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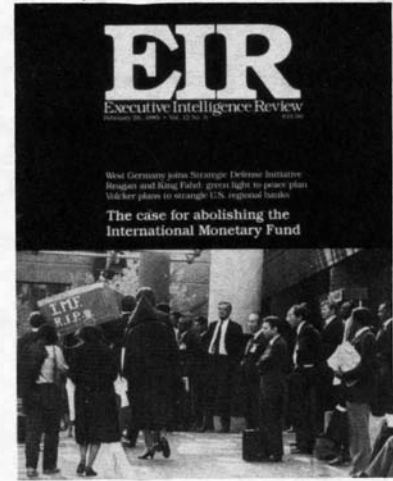
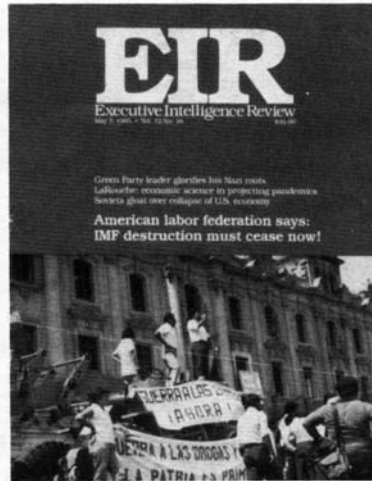
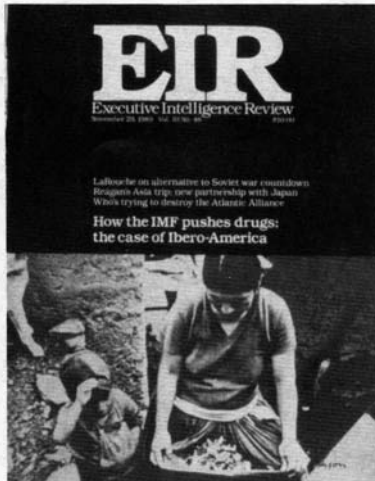
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Motion filed to free LaRouche on bond
'Ecology' used to legislate a fascist regime
Mainland China takes the IMF road

**Strategic Defense Initiative:
the rising storm**



IMF Commits Crimes Worse Than Hitler's



What is the International Monetary Fund really? Who controls this supranational institution, whose power is greater than that of sovereign governments, and which imposes economic conditions on member states that lead to genocide worse than that for which Nazi war criminals were hanged at Nuremberg?

Executive Intelligence Review (EIR), the weekly journal founded by U.S. economist and political figure Lyndon H. LaRouche, documents the murderous plans of this bankers' cartel, in the perpetrators' own words.

- **The IMF pushes drugs.** The Fund forces developing-sector countries to grow the most profitable cash crop of all: dope. In the words of an IMF specialist on Colombia: "From an economic viewpoint, marijuana is just a crop, like any other. It brings in foreign exchange, and provides income for the peasants."
- **The IMF demands "population control" as the prerequisite for credit.** As World Bank chief Robert McNamara put it, "devaluation is a population control policy." This is a *conscious* policy, aimed to reduce the non-white races.
- **The IMF promotes communist insurgency.** Said Fidel Castro, "The International Monetary Fund alone still inspires confidence in me. It is the IMF that will realize all my plans."

EIR provides the vital political and economic intelligence for patriots of all nations who seek to destroy the power of the IMF and kindred institutions. Under Mr. LaRouche's direction, it presents detailed recommendations on how to launch a global economic recovery, through Great Projects for high-technology-vectored development. It is the lifeline of a growing international political movement. You too can join!

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From the Editor

LLyndon LaRouche, with his exceptionally broad vision of world affairs, has contributed this week's strategic overview entitled "SDI: the rising storm." Readers who have been with *EIR* for some time will need no urging, I think, to turn right away to the cover article which arrived on our desk as a handwritten manuscript—the first major writing LaRouche has been able to produce since he was locked up, a political prisoner of enemies of the SDI, on last Jan. 27.

