

# National News

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## Liberals: fewer people strengthen defense

"We have developed a consensus against high-level technologies and for arms control in this country, and cannot afford to have it dissipated," Nancey Ramsey, the director of the liberal Committee for National Security (CNS) told a reporter this week.

"At all costs we must stop the development of space based antiballistic missile systems. If we don't, all that we have achieved goes out the window."

In the place of ABMs, Ramsey said, the United States should seek to defend itself by imposing population control and preventing nuclear energy development and industrialization in the Third World.

This program, outlined in the Carter administration's *Global 2000 Report*, is the only way to achieve "world stability," she asserted.

Ramsey's CNS was set up in July 1980, at about the same time the *Global 2000 Report* was released. The CNS board includes leading lights from the liberal wings of both parties, including Paul Warnke, Henry Cabot Lodge, John Kenneth Galbraith, Hodding Carter, Richard Barnet, Sargent Shriver, and Harrison Salisbury.

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## B'nai B'rith establishes Willy Brandt Youth Fund

The most prominent Jewish organization in the United States, the B'nai B'rith, announced at the beginning of August that it will award a gold medal to West German Social Democratic Party chairman Willy Brandt as their "Man of the Year," and establish a new "Willy Brandt Youth Fund."

Chairman of the Socialist International, Brandt also heads the commission on North-South economic policy known

by his name, which was founded by World Bank president Robert McNamara.

The Brandt Commission's 1980 report recommends an end to national sovereignty, reversal of industrialization and urbanization, control of world trade and investment by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, and the use of "appropriate," labor-intensive technologies because "overpopulation" is placing a strain on "limited resources."

The Brandt doctrine in practice is thus equivalent to the doctrines of slave-labor and extermination of "useless eaters" enforced by the Nazis, who substituted looting of existing industry and manpower for investment.

Last year's B'nai B'rith Man of the Year award went to *Playboy* founder Hugh Hefner.

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## How the DOD plans to strengthen industry

The U.S. Department of Defense announced Aug. 4 that it will spend more than \$500 million a year for the next several years to strengthen U.S. defense contractors, thus preparing the United States to wage a long, conventional war. The announcement was made by Undersecretary for Policy Fred Iklé, an agent of Venetian-Swiss banking circles, whose cousin has been head of the Swiss National Bank.

Among the Defense Department's quick-fix schemes are measures to recruit more workers for periods of emergency, and to give financial incentives for expansion of defense-plant capacity. Some prototype weapons that could be rapidly produced in event of an emergency are also planned. Undersecretary for Research and Engineering Richard DeLauer also announced that he was reviewing, with an eye toward reducing, the myriad laws that oversee contractors fulfilling emergency orders.

The real problem with the U.S. defense industrial base, which Iklé neglect-

ed to mention, is that enormous numbers of small businessmen have been bankrupted because of the high interest rates imposed by Iklé's banking associates, including Federal Reserve Chairman Volcker.

A source at the Defense Department's Industrial War College has emphasized that the interest rates are causing a severe crisis. For example, the source noted, the U.S. could produce large numbers of airplanes; but only two small companies in business are able to forge the landing gear.

Only one company remains, the source said, that can build the turrets for the newest tank. The problem, he stressed, is that the small businessmen have either gone out of business, or have been forced into other areas of production.

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## NASA studying large-scale space assembly

An assembly line in space is being studied at NASA's Langley Research Center that would allow astronauts to construct large platforms or antennas in Earth orbit from the Space Shuttle.

The concept uses an electrically powered mobile work station to position a pair of pressure suited astronauts so they can move freely within a prescribed area to build space systems which are too large or complex to fold up and transport aboard the Shuttle.

The experimental station will be used to construct large-truss segments from lightweight graphite-epoxy conical tubes that can be compactly stacked, like plastic cups, within the Shuttle. A pair of the tubes can be joined together to form an 18 foot strut, which in turn can be assembled without tools, using special cluster joints, into large truss structures for antennas, beams, or platforms for satellite, telescope, or communication systems.

The concept will be tested under normal Earth gravity conditions at Langley during August and under simulated

space weightlessness conditions in the Neutral Buoyancy Facility at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, in September.

