

# National News

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## Dem delegate panel on guard against LaRouche

Democratic Party officials have shaped delegate selection regulations to prevent candidate Lyndon LaRouche from "grabbing delegates," according to a report in the *Indianapolis Star* on July 1.

During a recent meeting of the ad hoc commission formed to hear Jesse Jackson's complaints about the national convention's delegate selection rules, Congressman Andy Jacobs (D-Ind.) asked the commission to respond to Jackson's objection that the delegate selection process is unfair. A commissioner replied that they "didn't mean to be unfair to anybody, but did Jacobs want, say, Lyndon LaRouche coming in and grabbing a handful of delegates just to make trouble?"

To which Rep. Jacobs replied: "How could they [the commissioners] say the rules *didn't mean to be unfair*? The commission had just said it wanted to be unfair to LaRouche."

The *Star* reported that then "there was a little recess during which Jackson told Jacobs he had put his finger right on the trouble." The meeting ended with the commission telling Jacobs the rules absolutely could not be changed.

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## State Dept. sabotages Japan-U.S. beam effort

The State Department has thrown a monkey wrench into U.S. relations with Japan, threatening to jeopardize the possibility of cooperation between the two allies to develop an antiballistic-missile defense capability.

Paul Wolfowitz, Assistant Secretary of State for Far East and Pacific Affairs, told Congress on June 12 that Japan had agreed to allow its military technology transferred

to the United States to be re-exported to third countries.

Japan never did any such thing, and the Tokyo government promptly protested against Wolfowitz's statement. Japan is not forbidden by law to export any armaments, and has made an exception only in the case of military technology transfers to the United States. The Japanese are demanding that the Wolfowitz testimony be corrected.

The clash threatens to sabotage the work of the Japan-U.S. Military Technology Transfer Commission, created in November 1983. This commission is the vehicle through which any joint Japan-U.S. effort on beam weapons would be coordinated. Tokyo is urging greater cooperation in laser research and related fields.

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## Teller defends Reagan, warns of economic crash

Physicist Dr. Edward Teller, speaking at a conference in San Diego at the end of June sponsored by Accuracy in Media, ripped the press for ridiculing President Reagan's proposal for a space-based defense system by branding it "Star Wars," and said that U.S. policy should now be to recruit all Western nations to work jointly on the project for antiballistic-missile defense.

The Soviets are unequivocally the strongest military power in the world today, said Teller, and President Reagan was "honest enough" to point this out, even though it was not to his political advantage to do so.

With the advent of the so-called "Star Wars" program, the United States is now working on a defensive weapon that promises to be effective against a Soviet missile attack, Teller went on. It will be good enough to scare off "the grizzly bears in the Kremlin." Even if the system were not perfect, the Kremlin would still have to think twice before launching a nuclear attack and "the very doubt can and will save the peace."

Teller also came out in favor of the MX missile, provided it is protected by a point-defense system. The United States needs to maintain its retaliatory capability, which can be achieved by maintaining a heavy defense and a light retaliatory power. The latter could be reduced, he added, as our ability to protect our missiles from enemy attack increases.

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## Mondale adviser: Soviets intent on beam defense

The Mondale campaign's top defense adviser has admitted that strategic defense is a key component of Soviet military policy. Walter Slocombe told a reporter that the Soviets "probably spend more than we on ballistic-missile defense research" and that a commitment to strategic defense is "definitely" an integral element of the Soviet Union's military strategy.

Despite this, said Slocombe, the United States should not have more than a small research effort, because "there is almost no chance that the kind of system Reagan was talking about, one that would make nuclear missiles obsolete, could be developed. The technical difficulties are too great."

Slocombe's admissions are significant because the U.S. anti-beam lobby usually insists either that beam defense is against the laws of physics, or denies the mounting evidence of Soviet breakthroughs in x-ray laser and related technologies essential for an effective ABM defense. Richard Garwin of the IBM Corporation, a vocal opponent of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Ini-

tiative, has been known to go into an apoplectic fit whenever the issue of Soviet progress in this area is raised.