Together with the growing outrage in the country over Henry Kissinger's return to power—flaunted in a media puff-job on ABC's "20/20" TV broadcast on Friday night, April 7—we expect there to be an outpouring of indignation at the Bush presidency over the dismantling of the Strategic Defense Initiative. The two gentlemen on the cover, who would prefer to carry out this "mercy killing" outside the spotlight of public opinion, should be forced to answer for that disastrous policy.

Elsewhere in this issue we develop some particulars of the picture LaRouche outlines in the *Feature*:

- A major initiative in the defense of the constitutional rights of American citizens: the filing of a motion to free LaRouche and his co-defendants on bond pending appeal, by a team of defense attorneys that includes former Attorney General Ramsey Clark for LaRouche. A summary, and excerpt of the brief detailing the way the jury was contaminated, appears on pages 58-64.

- The latest atrocity of the "get LaRouche" conspiracy: the sentencing of LaRouche associate Rochelle Ascher to 86 years in prison by a rigged jury in Loudoun County, Virginia, for alleged "securities fraud." See page 56.

- The chilling reality of Soviet and Chinese food shortages, recounted in the *Economics* section.

- How the "greenhouse effect," a supposed threat to the environment which has been strongly doubted by the scientific community, is the pretext for pending federal legislation that will end republican freedoms in the U.S. (See *Science and Technology*.)

- "China takes the IMF road," by Michael Billington, a fellow political prisoner with LaRouche who is applying his longstanding expertise in Asian affairs to analysis of recent developments (page 6).

Nora Hamerman

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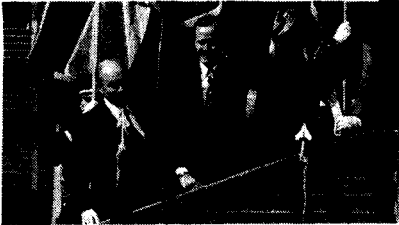
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Heated battle at IMF meeting over Brady Plan

by L. Talionis

The Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund, comprising the major finance ministers of the world, completed its semi-annual meeting in Washington in a pro forma show of support for the debt reduction proposals of U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady. The IMF was meeting at a point in time when the world is in the throes of the most severe financial crisis since World War II. The recent riots in Venezuela, in which 1,000 people were killed, were just one symptom of the chaos about to engulf Third World governments that continue along the road of austerity politics.

The developing nations were demanding solutions. Treasury Secretary Brady, a scion of the Wall Street banking crowd, was not unaware of the seriousness of the situation nor of the threat that a wave of nationalist ferment in Ibero-America might pose for the continued political hegemony of the Wall Street crowd. The riots in Venezuela broke out when President Carlos Andrés Pérez cut an agreement with the United States on the debt question and began to implement the austerity measures demanded.

The Brady Plan was put forward as a proposal which, under the rubric of debt reduction, would reorganize the unmanageable \$1.3 trillion of Third World debt. Countries meeting the increased demands of austerity measures would be rewarded by a reduction of their total debt burden, or a reduction of the amount of interest payments they have to make on outstanding loans, so-called interest support. Many desperate Third World debtors view the Brady Plan as providing perhaps some sort of relief. In reality the Brady Plan is a "leveraged buy-out" of Third World debt, which could be very lucrative to the banks participating. As one delegate to the IMF meeting explained it, since the great mass of Third World debt is worth much less in market value than its nominal value, a 20% reduction of the principal of that debt, if

backed by the resources of the IMF, would probably enhance the value of the debt banks are holding. Far from being a boon to the developing sector, the Brady Plan would be a bailout of the major commercial banks, as British Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Nigel Lawson succinctly put it at his press conference in Washington.