## Union pension fund sued for low-rate lending

The Labor Department is suing Operating Engineers Local 675 Pension Fund in Fort Lauderdale, Florida for providing home mortgage loans to its members at 11 percent interest rates. The suit charges that this practice violates the Labor Department's ERISA criterion that loans be given at a "reasonable" rate of interest. "Reasonable," according to the DOL, means the prevailing rate of interest under Paul Volcker.

If the union fund is judged guilty of "breach of fiduciary duty" and found imprudent, the pension fund's trustees will have to personally make up the difference between the "reasonable" interest rate of 17 percent and the 11 percent rate the fund charged.

IUOE Local 675 pension fund's legal counsel, Jayne Zanglein, says: "We invest our total pension assets as we choose—unions more and more are starting to do this. Union pension assets equal 25 percent of the stock market; there is the fear that if unions can control this much, we can get pretty much anything we want." She said that the fund had allocated \$2 million to the low-interest mortgage program, which had made loans to 25 families thus far, and plans to lend the remaining \$850,000 the same way.

The union's business manager, Dennis Walton, is on a campaign to educate labor about pension-fund investment. Walton charges that pension managers like Prudential Insurance are not only financing the right-to-work effort against organized labor, but making "atrocious investments" of union funds. "These slick three-piece-suiters are using our members' money to prop up a sick capital market," he said in a recent interview with the *American Labor Beacon*.

## Koch charged with wrecking schools

Mel Klenetsky, an opponent of incumbent Mayor Ed Koch in New York City's Democratic primary, has charged Koch with deliberately planning a 10 percent reduction in the city's public education.

Koch's policy, said Klenetsky, stems from his commitment to "implement the Global 2000 plan to shrink New York's population by 2 million people."

Koch closed 11 schools in 1979, and was only prevented from closing 24 more by parents and teachers groups. In 1980, he closed 12 more schools, nearing his goal of closing 40. In 1982, he is concentrating 60 percent of all austerity budget cuts on the school system, yet only 20 percent of the budget goes to schools.

Meanwhile, Board of Education statistics show 17 percent of fourth-graders, 21 percent of seventh-graders, and a total of 24,475 students reading at least 1.5 years below grade-level. Klenetsky continued, "Each year when the test scores are released, there is a mini-scandal. Yet no one but myself has pointed to the sources of the problem: Koch's austerity policies."

Klenetsky, a former teacher, has commissioned a study on the decline of New York education since 1975, focusing on the period since 1978, when Koch became mayor. He says the report will show that not only have 53 schools been closed, but the dropout rate has increased 45 percent. "Since 1975," reports the candidate, "real expenditures for the Board of Education have dropped by nearly 25 percent."

Klenetsky's program calls for reopening the schools, rehiring 10,000 fired teachers, and limiting of class size to 20-25—many classes now have over 40 students. He also wants a crackdown on drugs. Since Mayor Koch pioneered in "decriminalizing" marijuana, Klenetsky reports, "pot-smoking among school children has increased by 300 percent."

## Briefly

● **TOM FOLEY** is being heavily boosted to replace the washed-out Tip O'Neill as speaker of the House in 1982. Foley (D-Wash.) is a member of the Trilateral Commission. His candidacy is supported by the liberal wing of the Democratic Party and the British Intelligence-run Committee for an Effective Congress, both of which had previously been strong supporters of O'Neill.

● **HENRY KISSINGER** was dispatched on his recent world tour as an official representative of the Reagan administration, according to sources at the New York Council on Foreign Relations. While in France, Kissinger stayed at the house of French Socialist President François Mitterrand. Proceeding to Japan, the former Secretary of State reportedly had discussions with high Japanese officials about the Defense Department plans to place nuclear-armed Pershing missiles in South Korea and Japan.

● **GEORGE BALL** appeared in a red, hooded cape to ceremonially put a torch to some coffins at the annual celebrations of the Bohemian Club in California's redwoods this year. Also present at the celebrations, during which the Club's all-male membership runs about the woods naked, was Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

● **A COALITION** of Missouri labor leaders has broken a 30-year tradition and endorsed liberal GOP incumbent Sen. John Danforth for re-election in 1982, sending a signal to the Democratic Party that they consider their constituency neglected. The group comprises Teamster and Building Trades leaders who had opposed Danforth in 1976, when he was first elected.