

National News

Reagan addresses Soviet public on nuclear defense

Commemorating 50 years of Soviet-American diplomatic relations, President Reagan sent a message to the Soviet people which was published by the U.S. embassy paper *America Illustrated*. According to a summary in the Nov. 16 *London Times*, "He reminded the Kremlin that he was determined to go ahead with new forms of anti-nuclear defense. . . . These systems would greatly reduce the dangers of deliberate or accidental nuclear attack, he said."

"Our hand is extended in friendship to the peoples of the U.S.S.R., for whom we wish only the blessings of peace, prosperity and freedom," Reagan wrote. He warned the Soviet people against believing that the United States had hostile intentions. These claims were "a misrepresentation of our policy."

LaRouche to farmers: 'face world crisis'

Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. delivered the keynote address to a farm conference in Unadilla, Georgia on Nov. 12-13, sponsored by Tom Kersey, a national leader of grassroots farmers since 1977. It was the first major campaign address by the candidate. The audience, composed of 100 farmers, candidates, and former candidates, and supporters of LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee from 13 states, heard a sobering speech.

LaRouche began: "We are facing a world food shortage by the end of next year, and a food crisis in 1985. The Department of Agriculture today has the same policy that it had under Carter and Bergland. Bergland's friend Walter Mondale is running for the Democratic nomination. . . . These are the speculators, the grain speculators. They run Twin Cities, Minnesota. They are determined to wipe out the American farmer and

to reduce the population of the world with aid of a food-weapon policy." LaRouche proceeded to detail the dimensions of the imminent world financial collapse.

Addressing the desire of desperate farmers to find some juridical strategem to stop foreclosures, LaRouche said that "Gimmicks can't work," he told them. "The method is wrong. . . . [it] has been tried for 20 years and it won't work. Gimmick-lobbying destroyed the AAM [American Agricultural Movement]. Let's grow up and face reality."

Dr. Frederick Wills, former foreign minister of Guyana and initiator of the 1976 Colombo Resolution calling for a debt moratorium for the nations of the developing sector, was also invited by Kersey to address the farmers.

"If you love thy neighbor, you will organize a political movement to realize that there is no temporary solution and that appealing to the judicial system will only give you a band-aid and not cure the festering sore underneath," Wills warned the farmers, "You are the next special target of the IMF."

Scientist responds to Reagan beam appeal

In a letter to the November issue of *Physics Today*, Dr. A. Hasegawa, a leading astrophysicist, responds to President Reagan's appeal to American scientists to develop defensive beam weapons. This letter reflects a large segment of America's scientific community.

"President Reagan's appeal to American scientists to help develop weapons to nullify nuclear weapons has induced controversy in the mass media as well as in the scientific community. Arguments, both pro and con, have been based on political, technical and even emotional reasons. However, few arguments have been based on principles. I, as a scientist, support the President's idea on the basis of the following principles with which most scientists would agree:

- "Because the speed of light is 4 to 5 orders of magnitude larger than the speed

needed to transport nuclear weapons, the beam weapon concept is basically a valid one.

- "Beam weapons are useful almost exclusively for defensive purposes. . . .

- "Nuclear weapons are a product of our fellow scientists, although they are now out of our control. Scientists, having no political power, can only regain control of the nuclear weapons by scientific means. Equally important, only scientists can conceive a nonpolitical means to nullify nuclear weapons. . . ."

FEF replies to 'The Day After'

Dr. Krafft A. Ehricke, whose pioneering efforts in the space sciences include work on the development of the Atlas and the Centaur, the world's first oxygen-hydrogen upper stage rocket, has written an op-ed article distributed through the Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) to over 450 newspapers throughout the United States. The commentary is a response to the airing on ABC of the nuclear holocaust-film "The Day After." Excerpts follow:

"The film 'The Day After' attempts to popularize a supposedly scientific study of the effects of a nuclear bombardment of Kansas City. How scientific it is in terms of global impact is debatable. Hardly debatable is its design for emotional impact on the American public.

"The effort was not stimulated years sooner by the formidable Soviet buildup during the decade of so-called deterrence, but appears at a time of Western response to what the Soviet Union would call an 'intolerable threat' were the situation reversed. . . .

"Now another television film has been released, which portrays a much different and truer idea of what can be done about nuclear war. This film is 'The Beam Revolution,' produced by the Fusion Energy Foundation, and it describes the technologies that can prevent nuclear missiles from reaching their targets, should war break out in the future. In this film, this writer also

describes some of the ways in which these same laser beam technologies can be used in the colonization and industrialization of space.