Winners and losers

The Brady Plan has not met with overwhelming support from all the countries involved. As large chunks of Third World debt are erased from the books, there will be winners and there will be losers. On the developing sector side, the "winners" under the Brady Plan will be those countries that have best implemented their "adjustment program," i.e., have most effectively rammed through murderous austerity policies. Among the industrialized nations, the big question is, who pays for the bailout? The only real support that the Brady Plan has received is from the Japanese, who on April 3 pledged up to \$4.5 billion that would be made available "over the next few years on a case-by-case basis."

It was obvious that IMF support was necessary to get the Brady program off the ground, since the IMF and the World Bank must put up the cash for the bailout. The carrot which Brady was holding out to them was a U.S. agreement on raising the quotas of the IMF countries.

The Group of 24, representing the major developing nations, issued a communiqué after their meeting on April 2. They gave their support to the new debt reduction scheme, stressing that it should be "made operational as soon as possible to reverse the massive net transfer of resources" from these countries to industrial nations. The G-24 called for the IMF and World Bank to step up lending to the Third World and "to avoid conditionality in the design of adjustment pro-

grams." The Brady Plan's usefulness as a "carrot" is precisely to make it possible to impose greater degrees of austerity on countries of the developing sector. As Barber Conable, World Bank president, explained in his remarks, the plan must "reward" the countries which have successfully implemented adjustment programs.

The G-7 countries, also meeting on April 2, issued a statement supporting the Brady Plan, but stressing that the IMF and World Bank "should examine" the establishment of limited interest support. But on April 3, Dutch Finance Minister H. Onno Ruding, the chairman of the Interim Committee, announced an impromptu press conference to dampen the "sense of euphoria," which he said had been created around the question of debt reduction among major debtor nations and commercial bankers who were "just waiting" for the new debt strategy to come into effect. He was especially concerned about the part of the proposal dealing with the reduction of debt service, saying that debt-service reduction would cost the IMF and the bank "staggering amounts of money." Ruding supported the principle of debt reduction, but added, "to expect the IMF and World Bank to find the extra money for interest rate reduction, I don't see how that works."

Blunter yet was British Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Nigel Lawson, who, in a hastily called press conference for British journalists on April 3, said that he did "not find acceptable the idea that our taxpayers should bail out the commercial banks." Lawson noted that commercial bank lending to the 15 most indebted countries since 1982 had risen by only 17%, while governments, including multinational lenders such as the IMF and the World Bank, had increased their Third World debt exposure by 107%. "That sort of process has to be slowed down," Lawson said. "The time has come for the commercial banks to do more."

West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg also had serious reservations concerning the Brady Plan. Stoltenberg stressed that a U.S. debt reduction plan should not be misunderstood as a general forgiveness of all developing sector debt. Canadian Finance Minister Michael Wilson was also very reticent about the workings of such a plan. "It should not be seen as a safety net," said Wilson. "Brady has received agreement in principle, but the mechanics of what we are doing require further study on the part of the Bank and the Fund. . . . It would be useful to test some of the technical questions to see if everything works together."

As was foreseen from the beginning, however, the IMF was going to give support to the Brady Plan—at least in principle. The reason being, as French Finance Minister Bérégovoy clearly pointed out, that the riots in Venezuela "made us think twice." "We have to come up with a solution as soon as possible," he said.

The IMF communiqué stressed that the IMF and World Bank together would contribute \$20-25 billion to back debt reduction packages. Countries committed to strong programs of economic change would be helped in selling off their

patrimony through discounted debt-for-bond exchanges or debt-equity swaps. Although the IMF agreed to set up a task force to study concrete debt reduction measures in the cases of Mexico and Venezuela, the proclamations issued at the end of the IMF meeting will probably remain largely "full of sound and fury" and yet "signifying nothing." The innumerable "ifs," "ands," and "buts" brought up by the finance ministers of the industrialized countries in the course of the meeting will largely put a damper on the plan. More seriously, as one observer put it, the Brady debt reduction scheme may be "too little, too late." The failure to deal with the real underlying problem may lead debtor countries to default because of the dashed hopes which were raised by the much-touted plan. The commercial banks, who will actually gain by the scheme, may not see it in their interest to sacrifice one iota of their nominal assets, although these assets are unpayable. More worrisome is the fact that the attempt to use the promises of debt reduction to enforce greater austerity on the debtor nations will undoubtedly lead to further blowups like that witnessed in Venezuela, and further convulsions for an extremely volatile financial structure.

