled together, the output is equivalent in firepower to a single 100-million-watt laser. At present, this phased array coupling of lasers envisions that the laser modules are physically linked to each other and are in the same location. Continuing breakthroughs could lead to the possibility of distributed phased arrays like those utilized in radio astronomy to link receiving antennas from one spot on Earth with others.

A far more revolutionary possibility has derived from the work of Dr. David Weston of the British Admiralty Research



The cylindrical gain generator of the Alpha chemical laser is prepared for installation and testing at TRW's Capistrano Test Site. Alpha uses atomic fluorine and hydrogen to form the hydrogen fluoride lasing medium. The device then uses cylindrical mirrors to extract a 2.7 micrometer wavelength high-power laser beam. Alpha is the key component in the concept design for the SDIO's Zenith Star experiment.

Establishment in Dorset, U.K. Weston showed in published papers during 1986 that it is possible to "tune" phased arrays such that the output is coupled according to an n^3 law. While Weston's work was primarily directed toward improving sonar detectors, his theory, in principle, applies equally well to electromagnetic waves. (In the above example, the ten 1million-watt lasers would then have a coupled output equivalent to a 1-billion-watt laser, according to the n^3 law for "tuned" phased arrays.)

Altogether, these potential new developments could radically increase the firepower of an existing configuration of deployed space-based laser battle stations. For example, a few dozen chemical laser modules could be initially deployed in high elliptical orbits, which are extremely difficult to intercept, in order to provide for targeting and discrimination of real RV warheads. Other systems would be utilized to intercept and destroy the RVs.

At a later point, large mirror arrays and fighting mirrors could be added to the configuration to give it the capacity to

intercept missile boosters, using the combined output of many of the laser modules to attack a single missile. And finally, the configuration could be upgraded with the incorporation of distributed phase array coupling techniques to combine the output of many laser modules to generate extremely high power densities on missiles at long firing ranges. This upgrade could be sufficient to increase the combined laser firepower to a level great enough to intercept the 100 times harder RVs.

In fact, at very high irradiation power densities, the longer wavelength infrared lasers could accrue significant advantages over the shorter wavelength lasers. At very high irradiation levels, the longer wavelength infrared laser light tends to generate significant fluxes of high energy electrons and ions. This has proven to be a major drawback for the application of infrared lasers to laser pellet fusion. The high energy ("hot") electrons penetrate to the interior of the fusion fuel pellet and preheat the fuel so that it becomes impossible to efficiently compress the fuel pellet to the high densities needed for laser fusion.

But in the case of warheads, the "hot" electrons' penetration to the interior of the warhead would be most desirable. Such a penetration would disrupt and destroy the essential electronic components of the warhead, preventing it from detonating. This type of "kill" is termed an electronic kill, and it is generally thousands of times more efficient than thermal or shock kills. Electronic kills are also quite efficient against missile boosters, although "hot" electrons would also tend to penetrate and ignite rocket fuel, too, in this case.

The net result is that if very high power densities on target could be achieved by coupling infrared lasers, then the effective firepower of the combined array could be greatly increased over that calculated above. (In other words, the laser energy it takes to destroy a missile could also be greatly decreased.)

In retrospect

The emergence of these "technical" breakthroughs further demonstrates the efficacy of Lyndon LaRouche's 1982 call for a crash SDI program with immediate deployment. The SDI program has actually only led to marginal increases in ballistic missile defense research and its associated technologies. The focusing and combination of these previously existing SDI components has led to useful advances, but much, much more could have been accomplished over the past five years, as the single example of the chemical laser demonstrates.

In fact, the chemical laser program was made into a crash R&D demonstration project. And now it is clear that if this policy had been applied throughout the range of SDI technologies and deployment carried through, instead of simply field testing a single laser module by 1990, an initial defense system could have been put in place by 1990. And this initial deployment could be radically enhanced with continuing R&D advances.

EIR Feature

A strategy of justice: reply to the Encyclical

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

This is the response of a U.S. presidential candidate to the Encyclical, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. This response, issued on Feb. 22, 1988, is intended to express ecumenical solidarity of the good men and women of the United States with the commitment to promote the true sovereignty of nations and persons, to recognize the inalienable right to economic development as intrinsic to such sovereignties, and to acknowledge the persistence of a great, intolerable wrong intrinsic to the present ordering of relevant features of the affairs among and within nations.

Foreword: On the subjects of human development and 'structures of sin'

Once you have read Pope John Paul II's Dec. 30, 1987 Sollicitudo Rei Socialis Encyclical in its entirety, let us turn our closer study of that letter, first, to its Chapter VI, "Some Particular Guidelines."

That chapter begins: "The Church does not have technical solutions to offer for the problem of underdevelopment as such, as Pope Paul VI already affirmed in his Encyclical." That sentence is followed immediately by a second, "For the Church does not propose economic and political systems or programs, nor does she show preference for one or the other, provided that human dignity is properly respected and promoted, and provided she herself is allowed the room she needs to exercise her ministry in the world."

Such are the present postures of the Papacy, although, historically, of course, neither was always the case.

On the second statement, it were more adequate to report, that over the course of recent centuries, that Church has accepted a constricted role in public affairs, for as long as "she herself is allowed the room she needs to exercise her ministry in the world." The examples of St. Augustine and the great fifteenth-century canon, Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa, are sufficient illustration of our point.

The first statement reflects also that Church's acceptance of a reduced scope of responsibility within the life of Christendom. Let us presume that both reported



The internal mission of Western civilization, is to rid itself of the vestiges of oligarchical rule, and to make a durable system of government consistent with natural law. . . . The United States, for reason of its origins and its special circumstances of today, is the nation with the greatest responsibilities in these matters.

Ten thousand Americans, organized by the Schiller Institute, marched for a new world economic order in front of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. in January 1985.

policies are those which that Church should have adopted, or let us even make the more modest assumption that such should be that Church's constricted role in modern times. Immediately we are confronted with a troublesome implication. Who is accountable in such matters?

What agency has a direct accountability to God, which the Church does not assume? Are there properly, then, two Christian churches in the Biblical sense of the Church? One limiting itself to faith and morals of individual souls, and another accountable in secular matters? In fact, today, that is precisely the state of affairs, with the qualification that the second agency, the "secular church," does not exist as an organized body.

The Encyclical itself poses the relevant question in Chapter V, "A Theological Reading of Modern Problems." On page 68 of the English-language edition, there is a crucial observation to this effect: "When the scientific and technical resources are available, which, with the necessary concrete political decisions, ought to help lead peoples to true development, the main obstacles to development will be overcome only by means of essentially moral decisions."

In the following paragraph it is written: "A world which is divided into blocs, sustained by rigid ideologies, and in which instead of interdependence and solidarity different forms of imperialism hold sway, can only be a world subject to structures of sin."

Then, on pages 71-72, the passage: "I have wished to introduce this type of analysis above all in order to point out the true *nature* of the evil which faces us with respect to the development of peoples: It is a question of a *moral evil*, the

fruit of many sins which lead to 'structures of sin.' To diagnose the evil in this way is to identify precisely, on the level of human conduct, the path to be followed in order to overcome it."

In the Christian manner of speaking, I am qualified to testify of my own observation, that this Pope, John Paul II, is a true missionary. Through the television medium, I saw and heard him in a great event which recently occurred in Munich, West Germany, and wept myself tears of joy in response to the outpouring of $agap\bar{e}$ through him. Insofar as I have been able to study his missionary work in other locations, the same quality is manifest in an exemplary degree. So, I know the inner quality of the soul which has put his signature to this Encyclical, and know the meaning of this Encyclical to that degree by my own personal authority.

Furthermore, in this matter before us, as in the instance of *Populorum Progressio*, I know this Pope and I are of one mind respecting the results of statesmanship to be achieved.

Yet, it is I who am the statesman. There are a number of statesmen in this world, chiefly from the ranks of leaders of developing nations, who share this same general commitment; yet, I am the only leading political figure of the United States who does so. Worse for me, I am the only statesman in this ruined world who understands the technical means by which the result might be accomplished, and who is willing to risk publicly naming the name of the true adversary of mankind on these accounts.

All leaders for a time of crisis partake of the circumstances of France's Jeanne d'Arc, as I have read a kindred experience respecting his call to duty in the eyes of John Paul

II. Up to a critical point in our lives, we plod our craft and pursue our moral commitments honestly to the limit of our knowledge and strength of will to do so. In that respect, we are all ordinary. Then, one day, to some among us ordinary folk, there comes an experience which we must fairly liken to the New Testament's account of Christ in Gethsemane.

It is not enough to propose, to foster, to support those causes we know to be good. A silent voice speaks to us: If there is no one else to lead, you must do so. We protest: "Who am I, and what are my poor means to undertake such a mission? Can there not be leaders which I can support, and so fullfil the responsibility in a manner consistent with my pitiable means?" Then, in a moment permeated with a special quality of terror, we know that we must drink from that cup.

What do most ordinary folk, of the sort we were a moment earlier, know of such terror? To know such terror, one must first love mankind, and love truth. One must see mankind as doomed to some horrible consequence, unless a great change is made. The terror is the perception that this necessary change will not occur, unless one oneself acts appropriately to bring it about against all odds. As one drinks from that cup, there is a transformation in the nature of one's will, and a congruent transformation in one's state of knowledge.

I have drunk from that cup. I read the Encyclical so, and say, "This is the virtuous and indispensable work of a great and beautiful soul, but, by itself, it is not sufficient." I ask who, but I, might read this Encyclical as I do?

I am shrouded by no Church. It is neither my circumstance nor nature to hide my self-doubts within the consolations of any institutionalized form of approbation. I live, as if almost alone, with a few friends, in a cruel wilderness, where the truth stands naked. I have been repaid for this life by confronting truth so, and would never return willingly to a different state of affairs.

In this manner, I am an ordinary man who has assumed the duties of that agency which the Encyclical professes the Church not to be. In political life, I am somewhat as Niccolò Macchiavelli described the Roman farmer Cincinnatus. The matter lies in my hands, because none other is situated within the United States, with the knowledge and commitment needed to guide that nation which has been chosen, either to lead in bringing about this change, or, through its failure to do so, to cause a virtual holocaust of humanity.

So, I must respond to this Encyclical.

For me, there is no separation of morality from technical means. Although I know that there is allowable variety in the form of sovereign states and their institutions, I also know that there are certain intelligible principles which separate good from evil forms of economic and political systems.

I concur with the Encyclical, that "structures of sin" are the essence of both the Muscovite empire and what the Encyclical identifies as "liberal capitalism." I am so long committed to remedying the injustices against what Kwame Nkrumah named "the Third World," that I can recognize easily this image of "liberal capitalism" and Muscovite imperialism as that often seen from the vantage point of "Third World" nations.

Yet, the Encyclical is not only imprecise on these issues, but the employment of that imprecision in the hands of political leadership would be fatal to the very cause which the Encyclical upholds.

I recognize that a significant contributing cause for the lack of adequate precision on these matters, is the condition of the Catholic Church inside the United States, especially the influence of relevant wealthy families which refuse to tolerate from the pulpit any teaching which affronts their zeal for the radically anti-Augustinian dogmas of the British East India Company's Adam Smith.

This source of difficulties is not limited to the state of the leading wealthy Catholic families in the United States. There is no remedy for the evil which the Encyclical attacks, unless we recognize, in practice, the essential division between Good and Evil in the institutions of Western European civilization as a whole, the division between the quality of republicanism typified by St. Augustine, and the force of evil oligarchism whose power is centered in a stratum of powerful usurers from among the wealthiest strata of feudal aristocracy and financier nobility.

The concrete form of existence of "the structures of sin" in the world today is centered in two forms of such oligarchical power. In Moscow, evil is the oligarchical power of a nomenklatura, and its attached Gnostic state church, which echoes the evil Chaldean worshippers of Ishtar, the Whore of Babylon, and their Mesopotamian empires. In the West, in the name of "liberal capitalism," the evil of oligarchical usurers' power is based upon the Canaanite-Phoenician model, and to a large degree consciously so. For both, the models of the Roman empires of West and East, themselves modeled directly upon the Whore of Babylon's rule, are the immediate point of reference.

On this account, the plight of the nations ruled by one or the other of the two oligarchical overlordships, is that of Biblical Sodom and Gomorrah. To the extent that this overlordship is accepted among the governments and other leading institutions of developing nations, those nations participate in fostering the same evil which otherwise afflicts them from the exterior, and they risk too the condemnation of Sodom and Gomorrah on that account. These represent a state of affairs which is an abomination in the Eyes of the Creator; unless sufficient numbers of good men and women come forth to act, to bring about changes in conformity with natural law, then the very laws which the Creator has embedded, as natural law, in this Creation, will act to render each and all of these nations extinct, in order that such as remains of humanity after a great holocaust might arise to effect an ordering of their affairs less displeasing to the Creator.

The Creator is no Babylonian or Muscovite tyrant, who strikes angrily, like Zeus, out of the capricious whims of a heathen potentate. He has composed Creation to be the instrument of His Will, and has so ordered the lawful compo-

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Lower echelons of the "nomenklatura" at a December 1987 press conference in Washington included, from left: Nikolay Chervov of the Soviet General Staff; translator; Valentin Falin, deputy chief of Central Committee International Information Department; Albert Vlasov; translator; Yevgeni P. Velikhov, Vice President, Soviet Academy of Sciences.



sition of cause and effect in this universe. The nations which offend that natural law will be struck down by the lawful consequence of the work of their own hands, and also by their crimes of omission in tolerating orderings of affairs which bring such holocausts upon nations.

The two conditions of mankind described in connection with the "structures of sin," are a hubristic defiance of the Creator's natural law, in the extreme. Those wealthy and otherwise powerful oligarchs who exhibit their satanic character by doctrines of malthusians' mass murder through aid of economic measures, dominate nations which are each and all about to be struck down in a great holocaust, unless the nations uproot this satanic evil of malthusianism and usury from their midst.

Except as the redemption of even the most evil person must be sought, we must not temporize in any degree with the evil itself. We must make no number suggestions to these potencies, or chide them peevishly for their crimes. Rather, in the voice of Moses, we must speak to those who submit to the rule of those oligarchs setting themselves up as would-be pagan gods of Olympos: "Change your ways, or be destroyed, and your erring nations with you."

One should speak more precisely on this matter. In the wake of the oligarchical triumph at the 1815 Congress of Vienna there arose in Europe and the Americas a nakedly satanic force looking back fondly to the Emperor Tiberius on the Isle of Capri. The exemplars of this naked satanism include prominently Berlin's Karl Savigny, Oxford's John Ruskin, Richard Wagner, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Friedrich Nietzsche, Aleister Crowley, H.G. Wells, Adolf Hitler, and Bertrand Russell. These naked satanists and their accomplices proposed to bring to and end the "Age of Pisces," which they associated with the images of Socrates and Christ, and bring into being the Age of Aquarius, of Dionysos and Lucifer, of Ishtar-Isis, Osiris-Dionysos, and Horus. This satanism has become the religion of the oligarchies of the Western nations as well as the Muscovite empire.

These satanist oligarchs have essayed somewhat successfully to destroy the development of the productive powers of labor, upon which continued human existence depends, and have also undertaken to stop the reproduction of the human species, on grounds that the present number of living persons, especially of darker complexions, displeases them. It is by the consequences of this satanic malthusian's policy that the human species shall be virtually obliterated, unless an abrupt reversal in these trends is accomplished.

The 'AIDS' example

Exemplary of this is the case of the spread of the HIV pandemic.

This infection was most probably created during the 1960s as an accidental by-product of genetic engineering in such matters as viral cancer research. The best evidence is that traces of animal viruses with the same general characteristics were deliberately or unintentionally introduced to such experiments in the medium of living human tissues. It is known that a gentic recombination accomplished under such conditions produces an infectious agent specific to human beings.

However, the outbreak of the HIV pandemic in Africa coincided with man-made conditions of prevalent and increasing spread of famine and epidemics generally, conditions created chiefly by pro-malthusian supranational agencies such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. Under such conditions the HIV infection spread rapidly, especially in regions characterized as "tropical disease belts." In the industrialized nations, the initial spread was concentrated among sectors of the population whose personal practices approximated those of Sodom and Gomorrah, creating a reservoir of infection from which the contagion radiated into other channels of transmission of the virus.

The decision of relevant agencies, including the U.S. Reagan administration and the World Health Organization, to lie about the nature of the transmission of HIV, has prevented those actions, such as public health measures, which might have been launched to slow the spread of the contagion. On the pretext of preventing popular pressures from forcing governments to spend large sums fighting the spread of the infection, the U.S. and other governments launched massive campaigns to spread lies denying the transmission of the infection by means other than "sexual" and direct blood contamination.

This infection, which is not only adapting rapidly to new opportunities for transmission, but is mutating very rapidly as well, is known to be 100% lethal over a period ranging from about three to a dozen years, and is fully capable of rendering the human species extinct within a span of two or three generations. No ordinary sort of vaccine is possible, and no cure is expected earlier than five to ten years, assuming that there is sufficient biological research to discover a cure.

This pandemic alone, is a menace worse than even a nuclear war, and the policy which tolerates official lying respecting this pandemic is an offense against humanity worse than a disposition to launch general warfare.

Meanwhile, the economically determined environmental conditions for rapid spread of old and new kinds of epidemics and pandemics are worsening.

We are presently gripped by the onset of an international financial crisis analogous to, but worse than that of the period 1929-32. Under the influence of the global spread of irrationalist countercultures, often in the name of religious "fundamentalism," the majorities of entire populations are becoming clinically insane. A deep cultural pessimism, comparable to, but worse than that of pre-Hitler Weimar Germany, pervades.

The moral collapse of institutions, worsened by and worsening economic and biological collapse, portends the early emergence of circumstances proximate to the potential extinction of the human species. If this continues into the 1990s, we must foresee the collapse of civilization, and the vanishing of entire nations.

Nothing which fails to address directly the political and related causes for these trends is sufficient.

The "structures of sin" are the oligarchical forces of both Moscow and the West whose inherent dispositions of decision-making will prompt them to do nothing which does not bring the terrible holocaust about. That is the foe incarnate; that which is not directly addressed to that problem, is insufficient, to the degree of failing to measure commitment to the requirements of the situation.

Let us examine the problem of statecraft in my terms of practical reference.

1. The foreign policy of the United States

The United States of America, for reason of its origins and its special circumstances of today, is the nation with the greatest responsibilities in these matters. The rights to sovereignty and economic development are the very principles upon which this republic was founded; if those principles are in jeopardy in any part of the world, our own freedoms are in jeopardy, and our national conscience rightly greatly troubled on this account. The present situation is such, that if the United States did not act efficiently now on this account, it were likely our republic itself would not survive the remainder of this century in a recognizable form its own citizens would wish to tolerate.

The United States is a republic of a form explicitly intended by its founders to echo Solon's constitutional reforms of 599 B.C. in ancient, classical Athens. It is more immediately an outgrowth of a practice of Christian statecraft set into motion by St. Augustine's City of God. It is most directly the consequence of a revival of Augustinian principles of statecraft accomplished by the Golden Renaissance. From its beginnings, with the initial establishment of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the new republic in North America was an undertaking by an international association of Western European republicans, an international body which rallied behind Benjamin Franklin to ensure the success of our young nation in its War of Independence against the Hanoverian monarchy and the British East India Company's looting.

The establishment of our young republic was thus the distillation of an historical process, encompassing participation by republicans from all of the nations of Western Europe. The characteristic of this process, was the intent to lessen the imperfections of design of the institutions of the state, to bring the state more nearly into conformity with the requirements indicated by St. Augustine and by his successors of the Golden Renaissance.

The character of our young republic was a reflection of the conflict out of which it began to be shaped by the original decades of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Since the time of Solon, Western European civilization has been wracked by a persisting conflict between two mutually exclusive notions of man and nature. The one, the evil one, is typified by the form of oligarchical rule found in the slave society of ancient Lycurgan Sparta. The opposing view is that the power of creative reason inborn to all persons shows man to be on that account in the image of the living God, to such effect that all persons must be judged equal before a universal body of law which is higher than the

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authority of any government or treaty, a body of law which has been known since St. Augustine, and such diverse others as Nicolaus of Cusa and Gottfried Leibniz as *natural law*. The internal mission of Western European civilization, is to rid itself of the vestiges or recurrences of oligarchical rule by privileged families, and to make durable a system of government consistent with the principle of such *natural law*.

