

National News

Chatham House sets up shop in Washington

Concerned that the Anglo-American "special relationship" may be losing its cohesion, a group of prominent Anglophiles has decided to establish an informal branch of Britain's most influential policy institute, the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), in Washington, D.C. Boasting a board of directors which includes Averell Harriman, Boston Brahmin Elliot Richardson, John Brademas, president of New York University, and Thornton Bradshaw, president of RCA Corporation, the new think tank will be formally inaugurated on June 24.

FEC in court battle with LaRouche Campaign

A federal judge on March 8 denied a motion for a preliminary injunction being sought by The LaRouche Campaign (TLC) against the Federal Election Commission's ongoing harassment of campaign contributors. The lawsuit, *Spannaus v. FEC*, was filed when the FEC began contacting contributors in an effort to intimidate them into dropping their support for his candidacy.

It was revealed at the hearing that the FEC had already taken a deposition of a LaRouche contributor, without notifying TLC attorneys. Such backhanded violations of both contributors' and candidate LaRouche's civil rights are precisely what is complained of in the lawsuit, filed in January in U.S. District Court in New York City.

While Judge Gerard L. Goettel did not find sufficient evidence of bad faith or irreparable harm at this time to grant TLC's request for an injunction, he indicated that he regarded the claims in the suit to be meritorious enough to expedite the case for trial as soon as possible. In the Judge's words, "The relief sought here is extraordinary and sweeping. However, I am prepared to give

this matter a priority in preparing for trial on the merits. As soon as you tell me you're ready, I'll put it on the calendar." The practical effect of his ruling is that TLC can immediately begin pre-trial discovery against the FEC.

During the hearings, an FEC attorney admitted that former presidential candidate Walter Mondale was able, in effect, to buy a cover-up of his campaign's acceptance of illegal contributions. "Mondale asked for conciliation . . . and was willing to pay \$350,000," he said.

Offensive in Congress against MX missile

Five members of Congress who hold key positions on committees affecting U.S. military policy are attempting to blackmail President Reagan into gutting the MX missile program and the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). On March 6, the five—House Armed Services Committee chairman Les Aspin (D-Wisc.), Rep. Norm Dicks (D-Wash.), Sens. Sam Nunn (D.-Ga.), William Cohen (R-Maine) and Albert Gore (D-Tenn.)—emerged from a meeting in Nunn's office announcing that they had agreed to support a much-scaled-down version of the MX program provided the President agrees to a gesture of "good faith" at the arms talks in Geneva—namely, abandonment of the SDI.

Their announcement took place just days before the opening of the Geneva talks. As the *New York Times* gleefully put it, this "strategy assures that the President's arms-negotiating team . . . will be under close watch from Capitol Hill for evidence of flexibility, especially on the central issue of space weapons."

The *Times* quotes one member of the Nunn-Aspin gang stating flatly that the administration will have to give ground on "Star Wars": "I personally believe that if the Soviet Union is willing to make concessions, as it has not in the past, on its heavy missiles, and if they suggest a tradeoff that offered radical reductions in their heavy missile force, that we would be willing to stop the development of SDI."

General Dynamics under scrutiny

The Navy's chief of shipbuilding has charged General Dynamics, the nation's largest defense contractor, with breaching security regulations after the unauthorized release of an internal company financial report containing 19 highly sensitive photographs of the Trident ballistic-missile submarine. The color photographs were included in a dozen or more copies of a quarterly financial report on the submarine-building division of General Dynamics Corp.

In a letter to General Dynamics, Vice-Adm. Earl B. Fowler, chief of navy shipbuilding, accused the company of showing a "cavalier attitude" and losing control of information "damaging to the national security."

A copy of the report which contained the sensitive information was provided to the Justice Department by P. Takis Veliotis, a former general manager of Electric Boat and a General Dynamics Board member. Veliotis, now living in Greece and considered a fugitive, is cooperating with federal investigations into General Dynamics.

Defense Secretary Weinberger has called for an
ance of one Lester Crown, a board member of General Dynamics, who was indicted by an Illinois grand jury in 1973 and granted immunity in exchange for his testimony.

A busy agenda for Henry A. Kissinger

As we go to press, Henry Kissinger has a busy week of trips and meetings, including a luncheon with President Reagan on March 13. Topics are not known, but the meeting comes in the midst of major international developments: the death of Konstantin Chernenko, the Geneva talks, the Mubarak visit to Washington, and more.