Slocombe, who served in Jimmy Carter's defense department before signing on with the Mondale campaign, confirmed that Mondale will make the President's Strategic Defense Initiative one of the central issues of his presidential campaign.

## McNamara demands more death in Third World

Not satisfied that population rates have drastically declined in the decade since the 1974 Bucharest population conference, Robert S. McNamara took to the pages of the summer issue of the Council on Foreign Relations' journal *Foreign Affairs* to demand that the developing sector submit to even sharper reductions in its population level.

"Action now to initiate, or to accelerate, fertility decline is imperative," asserted McNamara, going on to state that he hopes this thesis will be debated and adopted at the World Population Conference in Mexico City in August.

McNamara painted a grim picture of what will ensue should countries such as Nigeria, Kenya, and El Salvador continue to grow. There will be "dire consequences" and the "penalties to the poor of the world . . . will be enormous." Third World countries will undergo the "Malthusian scenario" of higher death rates and lower living standards; they will be forced to adopt coercive population control measures, as China has done; political instability will increase; and the modernization programs of developing-sector countries will be hopelessly blocked.

Blasting the lack of "political will" that has allegedly prevented developing countries from adopting effective birth-control programs, McNamara called for the development of "country fertility targets" and a plan of action to achieve them. He also de-

tailed a series of measures the "international community" should undertake to make sure enough pressure is exerted on the developing countries to meet their population reduction quotas, including increased assistance for birth-control programs, the development of better contraceptive methods, and a propaganda campaign to explain to targeted nations the "accumulated lessons of historical and contemporary experience" which, he claimed, demonstrate that population reduction is essential to social advancement.

## Weinberger: 'Soviets want Reagan's defeat'

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has charged that the Soviet Union staged its walkout from the Geneva nuclear arms negotiations in order to make trouble for President Reagan and prevent his re-election in November. "I think that has to be one of their motives," he said. "They've been extremely explicit about it. I would be very hopeful that soon they will see that their attempts to defeat the President's re-election aren't successful."

Weinberger also denounced efforts by Senate Democrats led by Sam Nunn of Georgia to pass a resolution calling for the withdrawal of 90,000 U.S. troops from Europe by 1990. This plan—which is also backed by Henry Kissinger—is "absolutely deplorable," Weinberger said.

Weinberger underscored the American commitment to defend Western Europe, stating that an American troop withdrawal could force the NATO allies "into a position of shrugging their shoulders and saying that 'we don't have any American support left, so the situation is hopeless, so let's work out a nice détente with the Soviet Union in which we give them essentially what they want.'"

"This is not the time for us to try to weaken NATO," Weinberger emphasized.

## Briefly

● **GEORGE BALL**, in an op-ed in the June 25 *New York Times*, issued a not-so-subtle assassination threat to President Reagan. Noting that Reagan will be nearly 78 when he completes his second term, Ball said, "But death may not permit him to complete it, for, under insurance actuarial tables, a 74-year-old man has only a two-thirds chance of surviving for four more years. In fact, a President's chances are even less than that, since, in this century, one-eighth of our dead Presidents were assassinated—an occupational hazard that the actuarial tables do not reflect."

● **PATRICK BUCHANAN**, the conservative syndicated columnist, on June 25 called on President Reagan to veto the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill for its premise of population control. Buchanan said that the "nationalistic and patriotic ring" of the phrase "getting control of our borders" is a ploy aimed at population control and therefore anti-American. "Does Ronald Reagan believe . . . that people are the problem? . . . Perhaps the Environmental Fund can tell us precisely which groups contribute most to polluting the environment it worships."

● **SENATE** Minority leader Robert Byrd (D-W. Va.), recent setbacks in the Senate to liberal attempts to dismantle U.S. defenses, lashed out at two admirals who had dared to publicly criticize the War Powers Act and other laws that weaken the President as commander in chief. "It is outrageous," fumed Byrd, "that the uniformed leaders of one of our armed services should take to the podium to voice such constitutional and political arguments. . . . If our admirals wish to debate national law and policy, they should divest themselves of their military duties and authority and run for office as politicians."