The Golden Renaissance made several decisive contributions to our understanding of a less imperfect service of natural law.

From the work of Dante Alighieri, we gained the notion of the modern form of sovereign nation-state republic, a society based both upon a commitment to natural law, and the principle that each nation must be unified by shared use of a common literate form of language, a language suited, in the words of the poet Shelley, to the power of imparting and receiving the most profound and impassioned conceptions respecting man and nature.

Out of the horrors imposed by oligarchical usury upon fourteenth-century Europe, there emerged a new quality of secondary schools, typified by Groote's Brothers of the Common Life. Such schools produced the greatest leaders of Europe during the immediate centuries following, and set a precedent for classical and scientific secondary public education as the right of every future citizen of the republic.

From the work of the great law-giver Nicolaus of Cusa, himself a product of such secondary education, we obtained the rigorous articulation of the principles of a system of sovereign nation-state republics, and the recognition of the right of all peoples to share equally in access to the benefits of scientific and technological progress.

Although the oligarchical faction prevented the collabo-

rators and followers of the great Cosimo de Medici from establishing a modern form of sovereign nation-state in fifteenth and sixteenth century Italy, this project was carried forward with admirable success by France's great king Louis XI, and was advanced by the Erasmian faction of Sir Thomas More's sixteenth-century England. Although these virtuous efforts in France and England were corrupted by the work of the oligarchical foe, the modern form of European sovereign nation-state republic, committed to scientific and technological progress, is the surviving benefit of such historically temporary reversals.

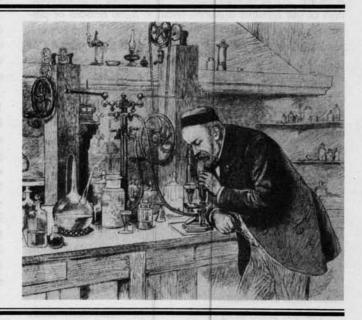
Out of the republicans' struggle against oligarchism during these two centuries, came the origins of the young United States of America. One key figure of sixteenth-century England was Robert Dudley. At a time that Lombard usurers controlling the Hapsburgs were perpetrating a monstrous genocide against the indigenous populations of the Spanish Americas, Dudley proposed the mobilization of England's technological superiority to liberate these oppressed peoples, with the more durable purpose of establishing in the Americas a form of republic which could contribute to changing the balance of power in Europe in favor of the republican cause.

When the Lombard oligarchical power was consolidated in England, around the faction of Sir Francis Bacon, the Dudley project was revived in a form suited to the circumstances. The founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was the crucial accomplishment to this effect. Under the original charter of that colony there was established a semi-autonomous republic, which contained within it, and in the work of such leaders as Cotton Mather, the essential features of the later United States.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the hopes of

Agapē is that love of God and mankind which moves me to act for the betterment of the moral condition of present and future generations of mankind.

The great French scientist Louis Pasteur (1822-95) in his laboratory.



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the republicans in English-speaking North America were centered in a European republican faction contesting for the liberation of the government of England from the grip of what was then called "the Venetian party," the oligarchical faction which included the evil Duke of Marlborough of that period. The republican faction included such leading figures as Gottfried Leibniz and Dean Jonathan Swift, as well as Cotton Mather and his republican fellow-conspirators in the Americas.

Despite the defeat of the republican party, with the British accession of Marlborough's accomplice George I, the efforts of the faction of Leibniz, Swift, and Mather, during the first decades of that century, produced such leaders as Benjamin Franklin. From approximately 1763, the republican forces of Europe were assembled around the leadership of Franklin, around a common dedication to improving the history of mankind, by means of the establishment of a new form of sovereign republic in North America. By means of that international republican alliance, there was established here that new republic described in its moment of victory as temple of liberty and beacon of hope for all mankind.

This history is the true personality of these United States. That fact was expressed by a brilliant man who had been earlier the protégé and collaborator of the great Franklin, the distinguished American foreign service officer and later President, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams. The occasion was the adoption by the U.S. government, at Adams's prompting, of the 1823 Monroe Doctrine. Adams's papers on the matter of this doctrine are of direct relevance to the concern most recently affirmed by Pope John Paul II.

The fundamental interest of the United States is properly expressed in its foreign policy as a commitment to the establishment of what Adams then defined as a *community of principle*. All sovereign republics which share with the founders of our republic a commitment to those notions of universal natural law affirmed by leaders of the Golden Renaissance, are intrinsically members of such a community of principle, and united in common self-interest against that common oligarchical adversary identified then as the collaboration of Britain's Lord Castlereagh with Clement Prince Metternich in the agreements reached at the 1815 Congress of Vienna.

Circumstances have been altered. In 1823, the Monroe Doctrine represented immediately the refusal of the United States to serve as a "cock-boat in the wake of a British man o' war" in Britain's efforts to control and loot the young republics to the south of our borders. It represented also a commitment to act according to the specifications of the Monroe Doctrine as early as our republic had acquired the power to do so, as we did in successfully ordering the withdrawal of Napoleon III's occupying forces supporting the bloody-handed oligarchical tyranny of Hapsburg Emperor Maximilian in Mexico.

The true personality of the sovereign United States seeks

no empire, either *de jure* or *de facto*. We abhor as naked oligarchism all attempts to subordinate sovereign republics to the overlordship of supranational institutions of any kind. Our moral and material self-interest demands the establishment and strengthening of a system of sovereign nation-state republics, truly sovereign, equally committed to principles of universal natural law, and to mutual benefit according to natural law in their relations with one another. We must seek to establish such a community of principle as the dominant order among nations on this planet. In this lies the key to the durable security of our posterity.

Unfortunately, oligarchism has gained great influence inside the institutions and policy-shaping of the United States, and has aided the consolidation of its usurpatious and cruel regime of oligarchical philosophical liberalism, by virtually destroying the memory of the noble republic these United States once were. This fact must be understood, else no remedy for the matters of the Encyclical's concern were likely to appear.

The faction of philosophical radicals and revisionist historians associated with the socialistic "New Age" movement of President Theodore Roosevelt, was shaped by hatred against the founders of the United States. Socialists Charles A. Beard and Walter Lippmann, in addition to the wild-eyed romantic Frederick Jackson Turner, typify such cases. In consequence of that barrage of revisionist historian's lies now commonplace in our textbooks and universities, our practices of justice and policy-shaping generally are of such a character that the founders of our republic would consider these presently prevailing traits an abomination; indeed, in numerous instances, wherever our founders encountered similar currents of thought in their own time, they did denounce such beliefs as both morally abhorrent and directly contrary to the practical form of our national interest.

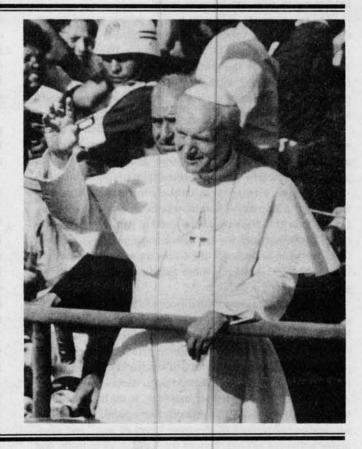
As we approach the close of this century, we have reached the point that if we continue present directions in the shaping of our nation's domestic and foreign policies, this republic will not survive. This ominous message is shown to us most clearly in the past twenty years "post-industrial" drift.

The simplest evidence to that effect is economic. About 1967, changes in federal policy caused a slowing of technological progress and of those capital improvements in basic economic infrastructure on which our post-1940 economic growth had been based. Relative to 1970-quality of infrastructure, we have a deficit which would cost approximately \$4 trillion to repair today. Since that time, there has been a secular collapse in the per capita physical productivity of our labor force as a whole, and, during approximately the recent ten years, an accelerating trend of collapse in agriculture and industry. In terms of domestic physical output per capita, there has been a constant decline in the U.S. economy, not the illusory recovery reported.

Excepting Japan, there has been a similar trend in Western Europe, combined with an accelerating collapse in the

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Only very foolish people would ignore the new papal Encyclical. We could ignore its warning only at the greatest imaginable peril; it is the ominous handwriting on the wall of present history.



Pope John Paul II during his 1986 trip to South America.

per capita levels of output of the developing sector generally.

The general consequence of this, is that a non-communist world destroying itself from within, resembles a decaying Roman Empire awaiting the undertaker's services of the contemporary, Moscow-led barbarians.

A turning point, very much for the worse, was established by Reagan administration decisions implemented during October 1982. In an effort to evade, rather than face the reality of the 1982 debt crisis, the Reagan administration, in concert with the New York and Boston international bankers, attempted to paper over the financial crisis during the following five years with the buildup of the greatest international financial bubble in history. Ironically, this brought the world to the outbreak of a new international financial crisis exactly five years later, in the "Black Monday" panic of October 1987.

The Reagan administration's hysterical refusal to face the failure of its ill-conceived economic and monetary policies, is systematically destroying the defensive capabilities of the West in front of the growing aggressive means deployed by the Soviet barbarians. That administration bows to the influence of powerful, greedy bankers, who are moving to consume the remains of bankrupt industries and financial institutions, consolidating the wealth of most of the world in a few hands such as those of the *fondi* interests behind Carlo

De Benedetti.

The present situation is advantageously examined from the standpoint of the principles of classical tragedy, as the republican historian, poet, and dramatist Friedrich Schiller elaborates those principles.

These specific features of the economic situation are but key reflections of the Aeschylean tragedy confronting those elements of the Western, rentier-dominated "establishment" who have set those powerful families up as the would-be modern gods of Olympos. These would-be gods have bethought themselves so all-powerful in their overlordship over nations and peoples, that they have dared to defy the laws of Creation in their pursuit of greed for wealth and power. So, in the economic realm, more clearly that might be otherwise understood, by defying the laws of Creation in economic matters, they have caused those laws to act in such a matter as to destroy them, and to destroy also those nations foolish enough to be complicit in such folly.

It is clear to all who attend thoughtfully to these and related matters, that the world has been acting out a postwar tragedy, and has reached now a *punctum saliens* in that great real-life drama. Either we change our policies, discarding the foolish post-industrial and related policies of the recent twenty years, or, by about the close of this century, the United States, and most of civilization besides, will have ceased to

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exist in a presently recognizable form.

On this account, only very foolish people would ignore the new Papal Encyclical, or would regard it as merely a suggestion by a concerned Catholic Church. We could ignore its warning only at the greatest imaginable peril; it is the ominous handwriting on the wall of present history. Heed it promptly, or face a calamity beyond the imagination of nearly all among us.

The task is not to contemplate this matter, but to act to remedy the evil condition. This we can not do without an accompanying reform of institutions and related practices presently permeated with the wicked taint of oligarchism.

This happy change were unlikely to be brought about, unless a potent movement arose within nations including the United States, a movement motivated in part by recognition of the great calamity we are now bringing upon ourselves. Once we were so aroused, the Christian nations of Western Europe and the Americas were those most suited to bring about the desired result.

The peculiar genius of republican Christendom in matters of statecraft is our emphasis upon a principle which the original Greek of the New Testament identifies as $agap\bar{e}$. We recognize two qualities of emotion in persons. In the inferior part, tending toward the bestial if unchecked, is the erotic impulse toward irrationalist hedonism, associated with the expressions of lust, envy, fear, and rage. In the higher aspect, we are endowed with the capacity for $agap\bar{e}$, an emotion sometimes recognized by the term "tears of joy," and associated with love of God, love of mankind, love of truth, and love of classical aesthetical principles of beauty.

All men and women have an inborn capacity for this higher motivation, $agap\bar{e}$, but with us this is placed consciously at the center. We reject thus, as degraded, and tending toward evil, all notions of "blood and soil," and regard all peoples as alike in their potentialities for good, and rights as individual persons.

The natural disposition of Western civilization is to create nations of a sort which are termed "melting pot" nations. Such is Italy, Germany, France, as well as the United States, for example. For us, it is natural that a nationality be distinguished as a specific variety of literate language culture, and if that nation be a true republic, by no distinction other than that one. We abhor the notion of nationality we observe in Moscow's oligarchical empire; we abhor those distinctions among people which tend to promote the members of one so-called race as overlord over subjugated nationalities. A true republic must be a "melting pot" of its persons of sundry particular origins, united in perfecting a republican order associated with a common form of literate language.

It is the greater value we thus place upon the creative mental potentialities of the individual personality, which has given to Western civilization, in the past, its exceptional capacity for the generation and effecient assimilation of scientific and technological progress. We have thus the selfinterested obligation to cherish, to nurture, and to share this advantage of ours with mankind as a whole. Through our cultivation of $agap\bar{e}$ as our conscience, we have a special moral capacity, and therefore a special duty to act to this effect. This is the mission of our existence, and the most fundamental self-interest of each sovereign nation-personality among us.

We have come to the *punctum saliens* of our postwar period's unfolding tragedy, at which we must either reaffirm this commitment and role in an efficient way, or it were unlikely that any among our nations would survive.

The relevant history of U.S. foreign policy since World War II, is as follows.

In his famous controversy with Britain's Prime Minister Winston Churchill, during the course of World War II, the President informed Mr. Churchill that the United States was not going to fight a second war in Europe to preserve the British Empire. The President proposed that the postwar world should be based upon the liberation of the colonial nations, and a policy of economic development of the sovereign nations of what we call today the developing sector.

Unfortunately, the agreements among Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin, reached during the Teheran and Yalta conferences, laid the basis for the emergence of postwar Moscow as an imperial power, taking over new territories, in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, even beyond the territories granted to Soviet rule by the Hitler-Stalin pact. The attempt to create a tripolar world condominium, shared among Moscow, China, and the Anglo-American financier interests, at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, created the policy environment for the revival of the pre-war colonial system until approximately the end of the 1950s.

Even the rapid liberation of these former colonies, during the 1960s, had the effect of awarding the newly designated nations a hollow kind of sovereignty. Each liberated nation was placed under supranational direction, and this made a condition of its nominal sovereignty. It was the conditions so imposed, which have fostered the now-worsening oppression of the developing nations, and have spilled the effects of this brutality to afflict the majority of the populations in the so-called industrialized nations.

What Yalta and coordinated agreements did, was to establish a "bipolar" global condominium of two superpowers, the Soviet empire, and the domination of most of the rest of the world by an Anglo-American rentier-financier interested for which the power of the United States served as chief instrument of force. In between these two superpowers, a relatively weaker but increasingly populous People's Republic of China added the color of "tripolarity."

The form of these condominium agreements between Moscow and the Anglo-American agency is a echo of the agreement negotiated between the Magi and King Philip of Macedon, to divide the rule of the Mediterranean region between an Eastern and a Western divisions of the Persian

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The 'institutions of sin' must be destroyed, now more urgently than ever before. If that were not done, then this civilization shall not survive this century in a viable form, and might not survive at all.



A 1984 Aspen Institute gathering to attack the Strategic Defense Initiative represents a cross section of Western structures of evil. Left to right, ex-Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, a director of Manufacturers Hanover Bank, John J. McCloy, former chairman of the board of Chase Manhattan Bank and high commissioner for the Allied occupation of West Germany, and Robert McNamara. former defense secretary and former president of the World Bank.

Empire, separating the two domains by the Halys and Euphrates rivers. In the relevant documents from that period, we find the proposed world order described either as the *Persian model* or the *oligarchical model*. Today, "bipolar crisis management" as a form of imperial world rule is the form of a relationship between two oligarchies, Moscow's oligarchical *nomenklatura*, and the rentier-financier oligarchies of the Western division of this condominium.

The term "crisis management" is essentially a revival of the practice of "balance of power," as associated with eight-teenth-century "cabinet warfare," and the ordering of the relations among Britain and the members of the Holy Alliance under terms of the 1815 Treaty of Vienna. Dr. Henry A. Kissinger's A World Restored is significant as a reflection of this oligarchical character of "crisis management."

This postwar condominium is the principal mechanism of the injustice which the postwar order has imposed upon nations and peoples.

At the moment, the world is under the influence of the onset of a great international financial crisis, somewhat analogous to the interval 1929-32, with the nations presently committing today the same blunders, almost word for word, and deed for deed, perpetrated during the U.S. presidency of Herbert Hoover. We are experiencing the inevitable collapse of a John Law-style financial bubble, the largest in history,

and relatively one of the most severe such.

Under conditions of efforts to continue the present monetary institutions trends in policy, and under conditions of continued neo-malthusian "post-industrial" drift, the use of measures of either monetary laxity or economic austerity in an attempt to stabilize and perpetuate the authority of the existing financial institutions, ensures a deep, global economic depression, worse than that of the 1930s.

For various reasons, only correct decisions by the government of the United States, if taken relatively soon, might prevent such a deep economic depression and the political and other consequencs that calamity would set into motion. No other nation, or combination of nations, has the means to accomplish such an urgently wanted result.

To play that needed role, the United States must return to a foreign policy consistent with that we have recommended here. It must, simultaneously, resume domestic and foreign economic policies consistent with the policies of U.S. Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton.

What we must do, as part of this, is to extirpate from the practice of nations those goals and methods of policy typified by cabal of Castlereagh, Capodistria, Nesselrode, and Metternich at the 1815 Congress of Vienna. We must rid the nations from the overlordship of oligarchism, and rid the planet of the influences of the satanist cult of the "New Age."

To be continued.

EXERIPTIONAL

NATO replaces firepower with hollow words

by Nicholas F. Benton from Brussels

Heads of government of the 16-member NATO alliance met in Brussels on March 2-3 to substitute hollow words of unity for the military firepower they expect to be surrendering soon. They are facing a devastating loss of deterrent power resulting from deep cutbacks in U.S. defense spending and the pending ratification of the Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) treaty,

The summit, the first since 1982, was portrayed as largely ceremonial, with hardly any differences expressed publicly among the leaders. The public show masked grave fears by European leaders about the reliability of its U.S. partner, fears which prompted the summit in the first place. Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal, the man who stunned both NATO and Warsaw Pact leaders last summer by meeting with U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche in Ankara, confirmed to *EIR* the day after the summit, that its main topic was European concerns about the future commitments of the United States to the alliance.

Despite paeans to unity, the effects of the economic breakdown of the West, combined with an appearement mentality, are having an overpowering centrifugal impact on the alliance.

While not mentioned publicly, the recently released report of the U.S. President's Commission on Long-Term Integrated Strategy, the so-called Iklé-Wohlstetter report, *Discriminate Deterrence*, was among the factors contributing directly to these fears. That report called for the removal of the U.S. nuclear umbrella from Europe (and Asia).

President Reagan tried to redress the impact of the Wohlstetter report by telling his fellow government heads, "We often say that if the bomb is dropped in Amsterdam, it is the equivalent of dropping a bomb on Chicago. As long as we maintain that attitude, I don't believe a bomb is going to drop on anyone." A similar "assurance" was reflected in the final

communiqué of the summit, where it was stated, "We affirmed that the defense of Europe and North America is indivisible."

When pressed by EIR at a briefing about maintaining U.S. troops in Europe, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater contradicted earlier administration statements to say, "We have no plans to make any changes in troop levels." In this context, the allies agreed to maintain a public front of unity. "I have never seen such harmony and togetherness as we have," President Reagan said at the end of the first day. Secretary of State George Shultz gushed at the conclusion, "Nowhere have I felt more the vitality of freedom. . . . It felt good, and it was a wonderful experience." NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington and other heads of state mumbled similar things.

Rumblings under the surface

Yet, the reported desire of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to soften the language on modernization of battle-field nuclear weapons in the final communiqué, reflected growing opposition in his country to such nuclear weapons, which can only be fired onto German soil, if used. Also, each of the two communiqués issued by the NATO leaders included footnotes to remind everyone of Greece's formal opposition to the presence of any nuclear weapons in the NATO arsenal. Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreau came out in the open again during a press conference the day after the summit, to affirm that he sees NATO-ally Turkey as a greater national security threat than the Warsaw Pact.

