

National News

Presbyterians praise 'peaceful' Soviets

A delegation of Presbyterian clergy and laymen has just returned from a month-long trip to the Soviet Union spreading the line that Christians must transcend "narrow" national concerns in the search for peace, and that the blame for U.S.-Soviet tensions lies with the United States.

The delegation of 39 Americans was organized by the National Council of Churches (NCC) in collaboration with the Russian Orthodox Church. The group attended meetings and religious services in Moscow and eight other cities, where it was thoroughly inculcated with the anti-American, pro-world empire views of the Russian "Third Rome" cult. The meetings were described by the sponsors as the first between supporters of local "church peacemaking programs" within the United States and the Soviet Union.

According to Bruce Rigdon, a leader of the delegation and consultant to the NCC, "One of the things we tried to say in all the churches we visited was that no matter what happens politically or ideologically between our nations, the relations between the faithful in our churches will not be broken. That is to say, we recognize that being a Christian transcends narrow national interests on both sides. We want to commit ourselves to being a small and fragile bridge between churches . . . a bridge between peoples—across which information can be conveyed, and trust can be established."

The information Rigdon's "bridge" is conveying is KGB disinformation. Several participants interviewed in the June 4 *Baltimore Sun* praised the Russians' great "desire for peace"—implicitly contrasting this with the hard line taken by the Reagan administration.

Delegate David Thurber told the *Sun* that although the Russians talk of their desire for peace, the delegation "sensed from the Soviet people a mistrust of the U.S. government."

He cited one worship service at a Moscow Baptist Church at which a Russian woman asked the Americans, "Why you people go home and tell your government to stop producing such weapons of death and destruction?"

NYC schools: rapidly sinking ship of fools

Just a month after the New York City School Board elections in which the Classical Education Slate endorsed by the National Democratic Policy Committee waged a fight to initiate curriculum reform to educate students to be "laser literate," Aspira, Inc. of New York City has revealed the findings of its investigation of the city's public schools.

The report reveals:

80 percent of all Hispanic students drop out of high school;

72 percent of all black students drop out of high school;

50 percent of all white students drop out of high school.

These figures are far higher than the board of education's own astounding admission of a 45 percent drop-out rate. A board spokesman, when confronted with these figures, tried to explain the discrepancy by saying that the board does not maintain separate records to indicate students' race.

The Aspira investigation also revealed that of the students who finish high school, only 32.6 percent receive Regents Diplomas, which means that they have completed designated college preparatory courses and passed state exams. These students all attend four schools in the city: Stuyvesant, Bronx School of Science, Brooklyn Tech, and Music and Art School.

Congressman: 'probe federal workers union'

Congressman Eldon Rudd (R-Ariz.) has demanded an FBI investigation of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), the Institute for Policy Studies-dominated federal employees union for national security violations.

Rudd said in early June that he wants to find out whether the AFGE is using its members in the Defense Department to obtain classified information to feed to IPS-linked peace groups opposing the President's defense program.

AFGE head Ken Blaylock had suggested that the union do just that in a March 15,

1982 meeting of the AFGE executive council. Minutes of the meeting were published this May by the journal *The Government Union Critique*.

Sources in the intelligence community have warned that AFGE is serving as a conduit for transmitting of government secrets to the KGB through the "peace movement."

EIR's security newsletter, *Investigative Leads*, has reported that AFGE, under the direction of IPS operatives, represents a terrorist capability within the government, especially in Washington, D.C.

"It is a serious threat to our national security," said Rep. Rudd in a letter sent to FBI Director William Webster requesting the probe of AFGE, "and it leaves open the question of whether classified information is being compromised for the sake of a group's political agenda."

California LULAC endorses beam weapons

The California convention of the largest hispanic organization in the United States has—after acrimonious debate—overwhelmingly endorsed President Reagan's program for defensive beam weapon technology development and the associated military, R&D, educational, and economic policies required for implementing Reagan's Mutually Assured Survival strategic doctrine.

Opposition to the endorsement at the early June convention of the California branch of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) was led by a member of the American Friends Service Committee and the Socialist Workers Party who devotes much of his energy to slandering *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche and his National Democratic Policy Committee.

Beam weapon opponent Reynoldo Munoz tried to motivate a vote against the resolution by saying it is "real technical. . . . We call it Star Wars." If a nuclear war happens, "we ain't gonna be around to worry about it. . . . Even the generals can't decide on this one. . . . We don't know enough. Therefore, we should vote no."

But Munoz's argument was undercut when the final speaker in favor of the resolution rose to say, "I want to explain what high energy particle beams are." Speaker Larry Luera, the former state LULAC pres-

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ident, noted that, "The latest report of the DOD on southern California states that there are over 120 Soviet missiles assigned to California. . . . Don't be scared by Star Wars and high technology. We belong in Star Wars. We belong in high technology."

