

## National News

### CBO says Reagan navy budget too small

Despite the fact that the Navy receives the largest share of the Defense Department budget, there is not enough money in the administration's five-year defense plan to meet Navy Secretary John Lehman's stated goal of a 600-ship Navy by 1990, a mid-April Congressional Budget Office (CBO) report concludes.

Building a 600-ship Navy, the CBO report says, would require authorization of 176 ships over the next six years at an average annual cost of \$24.8 billion in 1982 dollars. Such a shipbuilding budget would be two and a half times the size of the actual 1982 naval construction budget, and 34 percent more than the administration has mapped out for next year. At its current rate of spending, the Navy will emerge in 1990 with only its current level of 12 aircraft carrier battle groups, not the 15 that the administration had projected.

Instead of arguing that the administration attempt to counter this shortfall by improving the technology of the ships, however, the liberal-controlled CBO goes on to argue that the administration attempt to meet the 600-ship quota by building a "throwaway navy" of conventional submarines and destroyers which lack the necessary sophisticated radar and guided missiles.

### Moynihan bill would double Midwest costs

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) is proposing legislation that would double the cost of electricity in the Midwest by imposing emission standards on utility plants to reduce acid rain. The bill, S.1709, would require all states east of the Mississippi River to curb emissions from coal-fired electric stations and steel plants by 85 percent.

Spokesmen for Midwest utilities say the bill would force rates up from 35 to

150 percent due to the costs of pollution control. Total cost to the economy would be close to \$2.5 billion a year for 10 years, two-thirds of which would be in costs incurred by the utilities of Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

The effect of acid rain over the past century has been some damage to about 10 percent of all U.S. lakes and ponds. However, a member of Senator Moynihan's staff acknowledged that if acid rain is allowed to continue unchecked for the coming 20 years, no additional lakes or ponds would become unsuitable for fish.

"This type of regulation, which has no basis in research, would cause irreparable damage to farmers already close to foreclosure," stated Marion Stackhouse, the President of the Indiana Farm Bureau. District 11 United Mine Workers President Larry Reynolds said Moynihan's bill would cost the UMW some 89,000 jobs.

### IPS delegation discusses arms control in Moscow

A 10-member delegation sponsored by the Institute for Policy Studies, the Warburg-created Washington think tank that promotes terrorist-support networks, returned April 11 from a five-day visit to Moscow, where they conferred with five members of the Soviet Central Committee. The delegation included Marcus Raskin, the co-founder of IPS, who served on the National Security Council under McGeorge Bundy in the early 1960s and was head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in 1963. The delegation met with Vadim Zagladin, First Deputy Chief of the International Department of the Central Committee; Georgii Arbatov, head of the Soviet Institute on the U.S.A. and Canada; and senior arms control experts.

IPS officials quoted a senior Soviet arms control specialist as saying that the Soviet Union may adopt a "launch on warning" defense posture in response to the Reagan administration's arms buildup. Other Soviet officials were quoted as saying they are preparing to make "uni-

lateral initiatives" in an effort to stop the arms race and that a proposal by U.S. Rep. Albert Gore, Jr. (D-Tenn.) calling for deep cuts in the nuclear arsenal could form the basis for further arms negotiations.

A Soviet official was also quoted as saying that a meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Brezhnev "would be useful" and that Brezhnev would "probably" meet with Reagan.

IPS and the Soviet Institute on the U.S.A. and Canada have signed a protocol establishing annual Soviet-American conferences to deal with the issues of bilateral relations and disarmament. The first meeting is set for next year in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with 40 delegates from each institution.

### GAO promotes laser-weapon program

The U.S. General Accounting Office called for the United States to accelerate its laser weapons development program to provide an early feasibility demonstration of a space-based laser weapon in orbit in an early April report, according to *Aviation Week* magazine.

The report states that directed-energy weapons may revolutionize military strategy, tactics, and doctrine. It calls the technology for space-based-laser battle stations as important as the "invention of the wheel, computers, and nuclear weapons." The report goes on to recommend that the Secretary of Defense establish a space-based laser program that recognizes "the relative priority of space-based lasers with the Defense Department."

The report documents that the Soviet Union's high-energy laser program is three to five times larger than the U.S. effort, in research, development, test, and evaluation of a space-based laser weapon.

However, the U.S. Air Force is not requesting any funds for the space-based laser program in its draft 1984 budget request, and present funding for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agen-

cy program is the minimum just to keep the program moving at all. Furthermore, the DARPA program is only oriented towards satellite defense and anti-satellite capabilities, not for anti-ballistic-missile applications.