Not only the weakness of NATO's southern flank, reflected in recent anti-NATO moves by both Greece and Spain, but also growing Soviet-inspired anti-nuclear sentiment throughout Europe since the INF treaty signing, reflect the deteriorating real state of affairs in the alliance. Force mod-

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ernization discussions at the summit smacked strongly of the assumptions underlying the Wohlstetter report, despite all assurances to the contrary. This was tipped off by Lord Carrington in an interview with BBC: "In the event there is a war, we must be prepared to respond appropriately." His choice of the word, "appropriately," fit the "discriminate deterrence" conceptual framework of the Wohlstetter report, substituting regional deterrence modes for the concept of comprehensive deterrence contained in Reagan's public comments. That is also contained in Article V of the NATO Charter: "An attack on one is an attack on all."

Nonetheless, there was not a peep of opposition to the INF treaty from any government head during the summit, nor was there any public opposition to the current flight forward by the Reagan administration to sign a disastrous START accord with the Soviets to reduce strategic nuclear arms by 50%. Both arms-control initiatives were supported in the final communiqué. Instead, the leaders focused on the need to redress the enormous Warsaw Pact conventional superiority, becoming even more dominant in the wake of the pending INF and START agreements.

Amazingly, while the urgency of dealing with this imbalance was featured in a communiqué released at the end of the first day, spokesmen conceded that any hope for a treaty to correct the conventional force imbalance will depend solely on Soviet good will in new, expanded "Atlantic to the Urals" conventional arms control talks scheduled to begin soon. After 15 years of dead-end negotiations between selected NATO and Warsaw Pact nations to reduce conventional weapons on the central front in Europe, the NATO allies are now placing groundless hopes in new conventional force talks, incorporating a broader representation that includes most NATO and Warsaw Pact countries, 23 in all. The document issued by the NATO heads of state, entitled, "Conventional Arms Control: The Way Ahead," was hammered out weeks in advance of the summit, and merely rubber-stamped there.

Acknowledging the massive Soviet and Warsaw Pact conventional force advantage, the statement said, "Our aim [in conventional arms control negotiations with the Warsaw Pact] will be to establish a situation in Europe in which force postures as well as the numbers and deployments of weapons systems no longer make surprise attack and large-scale offensive action a feasible option." The document also admitted that:

- The Warsaw Pact, based on the Soviet Union's forward-deployed forces, has a capability for surprise attack and large-scale offensive action; the allies neither have, nor aspire to, such a capability;
- The countries of the Warsaw Pact form a contiguous land mass; those of the alliance are geographically disconnected;
- The Warsaw Pact can generate a massive reinforcement potential from distances of only a few hundred kilometers; many allied reinforcements need to cross the Atlan-

tic;

• The Warsaw Pact's military posture and activities are still shrouded in secrecy, whereas those of allied countries are transparent and under permanent public scrutiny.

The statement also confirmed that the Soviets continue aggressive modernization of their entire military strategic capability—but in identifying the Soviet conventional weapons which best reflect a capacity for "surprise attack and large-scale offensive action," it said, "Tanks and artillery are among the most decisive components" of this.

When asked by *EIR* at a background briefing to the U.S. press at the summit, why new Soviet offensive weapons based on "new physical principles, such as radio frequency, microwave, and laser weapons," were not included on the list of dangerous Warsaw Pact offensive weapons, a U.S. senior administration official who participated in preparing the statement responded, incredibly, "The main reason is that the primary emphasis is on ground-gaining offensive type equipment, and, generally speaking, that set of weapons doesn't meet that criteria."

'Trust Mikhail'

At the same briefing, EIR asked the U.S. official, "What reason do you have to believe that after 15 years of unsuccessful conventional arms control talks in the CSCE framework, you can reach an agreement under this new [Atlantic to the Urals] framework?" The response was that, while the negotiations to date "took place within a narrow area of the central front, this new negotiation will cover Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and includes the 23 nations that are principally involved in the military confrontation. So, it's a much more realistic picture of the situation. It allows us to deal with the elements of military security in a much more comprehensive way."

Asked why including more nations in the negotiations would not, in fact, make it even more complicated than it has been for the past 15 years, the official said, "I think you could start off by saying that the Soviets have been more forthcoming. For example, the first time that we were able to agree in an arms control scenario for on-site inspection was in the Stockholm Agreement, and that has been part of the conventional arms control process."

It was in this pollyannish context that Thatcher reiterated her earlier praise of Soviet leader Gorbachov in her press conference after the summit. She removed any doubt that she "still believes Mr. Gorbachov is a new kind of leader who I can do business with." She praised his "domestic reforms" as "an historic and bold reform offering more freedom and choice inside the Soviet Union," and said she believed "both Gorbachov and the West want strong defense, but at lower levels."

The Soviets wasted no time dashing NATO hopes of any conventional arms control accord, lashing out at the NATO communiqué in TASS the day after the statement was released.

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Shultz pulls Kremlin into Mideast deals

by Scott Thompson

Secretary of State George Shultz returned on Feb. 1 from an abortive round of shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East. There is every indication that the crisis there, which has pitted Israeli and Arab fundamentalists in violence now nearing South African levels, will only worsen. The "peace plan" Shultz brought with him, in any case, only showed that the United States is abdicating its leadership in the region, and worse. It would establish the Soviet Union as a permanent, legitimized imperial power there.

What is required in the Israeli-Arab conflict is firm U.S. insistence on the sovereign rights of all parties, in the context of an economic "Marshall Plan" for the region. Instead, Shultz went off to do more "crisis management," with no thought of a comprehensive peace settlement. The difference is that Shultz appears intent on engaging the Soviet Union in the process.

This was confirmed by a number of senior figures in the Eastern liberal establishment who were interviewed by *EIR* about the latest "peace initiative." As New York Council on Foreign Relations Mideast expert Paul Jabber put it, the timing of U.S. moves in the middle of the U.S. presidential campaign and the Israeli national elections, is "unfortunate" for any chances of success.

The U.S. administration seeks a "quick change in political conditions on the West Bank and Gaza," a senior State Department official said. It would "include such things as control by the Palestinians over their daily lives, such as land, water, and police." This is a sped-up version of Camp David: Shultz foresees a waiting period of six months (not Camp David's five years) before the final status and sovereignty of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is determined. The solution is based on the formula, "territory for peace," of U.N. Resolution 242.

By contrast, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, on a world tour before Shultz's visit, proposed that Israel give up the territories almost immediately, as the first in a series of actions toward Palestinian self-government.

Giving the Soviets an equal footing

Shultz discussed the Middle East with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, beginning Feb. 22 in Moscow. Shortly before the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting, Vladimir Polyakov, the head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North Africa Department, went on a tour of the region to build support for an international conference to be held under U.N. Security Council auspices. The Soviet move has gained wide support in the PLO, Jordan, and Egypt. Shultz went so far in this direction in Moscow as to offer the Soviet Union "equal footing" in an "international event" that would place its imprimatur upon a final peace settlement.

It is because of a U.S. abdication of leadership in the Middle East, that this idea, which would make the Soviet Union an "indispensable" superpower in the region, has taken hold with moderate Arab governments. Matters have reached such a point that Polyakov, for example, was able to visit Saudi Arabia, the first major visit by a Soviet official in 50 years. The Saudis are now considering renewing diplomatic relations with the Soviets once they were to withdraw from Afghanistan.

Regardless of the outcome of his mission, Shultz told Shevardnadze that the Middle East would again be on the agenda when the two meet in Washington, D.C. on March 22.

The revolt of the West Bank and Gaza is causing a process of political polarization in the Middle East. There are serious splits in the Israeli leadership, dividing the Likud/Labor Party ruling coalition. Before Shultz's arrival, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the Likud ministers passed a resolution that Israel would stick to the Camp David accords; however, it is unlikely that Shamir would even adhere to a Camp David solution, unless the administration is willing to put extreme pressure on Israel, such as a threatened aid cut-off.

The Likud Party right wing and its fundamentalist allies, the forces associated with Likud Party minister Gen. Ariel Sharon, are preparing to expel as many as 1.5 million Arabs from the occupied territories, so that annexation can proceed unhindered. This Nazi-like act, they call "more humane" than their shootings and beatings.

One of Sharon's close allies, General Zvi, announced Feb. 27 that he is forming a Committee for Mass Expulsion of Palestinians. The base for this group is Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach Party and the Gush Emunim settlers cult, who have already formed vigilante squads to carry out atrocities in the occupied lands. Meanwhile, Sharon himself took to the pages of the Wall Street Journal Feb. 24 to warn the United States not to interfere in Israel's operations on the West Bank. He said that "continued painful friction between the two peoples" would persist until the Palestinians "mature," warning that since "there is no prospect of any American compromise holding up in practice, it would be best not to get involved."

Radical leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization called a boycott of Shultz's trip, warning that "any Palestinian personalities inside our occupied land" would face grave consequences if they met Shultz to discuss his "Bantustan"-type approach. This kept Palestinian moderates like newspaper editor Hanna Siniora from presenting Shultz with the demands of the Palestinians in the territories.

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Geneva researcher documents Soviet genocide in Afghanistan

Marek Sliwinski, a lecturer in political science at the University of Geneva, has completed a new study documenting, with numerical data, the extent of devastation and killing caused by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and by Soviet military actions since then. The study, soon to be released by the International Afghan Bureau in Paris, was done on behalf of the bureau and three other groups: Médecins sans frontières (Doctors Without Borders), the Swedish Committee on Afghanistan, and the International Catholic Child Bureau. The research was also supported by the office of Claude Malhuret, French Secretary of State for Human Rights. On March 1, Professor Sliwinski gave a telephone interview on the report's findings to EIR correspondent Mark Burdman.

EIR: From early published accounts of your data, for example a short note in *Le Figaro* today, on what has been happening in Afghanistan since the Soviets invaded, you would seem to be documenting one of the great massacres of the 20th century.

Sliwinski: Yes. The first figure we have is that after 10 years of war, it was 9% of the population that was killed. If we compare this with the available data of the Second World War, the rate is higher than what the Soviets suffered in the war; 8.6% of the Soviet population was killed in the war. We are not counting the actions of the concentration camps or the gulags, only victims of hostilities.

Also, we have data that about 80% of the killed population in Afghanistan are civilian victims. For example, the women and the boys under 15, and men over 55, constitute 52% of the victims. Also, it is absolutely clear, that all between over-15 and 55 are not necessarily guerrillas. So, our calculations are that the civilian populations are 80% of the victims. Now, there are other facts that are very important. For example, we have to answer the question, who was really responsible for the deaths, the Soviets or the resistance? Well, 46% of those killed were by bombings, and the Afghan resistance have no aircraft. So, that alone shows that 46% of the victims were killed by Communist forces. Other figures, for artillery and bullets, lead to similar conclusions, when we know what both sides have and don't have. What is the incidence of [those] killed by bombings, among all killings? Among the men, aged 21-30 years, only 27% have been killed by bombings. When we speak about women, in the 30-40 year age group, 92% are killed by bombings.

We have shown, finally, that the efficiency of aerial bombing against guerrillas was limited, but with the civilian population without defense, it is really horrible.

EIR: What other data have you compiled?

Sliwinski: We can distinguish five different phases. First, there was the civil war, before Soviet intervention, when deaths from fighting were between 3 and 6 per 1,000 per year, although then, the exodus of Afghanis was very strong. Second, is after the Soviet intervention, during the late Brezhnev era, the losses of the civilian population were 7 per 1,000 per year.

Third, the situation changed very radically after Andropov came in, and the total reached 11 per 1,000 per year. The fourth phase, the maximum, is under Chernenko, when it reached 16 per 1,000 per year.

The fifth phase is under Gorbachov, where the total decreases slightly, to 12-13 per 1,000 per year, which is also very high. But, under Gorbachov, we don't observe any decrease of injured. In fact, the *intensity* of the war increases all the time. What kept deaths down for the Afghan resistance, was the acquisition of Stingers, so that the number of killed then decreases to 9 per 1,000 per year. But other data, from the Institute for Strategic Studies, shows that if you take 1984 as the base year for intensity of military engagements, and give that base year the value 100, the number is 118 in 1985, 228 in 1986, and 260 in 1987. This measures the *number* of military engagements, not necessarily the magnitude.

EIR: Why such a rise from 1984 to 1987?

Sliwinski: Two reasons. One, unfortunately, is the Geneva peace talks on Afghanistan. The Soviets are seeking to force the issue. The other reason is the equipment of the Afghan resistance.

EIR: What is your estimation of the total population of Afghanistan before the Soviets invaded?

Sliwinski: That is the big question. There are two estimates, both reasonable. One is 12 million. The other, based on a national census in 1979, was estimated at 15.5 million. There

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were problems with that census, however, and I think it was less. I take the average figure, slightly less than 14 million. So, it is out of that, that we see 1.2 million killed, and 5 million living in exodus, 3 million in Pakistan, 2 million in Iran

EIR: What has happened to the village populations? **Sliwinski:** The villages have been depopulated. Around 1979, 85% of the population lived in villages, now it's about 23%.

EIR: In view of everything you're documenting, do you think any settlement of Afghanistan, should it be reached, should include insistence on reparations paid by the Russians? There is all this talk these days of "war crimes," shouldn't there be consideration of *Soviet* war crimes?

Sliwinski: That depends not on the Soviets, but on the attitude of Western countries. With the interest of Western countries in relations with the Soviet Union, I am afraid this question will not be discussed. Certainly not in the United Nations. When we present such figures, these things are censored by the U.N. So, it is difficult to hold the Soviets responsible for what has happened in Afghanistan.

EIR: What other data would you want to draw attention to? Sliwinski: What happened in the villages. Before the war, 15% of the Afghan population was urban, 85% village, rural. Since 1979, 33% of the population has left for the outside. 11% are refugees inland; 9% are dead. The urban population has increased from 15 to 24%. Rural has gone from 85 to 23%. The problem is one of vast social disintegration, a problem greater in magnitude even than the civilian losses. This will be the overwhelming problem if there is a Soviet withdrawal, a postwar Afghanistan. But there is another complication, an ethnic complication. Before the war, among the Afghans, 40% of the population were Pathans, 26% were Tadzhiks, Hazaras and Uzbeks were each about 10%, and there were others. But, among the refugees, 85% are Pathans. So, the population in Afghanistan is now about 20% Pathans, and Tadzhiks have become the predominant ethnic group, followed by the Hazaras and Uzbeks. This is absolutely conscious Soviet policy, to make the population of Afghanistan as similar as possible to that of the Soviet Central Asian republics. As people in Europe would see, this becomes an argument for territorial annexation, as happened after World War II. Then, there is the Wakhan corridor, at the extreme east of Afghanistan, on the way from Afghanistan to China. It was annexed by the Soviets, because it is so strategically crucial. Annexed de facto. The Kirghiz population was expelled, and now live in Turkey. The Wakhan corridor is now occupied absolutely by KGB forces.

This restructuring of the country, ethnically, by the Soviets, is the most important problem that we face *if* the war stops.

East bloc nations near to explosion

by Konstantin George

National unrest and unbearable economic conditions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, especially Poland, pose the question: Will Gorbachov be out before Reagan? The growing internal crisis in the Soviet Union is destroying the image of glasnost and perestroika. However, welcome these developments are, there can be no illusions of a "Crumbling Empire." The Russian Empire will move to suppress the Captive Nations within the Empire proper, and, should revolts erupt in Eastern Europe, militarily intervene.

Russia's leaders are obsessed with plans for an early seizure of Western Europe—whether by military or other means—as the "solution" to the economic-political crisis afflicting the Empire. In this regard, aggressive power projections outward can be expected, and an escalation of the stick-and-carrot offensive against West Germany.

Internally, Russian chauvinism will be promoted more than ever. The signal was given at the Feb. 17 Central Committee Plenum by Politburo member Yegor Ligachov, who called for a crackdown against non-Russian nationalist manifestations.

The near-revolt in the East bloc provides a tool to shatter prevailing illusions in the West concerning the Russian Empire. Even as corrupt, liberal elites in the West are in the advanced phase of negotiating a "New Yalta" with the Russian Empire, the victims of the old Yalta and Potsdam agreements are delivering an indelible message to the West, as to what it means to live under Russian hegemony. The East bloc unrest will soon force the Russians to show their true colors. Europeans and Americans will no longer have the psychological buffer of distance to block out Russian atrocities, as has been the case concerning faraway Afghanistan.

The crackdown will not be possible in a short, condensed period. The events in Armenia and Azerbaijan (see page 48) are paralleling eruptions in the Baltic and Eastern Europe, particularly in Poland, Romania, and Hungary. Soviet-dictated looting and austerity policy have produced a collapse of living standards unimaginable to most in the industrial West.

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Things will only keep getting worse. In the Baltic nations, popular anger is not only directed at the severe economic deterioration, but against the cumulative effects of 40 years of forced Russification, and Russian immigration, which, particularly in Estonia and Latvia, threatens to literally wipe out the indigenous populations by early next century.

The Baltic unrest

On Feb. 16, the 70th anniversary of Lithuania's independence, a crowd of 15,000 assembled before the main cathedral in Vilna, the Lithuanian capital, singing the national anthem. On Sunday, Feb. 14, hundreds of thousands had packed the Catholic Churches, to commemorate independence and to protest Russian occupation. The Feb. 16 demonstration was held despite blunt Soviet warnings that repression would be ugly. The Soviet authorities kept their word.

The KGB and Militia (Interior Ministry), including units brought in from neighboring Belorussia, brutally attacked the crowd, arresting and injuring hundreds, of whom at least 160 were hospitalized. Many sustained severe injuries when police dogs were turned on a crowd of 2,000 youth demonstrating in a park near the cathedral. For the occasion, Moscow had flown in crack airborne troops from the Belorussian Military District, headquartered in Minsk, who were outside Vilna on standby.

Undaunted by the KGB terror tactics in Lithuania, on Feb. 24, the 70th anniversary of Estonia's independence, a crowd of 20,000 demonstrated in the capital city of Tallinn. Like Lithuania and Latvia, Estonia was invaded and illegally annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940, by virtue of the Hitler-Stalin Pact of August 1939.

The crowd remained before the town hall till midnight, despite repeated orders to disperse, and threats that if such demonstrations continued, TV broadcasting in the Estonian language would cease, leaving only Russian.

The KGB crackdown in Estonia has also been severe. The KGB has been spreading an "imperialist coup" rumor; Tallinn has been blocked to Western correspondents; deals were made with Western correspondents to spread disinformation on the situation; and, since the summer of 1987, forty-two leading Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian activists have been deported to the West. The Feb. 24 Tallinn demonstration was held without the remaining national leaders, who had been placed under house arrest.

Poland close to exploding

Poland is on a short fuse, waiting to explode in a crisis that will surpass that of 1980-81. The coming Polish crisis will soon be Gorbachov's big East European headache. In the 1980-81 crisis, a Russian invasion was narrowly averted through a takeover by General Jaruzelski's Polish military. But that meant that the last Polish card in the situation had been played. Any future "solution" would have to come from a Russian military intervention.

This is exactly what informed sources now foresee. The Polish people suffered recent astronomical price increases, creating a situation in which the stores are full of goods, because no one can afford to buy. The result is the lowest food consumption levels since the postwar period. Poland continues to experience shortages of basic consumer goods like soap, laundry detergent, and toilet paper, as well as repeated breakdowns in transportation and energy supply, and an almost complete collapse in housing construction.

East bloc food shortages are only partly the result of production problems. Poland, Romania (where the population is living on subsistence rations), and Hungary all export large volumes of meat, such as ham, ducks, turkey, and other poultry, and in the case of Romania, large quantities of grain, to the West to earn foreign exchange to pay debt, and to the Soviet Union, in order to receive marginal increases in Soviet energy exports to keep their industries running.

The Polish food price increases in January were only the beginning. On April 1, the next round of price increases takes effect. Electricity and fuel prices will double, as will rents. These measures reflect a pattern throughout the East bloc, where prohibitive prices on electricity are designed to drastically reduce private consumption, to allow more electricity allocations to industrial plants which export to the Soviet Union.