Then, again, Ibero-America, debt, and drugs should feature high on Kissinger's agenda. After all, many of his friends are

being apprehended in the war on drugs: Italian P-2 businessman Francesco Pazienza was arrested in New York on March 4, and Henry's own security guard in Mexico came under suspicion concerning the kidnapping and murder of Drug Enforcement Administration official Camarena. Kissinger is scheduled to be off to Brazil on or about March 14, to attend the inauguration ceremonies for Brazil's new President, Tancredo Neves.

On March 12, Kissinger addressed a businessmen's luncheon in Houston, where he was greeted by a boisterous crowd of demonstrators. During the question period, a reporter grilled Henry about his unsavory intelligence connections: "As you know, there is a major trial under way in Norway, in which Arne Treholt, a top government official, has been revealed as a KGB agent recruited by Papandreu. Several other names have been revealed as well, such as your friends Willy Brandt and Olof Palme. Given your long historical association with British intelligence and the fact that British intelligence has been thoroughly penetrated by the Soviet KGB, aren't you afraid that your name will come up next?"

A furious Kissinger replied, "That is a LaRouche person! It is not a serious question. I have no historical association with British intelligence! Next question?"

Mob lawyers are under investigation

James D. Harmon, general counsel of the President's Commission on Organized Crime, is declaring war on "mob attorneys." On March 11 in Washington, under the auspices of the Commission, a symposium was held to discuss the role of "attorneys who are involved in criminal conspiracies." A 54-page staff report was presented at the symposium, citing particularly the case of Pennsylvania attorney Kevin Rankin, who helped expedite heroin and cocaine deals.

According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "thousands of such cases" were reported by Stephen Trott, assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division of the Department of Justice.

Symposium participants attacked "renegade attorneys" involved in helping launder money, and Judge Irving Kaufman of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, who is overseeing much of the Commission's work in this area, said these lawyers "contaminate the bar."

One participant revealed that there are at least 30 mob attorneys in New York and Chicago, with a lesser concentration in Miami, Philadelphia, Detroit, Atlantic City, and Las Vegas.

It is not known at this point if the report mentioned Roy Cohn, who is the designated attorney for the five leading mafia families of New York.

Safire: MAD is dead, SDI is unstoppable

In an op-ed in the March 10 *New York Times*, columnist William Safire is forced to admit that "the new strategic reality" is the fact that the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) is "dead." He writes:

"The decade that led to the Russian superiority in offensive missiles and battle-management radar protection of those missiles has ended; the decade of defense has begun." Although many Americans still resist that reality, some with silly scorn at "Star Wars," others with reasoned arguments against the abandonment of MAD, in the end most Americans are forced to acknowledge that Reagan was elected to be responsible for nuclear strategy and that's exactly what he is doing.

"MAD is dead," states Safire. "It started to die exactly two years ago in March of 1983 when Reagan first proposed to leapfrog the Soviet Union's strategic advantage." The "new idea made possible by technology . . . is now unstoppable. . . . This galls the Russians who spent 20 years catching and passing the Americans in nuclear offensive power. Strategic dominance was in sight; now here they are, either obliged to compete in an expensive space-defense race, or forced to settle for permanent nuclear equality. No wonder they bluster and glower at the new reality."

Briefly

● **ARMAND HAMMER** had nothing but praise for Max Kampelman, the new U.S. chief negotiator in Geneva. Interviewed on a Washington news show March 6, Hammer said Kampelman "is very pragmatic, very resourceful, and the Russians respect him. He's a great negotiator."

● **RICHARD BURT**, now under consideration to replace Arthur Burns as U.S. ambassador in Bonn, comes from a family heavily involved in Anglo-Soviet mining interests. His father, Wayne Harper Burt, is a top executive of the Newmont Company of New York—operating in copper and gold mining and energy in South Africa, Peru, Chile, Canada, Australia, and the United States. Newmont is headed by Russian wheeler-dealer Plato Malozemoff; it helped fund the South African gold interests of the Oppenheimers' Anglo-American Corp.

● **DANNY GRAHAM** has embarked upon a fundraising idea as bizarre as his High Frontier concept itself—a "Star Spangled Sweepstakes." In a letter sent to thousands of Americans soliciting contributions to High Frontier, Graham writes: "Here's how everyone can win the grandest prize of all." The letter offers a \$1,000 cash giveaway and "137 other valuable prizes," which have been made available through the "help and generosity of a group of special friends" who want to remain anonymous. Prizes include \$5,000 in gold coins, a Mercury Lynx, an RCA home entertainment system, and Polaroid cameras.

● **JAMES CICONI**, a top aide to former White House Chief of Staff James Baker III, has departed the Reagan administration to take a job with Democratic Party bigwig Robert Strauss's law firm. The move comes as no surprise to Washington insiders, since Strauss and Baker, both Texans, are longtime allies.