The GAO stresses that under the pace of the DARPA and Air Force programs, the United States cannot make a decision to schedule an orbital demonstration of laser weapons in space until mid-1987 unless funding is sharply increased. The DARPA program will not support any level of operational space-based laser weapon systems until the year 2000.

The GAO proposes two accelerated programs: 1) additional funding of \$250-\$300 million per year to achieve space-based lasers for flight testing by 1993; or 2) additional funding of \$400 million through 1985 and \$600 million thereafter to achieve a successful orbital test by 1990.

## Democratic faction libels LaRouche

The Democratic National Committee, chaired by Charles Manatt, commissioned Russell Bellant, a career radical leftist, to write a memo charging the National Democratic Policy Committee with repudiating the traditions of the Democratic Party, according to an April 11 article in the Baltimore *News-American*. The memo also claimed that *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, chairman of the Advisory Committee of the NDPC, was behind "disruptive groups" in the Democratic Party.

Ann Fishman, a DNC official who co-authored the memo with Bellant, discussed it with a reporter April 12, but the next day denied its existence.

Bellant, also a DNC official, is currently director of the Wayne State University Committee Against Registration for the Draft, and organized the All People's Congress held in Detroit last October, which drew Weatherunderground and Black Liberation Army members and supporters. Bellant began his career as a writer for *Public Eye* magazine in

1975. The left-wing *Public Eye* regularly publishes attacks on military, intelligence, and law enforcement personnel.

DNC Chairman Manatt's law firm includes Playboy Enterprises among its clients. The Playboy Foundation is a major funder of the National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws. Manatt is also Chairman of the Board of the First Los Angeles Bank. On Aug. 20, 1980, the Istituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino, the sixth largest bank in Italy, announced it was acquiring a majority share in First Los Angeles for \$65 million. Italian Socialist Party leader Bettino Craxi, heavily implicated in the recent Propaganda-2 Freemasonic lodge scandals in Italy, has extremely close political associations with many officials of the San Paolo bank. Nerio Nesi, a close political colleague of Calabrian Mafia boss Giacomo Mancini, was also formerly associated with the bank.

## NASA launches India's satellite

A NASA Delta rocket sent INSAT-I, the first of India's new satellites into orbit from Cape Canaveral, April 10.

Built for India by the Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation in Palo Alto, California, INSAT-I is expected to provide telecommunication, meteorological, television, and radio services over a life span of seven years. Together with its companion, INSAT-II, scheduled to be launched next year by the Space Shuttle Columbia, INSAT will be able to give early warning of the onset of the monsoon rains that devastate India each year. It will also allow educational television and telephone links to reach remote areas of the country.

While India currently relies on the U.S., Soviet, or European space agencies to launch its satellites, it has developed the capability to manufacture solid rocket fuel and a four-stage rocket system, which will soon allow it to launch its own satellites, as well as those from cooperating countries in South and Southeast Asia, the Arabian Peninsula, and Africa.

## Briefly

● **SENATOR HUDDLESTON** (D-Ky.) objected to the FBI's statement that it was "compiling the public record" on Abscam to submit to the Senate Select Committee on Abscam. At the first meeting of the committee the week of April 12, Walter Huddleston stated that "we will need much more than the public record to get to the bottom of this."

● **CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS** Kraft, Jr. will be the fourth head of a NASA Space Center to resign this year. Kraft led NASA through Mercury and Apollo, the manned space programs. His resignation from the Johnson Space Center in Houston, was announced April 14.

● **ABRAHAM HIRSHFELD**, a member of the Democratic National Committee Finance Council, and a New York real estate dealer, has called for a national ceiling of 6 to 8 percent on interest rates, stating this is the only means of stabilizing the deficit.

● **TOM HAYDEN** and Jane Fonda were picketed April 10 by unionists who say they are furious with the couple for using non-union labor on their new solar-powered home, the *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner* reported recently. Tom's comment: "It was Jane's responsibility."

● **ALEXANDER HAIG** may be honored by the Queen of England, the London *Daily Telegraph* reported April 14. "It would most likely be a G.C.B. [Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath] or a G.B.E. [Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire]." The *Telegraph* warns that if Haig should be discredited as a result of the failure of his mediation efforts, "From Britain's point of view this would be a loss, since Mr. Haig is one of the few senior members of the administration who is both skilled in foreign affairs and essentially pro-European with a respect and liking for Britain. . . ."