The joint Soviet and International Monetary Fund stranglehold on Poland has produced another horror: a collapsed health service. Basic medicines, including antibiotics, are largely nonexistent. The most basic items that one would expect to find in hospitals are in desperately short supply. Some hospital wards have no beds. The patients are on the floor, and cases of patients forced to stay on the floor in corridors are not uncommon.

In Romania, the only surprise to date is that no uprising has occurred. How much longer this can continue is a question mark. Romanians are living through a winter where the average daily use of electricity per apartment has been limited to one 40-watt light bulb. Meat and fish have disappeared from the diet, and thanks to forced grain exports to Russia, for the first time since the postwar years, even bread is in very short supply.

Another situation approaching critical mass is Hungary, the supposed "economic miracle" land of Eastern Europe. The December Hungarian Central Committee Plenum adopted an austerity package for 1988 that could well cause an explosion. Seventy-five percent of 1988 hard currency export earnings have been earmarked for debt repayment. The Jan. 1 introduction of a 15% value added tax on food and consumer goods, together with termination of state price subsidies for 80% of all consumer items by April 1, will guarantee a 1988 inflation rate of at least 20%, a postwar record. The same package, which will end state subsidies to unprofitable enterprises, will generate, by official Hungarian estimates, at least 200,000 unemployed by 1990.

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Gorbachov's dilemma in Armenia violence

by Muriel Mirak

A good deal of mystery still surrounds the origins of the demonstrations which have rocked Soviet Armenia and the region of Karabakh in Azerbaijan; no one knows, or wishes to reveal publicly, who organized the protest actions. Furthermore, regardless of who instigated the demonstrations, multiple political factions have jumped on the bandwagon, fueling the revolt for very different political reasons. But, the Armenian population of both the "republic" and Karabakh, which has been mobilized on an unprecedented scale, could very well break out of the various scenarios being spun by behind-the-scenes manipulators, creating a new dilemma for the Muscovite leadership.

Clearly, the demonstrations which broke out sporadically in October and began in earnest in Yerevan, the capital of Soviet Armenia, in mid-February, were not spontaneous. If the October ferment came in response to reports of KGB-instigated harassment of Armenians in Karabakh, the Yerevan demonstrations carried fully articulated political demands. Foremost among these, was the claim that the Karabakh region should be annexed to Soviet Armenia: "One People, One Republic," read the banners carried by marching crowds.

This was not the first time that such a demand had been voiced. According to Armenian sources in the West with good connections to Yerevan, the demand emerged in response to the outrages perpetrated by the KGB against the Armenian population in Azerbaijan since the 1960s. Economic aid for Karabakh has dwindled, which has contributed to the steady flow of Armenian emigration out of the region. Thus, the Armenians, who made up 96% of the Karabakh population 20 years ago, now represent 80%, a fact they interpret as part of a deliberate Soviet depopulation policy. Armenians in the Soviet Republic reckoned that it would be better to annex the region than to let it be depopulated.

The proposal to annex Karabakh was floated outside of the Soviet Union, by persons close to the Moscow leadership. Not only did Gorbachov's economic adviser, Abel Aganbegyan, express his "hope and belief" that it would be annexed in public addresses in London and Paris, but Sergei Mikoyan, while in the United States in February, publicly suggested that the Armenians draft a petition to this effect and send it to the Presidium. On Feb. 20, the people's parliament of Karabakh called on the "Presidiums of the Azerbaijan and Armenian republics to cede Nagorno-Karabakh in the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Armenian Republic," as reported by Radio Yerevan.

How these developments fed into the political struggle in Moscow could be read by certain unusual features of the leadership's response. After hundreds of thousands had taken to the streets daily in Armenia, General Secretary Gorbachov issued a call for order to both the Armenians and Azerbaijanis, a call he made in his own name, not that of the Central Committee or the Politburo, which was in session. Furthermore, Politburo members Georgi Razumovsky and Pyotr Demichev were dispatched to the region, and the ethnic Russian Boris Kevorkov, first secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh party, was swiftly replaced by an Armenian, Genrikh Pogosyan, former mayor of Stepanakert.

In Moscow itself, many are supporting the unrest, for factional reasons. Some close to Gorbachov are said to be promoting the ferment, to push through reforms which Gorbachov has verbally endorsed, but never implemented. Others, in the "conservative" camp opposed to Gorbachov's reformist rhetoric, are reportedly stoking the coals both among the Armenians and the Shi'ite extremist Azeris, hoping to ignite an explosion which will blow Gorbachov out of his current position.

In Armenia, the political infighting is as complex as in Moscow. According to Western sources, the organization which is actually coordinating events is a "committee," whose members have remained anonymous. Made up of representatives of different regions of Soviet Armenia and enterprises (businessmen), this committee issued the call for demonstrations, specifying that no violence should occur, and that provocations should be prevented. It was this committee which designated the poetess Silva Kaputikyan and writer Zori Balayan, the Yerevan correspondant for *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, as interlocutors with the Moscow leadership. Following their talks, which ended in a one-month "cease-fire," the demonstrations in Yerevan stopped, as abruptly and as orderly as they had begun.

Where the Armenian Party leadership stands, indeed, how long it will stay on its feet, is not clear. Although the "intellectuals" in Armenia, with whom the committee is associated, have voiced their opposition to party leader Karen Demirchyan, on grounds of corruption, mediocrity, and the economic crisis, and have predicted that he will "be out by April," he has thus far survived the storm. Demirchyan, who was singled out for criticism by Gorbachov last summer, has powerful allies in the anti-Gorbachov faction in Moscow. Brought into power in 1974, Demirchyan has consolidated a political machine which he does not want to relinquish control over. During the demonstrations, he managed to project

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the image of law and order, calling for calm.

The Armenian Church, both in the person of its highest representative, the Primate Vazgen I, and churchmen in the West like Archbishop Manoukian of New York, have publicly played down the disturbances, as if echoing Demirchyan's call for calm. Regarding the Karabakh issue, the Church has taken no official position to date.

A new dynamic

Parallel to the factional contest being waged in Yerevan and Moscow, the masses of Armenians, both in the Soviet Republic and in Azerbaijan, have entered a process which is taking on a dynamic of its own. Recent visitors to Yerevan report that the popular mood is one of open criticism of the Soviets, combined with misplaced hopes in the "new" leadership of Gorbachov. In a nutshell, the prevalent opinion voiced to Westerners is: "If Gorbachov claims he wants reform, let him prove it by doing something for us." The public perception of events over the past few weeks is that if a million people take to the streets, then they get results. When that perception becomes a conviction, all hell could break loose.

Further fueling the process of mass action are reports of assaults, arson attacks, and riots in Azerbaijan. During the period of demonstrations in the last 10 days of February, up to 60 persons are said to have been killed in Karabakh. In the first days of March, after the demonstrators returned to their homes in Yerevan, violence escalated between Azeris and Armenians in Baku and Sumgait. According to informed sources, Soviet troops are patrolling the streets of Sumgait with armored personnel carriers and tanks, enforcing a curfew from dusk to dawn. Sumgait is a major industrial city on the Caspian Sea, with 30,000 Armenians of a total 215,000 population. TASS characterized the situation with reports of "rampage and violence," provoked by "hooligans." TASS announced that "measures have been taken to normalize the situation in the city and safeguard discipline," an evident reference to the military-enforced curfew.

On March 2, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov admitted in a briefing to foreign correspondants that "several" lives had been lost, without further specification. Days earlier the Soviet media had carried the statement of Soviet Deputy Chief State Prosecutor Alexander Katusev, confirming that two Azeris had died in the Nagornyi-Karabakh district. No Soviet reports have detailed Armenian casualties, although sources in the West estimate that between 100 and 200 have died since the disturbances began.

Coverage of events in the Caucauses has been sparse; obviously, inside the Soviet Union, the Moscow leadership is determined to keep news from Armenia and Azerbaijan to a minimum. Gorbachov has until March 26 to come up with a solution, as agreed upon in talks with the committee's representatives. He has promised that the Armenian question



The Supreme Patriarch of All the Armenians, Vazgen I. The Armenian Church in the Soviet Union has downplayed the recent disturbances.

will be dealt with in one of the upcoming Central Committee plenary sessions, which will devote its attention to the "nationalities issue" as a whole. Regardless of what scenarios Gorbachov has been toying with, the objective situation he now faces represents a tough knot to untie. If he bends to pressures from Armenia, loosening up restrictions on contact between Armenians in Azerbaijan and those in Soviet Armenia, for example, by allowing access to Radio Yerevan in the Karabakh district, this will be read as a concession, and pressure will mount for annexation. Were Gorbachov to agree to annex the region—a highly unlikely occurrance—it would antagonize the Azeris, placing Moscow's Islamic card in jeopardy. It would also be correctly interpreted by other oppressed minorities throughout the Soviet Union as a green light to force through their own demands by mass action.

If Gorbachov, on the other hand, rejects any and all demands, the only means available to quell predictible further uprisings would be brute military force; this would destroy the fragile image of "reformer" that Gorbachov has been groomed to project to the gullible in the West. Sacrificing glasnost would essentially mean tearing off the mask, and if Gorbachov's mask goes, he, as a public relations ploy, will also go.

What's really going on inside Panama

by Robyn Quijano

On the evening of March 3, the U.S. population was treated to a flash of truth on what's really going on in Panama. But only a flash. ABC's Ted Koppel interviewed Panamanian opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderón. Arias refused to support deposed President Eric Delvalle, granting only that he supports Delvalle's move to oust Gen. Manuel Noriega, the head of the Panamanian Defense Forces.

The rest of the "Nightline" news program was an amusing sequence of interviews with Delvalle's diplomats, recognized by the State Department, and diplomats of the actual Panamanian government that have been named *persona non grata* by the U.S. administration. The shocker of the show for the U.S. public, was that Eric Delvalle, into whose accounts the United States is funneling millions of dollars of canal revenues, is supported by no one but the U.S. State Department (article, page 62).

Eric Arturo Delvalle was removed by Panama's elected National Assembly for violating Article 179 of the Panamanian Constitution, the same constitution and the same National Assembly that voted Delvalle himself into the office of the presidency. Delvalle was called a puppet, by the Reagan administration, for almost three years, while he was President. Now, after he buckled to pressure of the State Department's Elliott Abrams, famous for lying to Congress on the Contra affair, Delvalle is being proclaimed the legitimate President by the U.S. government.

After months of featuring small rallies of General Noriega's opposition taking the streets as major mass demonstrations, the U.S. media have been unable to cover up the fact that no opposition to the newly elected government of Manuel Solís Palma has appeared in the streets. Instead, a "nationalist united front" has been formed, of trade unions, peasant and popular organizations, as well as the parties that back the new President, and they have put tens of thousands in the streets to back General Noriega and the new government.

In fact, on the ground in Panama, there is jubilation, because there is a sense of national mobilization, with a President who actively asserts nationalist economic policies.

Former President Nicolás Ardito Barletta and former President Delvalle were both outsiders to the nationalist movement built by Gen. Omar Torrijos, and both alienated the nationalist popular organizations by imposing International Monetary Fund-designed austerity packages. Now, with nationalist Solís Palma at the helm, the spirit of rebuilding the nation, and fighting for sovereignty, has taken over.

On Feb. 29, President Solfs Palma addressed the National Assembly for the first time. Thousands gathered outside the Legislative Palace to support the new President. Even the Republican party, the small party to which Eric Delvalle belongs, officially joined the government coalition in support of Solís Palma. Solís told Panamanians that he will lead a fight for the survival of the nation. He noted that he had become Minister of the Presidency through Article 184 of the Constitution, at "a difficult moment in which our country is suffering one of the greatest aggressions in its history by the U.S. government." He addressed the Ibero-American ambassadors: "Know... that the Panamanian people will never be able to forget those who stood by them when their fate reached the crossroads of definitions." The following day, despite enormous U.S. pressure, Brazil recognized the new President.

Responding to the U.S. threat to enforce a total trade embargo, and force its allies to do the same, Solís said: "We will have recourse to any means, to any country without reserve, to find the resources and support for our country." We will not let ourselves be isolated, he said, reaffirming his commitment to the Non-Aligned Movement and to the Contadora group.

He also laid out a development perspective including development projects, and laid plan for the revival of the local councils through which the Torrijos government had created popular participatory democracy.

Alemán Boyd, the president of the Legislative Assembly, also spoke at the inaugural session. He described the U.S. government's relentless attack on Noriega as an attack, not on one man, or even on a country, but "our project of liberation" from colonialism.

In fact, it has become so clear in Panama that the U.S. aggression is aimed at ripping up the Canal treaties that would return the Canal Zone to Panama by the year 2000, that even opposition leader Arias Calderón felt compelled to state first in the Koppel interview, that the opposition would not allow the renegotiating of the treaties, and would never hand over the canal to the United States. The more ferocious the U.S. assault, the more talk of invasion and renegotiating the treaties, the more isolated the Panamanian opposition, run by bankers, businessmen, and yuppies, becomes. As one man in the street said, "I am not fighting for General Noriega. I am behind the new government, because I am fighting for the canal, and my country's sovereignty."

Boyd also developed the government's new economic program for the Assembly. "If the terms and conditions the

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IMF and the World Bank have demanded are accepted, the government would be committing political suicide." He recommended that the national government "should have real planning, since this, in reality, hasn't existed for a long time. A different criterion is needed with respect to the international credit organizations, since the debt can't be paid, without putting in danger the very basis of our national existence," he said.

Strike? It was a lock-out!

On March 3, the opposition called off the strike they had begun on Feb. 29, declaring it a "complete success." In reality, the strike was a lock-out by industrialists and major store chains. But as even the U.S. media had to admit, life in the non-elite areas went on as usual, with almost all stores open. The opposition Civic Crusade stated that they wanted to avoid the financial collapse of Panama, since it will "move the Panamanian people to violence." The U.S. government and the Senate, however, seem to want exactly that. Crusade member Aurelio Barria stated at a news conference that while the Crusade approved of U.S. financial pressure on the government, they did not want the private sector of Panama to suffer the consequences of being denied funds.

On the morning before the owners called off their lock out, CONATO, the confederation of Panamanian trade unions, the public employees union, and the peasant federations jointly demanded that the government take whatever measures necessary to reopen factories and businesses. They rejected the "so-called strike," as a prelude to an invasion by the United States. The communiqué stated that such an invasion would cost the lives of thousands of Panamanians, and it charged that the employers' strike was being funded by the United States, which is trying to impose a docile government "willing to renegotiate the canal treaties, and extend the American presence in the Canal Zone.

"This political strike by the employers is affecting the wages of the workers . . . encircling with hunger the popular sectors." They demanded that the government take over and reopen companies illegally closed, and called for all the workers of the closed businesses to assemble in front of the CONATO headquarters to begin to take measures to reopen businesses. The strike was later called off.

Whatever lies might come out of the U.S. State Department, it is obvious that the new government of President Solís Palma has massive popular support. On March 4, General Noriega addressed a rally of 15,000 supporters in the city of Colón. From there he will tour the interior of the country, where the local bases of the Torrijista movement have continuously supported the general, and his nationalist project. While the United States has the power to invade and to starve out the tiny Panamanian republic, the population will not easily reembrace colonial status. Washington would do well to stop believing its own propaganda, and take a hard look at what's really going on inside Panama.

'Vesco International' lashes out at Noriega

In a joint statement published on Feb. 27, three Ibero-American ex-Presidents joined the State Department's campaign for Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega to resign: Colombia's Alfonso López Michelsen, Venezuela's Carlos Andrés Pérez, and Costa Rica's Daniel Oduber.

The three announced that they had presented U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, with a proposed strategy to achieve "Panama's reentry into the community of democratic nations." This requires, they stated, not only that Noriega resign, but that Panama be placed under "the supervision of the United States, Venezuela, Colombia, and Costa Rica."

The activation of these three gentlemen in the campaign against Panama confirms *EIR*'s report that it is Robert Vesco's drug mob which now seeks to take power in Panama (see Vol. 15, No. 10).

Consider the following:

Alfonso López Michelsen is a "long-term business associate" of Gabriel Lewis Galindo, the opposition chief just appointed "roving ambassador" by ex-President of Panama Eric Delvalle, according to Lewis Galindo's old friend, William Jordan. What kind of business? Under López Michelsen's Colombian presidency (1974-77), the financial mechanisms for drug money-laundering—no questions asked—were set up, with the creation of the well-named "sinister window" at the Banco de la República.

In 1982, the mafia repaid the favor—by supporting López Michelsen's next presidential campaign with a 25 million peso check from Hitler-devotee Carlos Lehder.

In May 1984, barely one week after the Colombian mafia assassinated Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, López Michelsen met with Medellín Cartel chiefs Pablo Escobar Gaviria and Jorge Luis Ochoa in Panama. The mob proposed that López Michelsen mediate between them and the Colombian government, to arrange a truce: The government grants them an amnesty, they stop their war inside Colombia, and bring back their billions to help pay the debt. López Michelsen accepted the proposal. When President Belisario Betancur refused, he took the mafia's proposal to the public. In a lengthy interview published by the Colombian daily *El Tiempo* on July 29, 1984, López Michelsen reported that he had met with the drug traffickers, outlined their proposal, and argued that Colombia should accept!

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Daniel Oduber also works closely with Panama's opposition movement, through Nicolás Ardito Barletta, a fellow member of Sol Linowitz's Inter-American Dialogue. For two decades, ex-President Barletta has argued that the solution to Panama's economic problems is to turn the entire country into a free zone, so that Panama can replace Hong Kong as the drug and dirty-finance capital of the world, when the Crown Colony gains its independence from Great Britain in the 1990s.

Oduber is one of the Dialogue's most active members, selected along with Elliot Richardson after the Dialogue's 1987 meeting, to present the group's views to the U.S. Congress. Barletta and Oduber both signed the Dialogue's proposal that legalizing the consumption and trade of narcotics should now be discussed.

Oduber also worked closely with Carlos Lehder's partner, Robert Vesco. Vesco, who today lives in Havana, Cuba under the protection of Fidel Castro, is the chief financier of the Medellín Cartel. Vesco financed Oduber's 1974 campaign for the presidency—at least \$200,000 worth.

In his biography of the cartel financier, Vesco, Arthur Herzog relates other details of the Oduber-Vesco partnership as well. In May 1974, for example, two days before his inauguration, Oduber met secretly with Vesco, to get the crook's approval of a "carefully composed" letter which outlined Oduber's commitments to Vesco once he became President: "Oduber . . . said he would not permit Vesco to be extradited," because Vesco had brought "\$25-30 million of his own money to Costa Rica," as long as Vesco continued to invest in tourism, agriculture, and cattle, instead of newspapers, Herzog reports.

Vesco agreed. "Following Oduber's advice, he had taken himself out of sensitive investment areas like communications and transport and put himself into helping the Costa Rican government in its fiscal situation."

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Later, Vesco and Oduber bought a small jet together, a Cessna Citation paid for with financing arranged by the son of former Costa Rican President José Figueres.

Figueres, President when Vesco first fled to Costa Rica in 1972, was Oduber's political mentor, and is still today Vesco's business partner.

The Cessna became part of the "air wing" Vesco set up on his 1,000 acre ranch in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Vesco expanded the runway on the ranch to 4,000 feet, in order to accommodate small jets.

The Oduber-Vesco jet proved useful in 1976; it was used to carry a letter from President Oduber to President-elect Jimmy Carter, suggesting that Carter end the "Vesco matter" by pardoning his friend.

Carlos Andrés Pérez, currently a presidential candidate and vice president of the Socialist International, works closely with both the opposition Civic Crusade of Panama and Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Elliott Abrams. He, too, has been linked to the Medellín Cartel's Ochoa clan.

In the midst of corruption charges thrown out in Venezuela's current presidential campaign in February, came the news that Pérez had received a gift horse from the Medellín Cartel's Fabio Ochoa, as an expression of appreciation for having freed Ochoa's daughter when she was kidnaped by the narco-terrorist M-19. The charge was made by the secretary general of Venezuela's Christian Democratic party, Copei, Enrique Pérez Olivares, who sought thus to defend his candidate from drug charges.