Although the IMF meeting focused largely on the Brady Plan, the issue of the sorry state of the U.S. economy was continually lingering. Some evil tongues have it that Brady launched the debt reduction plan proposal in order to avoid a more thorough discussion of the shape of the U.S. economy under Brady's tutelage. The recent IMF World Economic Report, released at the beginning of the meeting, said that the U.S. current account balance could jump to \$156.6 billion next year from a projected \$139.3 billion in 1989. The IMF report also sharply revised upwards its projection of next year's U.S. current accounts deficit from \$137.4 billion projected only a few weeks ago. The report says that the United States faces a "particularly urgent" task of raising domestic savings and called for a "decisive effort" by the U.S. authorities to improve the nation's fiscal position.

The IMF believes that the figures of the Bush administration, which envisage a decline in the U.S. budget deficit from \$160 billion in this fiscal year to \$37 billion in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1993 are too optimistic. Fund projections show that the deficit could still total \$114 billion in fiscal 1993. The report stresses that the U.S. must take urgent measures to reduce the budget deficit. "Efficiency considerations suggest that such efforts should continue to emphasize expenditure cuts," emphasizes the WEO report, although they also do not preclude the need for raising taxes. It is clear that the IMF conditionalities will not only be a cause of suffering in the developing sector. The U.S. will also feel the pain. "As thou sowest, so shall thou reap" will become an appropriate slogan for a nation gone mad.

Unless the genocidal policies of the Wall Street crowd and the IMF are thrown overboard, the bitter cup of austerity policies which the United States government has forced upon the countries of the Third World will soon be ours to drink to the full in this, the biggest debtor nation in the world.

Mainland China takes the IMF road

The “forced collapse” that swept Ibero-America in the 1980s, has now reached China. By Michael Billington.

In the opening speech before the yearly three-week meeting of mainland China’s “congress”—the National People’s Congress—Prime Minister Li Peng described in detail the virtual death sentence now being imposed on a large portion of China’s 1.1 billion people under the name of “retrenchment” and “rectification.” He also announced that the two-year duration of this “retrenchment,” first announced last September after the food and infrastructure crisis exploded into social chaos, will be extended for “several years.”

The program will please the officials from the International Monetary Fund, who could not have done better themselves in outlining a program of austerity. In fact, the IMF and the World Bank have, since Communist China officially joined in 1980, maneuvered into position to influence policy on the mainland in a pattern similar to IMF practice in South America in the 1960s and 1970s: First, encourage wide-open credit expansion and investment (a large portion of which is put into services and low-intensity export industries), *without* the necessary foundation in agriculture and infrastructure needed to sustain industrialization. Then, when the inevitable financial crisis erupts, impose austerity. This “forced collapse,” which swept Ibero-America after the debt crisis erupted in the early 1980s, has now reached China.

Prime Minister Li Peng has emerged as the policy strongman since the September 1988 Central Committee meeting that announced the “rectification.” He told the 2,768 deputies gathered March 20 in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, and a national television audience, that the six months of cutbacks and rationing had brought only “limited success”:

- a 50% across-the-board gutting of construction projects;
- a 9.1% collapse in retail sales, due largely to the rationing of 13 items that had been floating in the “free market” of price reform;
- recentralization and tightening of credit (which had also been partially left to local free-market discretion), with a resulting shutdown of tens of thousands of enterprises across the country. The Agricultural Bank of China announced earlier this year that it will slash lending to rural enterprises by more than 50%, according to the bank’s Deputy Governor Wang Jingshi.