"Once the United States was globally powerful beyond measure. . . . she has divested herself of this superiority, the Western world's strategy is reduced to deterrence by balance of nuclear power on which its safety and credibility in difficult negotiations depend. . . .

"Moscow did not stop its military build-up at the borders of space. A first-generation antisatellite weapon system has been tested only by the Soviets. . . . Again we observe that only now, as Washington moves toward restoring the balance, a petition for banning space weaponry is inspired by Carl Sagan, one of the originators of 'The Day After.'

". . . Beyond the antisatellite system lies the potential of beam weapons for effective defense against missiles traversing space on their way to terrestrial targets, including Kansas City. Of course, this will enhance the role of space in the arms competition between the superpowers; but it offers hope for progressively reducing the balance of that kind of terror portrayed in the film. The film's authors' professed alarm cannot be reconciled with their indifference, in fact opposition, to this type of defense. It is highly unscientific to want to have it both ways."

Aping Soviets, CBS tries to shoot down Teller

Dr. Edward Teller emphasized in a CBS television interview Nov. 15 that defensive anti-ballistic missile systems based on lasers were not "an ultimate weapon" but were crucial because they "may bring a breathing space . . . so that we have time to begin serious collaboration" in economic development with Europe and "even the Soviet Union." Until now this aspect of the beam-weapons strategy has been publicly put forward only by Lyndon LaRouche and his collaborators.

Teller said that "we support the hungry; we export grain . . . even to the Soviet Union . . . even if they shoot down our airplanes."

CBS, imitating as usual the formulations of TASS and *Pravda*, accused Teller of mouthing "newspeak" about the need for "more guns." Teller emphasized that he was calling for a change in policy. "For years we have tried to deter war with the threat of retaliation. Now we are talking about deterring war with an effective defense."

Asked if he had any regrets over the Manhattan Project, Teller replied "One regret is that Oppenheimer did not allow us to demonstrate the bomb to the Japanese first. . . . Those people who decided to use the bomb against them and who feel guilty about it have something to feel guilty about." Robert Oppenheimer supported the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Teller opposed it.

Hulan Jack addresses Kansas NAACP

"Our country is now confronted by the greatest crisis since the Second World War," National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC) National Advisory Board member Hulan E. Jack told the 40th annual state conference of the Kansas NAACP, in Junction City on Nov. 12.

Jack, who in 1954 became the first black to be elected borough president of Manhattan, reviewed his life's history, from the time he came to New York as an immigrant from the West Indies in 1923, living in Harlem and encountering "the horror of racial abuse," through his civil rights and other battles as an assemblyman in the 1940s.

Turning to the recent confrontations in the Caribbean and the Mideast, Jack said: "Speaking with determination in keeping with the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine . . . we cannot take a passive attitude toward the future. We have ties of history and ties of mutual economic interest to the nations of South and Central America. We need a strong Mexico, an uncompromised Brazil, a people's Argentina. But at the same time, we must have a new policy toward these countries, one which does not seek to exploit them, but seeks to work with them as 'good neighbors,'

Briefly

● **THE JOINT CHIEFS** of Staff have recommended that the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines form a unified space command. According to the *Washington Post*, the secret recommendation by the Joint Chiefs reflects the "growing importance of space in U.S. military planning and a conviction on the part of many senior officers that the U.S. should 'seize the high ground' before the Soviet Union has a chance to do so." The Joint Chiefs' recommendation will now be considered by Secretary of Defense Weinberger and the White House. The unified space command would control military satellites, military uses of the space shuttle, and other space-based systems and weapons. It would also play a major role in efforts to develop a space-based defense against nuclear missiles.

● **THE NEW YORK POST** has picked up on the charges that Walter Mondale-aided Robert Pastor was helping Grenada coup leader Gen. Hudson Austin. "The scramble was on at the Walter Mondale campaign . . . to rebut a link," said the Post. The Post featured Pastor's connection to Peter and Geoffrey Bourne, and also the Institute for Policy Studies, "a left-wing group which among other things has opposed U.S. interference with Marxist takeovers in this hemisphere."

● **BUD COOPER**, a rancher and LaRouche Democrat from Sturgis, S.D., who held the office of Democratic party county chairman there for 20 years, announced Nov. 17 that he intends to run for the U.S. Senate seat now held by "blow-dry Republican" Larry Pressler. In his announcement, Cooper said that "It is not a matter of opinion, but a matter of fact, that I am the best qualified person to serve as United States Senator from South Dakota."