Pérez admitted in a press conference on Feb. 24, that he had helped to free Ochoa's daughter, but claimed that he never received the horse, and that he felt very satisfied to have helped free the girl two years ago, "when the drug problem had not even awakened in Colombia. . . . My connections with Fabio Ochoa are indirect," he stated. "I never received a pace horse from Ochoa, but it would not have been anything special anyway," Pérez said. "He is a friend of all those in Venezuela who are involved with the breeding of pace horses in the country. I met him by chance at a fair in San Sebastián, where they introduced me to him, and beyond that I have never had any kind of relations."

Fabio Ochoa responded to Pérez press conference in a letter published in Colombia's *El Tiempo*: "It is very strange that ex-President Pérez says that he never received the animal. . . . He has the mare in his stable, and enjoys her every Sunday."

On Feb. 25, the Caracas daily El Nuevo País published an article reporting on a public letter from Fabio Ochoa to Colombia's President Belisario Betancur, published in 1983, in which Ochoa said that he lived in Venezuela for five years, and that much respect was paid to him there, "with beautiful speeches, among others by ex-President Carlos Andrés Pérez, my personal friend, since, during his term, I lived in his country, and I also planted the enthusiasm for horses in him."

Caravan Guard 88: American troops' defense of Europe's central front

by Dean Andromidas

The U.S. Army's Fifth Corps held its annual Field Training Exercise (FTX), Caravan Guard. Although much smaller in scale than the annual Autumn Forge exercises, the exercises gave an excellent impression of the complexity and massiveness of the effort required to maintain a deterrence against Soviet attack, if not the ability to defeat such an attack. Observation of the maneuvers afforded striking testimony to the irresponsibility and even treason of actions by the leadership in Washington to weaken that effort through the INF treaty, cast doubt on it through such policy deliberations as the Iklé-Wohlstetter "Discriminate Deterrence" report, and then punch holes in it through budget cuts.

One of the most revealing aspects of the exercise is the impression it left of the indefensibility of Western Europe if Sen. Sam Nunn and company got their way, and these troops were withdrawn.

Strategic cynics might say that in the event of a Soviet attack on Western Europe, the only role the U.S. Army has, is to guarantee that the President of the United States would have to risk nuclear war for Europe's defense. Therefore, the troops should be removed to prevent general war. In fact, former Deputy Secretary of Defense for Policy Fred Iklé, in an interview in a West German newspaper, created a scandal by stating that it would be "insane" for the United States to come to the defense of Germany. Indeed, this could become the case, de facto, if congressional budget cutters and an administration growing more and more blind to strategic reality persist in their present course.

More sane and realistic thinkers see these troops as the front line of an international defense alliance whose integrity and readiness must be maintained, augmented, and developed if we are to deter a Soviet attack, or *win* the ensuing war, should the Soviets choose to attack.

Mission of the Fifth Corps

The Fifth Corps is one of two U.S. Army corps comprising the four American divisions which are stationed in Western Europe. The other corps is the Seventh, based in Stuttgart. Together, they constitute the American Seventh Army, designated U.S. Army Europe, with its headquarters in Heidelberg. Theoretically, they can be reinforced by the American Third Corps stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, as well as other formations. The annual Reforger exercise is aimed at

exercising that reinforcment capability. These two American corps lie adjacent to one another, and are responsible for nearly 200 miles of north-south Front facing East Germany and Czechoslovakia. They comprise two of the eight NATO corps, including West Germany's three corps, and one each of Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Belgium on NATO's central front. These eight NATO corps are supported by 3,500 tactical aircraft. The Central Front confronts 30 Soviet divisions supported by 7,500 tactical aircraft. Those are augmented by 29 non-Soviet Warsaw Pact divisions.

The Fifth Corps, whose headquarters is in the old I.G. Farben office complex in Frankfurt on the Main River, was first formed to fight in World War I, and reconstituted to fight in the World War II. Elements of this corps were the first to enter German territory in 1944, and the first to make contact with the Red Army in 1945. It returned to Germany in 1951, following the decision to rearm Europe and establish the Atlantic Treaty organization. Its territorial front lies astride the famous Fulda Gap, in the valley between the Volgasberg and the Rhoen mountains, through which runs the German-German border on the Fulda River. This is one of the several "high-speed axes of approach" that would be used by an invading Soviet army, whose war plan envisions reaching the Rhine in seven days and North Sea ports and the English Channel in two weeks.

This year's Field Training Exercise, Caravan Guard, was an exercise of the maneuvering ability of the corps. It pitted the corps' 3rd Armored Division, 8th Infantry Divison, llth Armored Cavalry Regiment, and other units in a one-onone attack-defense-attack battle scenario. To the great disappointment of both the soldiers and the spectators and journalists present, the exercise had to be curtailed to be only a command field exercise, because of weather conditions. Given unusually high temperatures and rainy conditions, the maneuvers of heavy tanks and armored personnel carriers (APCs) would have caused unacceptable damage to the countryside. The maneuvers are staged over private farms, public roads, and through towns and villages. Therefore, the property, not to mention the lives, of the civilian community becomes a very important consideration. Imagine two full American Army divisions comprising over 46,000 men maneuvering through suburban and rural New York State, and you have an idea of the situation.

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A Soviet observer attends the Caravan Guard 88 NATO military maneuvers, February 1988.

'Everything but the teeth'

Lt. Gen. J.W. Woodmansee, the Fifth Corps commander, described the exercise as "everything but the teeth." Indeed, despite the absence of tanks and most of the APCs, a tremendous amount of activity took place, involving 23,200 men (down from 46,000), 799 tracked vehicles (down from 3,340), 6,349 wheeled vehicles, 282 helicopters, and 20 fixed-wing aircraft, in a command field exercise employing four or five vehicles for each company with its command staff. In addition, all the communications, logistical, and aviation resources were deployed as if the full divisions were being maneuvered. Despite the lack of spectacular maneuvering of tanks, mechanized artillery, and the like, there was a lot to see and hear on how the U.S. Army fights in the field.

As in all NATO military exercises, Soviet and other Warsaw Pact countries sent observers. Despite this relative openness of the exercise and the fact that nothing of a very secretive nature was occurring, it was reported by one source, after noticing a Soviet observer raise his arm every time he came across something that was of some intelligence value, that he had a tiny camera up his sleeve—which, obviously enough, automatically snapped pictures when he raised his hand and pointed it. (Good practice, no doubt, for the new opportunities presented by the verification procedures of the INF treaty.) Also on hand were a fair share of East bloc TIR

trucks (Transport Internationale Routier, trucks which pass freely through customs) traversing the area.

Scaling down Caravan Guard to a command field exercise enabled the press, for the first time, to observe the corps command centers called "cells," including the headquarters of the "Orange" forces, of the "Blue" forces, and of the Umpire Command Cell (UCC). The UCC oversees the entire exercise and determines who "wins" the various engagements, attacks, etc. The Blue and Orange cells were staffed as if they were each full corps, that is, commanding the two to four divisions that make up an American corps. These headquarters were surprisingly small, no more than 20 to 25 officers, NCOs, and enlisted men and women. Computer terminals were used to transmit orders, far more secure and efficient then voice communications.

Each of the cells, including the UCC, had a map of the entire war zone complete with the disposition of Blue and Orange, friend and enemy forces. The observable differences in disposition of forces, the location of the "front line" on each of the maps, served as testimony to what one famous military historian called the "fog of war."

The acting corps commander of the Blue forces, in this case the defenders, briefed us on the status of the "battle." The Orange attackers have advanced eight kilometers in the first six hours of the "attack," a color line on the map defines

the "FLOT" (forward line of troops). We are told this is the "cover force battle." Although the "enemy" has advanced eight "klicks," it has yet to reach the prepared defenses of the Orange forces. The corps commander's "G-2," the intelligence officer, briefs us on how he is getting a steady flow of information from his "rollover" troops, specially trained soldiers whose mission is to stay behind as the enemy "rolls over" their positions. They stay hidden and communicate battlefield intelligence to their respective headquarters. Other intelligence flows in through aerial surveillance, and most important, the front-line troops at the "point."

The report of the "firing" of a Lance missile provokes one journalist to ask whether the advance of powerful and sophisticated weapons could lead to a reduction in the number of troops required for European defense. Was the infantryman becoming a dying species? The commander's answer: "Tanks, missiles, nuclear weapons, can be used to destroy targets, enemy positions, and what have you, but it's only the infantry and engineers on the ground who can consolidate and hold that territory. . . . No, the infantryman will by no means be a dying species." (Sam Nunn, Frank Carlucci: Are you listening?)

We leave the headquarters to observe the "battle" via helicopter. We touch down at the "point," the most advanced position of the Blue forces. Here, we are able to observe the "combined arms team," the basic fighting formation of Army-Airforce operations. A young captain, the company commander, in a few moments, briefs us in amazing detail on his company's unfolding engagement. No doubt, his briefing is designed for trained officers, not humble journalists. Describing how his most forward troops are engageing the enemy, he reports that a "JAAT" (joint air attack team) comprising Army attack helicopters such as the new Appache and Air Force F-16 fighter bombers, had just hit an armored formation of the Orange forces.

We remount our helicopter for more observation. This region of Germany is characterized by rolling hills and low mountain ranges. While the open farmland is ideal for mechanized operations, it is interspersed with deep forestland and other natural features suitable for organizing defensive positions and bases for attack. These manuevers are aimed at exercising these operations, an opportunity that many of the soldiers not only appreciate, but see as absolutely necessary.

Although these maneuvers cover a front of no more the 30 kiliometers, equivalent of only one of NATO's 26 divisions on the central front, their observation clearly gave a glimpse at the challenges before NATO in the face of a Soviet military machine undergoing unrestrained development and expansion. The question, as it has confronted NATO since President Reagan signed the INF agreement and spurred on talk of U.S. troop withdrawals, is whether the political leadership of the Alliance will betray what is clearly a commitment among the soldiers of the Alliance to carry out their responsibilities.

France vows military support for Germany

by Christine Bierre

French President François Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, in statements made prior to the Brussels summit meeting of NATO leaders at the beginning of March, warned against American disengagement from Europe and underlined that France would view a Soviet attack on West Germany as tantamount to an attack on France itself.

Chirac stressed, in an interview to *l'Express* magazine published Feb. 26: "I think it necessary to demonstrate more clearly than ever to Germany that she is not alone. This is why I declared in the firmest possible way, that the engagement of France side by side with the Federal Republic, would be immediate and without reserve in case of conflict. This is why I rejoice in the latest concrete developments of Franco-German cooperation, the mixed brigade and the Defense Council, which open the way for the creation of a common strategic space between our two countries, something which General de Gaulle wished for wholeheartedly, and which was contained in germ in the Franco-German treaty of 1963."

President Mitterrand, in an interview to the daily *Ouest France*, criticized the trend in the United States toward withdrawing the nuclear umbrella from Europe. He also opposed plans to compensate for the withdrawal of medium-range nuclear missiles, under the INF treaty, by modernizing shortrange missiles. Germany is at the center of any future battlefield, he said, and "Germany has difficulties accepting the idea of being a territory stuffed with nuclear explosives and the probable target of a short-range nuclear war. One can and must understand that. It is true that most of the nuclear weapons of a very short range, cannot attain real objectives beyond the territorial limits of Germany, from where they are presently located."

Asked what America can do to reassure the West Germans, Mitterrand responded: "Ensure the balance of forces in all areas, and do everything to make sure that German soil is not the theater for a new war, which is what deterrence is intended to prevent." On the question as to what are the limits to Franco-German cooperation, he replied, "It is not the duty of France alone to defend Germany, but of the alliance as a whole. The fact that, beyond that, two European countries, friends and allies, linked by several treaties, wish to cooperate intensely, can only be useful to all other partners. The fact that, along with this cooperation, the embryo of a European defense appears, is something that suits me well."

Report from Paris by Jean Baptiste Blondel

A blow against terrorism

"Let's terrorize the terrorists," declared Interior Minister Pasqua 16 months ago; and he's doing it—within the law.

A severe blow was inflicted against terrorism in France, when police forces backed up by special GIGN or other anti-terrorist squads, raided Basque and Corsican separatists' headquarters in the second half of February. On Feb. 19, the Iparretarrak group of Basque extremists was dismantled and its leader, Philippe Bidart, arrested with four cohorts, in the suburbs of Bayonne, in southern France.

Simultaneously, Interior Undersecretary Robert Pandraud in Corsica stated that "trust among the population must be restored by inflicting a severe blow to the FLNC," the Corsican "liberation front." One week later, on Feb. 27, it was this group's turn to be dismantled, when FLNC leader Jean-André Orsini and three other men were arrested in Corsica.

These separatists, funded by Libya's Qaddafi and deployed to the benefit of the Soviet Union's "irregular warfare" against the West, demand autonomy from the French state for the island of Corsica, and the Basque country, a region with distinct ethnic traditions overlapping France and Spain.

It's a good time to take stock of the French war on terrorism since the end of 1986, when Pasqua announced that he would "terrorize the terrorists." Whereas in 1986, France was deeply shaken by the many bombings and bloodbaths of September, the year 1987 was punctuated by several arrests of important terrorists. In February 1987, the four leaders of Direct Action, Jean-Marc Rouillan, Joelle Aubron, Nathalie Menigon, and Georges Cipriani, were picked up at their residences and thrown in jail where their accomplices already resided.

During March and April, Mohamed Mouhajer, Fouad Ali Salah, and a crowd of other Iranian terrorists, all involved in bloody bombings, fell into the trap of the police. At that time, France broke its diplomatic relations with Iran, the "Wahid Gordji affair." A few weeks later, Luc Reinette and his fellows were arrested by the criminal police in the French West Indies, which rendered the "Caribbean Revolutionary Alliance" toothless.

And in November 1987, Direct Action explosives expert Max Frerot rejoined his comrades—in prison.

As for 1988, it has been Basque and Corsican separatists' turn so far: Former seminary student Philippe Bidart and his "co-religionists" Pierre Aguerre, Jean-Paul Hiribaren, and Joseph Etcheveste were caught by the GIGN on Feb. 19, and Jean-André Orsini, Dominique Bianchi, Bartholémy Massa and Jean-Michel Cardi were caught by the RAID on Feb. 27.

On Feb. 26, the third trial of Direct Action ended with heavy sentences: Jean-Marc Rouillan, the Halfen brothers, and Vincenzo Spano were sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment, while Regis Schleicher was sentenced to life. Many others are still in pretrial custody.

Besides better coordination between various well-equipped French and foreign police and intelligence services, these successful operations were made possible by two things: a general consensus among the main French police forces on one hand, and a strong political will by Charles Pasqua and Robert Pandraud on the other. This was embodied in Pasqua's "terrorize the terrorists," which nevertheless remained respectful of the law and did not lead to bloody police brutalities

But it naturally triggered some hysteria from the "human rights" lobby, especially when Direct Action leaders began a hunger strike in their jail: One liberal outfit, the CIMADE, fretted about "the four people dying in the prisons of France," Amnesty International described their fate as "absolute torture," and over a hundred figures endorsed an advertisement published in the press to demand betterment of their detention conditions, in the name of human dignity. Among others, this advertisement was endorsed by the notorious 1960s student radical, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, and by Pierre Juquin, the presidential candidate of the French Communist Party.

Health Minister Michele Barzach and the President's wife Daniele Mitterrand pronounced themselves in a "moral dilemma." And Pierre Arpaillange, a state prosecutor reportedly close to Raymond Barre, the presidential hopeful of the Swiss insurance companies, complained that "the police are overriding justice." This magistrate's attack was aimed at Pasqua's and Justice Minister Chalandon's recent declarations about the "interest" and the "reasons of state."

The French government has yet to make the same crackdown on separatism in New Caledonia, where 17 gendarmes were recently taken hostage and nine wounded by Trotskyist-controlled separatists of the "Palika" group. This faction of the FLNKS "liberation" group supports Pierre Juquin's candidacy, and three of its European members were identified during the recent upheavals.

Report from Rome by Antonio Gaspari

Bulgarian connection pops up again

Mafiosi and functionaries of the Bulgarian embassy join forces in the "Isis 2" lodge of Trapani, Sicily.

most interesting and key part of investigations into the traffic in arms and drugs which runs through Trapani, Sicily, and involves the mafia, the Freemasonry, and functionaries of the Bulgarian government, was reopened recently, as Prosecutor Daniela Pellingra issued 34 arrest warrants for politicians, journalists, suspected mafiosi, and professionals.

The case hinges on the secret lodge of "A-2" brothers called "Isis 2," hidden behind the front of the "Antonio Scontrino" cultural circle in Trapani. According to justice officials, the redoutable members of this Masonic lodge belong to an international organized-crime network.

The case traces back to investigations started by Judge Carlo Palermo and continued by the late Assistant Prosecutor Ciaccio Montalto. Montalto had found a tie between the mafia of Trapani and the Freemasonry of Tuscany, the region of north central Italy whose capital is Florence.

The story goes back to October 1981, when two gangsters from Trapani were killed near Florence: Giuseppe Milazzo, the father of the owner of a drug refinery discovered at Alcamo, and Salvatore Mancino, the mafia boss of Castellamare del Golfo. Prosecutor Montalto found two letters in which Mancino had recommended two "pigeons" to Riccardo Catalanotti, a Los Angeles mafioso.

In his written reply Catalanotti had stated, "Regarding my lodge, only the members are recognized to have assistance of any aid whatsoever, but no others. Are these two friends enrolled in our company? Answer so that I can

arrange the situation."

After these discoveries, Montalto was murdered, and Judge Palermo is alive only by a miracle.

There was no doubt that the investigation was on the right track: It turned out that the initiates in the secret lodge included one of the executors of the massacre of Pizzolungo, which was set up to try to kill Judge Palermo; and the fugitive Mariano Azaro, who belongs to the Minore mafia clan, recently identified as involved in drugsand weapons-trafficking with Syria.

Although the Freemasonry has tried to present the Isis 2 lodge as a rogue operation, magistrates probing the case stress that the A-2 fraternity was inaugurated by men linked to Licio Gelli, the Venerable Master of the powerful Propaganda 2 lodge, and that the 100 "Isis 2" brothers are also enrolled in four other official lodges, which have their offices close to Scontrino Circle, on Carreca Street in Trapani.

But the most interesting element, which we hope will not be underestimated by the magistrates, is the fact that among the secret lodge's members are functionaries of the Bulgarian embassy. Moreover, there were frequent "cultural" trips by lodge brothers-to Sofia!

The precedents for links between mafia and Freemasonry are vast and well documented. These satanic bedfellows have been in cahoots since the 19th century, when the mafia first appeared in Sicily, and reached the United States through the Freemason Giuseppe Mazzini.

Mazzini's front man was named

Giuseppe Esposito. He left Sicily around 1870 and reached New Orleans where he contacted Joseph Macheca, who ran a company of 150 Sicilians known by the name of "Innocenti," who fought for slavery against Lincoln under Confederate General Pike—a Freemason.

Via Macheca, Esposito made a tour of the United States pulling together the secret societies of Italians, who from that time on became linked to organized crime. Macheca also linked up with a Romanian Jew named Samuel Zemurray, who merged his shipping line with four others to make United Fruit Company, today United Brands. This corporation has been repeatedly accused of conniving in the drug traffic.

Esposito reported to Mazzini, and Mazzini reported to British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, a highdegree Scottish Rite Freemason.

These ties have continued, and become so vast that even the Bishop of Cefalù, Sicily, Msgr. Emanuele Catarnicchia, recent denounced the meddling of the "two Ms," mafia and Masonry, into the city's political and administrative life.

As for Bulgaria, it has been a center of gnostic cults since Roman times, when the castrated priests of the cult of Ceres came from this area, called Thrace. The advent of the Communist dictatorship changed nothing. The late daughter of President Todor Zhivkov, Ludmilla, founded the Universal Gnostic Church, whose members include leaders of the Colombia cocaine mafia. Moreover, the Bulgarian government's import-export firm Kintex is well known for involvement in armsand drug-trafficking. U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration reports say that Kintex answers directly to the first division of the Derzhavna Sicurnost, the Bulgarian secret service.