One may well ask how such devastation to the economy and the population could be measured as “successes.” The problem which Li Peng claims to be solving, he described as follows: The crisis of 1987 and 1988 was caused by the previous leadership’s “blindly expanding the scale of construction, one-sidedly seeking an increase in production and quantity” and failing to establish “macro-economic control systems while insisting on the policy of devolving powers to the regions and enterprises.”

When inflation skyrocketed, Li said, it “exacerbated the hysterical psychology of the masses and a wave of panic buying and depletion of bank savings hit the nation.”

Li and his economists acknowledge that the underlying problem is not really “too much industrialization,” but rather the woefully inadequate supply of energy and food and transportation systems needed to sustain that growth. But having no ideas how to solve that *real* problem, he’s adopted the Spartan solution of shock austerity à la Milton Friedman.

Not surprisingly, this shutdown of the economy did not stop the inflation spiral, and new panic buying is again reported in parts of the country.

The 1988 crisis marked the end of the ten-year-old “reform program” of China’s aging leader Deng Xiao-ping. (Deng did not appear at the National People’s Congress, pleading that he is passing leadership on to younger men.) Deng, one of the primary targets of the Cultural Revolution, recovered his position and took power after Mao Zedong’s death, implementing the shift to free market pricing and investment policies in 1979. While this rapid modernization did create several years of broad economic activity, and did open the mainland to the outside world, the decision was made *not* to make the necessary investments in agriculture and infrastructure. Over the past several years, the proportion of investment in energy has dropped from 6.5% to 3.8%, at a point when the country’s industry cannot function for more than a few hours a day because of lack of electricity. In agriculture, from 1968-85, the proportion of investment was already a paltry 10%, but in 1985—with the great reforms—the proportion went down to 3.8%. As for transport, less than 20% of China’s roads are paved, permitting an average speed nationwide of 30 mph.

Advice from Henry Kissinger and associates who ran the shift in U.S. diplomatic relations which dumped the Republic of China in Taiwan and recognized the Communist mainland government, brought in the monetarist advisers to track the emerging "socialist market economy" in the desired direction.

By 1987-88, the economy unraveled (see *EIR*, Nov. 11, 1988, "Beijing Regime Faces Breakdown Crisis"). Inflation reached 40%, food and commodity shortages led to hoarding and a run on the banks.

It was then that Prime Minister Li Peng was made economic czar, replacing Deng Xiao-ping's protégé Zhao Ziyang, the Communist Party chairman, who led the discredited reform policy. Li Peng's rectification unleashed a further descent into chaos.

Wandering hordes

The "free enterprise" policies of the reform years had created the first unemployment problem in the Communist era. Previously, the "three irons" policy was generally upheld: 1) the iron rice bowl—everyone gets food, but not much; 2) the iron chair—everyone gets a job, but not much choice of mobility; and 3) the iron wage—a guaranteed wage, although extremely low.

The introduction of free-market decisionmaking means employers could dismiss workers, and workers and peasants could seek work in the free-market sector. The resulting free labor was absorbed mainly in construction projects in the cities and in the rural industries.

The forced collapse of half these projects and thousands of rural enterprises over the past six months has given rise to the mass migration of over 5 million desperate peasants and rural workers flooding into the cities, finding only more unemployed workers there from the closing projects. The migrants are sleeping in the streets, begging, looting and jamming the train stations. In Heilongjiang province in the northeast, one of China's poorest provinces, more than 1.2 million migrants from the rural areas and 350,000 from central China have moved into the larger towns, with no expectations for food, shelter, or jobs.

The government has called out the military in several areas to help move the peasants back to the country. They are generally not welcome there either, since local leaders are trying to live within the shrinking rations allotted to them. There is no "welfare" or "unemployment compensation" system. According to the *Beijing Nongmin Ribao*, of the 400 million rural labor force in the mainland, 220 million, over half, are "surplus workers," and as many as 110 million totally without work!

