

## Editorial

### *For a tumultuous New Year*

It would be consumer fraud, were we to wish our readers a "Happy New Year." Instead we can promise a tumultuous 1986, joyful only insofar as there is joy in victory over the enemies of republicanism and human progress. The coming year will be decisive: The Soviet leaders view it as such, in their bid for unchallenged military superiority and world domination; the world financial system is at a breaking point, and will either be replaced with a New World Economic Order, or will plunge into the depths of depression; the U.S. congressional elections will determine the outcome of the 1988 presidential campaigns, and the shape of American politics for years to come.

Only if the principles of truth and morality discussed by Lyndon LaRouche in this week's *Feature*, are rigorously used to achieve a "paradigm shift" in the U.S. population, can the "Age of Aquarius" be ended and the survival of Western civilization be ensured.

What are the prospects for 1986? For the first time this year, Americans were greeted on New Year's Day by a televised address by the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachov, who delivered a 1980s version of Nikita Khrushchev's "we will bury you" speech. Gorbachov demanded that the United States stop seeking security for itself "through new types of weapons," and called for "cutting back nuclear arsenals and keeping outer space peaceful." Given the Soviet record of treaty violations, documented in our *National* section, it is obvious that Gorbachov's goal is the full elimination of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative in 1986.

Just days before Gorbachov's address, suicide commando attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports signaled a new phase in the Soviet-backed terror offensive, aimed against the United States and its allies in Europe and the Middle East.

As for President Reagan, in his televised speech to the Soviet people on New Year's Day, he reiterated his hope that the achievement of strategic defense capabilities by both superpowers "will free us from the threat

of nuclear destruction." Yet even as the President spoke, the Gramm-Rudman "balanced budget" bill was going into effect—with the President's blessing—slashing U.S. defenses unilaterally, demolishing social services, urban infrastructure, and other essential programs. Like the countries of the Third World, the United States is being placed under the austerity regime of the International Monetary Fund—with the full connivance of Treasury Secretary James Baker III and White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan.

As the devastation of Gramm-Rudman begins to grip the country, two impulses will emerge in the American population. One will be an even deeper collapse into cultural pessimism, despair, and anarchical behavior. The other will be a desperate appetite for cultural optimism and truth. Signs of this have emerged, in response to the threatened AIDS epidemic, as angry parents demand an end to the government cover-up and to the immorality of the "Age of Aquarius," which has fostered the rapid spread of this hideous disease.

Will the barbarians win, as they did in Weimar Germany in the 1930s, or will the American people change fundamentally in 1986? The Congress has demonstrated its utter bankruptcy by voting up the Gramm-Rudman bill, handing over the constitutional authority of the legislative branch to the computers at the Office of Management and the Budget. There is no moral "silent majority" waiting in the wings to kick the hypocrites and liars out of Washington; the majority is "silent" only because it is steeped in the most banal concerns—the outcome of the Superbowl, the next episode in "Dynasty," or the latest bizarre activities of the neighbor's wife.

It will take harsh jolts of reality and an organized political movement to change this. The tumult of 1986 will provide the jolts all right; whether or not a republican political movement of sufficient power emerges, in the context of the 1986 congressional races and the presidential campaign, depends on what *EIR*'s readers do.