Dateline Mexico by Hugo López Ochoa

Catholics clash with 'art' mafia

The political situation is explosive, as the economic crisis intersects a campaign of desecration against the Christian faith.

Nearly half a million Catholics marched through the center of Mexico City on Feb. 28, to protest insults to Mexico's two most important symbols: the Virgin of Guadalupe and the national flag. The march was called in response to an infamous "art exposition" held earlier this year at the Mexican Museum of Modern Art (MAM), where the Virgin was displayed with the superimposed face of Marilyn Monroe, and the Mexican flag shown trampled underfoot by American Marines.

The demonstration occurred the same week that Pope John Paul II released his newest encyclical, "On Social Affairs," which pointed to the disastrous, deteriorating economic conditions in which much of the world's population lives, and called for reform of the world financial system. He identified the "structures of sin" which have so undermined Christian belief.

The crisis in Mexico is a dramatic example of what the Pope was talking about. Living standards have plummeted in the past year, and gnostic beliefs, such as those manifested in the MAM "art exposition," find fertile ground.

In an election year, the situation is particularly explosive.

The Catholic mobilization was the largest of its kind in the past six years, and has already won the suspension of the art exposition, the resignation of MAM director José Alberto Manrique, and the closing of another pagan exposition that was being held at the Institute of Visual Arts, in the city of Puebla. The Puebla institute has

been temporarily shut down by the government of Puebla state, to "revise its study plan." The institute's director, a two-bit painter, was fired.

All of these measures were rapidly decreed by President Miguel de la Madrid, in hope of preventing the mass mobilization from triggering a broader revolt against the savage economic measures that have been imposed on Mexico by the International Monetary Fund and foreign creditors.

The Catholic leaders themselves are well aware of the explosiveness of the situation. "The Mexican people can no longer be manipulated," said Cardinal Ernesto Corripio Ahumada, following the demonstration. On Feb. 22, the Archbishop of the city of Morelia, in his Lenten Message, stressed that "the weight of the present crisis is falling on the poorest." Wages do not even cover basic necessities, he said, and the supposed efforts of the authorities to keep inflation in check "lack credibility."

Monsignor Genaro Alamilla Arteaga, the auxiliary bishop of Mexico City, warned, "One cannot play with the Mexican people any longer." In reference to the opposition parties' preparations to claim electoral fraud and foment protests in the aftermath of the July general elections, the monsignor stated that "civil disobedience is not immoral, but it should only be resorted to when all avenues of expression have been exhausted or cancelled, and we have not yet reached those extremes."

It is the spirit of the Pope's encyclical, its appeal for dismantling the

"structures of sin," which could lead the Catholic mobilization out of the trap of a futile religious crusade, where certain political forces hope to enclose it. On Feb. 7, Monsignor Alamilla denounced the existence of a "black hand" behind the various scandalous art exhibits, designed to "incite the Catholic majority, which suggests that someone is out to provoke the communities." It would be "lamentable," he added, were a new religious persecution to be launched, like the 1920s "Cristero Wars."

Such a tendency could already be detected in a political cartoon carried by the daily *Novedades* Feb. 29, which presented Mexico's Catholic demonstrators as middle-aged fanatics. *Novedades* is controlled by the mafia of Miguel Alemán, Jr., the son of the former President. Alemań, Jr. also has a monopoly on culture in Mexico, through his movie, radio, and television (Televisa) empire, which is dedicated to disseminating so-called "Aztec fundamentalism"—a gnostic glorification of that gruesome pre-Columbian culture.

Alemán, Jr. also controls key positions within the government, as well as within the ruling PRI party itself. In the latter, Alemán's man is the "leftist" Enrique González Pedrero, director of the Institute of Political, Economic and Social Studies (IEPES). González Pedrero has an iron control over the public education ministry, which authorized the "art" exhibitions.

One of Pedrero's men, Deputy Education Minister Martín Reyes Vaysade, was head of the Communist Party in Mexico City, and is the controller of the "artists" who ran the provocations. Reyes Vaysade is one of the officials whose resignation is being sought by the Catholic protesters.

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Andean Report by Valerie Rush

The war on the oil pipelines

As the Barco government prepares its "democratic" elections, Colombia's narco-terrorists prepare to reap the rewards.

With the March 13 elections in Colombia, Moscow's irregular warfare armies are positioned to capture vast portions of that nation's territory, by the "legal" pathway of first-ever mayoral elections.

Through a combination of economic sabotage of basic infrastructure, and kidnapings and assassinations of local officials and police agents, the Cuban-trained narco-terrorists of the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the Moscow-backed Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) are determined to move into the power vacuum that now exists.

The ELN has not only directed its terrorism against the country's most vital infrastructure—Pol Pot-style—but has set about to "judge" the performance of elected authorities by kidnaping dozens for interrogation on whether they were fulfilling their popular mandates. Those found "acceptable" are returned to their homes, always aware of surveillance. Those found deficient. . . .

Between 1985 and December 1987, according to the daily *El Espectador*, more than 120 assaults were carried out against the country's oil and gas installations, the majority of them belonging to the state oil company Ecopetrol, with another score pf such acts already perpetrated in 1988.

El Espectador editorialized Feb. 15, "It has cost our [state oil] company \$48 million in unconsummated sales. . . . With these simple figures collapses the perfidious and hypocritical claim that the fight is against imperialism, that eternal and already anemic war horse, when Colombia is

facing the most dangerous multinational imperialism of all, that of the drug trade."

A glance at but a few of the terrorist attacks carried out in 1988 gives an idea of the scope of the narco-terrorist offensive:

- Jan. 12: two dynamite assaults on the country's most important oil pipeline in eastern Colombia, the Caño-Limón line from the Venezuelan border to the Caribbean port of Covenas. The gas pipeline in Barrancaberme ja was also dynamited.
- Jan. 13: Two more pipeline explosions in the Catatumbo region, with a loss of 20,000 barrels.
- Jan. 14: Another explosion damaged the Caño-Limón line.
- Jan. 15: Thirty meters of pipeline tubing in Arauca destroyed, with a loss of 50,000 barrels.
- Jan. 16: Oil refineries at Barrancabermeja and Cartagena are paralyzed by attacks.
- Jan. 17: The most promising oil exploration project in Casanare was suspended when the ELN destroyed the mining drill in a dynamite attack.
- Jan. 18: In Tamalameque, a piece of oil pipeline was shattered by an unidentified explosion.
- Jan. 25: A new assault on the Caño-Limón pipeline.
- Feb. 5: The ELN exploded a car-bomb in front of the main head-quarters of Occidental Petroleum in Bogota, injuring 13.
- Feb. 9: Unidentified guerrillas dynamited 40 meters of pipeline in Oru, setting fires and contaminating the Tarra River.
 - Feb. 11: Assault on a multiple-

use pipeline going from Medellín to the airport.

- Feb. 11: Assault on Neiva-Puerto Salgar pipeline.
- Feb. 11: In Arauca, narco-terrorists destroyed heavy machinery, storage tank and crane of the company, Integral de Servicios.
- Feb. 12: The ELN claimed responsibility for the bombing of the Alvarado oil pipeline in northern Tolima department.

The southern jungle department of Caquetá, heavily penetrated by the FARC, is a veritable laboratory for Moscow's irregular warfare experiments; the cultivation and refining of cocaine is the primary economic activity of the population, and the source of funding for the FARC terrorists. Caquetá is also key strategically, connecting the mountainous zone of the Andes with both the eastern plains and the Amazon jungle region of the country.

Caquetá is divided into virtual "independent republics" under the armed occupation of the FARC; only a combined military offensive and economic recovery effort on the part of the national government could turn this around. Even with the government's appointment of an active general as governor, International Monetary Fund-dictated austerity makes it unlikely that a development program capable of winning back the population will be effected.

Under such circumstances, the FARC intends to use the March 13 elections to consolidate its strangle-hold. During the course of a single week in mid-January, nearly a half-dozen elected officials and local candidates in the department were murdered by the FARC. The message is being read loud and clear by non-Communist candidates across the country.

International Intelligence

Japan adjusts to U.S. military disengagement

The Japanese military wants to develop the capability to fend off a Soviet attack on the northern island of Hokkaido without help from the United States, according to a report appearing Feb. 29 in the daily *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and covered in the *Washington Times*.

A secret Defense Agency study reportedly calls for the Japan Self-Defense Forces to change their focus from a land-based defense strategy in the north, to one based on an "active response at an advanced position," to intercept enemy attacks off Hokkaido. The plan emphasizes air power and recommends deployment from Hokkaido of vessels with surface-to-ship missiles capable of withstanding air attacks.

Yomiuri quoted the study as saying that a Soviet attack on Hokkaido would probably come amid open conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States in Europe or the Middle East, and thus help from Washington would be delayed.

The Japanese shift is seen as an adjustment to the perceived U.S. military withdrawal from its commitments abroad. In a related development, on March 3 an agreement was signed between Japan and the United States, which requires Japan to pay all benefits and allowances for the 21,000 Japanese workers at U.S. military bases in Japan, including transportation, housing, and retirement expenses.

The United States will continue to pay the salaries of the workers. Japan's financial contribution will amount to about 40% of the annual cost of maintaining U.S. bases in Japan, once the protocol is fully implement-

Helga Zepp-LaRouche in German election drive

The principal candidate of the Patriots for Germany party in the state election campaign in Baden-Württemberg, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, delivered a brief television broadcast on March 4, warning that West Germany is in danger of falling under Soviet domination. Mrs. LaRouche is the wife of U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

"Through the incompetence of the acting politicians," she said, "the Federal Republic of Germany is threatened with falling into an existential crisis."

Baden-Württemberg Minister President Lothar Spaeth wants to become chancellor, she said. "But at what price? This he showed when he fell on his knees in Moscow: We are producing for the Russians at prices which they fix, and they pay with loans, which we give them! Spaeth has the circles of high finance gathered around him, and tells them, like Hjalmar Schacht at the end of the Weimar Republic: 'To the cashiers, gentlemen.'

"[Bavarian Minister President Franz-Josef] Strauss and Spaeth are capitulating to Moscow. We Patriots for Germany are not!

"We have an economic program, which brings our industry and agriculture back to full bloom through the implementation of a New Just World Economic Order, and which brings economic policy back into harmony with Christian morality. We need a reorganization of debts and new credit with low interest rates for investments in industry and agriculture. . . .

"We want neither Finlandization, nor neutralism under Moscow's rule. . . .

"Vote for the Patriots for Germany!"

Non-Russians purged in Soviet Kazakhstan

The chief daily newspaper of Soviet Kazakhstan, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, has published a report by the regional Communist Party official in charge of security affairs, which reveals that extensive purges have been ongoing there, ousting non-Russian officials from positions of power. Thousands of people have been purged in the 15 months since the riots in Alma Ata, when leadership of the Party was taken over by a Russian, Gennadi Kolbin.

"The days are over," the paper reported, when Kazakhs constituted a two-thirds ma-

jority of police, prosecutors, and judicial personnel. To date, 5,000 officials have been turned over to the courts, of which 4,700 have so far been convicted and jailed for theft; 330 others have been convicted for receiving bribes; 18 million rubles of illegally acquired property have been confiscated; 184 judges, 18 state prosecutors, and 1,800 police officers have been purged.

"In the past year," according to the report, "14,000 rifles and pistols of various types have been seized from the population, from people who had no legal right to possess them." The victims of these purges have been almost exclusively Kazakhs.

Tens of thousands of Kazakh private farmers have been ordered to pay back the cost of state feed grain they had used without paying, to feed their privately owned camels, horses, and cows. This operation yielded 5 million rubles for the state coffers.

Russia's 'Pamyat' leader spouts Nazi venom

D.C. Vasiliev, the head of Russia's anti-Semitic and chauvinistic Pamyat Society, gave an interview to the Italian daily *La Repubblica* published on Feb. 26, laying out his unabashed Nazi world view.

"Great Russia is where we will fight to the last drop of blood" to stamp out those traitors who are "at the mercy of the Cosmopolitanists and the American dollar," he avowed. "Pamyat was born in Russia. But in reality these problems are international, in view of the fact that there exists an evil force that wants to construct its own power on the ruins of the older world cultures. Once Lenin said, 'Proletariat of the world, unite!'; today Pamyat says, 'Patriots of the world, unite!' "

Vasiliev added that "Jews are everywhere, they are parasites, emigrate freely . . . and are always described as victims. No one cares about the Russian people. . . . Just read the Protocols of Zion, to understand." Asked, "Who invented the gas chambers?" Vasiliev replied simply, "The Jews."

Vasiliev said that Pamyat was against

"scientific and technological progress," because it leads to weapons. "Chernobyl has taught us," he said, to be for environmental protection, "against nuclear energy," to avoid "producing a big bang like Chernobyl."

According to Vasiliev's claim, Pamyat currently has about 20,000 members. "But if the government allowed us to be registered, we would number in the millions!"

He admitted that the society has "personal contacts" in high places, including in the KGB.

India boosts its defense capability

A chain of low-altitude radars is to be installed along the entire India-Pakistan border by the Indian Defense Organization, as part of an elaborate new air defense system, the *Hindustan Times* reported on Feb. 26.

Work on installing this system is expected to begin in June, and the three-year project is to be completed by mid-1991. The radars, capable of detecting movements of low-flying aircraft, have been indigenously designed and fabricated by the public defense sector enterprise, Bharat Electronics Ltd. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is understood to be anxious that the project be rushed through and completed ahead of schedule.

In a related development, India on Feb. 25 successfully test-fired the "Prithvi" tactical surface-to-surface missile, and thereby joined the group of four nations which have developed this class of missiles. It has a range of 250 km, with different types of payload warheads. Compared to other missiles of this class, it has the best warhead-to-weight ratio, Indian defense officials report.

Soviets said to expect early crisis in Iran

Several well-informed European sources told this news service at the beginning of March, that Soviet reactions to developments in Soviet Central Asia and in the AfghanistanPakistan crisis are increasingly being shaped by anticipation of a major new strategic crisis soon to break out in Iran, possibly triggered by the death of Ayatollah Khomeini.

One senior British source said that Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan would almost certainly mean chaos there. This is even more problematic, given the current unrest in Soviet Central Asia, and "under conditions where the Soviets think Khomeini will die soon. This will mean chaos in Iran, and chaos spreading in the region. The Soviet military wants its air bases in Afghanistan to be able to reach the Gulf with intermediate-range missiles, to be able to counter any American move that might happen under conditions of chaos and crisis.

"In my view, there might be a movement to get Gorbachov out of power, before there are troops pulled out of Afghanistan, so the military can ensure a situation where the bases can stay."

Philippines coalition forms against U.S. bases

A new coalition was launched in the Philippines on Feb. 27, calling itself the Campaign for a Sovereign Philippines, and demanding the closure of U.S. military bases when the current lease expires in September 1991.

The group includes militant leftists, one senator, and a retired Supreme Court justice.

In a letter sent to President Corazon Aquino, the coalition said, "No amount of economic aid promised in exchange for the bases can possibly overcome the destabilizing process that they bring, not to mention the incalculable social cost which they exact in terms of our people's health, morals, and psychological dependency."

The Soviet news agency Tass has noted happily the renewed demands for ousting the United States. On Feb. 26, correspondent A. Kiselev reported on a conference of the Coalition for a Nuclear-Free Philippines, which is devoted to "a campaign for eliminating U.S. military presence on the Philippine archipelago."

Briefly

- TURKEY announced on Feb. 27 the extension of its pact with the United States, allowing American air bases and monitoring stations along the Soviet border to continue until 1990. A letter setting out terms for the continuation of the 1980 agreement had been signed one year ago.
- THE WEST GERMAN Ministry of Defense on Feb. 24 issued a press release noting that "broad use of the electromagnetic spectrum will give battlefield combat new dimensions." The note appeared in a listing of projects for the new Armed Forces structure, which is to be completed by 1995.
- ALFRED TOPFER, a Hamburg-based grain trader with extensive operations in the East bloc, apologized for Nazi Germany's having broken the Hitler-Stalin Pact, in a letter to the editor of the daily *Die Welt* published on March 4. "Let us never forget," he wrote, "our inmeasurable guilt: the totally unprovoked and unilateral breaking of a common treaty in 1939."
- 'THE GREAT MOTHER in the Land of Satan,' was the headline of a Feb. 25 article in the Italian daily *Il Giornale*, describing a three-day conference in Turin, the world capital of satanism. The conference was held at the Club Turati, home of the Socialist Party, under the patronage of local banks and government agencies. Speakers included followers of Carl Gustav Jung and Karl Kerenyi.
- A MEMORANDUM of understanding was signed between the U.S.S.R. and Canada on Feb. 10, enabling the Canadian Justice Ministry to gather "evidence" in the U.S.S.R. for use in Canada against alleged war criminals. Similar Soviet agreements with the United States and Great Britain have allowed the KGB to introduce forged documents against political targets in the West. Canada's justice minister, Attorney General Ray Hnatyshyn, is of Ukrainian origin.

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PIRNational

U.S. ditches sanity in Panama Canal grab

by Gretchen Small

Teddy Roosevelt rides again in Washington. Reagan administration officials have declared that the United States will use whatever means required, up to and including full trade embargo and military intervention, if that's what it takes to drive Defense Force Commander Gen. Manuel Noriega from power in Panama. No Reagan policy yet has won such avid support from the liberal side of the aisle, including Democratic, as has this one.

If someone didn't know Panama had a population of 2 million, and has been one of the friendliest in the world to the United States since its founding, he might think the United States had declared war on its ultimate enemy.

From Brussels, Secretary of State George Shultz labeled Noriega "bad news for the region," and ordered him to quit. His Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs, Elliott Abrams, warned that Panama will soon find Noriega "too expensive a luxury" to keep in office. President Reagan endorsed Shultz's declaration that Noriega must go.

Visas for Panamanian diplomats representing the government which holds power in Panama, have been canceled. On March 2, the State Department ordered Panamanian government assets in United States banks frozen, and transferred the first \$10 million to the U.S. Federal Reserve. An estimated \$50 million was effectively frozen in this action, as the State Department threatened that any bank which disbursed funds to "the Noriega government," will be liable in federal courts for that money, if the "legitimate government" recognized by the State Department chooses to sue.

The seizure was described as the first in "a campaign of economic warfare intended to create a cash flow crisis for Panama." Fees, taxes, and other payments made to Panama's government abroad will also be confiscated, officials announced, adding that Panama's share of Canal revenues will not be disbursed, as required under the 1979 Panama Canal treaties.

On March 3, U.S. troops seized the canal administration building, without consulting the Panamanian Defense Forces, as required under the treaties, using the pretext of a bomb scare. Although they left within hours, this, plus the seizing of Panama's share of canal revenues, delivered the message: The United States does not consider the treaties legally binding.

All this has been done in the name of "President in hiding" Eric Arturo Delvalle, a man who has not been seen, except in video recordings, since he refused to step down after Panama's National Assembly deposed him on Feb. 26 for taking orders from a foreign power. Juan B. Sosa, his "ambassador," issues declarations only after meeting with Elliott Abrams, while Kissinger Associates partner William D. Rogers now serves as the official spokesman for the phantom "government in hiding."

President Manuel Solis Palma, named as Delvalle's replacement, has already put together a national coalition with broader support than any government since Omar Torrijos died in 1981. Delvalle's call for support failed utterly; he has failed to rally the opposition movement behind him, never mind any popular forces or even a faction of the military. Yet the Reagan administration has declared, that it is its State Department which decides who rules in Panama.

Around the world, ridicule of the United States' new war is increasing, as the level of U.S. firepower deployed against Panama grows. The Reagan administration "appears to have miscalculated badly in the latest moves against General Noriega," wrote London's *Independent* on Feb. 27. The United States' Panama policy makes the Reagan administration look "ridiculous," France's *Le Monde* commented on Feb. 29. From London the same day, the *Sunday Times* told its readers that opposition to Noriega is still a "rather middle-class affair," not supported by "the majority of citizens. . . . The United States may for the moment have to live with General

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Noriega's apparent survival," they suggest.