Another pro-beam speaker, Lorenzo Quintana, concluded, "I disagree with Reagan on about 99 percent of what he does, but on this issue, Reagan has shown a little bit of wisdom. We must have nuclear beam weapons to protect our borders."

The resolution, introduced by LULAC Council 2010, whose chairman, Buella Juarez is a Santa Monica foe of Tom Hayden, was the only one brought to the convention floor for debate rather than being endorsed first by the resolutions committee. The reason, the committee's chairman explained, was that the national organization under Tony Bonilla has endorsed the nuclear freeze.

The state LULAC resolution will be presented both to the California Senate, which has a beam weapons resolution before it, and the national LULAC convention.

The California organization also passed a strongly worded condemnation of the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill now before Congress, and endorsed a June 11 march against the proposed legislation. Sources report that both Bonilla and People United to Save Humanity leader Jesse Jackson favor the Nazi legislation.

At a recent meeting Jackson and Bonilla are reported to have decided on joint action to fight the Reagan administration's dismissal of three minority members of the Human Rights Commission.

Reagan target of New Hampshire conference

Among the four stops by KGB and other peaceniks through about 30 U.S. cities is the July 9-16 conference of the Forum for U.S.-Soviet Dialogue at the Benedictine school of St. Anselm's in Manchester, New Hampshire.

One of the planners has said that at the pre-meeting for this year's conference, attended by Soviet representatives of the Forum, the principal issue discussed was President Reagan's March 23 speech announcing U.S. commitment to develop defensive beam weapons, ushering in the era of Mu-

tally Assured Survival. This, decided the conferees, must be defeated, and has to be the focus for the Forum's organizing activities because it "raises the level of fear."

John Kenneth Galbraith will be the keynote speaker at the conference. A member of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors is also scheduled to speak.

The Forum was founded in 1972 by a member of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War right after he returned from a Minsk visit at the invitation of a Soviet Youth Congress. According to sources in on the founding of the Forum, collaboration with the Russian Orthodox church was pivotal from the beginning. Last year the U.S. delegates traveled to Zagorsk, the main monastery of the Russian patriarchate, and met with the patriarch of the Ukrainian church.

Sources have said that the delegates to these "dialogues" must be young, up-and-coming professionals, 35 or under, and must appear to be headed for policy-making positions. Delegates undergo intense sessions to promote people-to-people interactions as the basis for U.S.-Soviet relations.

Among the participating institutions are the Hoover Institution, American Enterprise Institute, Brookings Institution, and the Rhodes Scholars Association.

Minority press support Simpson-Mazzoli

The Amsterdam News and *El Diario* both carried editorials in early June supporting passage of the Simpson-Mazzoli bill, the Nazi legislation before Congress that would severely restrict immigration and require all U.S. workers to carry worker identification papers. *The Amsterdam News* is New York City's largest circulation black paper; *El Diario* targets the Hispanic population.

Arguing on the "positive side" that the registration of over 700,000 illegal aliens in the New York City area would dramatically increase the clout of the minority vote, the papers followed the "carrot" with the "stick": if the bill is not adopted, there will be round-ups of aliens all over the United States.

"Illegal alien" round-ups have already increased in several areas of the country—a means of creating a "self-fulfilling prophecy" around the fear of what will happen if the bill is not passed.

● KENNEDY DEMOCRAT Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.)

Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio) for the presidency June 7, based on the "criteria of electability and ability to govern." Senator Tsongas is a sustainer of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, and a member of its ruling body, the Archon.

● A U.S. GREEN PARTY has been founded, according to the June 6 *Seattle Post Intelligencer*. The article reported that the University of Washington founding meeting was organized by representatives of the recently created Green Party of British Columbia, Canada, and the principal speaker was B.C. Green Party head Adrian Carr. About 40 attended the gathering, which almost immediately split between the Citizens Party members there and others. One faction contended that "nationalism is the cause of oppression."

● RAY FENNIMORE and Daniel Barton, candidates backed by the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), won Democratic Party nomination for the New Jersey state assembly elections in primary races June 9. Judy Eberhart, also an NDPC candidate, won election to the Bergen County Democratic Committee in an unopposed race.

● TEAMSTERS Union president Jackie Presser announced that his union will support the Nunn Labor Racketeering bill now before Congress, if certain amendments are adopted. Presser was speaking before the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee June 7. The proposed amendments to the bill, which would ban union officials from holding office upon conviction of a felony, would leave the length of ban from holding office at the discretion of the judge. Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) called the proposal "a tremendous change."