Jornal do Brasil summarized the estimate of many in a March 2 editorial, entitled "Small Enemies." They wrote: "The melancholy thing in all this is to see how the Reagan administration once more chooses the wrong enemy and sinks itself into the Central American swamp. . . . The final result is a diplomatic defeat for the White House. . . . The United States has a lot to lose—and nothing to win—in this."

As usual these days, however, if the U.S. political elite declares the Moon to be made of green cheese, all U.S. allies are required to agree. On March 4, news services reported that Japan's Foreign Ministry had announced that Japan recognizes President Solis Palma's government as the legitimate government. By mid-morning, the U.S. Senate was in an uproar. Abrams called in the Japanese chargé d'affaires, and ordered Japan to change policy. A shaken chargé d'affaires emerged from the meeting to announce that his Foreign Ministry would be informed in full on his meeting, claiming that Japan had not recognized the Solis Palma government.

The method in the madness

The situation may indeed be ludicrous, but it would be a mistake to dismiss it as merely error. This war against Panama begins the last phase of implementation of the New Yalta deal, which the crazed U.S. establishment believes it has struck with Moscow. Under that supposed deal, outlined by the late Yuri Andropov in April 1983, America withdraws from its entanglements in the Old World, to fight whatever wars it pleases in the Americas—what some consider the U.S. "back yard."

Indeed, Shultz's brave threats against Panama were issued from the Brussels NATO meeting, which the Reagan administration called to force its European allies to accept the INF treaty, which begins U.S. withdrawal from Western Europe. From that meeting, an advance team left for Moscow to begin preparing for the planned mid-May Reagan-Gorbachov summit. At the same time, in Southwest Asia, American diplomats were pressuring the Pakistani government to accept Russia's terms for its new deal in Afganistan. In the Persian Gulf, U.S. naval forces are already sailing home, leaving behind a scaled-down force more appropriate, Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci argues, to the diminished budget of a declining power.

Instead of defending Western allies and itself against Soviet advances around the globe, U.S. military might is being deployed to depose and impose governments in the developing sector, with special rights in Central and South America. A Wall Street Journal editorial of March 1 specified that the United States cannot rule out the use of military force against Panama, precisely because military force may be required for action against other "General Noriegas" in the region.

Indeed, the precedents set in this absurd war are as astounding as they are dangerous. Despite numerous threats, this is the first time in six years of the debt crisis, for example,

that government assets and revenues abroad have been seized, on the high seas as it were.

Congress, however, is busy preparing even tougher measures against Panama. On March 4, six senators sent to the floor legislation imposing a total U.S. trade embargo on Panama, a country which sends 60% of its exports to the United States. The move was prepared by that "strange bedfellows" alliance of Sens. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.), and the ultraliberal junior senator from Massachusetts, Democratic John Kerry, which has been leading the congressional charge against Panama.

"What you have to do is begin to precipitate a larger crisis, frankly," Kerry claims. "Because without the larger crisis, the kind of real economic pressure and other things that have to happen will not be brought to bear. . . . I mean cutting off landing rights . . . moving to prevent the Federal Reserve from transferring funds" to Panama.

The Ibero-American factor

Will the strategy succeed? "There is no doubt we can make Panama miserable with rigid sanctions," one nervous administration official told the *Baltimore Sun* on March 1. "The question is whether that will be enough to convince the officers supporting Noriega that he must go. There is an additional consideration of whether, having done that, there will be a lasting resentment against the United States for having caused the misery."

The question of Panama's survival, depends now on how the rest of Ibero-America responds to the crisis. The initial reaction, throwing regional support behind the hypocritical U.S. cries about democracy, has shifted, as the Panama war becomes increasingly viewed as an assault on the principle of sovereignty itself.

Brazil has quietly recognized the Solis Palma government, the Brazilian press reported March 2. Likewise, the Cerezo government in Guatemala, one of the initial backers of the U.S. moves against Panama at the Organization of American States, later issued a statement granting de facto recognition to the new regime in Panama. Guatemala follows the Estrada Doctrine, which specifies that governments maintain relations with countries, not individuals, President Vinicio Cerezo announced.

An editorial in Mexico's prestigious newspaper, Excelsior, reflected the reassessment. "The Panama crisis is taking an extremely dangerous course," it wrote. "The fact that attack helicopters have begun arriving at the U.S. military base cannot be interpreted except as a show of force to intimidate the Panamanian army and possibly, later, to be used for armed intervention.

"For the Panamanian people and all of Ibero-America, military intervention would represent a brutal regression of unimaginable magnitude. It must not occur under any justification. If would be equivalent to extending the stain of the Central American conflict to the South, and to project an ominous shadow over the hopes of the entire subcontinent."

Book Review

Fighting cancer, or fighting culture?

by Janet West

The Dread Disease Cancer and Modern American Culture

by James T. Patterson Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1987 380 pp. hardcover, \$25.95

This book is worth reading, though not for reasons one might at first think. Patterson presents an overview of reactions to cancer in the United States throughout the last century, beginning with the death by cancer of Gen. U.S. Grant in 1885. He then details the establishment of the American Cancer Society (formerly the American Society for the Control of Cancer), the National Institutes of Health, and the National Cancer Institute. He documents the fight waged by the people associated with these institutions, scientists, and politicians for increased funding for research, and against the fear and superstition of much of the population.

Patterson presents an enormously detailed work, seemingly taking great pains to present an objective and balanced viewpoint. After all, he is writing a history. However, as in any history, the pattern of what is excluded is as important as what is written. Despite his detail, he excludes any mention of the very promising recent developments at the frontiers of biology—optical biophysics. And, despite the book's title, he also excludes discussion of the actual culture upon which this nation is based.

The true subject of this book is the cultural shift that has occurred in the United States, in particular, in the last two decades, against the defense of human life. Patterson favorably describes the last two decades of environmentalism, with kooks such as Rachel "Silent Spring" Carson arguing that human industry causes cancer and advocating "treatments" that involve less medical care and less technology.

Cancer, for many centuries, has been viewed as the paradigm of a death sentence. As Patterson quotes others' descriptions:

"Fears of the disease stemmed from the belief by doctors and laymen alike that it was an alien and living invader that gave little or no warning before 'eating' into people. . . . To

most Americans, it remained an insidious, mysterious, indiscriminating, impoverishing and painfully wasting disease that could hit anywhere, anytime, and could not be arrested once it appeared."

In confronting a disease such as cancer, what is immediately brought to the fore is, will one, will one's society and culture, fight for life?

The conception of the sanctity of human life, and the defense of that idea, was the cornerstone of the Golden Renaissance; it was later epitomized by our own Declaration of Independence, the Preamble and the U.S. Constitution; the ideal echoes throughout Western civilization. Strangely, in Patterson's representation of American culture, this idea is ignored. Oh, certainly, he discusses the battle of researchers and scientists to find a cure; he notes how the fight against cancer used to be favorably compared with the Manhattan Project—that it required the same level of resources as to solve the mysteries of the atom; and was later compared to the effort to land a man on the Moon. Patterson also relates how, with the advent of new diagnostics and treatment, such as radioactive isotopes, those who put themselves forward as "guinea pigs," did not do so out of despair, but out of hope that this could lead to medical breakthroughs for those who came after them.

However, time and again, Patterson mocks the cultural optimism of Americans: "Americans taking on professional and white collar tasks in the cities began to chafe at the confining routines that regulated their lives. Living in a society of ever greater abundance, they rejected restraints. They began to think that there might be no limit to the potential of the body, no finite amount of energy to be harnassed and utilized." He adds, "Financial resources underwrote a new growth industry of cancer research in the late 1940s and 1950s. Then—at last—the alliance against cancer achieved visibility and political power in American life. While that power rested most broadly on the strength of contemporary cultural values—faith in medical science and expectations about good health—it was distinctively American in its assurance . . . that money and improvements in medical technology could conquer anything. . . . The postwar years were increasingly prosperous, confident and patriotic—years of assertive and distinctively American positive thinking."

He continues, "[John] Cairns was especially pessimistic about popular reactions to prevention campaigns. Like many experts, he was persuaded that the surest ways to avoid the disease were to stop smoking and to eat more balanced diets. But millions of people refused to heed such advice. Their behavior demonstrated a constant feature of the modern social history of cancer: durability of personal habits. Most people clung to established life-styles, especially those which gave them great pleasure. With so much to enjoy in the affluent society, they were often more intent on gratifying themselves in the here and now than on worrying about the long-range costs of self-indulgent behavior."

The book leaves little doubt as to which side Patterson is

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on. He includes long references to "legitimate" environmental dangers. "The accident at Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania and discovery of toxic chemicals dumped at Love Canal, further awakened the public sense that environmental pollution could lead to terminal disease."

He praises Rachel Carson. "Fueling the environmentalist movement was the growing feeling that industrial growth was dangerous in itself. This belief drew heavily on the eloquent arguments of Rachel Carson [whose arguments are fatally flawed-JGW] whose Silent Spring [1962] was the key document of the new environmentalism." "Not until the culturally tumultuous late 1960s and the economically unsettled 1970s—decades of growing doubts about American institutions—were environmentalists able to get much of a hearing."

He then contradicts himself. "Americans had always idealized the countryside and been ambivalent about industrialization and the city." And in general, he treats the environmentalist movement as a legitimate contender in the arena of cancer policy, arising "spontaneously" on the American political scene.

An incredible assertion

Toward the end of the book, Patterson makes a most incredible assertion: "Only one development in the 1980s seemed to have the power to eclipse fears of cancer in America. That was the eruption of . . . AIDS." By 1986, he continued "the head of the World Health Organization [stated] 'We stand nakedly in front of a very serious pandemic as mortal as any pandemic there has ever been.' Federal officials calculated in 1986 that at least 1,500,000 Americans were already infected by AIDS, and predicted that five to ten million Americans would be infected by the end of 1991." Patterson continues, "If AIDS were to become epidemic in the United States, it was certain that cancer would lose some of its hold on the fears and imaginations of the American people. By 1987, however, no such epidemic had occurred." (Emphasis added)"

On the contrary, the extent of the spread of AIDS is being concealed from the American people, by agreement of government and the medical establishment, which—like Mr. Patterson—appears not to care much for the value of human life, when that conflicts with budgetary constraints or ideological commitments. Patterson admits he is no scientist. But he endorses the environmentalist mythos that places "crimes against nature" above crimes against humanity, and cruelly uses fears of cancer to oppose scientific and technological progress ("industry causes cancer").

This book can serve as a case study, on how the omission of the idea of the sacredness of human life and the uncompromising nature of the fight for life—the cultural superiority of Western civilization—can shape what a person, or a generation, thinks is possible for mankind to accomplish. The deadliest, most insidious cancer is the cultural pessimism Patterson purveys.

Books Received

Armed and Dangerous: The Rise of the Survivalist Right, by James Coates. Hill and Wang, N.Y., 1987. \$17.95 hardbound, 294 pages.

Pepper: Eyewitness to a Century, by Claude Denson Pepper with Hays Gory. Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, N.Y., 1987. \$17.95 hardbound, 336 pages.

The Body Victorious, by Lennart Nilsson in collaboration with Jan Lindberg. Delacorte Press, N. Y., 1987. \$25 hardbound, 196 pages.

Hitler: Memoirs of a Confidant, by Otto Wagner, edited by Henry Ashby Turner, Jr., translated by Ruth Hein. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn., and London, 1987. \$13.95, 333 pages.

Mikhail Bakunin: A Study in the Psychology and Politics of Utopianism, by Aileen Kelly. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn., and London, 1987. \$14.95 paperbound, 320 pages.

AIDS and the Law: A Guide for the Public, edited by Harlon L. Dalton, Scott Burris, and the Yale AIDS Law Project. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn., 1987. \$22.50 hardbound, \$7.95 paperbound, 382 pages.

AH-1 (Modern Fighting Aircraft, Vol. 13), by Doug Richardson, A Prentice Hall Press Arco Military Book, N.Y., 1987. \$12.95 hardbound, 64 pages.

An Illustrated Guide to Tank Busters, by Mike Spick and Bruce Quarry. A Prentice Hall Press Arco Military Book, N.Y., 1987. \$10.95 hardbound, 155 pages.

An Illustrated Guide to Modern Fighters and Attack Aircraft, by Bill Gunston. A Prentice Hall Press Arco Military Book, N.Y., 1987. \$10.95 hardbound, 151 pages.

William C. Norris, Portrait of a Maverick, Founder of Control Data Corporation, by James C. Worthy. Ballinger Publishing Co., Cambridge, Mass., 1987. \$19.95 hardbound, 259 pages.

The Messianic Legacy, by Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh, and Henry Lincoln. Henry Holt and Co., Inc., N.Y., 1987. \$19.95 hardbound, 364 pages.

Rayburn: A Biography, by D.B. Hardeman and Donald C. Bacon. Texas Monthly Press, Austin, Texas, 1987. \$21.95 hardbound, 554 pages.

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Eye on Washington by Nicholas F. Benton

NATO 'unity' achieved through isolation

One of the stranger phenomena at the March 2-3 NATO summit in Brussels was the complete lack of interaction, outside the heads of government meetings themselves, between public officials either with each other or with the press of the 16 nations in the allliance

You would think this would be a golden opportunity for officials and the press of the various countries to get to know each other better. No one needs more exposure to other nations' points of view than the tunnel-visioned U.S. press corps.

Therefore, this reporter went to Brussels expecting many opportunities to be briefed and ask questions of foreign spokesmen or to engage in discussions with foreign journalists. I was in for a big surprise.

Each nation's official delegation stayed at a different location, holed up with the press from that country.

The U.S. press corps was briefed on only what President Reagan had to say during the first day of the summit, for example. Most U.S. journalists had to wait to read the London newspapers to find out what British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said. This made it easy for the United States, in particular, to insist that virtually flawless unity was the watchword of the summit.

I found out from a press liaison person at the U.S. embassy in Brussels that the isolation was routine and intentional. Similar procedures apply to almost every gathering of NATO, no matter at what level, he said. If they want to display unity, they keep everyone apart. If someone wants to

make an issue out of a difference among them, then they will send someone over to the press of a different country to brief them.

They keep everyone apart because they don't want reporters prying open strong differences that may lie just below the surface between many of the countries—as is the case now.

The situation reached its extreme at the end of the one-and-a-half day summit. Only the press conference in the cramped main room at NATO headquarters by NATO Secretary Lord Carrington had any kind of international press representation.

Starting with the statement read by President Reagan and the handful of questions taken by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, all the other press conferences were open only to the press of the country involved. Only British press were allowed into Margaret Thatcher's press conference, only West German press into Helmut Kohl's, and so forth. Most of the government heads gave their press conferences simultaneously, to their nations' press corps in tiny conference rooms at the NATO facility.

The lone exception to this pattern came 24 hours after almost everyone else left town. As a result of separate bilateral talks between Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou that followed the summit, the two held separate press conferences open to all press the next day.

There was great confusion at first whether or not they would hold a joint press conference, but the deep and abiding differences between 'auOzal and the pro-Soviet Papandreou prevented this. They came before the press only to read a 10-point statement which contained almost no significant progress in their relations; then each held his own press conference—first, Papandreou at the European Economic

Community press room, then Özal down the street at the International Press Center.

This reporter was the only American-based journalist at either press conference, it turned out.

I found out, by asking Papandreou, that he still considers Turkey a greater threat to Greek national security than the Warsaw Pact. I then asked him how much he continued to be influenced by Michel Raptis, also known as Michel Pablo, the well-known Trotskvite head of the KKE, the Greek Communist Party of the exterior. Papandreou's aide interjected that the premier would not answer that question because it was not on the subject of the press conference. But Papandreou couldn't help but comment. He said the question was "tasteless," and left it hanging.

Predictably, this resulted in my being deluged by other journalists, mostly Greeks, after the press conference, wanting more information. "He didn't deny the relationship, did he?" I reminded them. "He could easily have denied any connection and removed all doubt. But he failed to do so."

Later, at Özal's press conference, I asked the Turkish premier if he would accept a question about his impressions of the NATO summit as a whole, since if he did it would be the only question taken by a NATO head of state from an international audience of iournalists. Özal's comments on the summit were not profound—other than to confirm that the basis of the summit was the desire of the Europeans to receive reassurances from the United States. However, they came as a breath of fresh air to this reporter, who finally got to do what he came to Brussels for-to talk to my foreign press colleagues and to question foreign heads of state about matters of urgency on their minds.

Elephants & Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

Candidates macho it out over Panama policy

The Republican candidates—or what's left of them—are engaged in a pathetic war-of-the-words to see who can sound the toughest regarding Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega.

During the Republican Party debate Feb. 28, Bob Dole called for a trade embargo against Panama, while Jack Kemp said the United States should not turn over the Panama Canal, as the treaty signed in 1979 calls for, unless Noriega is ousted.

"If the Panamanians want to keep Noriega, the United States of America is going to keep the Panama Canal," Kemp blustered. Dole tried to outdo that with the statement: "We ought to give Noriega 30 days to get out of Panama or tell them we're going to have a trade embargo."

Dole was even more demagogic in a Feb. 26 campaign statement. "It's time to send this no-nonsense, nobluff, no-compromise message to Panama: The U.S. has had enough of Noriega; and will have nothing to do with any phony civilian, Noriegapuppet government."

This, mind you, is the same Dole who is leading the fight in the Senate for ratification of the INF treaty, and who has energetically promoted the sale of U.S. farm goods to Moscow at bargain-basement prices. One can only assume that he thinks Russia has a freely elected, democratic government, which is why the United States can do business with the Kremlin, but not with one of its staunchest allies in Central America.

George "I'm no wimp" Bush suggested they consider military intervention against Noriega. Campaigning in Greenville, South Carolina, Feb. 26, he said the United States should reserve the right to do "whatever is necessary, including military force," to protect its "sacred" interests in Panama.

Dole has decided to up the ante by trying to link Bush to Noriega. At a March 2 press conference, Dole asked whether Noriega was "on the [CIA] payroll" when Bush ran the agency. Dole elaborated that Bush's former chief of staff, retired Adm. Daniel Murphy, "represented Panama" and that there is "some evidence that [Noriega] was on the CIA payroll for some time."

Dole's charges produced an unexpected reaction. Bush press secretary Peter Teeley replied, "This campaign with him [Dole] is beginning to sound like a campaign with Lyndon H. LaRouche."

The Bush camp appears to have LaRouche on the brain. Bush has publicly attacked the Democratic presidential candidate numerous times over the course of the past six months or so. Just how much of an obsession the vice president has, was underscored during the final days of the New Hampshire campaign, when Bush replied to a question about his ties to the Council on Foreign Relations and Trilateral Commission by ranting about LaRouche's role in circulating this information.

LaRouche challenges Bush to debate

Charging that "the clock is ticking away on Bush," LaRouche told a Baton Rouge, Louisiana press conference March 3 that he was fed up with Bush's cowardly "going behind my back" and challenged him to a debate before the March 8 Super Tuesday primaries.

The real issue of the campaign, LaRouche said, is the economic collapse otherwise known as the "Reagan-Bush recovery," especially in the oil-producing states. LaRouche repeated his proposal for a parity price for oil, scoring Bush for opposing this obvious solution to the collapse of the domestic U.S. energy industry.

LaRouche sent the debate challenge to Bush via a telegram later that day. "You and your office have repeatedly caused public and false attacks on me to appear in the news," it read. "If you are man enough, you will accept my challenge to a debate before the citizens of this country on the subject of a \$26 per barrel trigger price for oil before the 'Super Tuesday' primaries. If the debate has not occurred by sundown on Monday, you will go down in history in the eyes of citizens of this country as a yellow dog."

Al Gore receives New Republic endorsement

The magazine which spearheaded American liberals' love affair with Benito Mussolini in the 1920s and '30s has found a new hero—Albert Gore. The *New Republic*, which lavished praise on the fascist dictator, and whose former owner, Michael Straight, openly admitted several years ago that he had been recruited by Soviet intelligence, endorsed Gore's presidential bid in its March 7 issue.

Why? Because of the Tennessee senator's "mastery" of arms control, his "fixation . . . on the disappearing ozone layer, toxic wastes, and other threats to the environment," and, most of all, the fact that "Russian politicians, scientists, and strategists whom he has met have been impressed."

Congressional Closeup by Kathleen Klenetsky

Deal struck on INF pact

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) has struck a deal with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is aimed at ensuring that opponents of the INF treaty are unable to add any crippling amendments to the pact before it reaches the Senate floor.

Byrd and other key Democratic leaders reportedly agreed last week that the Foreign Relations panel will permit only one condition—not even an amendment—to be added to the treaty, when the panel reports it out to the Senate floor this spring.

The condition would prohibit any future reinterpretation of the treaty, unless the Senate agrees—a condition addressed as much to the issue of interpreting the 1972 ABM treaty as to the INF pact itself.

One of the primary purposes of Byrd's maneuver is to block Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and other treaty critics from trying to push through so-called "killer amendments" at the committee level. The hope is that by establishing a consensus against any such amendments at the committee level, the panel will be able to present a united front in favor of the treaty when it comes to the floor. Helms, who is the ranking Republican on the Foreign Relations panel, has not yet indicated whether he will fight Byrd's maneuver.

Canada-U.S. free-trade accord in rough waters

The free-trade agreement signed by President Reagan and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney Jan. 2 is coming under fire in the Senate, which has the option of rejecting the pact, if it sees fit.

Particularly dismayed are senators

representing Western states, who charge that the highly touted accord will destroy many of their region's key industries, which are already suffering the ravages of the U.S. depression.

One particular concern is the American uranium industry, which is all but dead, thanks to the war which the eco-freaks have waged on nuclear power for the last two decades. Critics of the trade agreement have warned that it could spell the end of the domestic uranium industry, because the accord would make Canadian imports significantly cheaper than the U.S. product.

Sens. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Pete Domenici (R-N.M.), along with more than 20 of their colleagues, sent a letter to President Reagan in late February saying they want the United States to tie some of the tariff reductions which the pact provides for, to the elimination of Canadian subsidies for specific natural resource industries.

The letter specifically calls on Canada to end subsidies for metals, coal, and wheat, and demands protection for the U.S. uranium and oil and gas industries.

Baucus told the Feb. 22 Wall Street Journal that he and the other signators think the trade accord is "fine for the East, it's good for financial interests and manufacturing. But," he asserted, "it doesn't help the industries important to our region, like non-ferrous metals, coal, plywood, uranium, wheat." Baucus cautioned, "If these problems aren't addressed, I'll be forced to oppose the agreement, and I believe that's the view of a good number of others in the group."

Led by Domenici, several signers of the letter to Reagan have introduced a bill, the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement Oil and Natural Gas Incentive Equalization Act of 1988, which is intended to correct what they

charge are major flaws in the energy section of the accord. In statements on the Senate floor Feb. 23, Domenici charged that the agreement "is not a good accord," because it does not eliminate the extensive subsidies which the Canadian government grants its oil and gas sectors. Domenici's bill would repeal the windfall profits tax, and extend various tax breaks and other incentives to U.S. oil and gas producers, to, as he put it, "conform the intent of the [free trade] agreement with the realities of the oil and natural gas marketplace in North America."

Unfortunately, the bill does not propose the most obvious solution to the economic collapse in U.S. oil and gas: a tariff on imported oil, which would put a \$26-per-barrel floor price under the American product.

Senate opposes Shultz's secret Afghanistan pact

A secret understanding on Afghanistan, which Secretary of State George Shultz forged with the Kremlin two years ago, was a little too much for even the U.S. Senate to swallow. Shultz had promised the Soviets that the United States would sever all assistance to the Afghani resistance on the first day that Moscow began to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

Responding to recent disclosures of Shultz's agreement, the Senate voted 77-0 Feb. 29 for a resolution urging the administration not to cut off aid to the mujahideen until all 115,000 Soviet troops are withdrawn.

The resolution also states that the Pakistani government "should not be put under any pressure to agree to Soviet terms for a settlement and that the future of Afghanistan should not be driven by the desire or schedule for a U.S.-Soviet summit."

Resolution sponsor Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.), had harsh words for

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the administration's eagerness to sell out the mujahideen. Shultz's deal is "foolish" and "dumb," he said. Why should we "terminate assistance to the resistance the day the Soviets begin their withdrawal, when the Soviets are under no reciprocal requirement. . . . That is a recipe for disaster."

Although the resolution is nonbinding, it could deter the administration from following through on Shultz's deal. Moreover, Byrd hinted that he might link INF ratification to the Afghanistan issue. "I'd like to know what's in these agreements before our government signs its names on the dotted line," he said. "And let me further say this: I'd like to know what's in this agreement before I call up this treaty, the INF treaty."

Burden-sharing' becomes hot topic on Hill

"Burden-sharing"—a euphemism employed by those who want the United States to abandon its commitment to the defense of its allies—has emerged as one of the hottest items on Capitol Hill. Legislators representing nearly every segment of the political spectrum are vying with one another to see who can make the toughest demands on Japan and Western Europe to cough up more money for the defense of the Western alliance.

Contending that the United States can no longer afford to maintain its commitment to NATO and other defense alliances, and that Japan and Western Europe have been getting a free ride from American taxpayers for decades, members of Congress are now demanding that these countries up their defense outlays, or face the withdrawal of American troops and other forms of assistance.

Lost in the demagogic debate are several pertinent facts, among them, that the bases which NATO members provide represent a contribution of billions of dollars yearly above and beyond their actual military budgets.

One of the ringleaders of the "burden-sharing" hoopla is Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.), who urged President Reagan, on the eve of his departure for the NATO summit in early March, "to begin talking about changing the nature of our relationship with our developed allies. The reality is we can no longer carry the burden of the free world's defense."

Shortly before, Schroeder wrote to a sympathetic Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci in February that, "A growing number of the American people feel abused by our allies. They feel that we spend a much greater portion of our wealth on the common defense; that we have too large a number of soldiers stationed on their territory; and that the allies use the money they save on defense to subsidize their trade, creating our enormous trade deficit."

Schroeder's involvement in the "burden-sharing" debate provides ample evidence that the real motive of those pushing the issue, is to justify a U.S. "decoupling" from its allies. The Colorado Democrat had introduced legislation two years running that would have halved the number of American troops in Europe.

Sen. James Sasser (D-Tenn.), a Schroeder crony, proposed two new burden-sharing initiatives to his Senate colleagues Feb. 22. One calls for ensuring that any conventional arms reduction agreement with Moscow give the United States, rather than her allies, "the largest share of approved weapons and troop cuts" in Europe. The United States, he said, should use future arms agreements to "reduce costly . . . deployments abroad and leave Europe more responsible for the defense of its own territory."

Sasser also proposed that the United States unload the cost of basing agreements with less wealthy coun-

tries, such as Turkey, on its allies, by getting NATO to set up a multilateral fund to make economic and security assistance payments to these countries. It would be financed by Europe, Japan, and the United States.

In early March, both the House and Senate Budget Committees held hearings on "burden-sharing." The latter went so far as to call Paul Kennedy to lecture them on why the United States should radically reduce its military commitments abroad. A Yale professor, Kennedy has just published a highly touted book, *The Rise and Fall of Great Nations*, which claims that the United States, like other "empires" of the past, is inevitably declining.

Repeal of Glass-Steagall clears Senate panel

Legislation to repeal the Glass-Steagall Act, which prohibits commercial banks from selling securities, cleared a key hurdle, when the Senate Banking Committee tentatively gave the green light to the measure during a closed-door session March. 1.

Sponsored by Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah), the legislation is one of the most controversial to be considered by Congress this year. It would once again permit a single entity to conduct both commercial banking and investment banking, something which Glass-Steagall banned during the 1930s depression.

The Garn bill still faces considerable obstacles, especially in the House, where several influential legislators, including Banking Committee chairman Fernand St Germain (D-R.I.) and Energy and Commerce Committee head John Dingell (D-Mich.) have expressed strong reservations about the potential damages which such broad deregulation of the banking industry could cause.

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National News

U.S. students rank poorly in science

According to results of an international science survey released on Feb. 29 by the National Science Foundation, American students in the 5th, 9th, and 12th grades perform poorly in science compared to their counterparts around the world.

These data bear out the observation of a recent visitor to the National Air and Space Museum, who found that children viewing the filmed landing of the lunar module on the Moon commented, "They are putting one over on us—this never really happened!"

American 5th graders in the survey ranked 8th among 15 countries, 9th graders placed 15th in a field of 16, and seniors placed last out of 14 countries. Advanced chemistry students placed 11th and second-year physics students were 9th among 13 countries.

"For a technologically advanced country, it would appear that a reexamination of how science is presented and studied is required," concluded the preliminary report of the Second International Science Study.

Witches take off, with help from Dukakis

The Witches' League for Public Awareness is launching a new public relations campaign, according to a report that appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of London on March 1, datelined New York. Spearheading the campaign is Miss Laurie Cabot, who was "recently designated by the Governor of Massachusetts, Mr. Michael Dukakis, as the 'Official Witch of Salem,' " the article explains.

Cabot is the central figure in the Witches' League for Public Awareness, and in the "world of 'Wicca,' the name some 100,000 American adherents to witchcraft prefer to apply to their religion." Cabot, "in her black robes, . . . hailed as a significant victory" the decision by Hollywood director Jim Henson to present a more 'enlightened' view

of witchcraft, in his screening of author Roald Dahl's novel, *The Witches*." This "landmark concession" caused "jubilation" in Salem, Massachusetts, "where witches were burned at the stake in colonial America."

Henson's letter to the Witches' League says, "We feel that witches have been portrayed as archetypes of evil in folklore and mythology. Knowing of your concern, however, we intend to incorporate into our script that the witches we are dealing with are not representative of those . . . who were connected with black magic."

The Telegraph adds that the Witches League "is about to launch an image-building campaign to enlighten those beyond the Wiccan circle. Witchcraft, the group's literature counsels, is a benign revival of pre-Christian West European paganism that was based on the ancient mother goddesses found in Wales and Ireland until the 12th century. It is, says Miss Cabot, a science, religion, philosophy, and art, and does not involve Devil worship."

Air Force: Soviets near to ABM 'breakout'

U.S. Air Force Intelligence has officially concluded that the Soviet Union is on the verge of a "breakout" of the ABM treaty, according to an editorial published in the Wall Street Journal on Feb. 25. Moscow is said to be nearly ready to deploy a nation-wide anti-missile system, which possibly could be in place next year.

"The finding," said the Journal, "is based on two new pieces of evidence: First, the Soviets are 'internetting' their early-warning radars. They have conducted 'hand-off exercises' in which the large phased-array radars like the controversial one at Krasnoyarsk pick up targets and alert the Flat Twin and Pawn Shop mobile radars that guide their SH-04 and SH-08 anti-missile intercentors.

"Second, the Soviets are mass producing the Flat Twin and Pawn Shop radars, though the ABM treaty limits them to two locations.

"Similarly, they are mass producing the SH-08, a relatively new supersonic missile that intercepts warheads within the atmos-

phere, with 500 such missiles already produced and 3,000 ultimately projected. The ABM treaty limits each side to only 100 interceptors of all types, and the Soviets also have the SH-04, which intercepts above the atmosphere, as well as other interceptors with both anti-aircraft and anti-missile capability."

"On arms control in general," the Journal pointed out, "the prospect of a Soviet ABM breakout raises once again the question of why we are negotiating new treaties with them when they are breaking the old ones."

Defense chief wants to close U.S. bases

Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci plans to set up a blue-ribbon commission to suggest foreign and domestic military bases for closing, the *Washington Times* reported on March 3. The commission, which would begin its work in November, will be headed by former Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) and former Rep. Jack Edwards (R-Ala.).

Some congressmen were wary of the plan. "I don't think it makes any difference" what a commission proposes, said Rep. Ron Dyson (D-Md.), who added that any base closing decisions will be made in Congress. Dyson is a member of the House Armed Services Committee. Alaska Republican Sen. Ted Stevens cautioned Carlucci and the Pentagon to "slow down," adding that the base-closing initiative could damage Carlucci's relations with Congress.

Abrahamson: Budget cuts set back SDI timetable

At a Pentagon press conference on Feb. 29, called to discuss initial data from the recent Delta 181 space experiment, Lt. Gen. James Abrahamson, the director of the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO), reported that budget cuts had delayed a decision to begin developing an SDI-style missile defense by one to two years, and had pushed back the earliest possible deploy-

ment to "slightly after" the mid-1990s.

Data from the Feb. 8 Delta 181 space experiment showed that it will be easier than originally thought for a missile defense system to pick out its targets. "My assessment is, it's going to be easier" than predicted to discriminate between real and false warheads, said Army Maj. Andrew Green, who directed the Feb. 8 mission. Data from the Delta 181 are still being transmitted to ground stations and have not yet been fully analvzed.

Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, on the other hand, has ordered a full-scale review of the SDI program to make sure it is "structured" correctly and has "reasonable goals"—in view of budget constraints.

Next President should aim for man on Mars

The United States needs a space-oriented president who wants to put men on Mars, says an op-ed in the Houston Chronicle Feb. 28. Its author was space expert Alcestis Oberg, wife of aerospace engineer James Oberg, currently working in the Space Shuttle program, and an expert on the Soviet space program. Alcestis Oberg has co-authored a book on space with her husband, and several of her own.

"Beware any candidate who doesn't have a space policy and refuses to say much of anything about it because it's not a 'major issue," she writes. "This is uninformed nonsense. . . . Beware, too, the candidate who says we have to solve the problems on Earth before we do anything about space. More nonsense. . . . Beware the candidate who suggests we go hand-in-hand to Mars with the Russians to promote international brotherhood and peace. Poppycock. . . . Beware the candidate who says he's going to change the leadership of NASA. This is a false issue. . . . Beware the candidate who savs he's for heavy-lift vehicles, for Earthmonitoring projects, for commercialization of space, but nothing more. That's actually less than the space policy we have now, and is guaranteed to keep the space program anemic.

"Who is the ideal presidential candidate, as far as space policy is concerned? For my

money, he would be a blend of John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson: An eloquent visionary and, at the same time, a practical, 'push-these-programs-through-Congress-orelse' doer. . . . My space ideal would articulate a bold new goal, probably a manned mission to Mars, in full knowledge that nobody will land there during his presidency, but also knowing that the technologies invented to get us there would serve us for any project in the inner solar system in the century to come. . . . He wouldn't be afraid to aim for it.

He would promise to forge a new alliance between government, academia, and industry. . . . This would require some really new and visionary strategy. But it would go fartoward improving our economic and educational posture in the world. . . . I dream of a leader who will pick up Kennedy's torch . . . and carry it forward into what we all wish will be a future full of opportunities, full of hope."

Space commander wants to ban space arms?

At a forum on space and national security at the Brookings Institution, Navy Vice Adm. William E. Ramsey, the deputy director of the U.S. Space Command, declared that a U.S.-Soviet treaty banning weapons from space was "a damn worthy goal," the Washington Post reported. "I think we should negotiate toward . . . no weapons in space,' Ramsey said. "We should have as a national objective . . . an environment in space where weapons are not introduced."

Ramsey is vice commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command as well as a deputy commander of the Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colo. In February, the command was assigned tentative responsibility for operating the potential U.S. missile shield being developed by the SDIO.

The confused admiral said he saw no conflict between his support for a space weapons ban and his potential responsibility for operating SDI weapons, saying: "I strongly favor continued research on SDI, which . . . has kept the Soviets at the negotiating table."

Briefly

- CASPAR WEINBERGER has ioined the 275-lawyer firm of Rogers & Wells, a firm spokesman announced from New York Feb. 29. The firm is headed by former Secretary of State William P. Rogers. The announcement said the former defense secretary "will not engage in any work involving federal government or defense contracts or any matters involving the Defense Department in any way." The firm specializes in international law and finance.
- RONALD REAGAN had another embarrassing moment at the NATO summit in Brussels March 3. Asked what he thought of the final communiqué, he said, "Haven't read it yet." Chief of Staff Howard Baker nudged him, and said they had read it the night before, and thought it was fine. "It's fine," the President said, turning back to the press.
- AIR FORCE Gen. Robert T. Herres, told a Brookings forum on space and national security in Washington that "chances are we would like to see" a negotiated limit on space weapons, if not a ban." Herres, who is vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also said that Paul Nitze's proposal to negotiate limits on SDI research was "not without merit . . . has some interesting ramifications,' and "certainly should not be summarily cast aside.'
- JACK KEMP, GOP presidential hopeful, announced March 3 that he would work for the repeal of the Panama Canal treaty, which is to give Panama control of the Canal Zone in the year 2000.
- IOWA'S CITIES, 68% of them. lost population during the 1980s; the same proportion grew in the 1970s. Among the hardest hit by the depopulation caused by the farm crisis was Cedar Falls, which declined by 9% from its 1980 census count.

Editorial

Colonize space!

Among the more bizarre responses reported to Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche's March 3 national television broadcast, "The Woman on Mars," was an editorial that appeared the following morning in the Roanoke Times and World News (Virginia). In dismissing the candidate's proposal that the United States establish a permanent Mars colony by 2027, thereby providing the "science driver" for gearing up the economy as a whole, the paper wrote: "A Mars colony would only complicate our lives. If we established it, we'd have to defend it. Eventually, the colonists would consider themselves Martians not Americans, and we'd have a revolution. After Independence, the country would demand foreign aid."

Although we suspect these words were penned tongue-in-cheek, they do express the ideological response of the "Adam Smith" crowd internationally to LaRouche's economic ideas—exactly like the original Adam Smith and the East India Company's responses to the establishment of a republic in the New World over 200 years ago. For our part, we are thrilled to endorse the program LaRouche put forward, for the reasons he stated at the end of the broadcast:

"The Mars project uses every frontier technology we might expect to develop during the coming 50 years of scientific research. That means, that the space program would be supplying our civilian industries with the most advanced technologies possible at the most rapid rate, putting the United States permanently in first place in technology."

"By putting all of these technologies into a single mission-oriented research and development project, we are able to ensure that the United States will be first in technology for 50 years to come. With this Mars program, we can assure every one of you that your children and grandchildren has the opportunity for a bright future. That, in my opinion, is the true mission of government."

Earlier in the broadcast, LaRouche stressed, "This is no Jules Verne dream," after an animated sequence showing a specially designed rocket plane, piggybacked on a "scramjet" taking off from a lighted run-

way. At the top of its flight, the scramjet releases the shuttle which then flies on its own power into low Earth orbit, reaching Mars in less than 48 hours. "Every step is based on technologies we shall have ready at the times this Mars project requires them."

The key to restoring to the Western nations a common purpose also lies in this program. LaRouche reports that the first problem in getting to Mars is to build a replacement for the present NASA Shuttle system that can put a ton of payload into geostationary orbit more cheaply, is safer and easier to launch and maintain, and can be made operational in a few years. This, he showed, will require the collaboration of German and Italian aerospace firms as well as our Japanese allies, to build the German-designed Sänger scramjet.

The development of this new shuttle system, noted LaRouche, means the early development of several new industries, and major improvements in the construction of ordinary automobiles as spin-offs, in addition to designs that would make civilian and military aircraft capable of reaching the most distant points in the world from the United States within a few hours. LaRouche also applied his professional skills as a physical economist to work out preliminary designs for the new cities to be built on Mars.

"With this kind of power, we can be assured of increasing the average output of wealth per person about ten times today's level, within a period of between one and two generations. As a result of this and other features of the project, we may expect to increase the average income of the United States by up to 10% per year average by some point during the coming years, with about 5% average growth in real income during the coming 10 years."

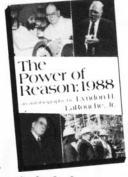
Without a science-driver project, such as this Mars project, the U.S. economy will not become competitive again, and will stagnate at levels reached by about 1994-95. The Mars project is also necessary to spearhead scientific breakthroughs needed on Earth, in areas such as astrophysical research, optical biophysics, plasma physics, as well as in basic industrial technologies. Let's get to work.

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