Li Peng's program

Agriculture: The main initiative is the increase by 18% in the price for grain paid to peasants under contract to the government. This is slightly less than inflation last year, and

far less than the inflation on materials needed for farming. This could scarcely be expected to reverse last year's decline. A smaller increase will be paid for cotton. An unspecified increase in spending for forestry and water conservation was announced, but within the confines of "reducing expenditures and currency issues this year."

Admitting that this is nearly meaningless, Li called on peasants to help themselves: "Peasants should be encouraged and guided to invest more money in agricultural production and development. They should be the main source for expanding input in agriculture."

Energy: Li made no pretense of solving an energy shortage that has left many industries shut down or open only two or three days a week due to the scheduled blackouts. Said Li: "In energy, equal importance will be given to development and conservation." Billed as a "top priority," government investment is in fact being cut, with a planned kilowatt output reduction of 20%. An official from the Ministry of Energy Resources said, "We cannot pin our hopes on the power industry changing the situation this year. The key problem is how to slow the economic growth rate and adjust the industrial structure."

Education: Also billed as "top priority," but the only source of income for reversing the education breakdown, Li said, is new school taxes (taxes are a new free-enterprise addition in China) and a call on the people to solve the problem: "It is imperative to encourage all sectors of society to run schools and open up new funding channels."

Making China 'attractive'

The IMF is already demanding more. Reuters reported a "Western banker" saying immediately after Li's speech that austerity is not enough—"The leadership must use this period of austerity to make fundamental reforms." He proposed driving up interest rates to dry up all credit, raise prices of energy and transportation, stop wage increases (which are not even keeping up with inflation), and cut off credit altogether to the "inefficient" state sector enterprises. Only then will China be attractive for foreign investment. Such pronouncements are intended to strengthen Li Peng's resolve in crushing the expected resistance from local officials and desperate people.

Li Peng's approach to the crisis is perhaps best demonstrated by his leading role in the murderous population control policy. He recently proposed that even the emergency aid to impoverished areas of the country should be dependent upon adherence to the one child per couple official limit. During the National People's Congress, Li's allies reported that the biggest problem in enforcing the population policy is that the newly created free-labor sector is no longer under the "government work unit" control, where wages can be slashed and rations denied to couples who have more than one child. Li is preparing a new law to prevent this loophole, trying to establish total control over every citizen.

China's agricultural stagnation means food shortages ahead

by Ramtanu Maitra

Feeding a billion people is not an easy task. It becomes even more difficult when arable land area is limited and cannot be expanded without large-scale development of capital-intensive infrastructure. This is the dilemma China faces today.

After years of steady growth in cereal production (see **Table 1**), China's total cereal output, particularly rice and wheat, got stuck in 1984. Aggregate production of grains, which also include soybeans, pulses, and tubers, in 1988 is expected to fall by some 2.5-3%, according to the latest U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization estimates. Rice paddy output, the all-important cereal in China, is currently forecast at 171 million tons, about 3.5 million tons below last year's harvest, which itself was nearly 8.0 million tons less than the high of 1984.

Climatic conditions—drought following excessive rains in the southern parts of the country—have been blamed for the shrinking output. But China's problems go beyond the vagaries of uncertain weather, which has always been a bane to Asia's agriculture.

The implications of China's agricultural stagnation are awesome. In spite of the modernization drive, and some success in enhancing industrial production and export of various manufactured products, China will remain an agro-industrial nation if for no other reason than demographic compulsion. Like India, China has a huge rural population (more than 800 million Chinese live in the countryside) whose items of consumption are very basic—foodgrain is the principal one. Recently, China's State Council for Development Research said that by the year 2000, foodgrain production will

have to reach 530 million tons—a 50% rise—to supply the population with food.

Any food shortage on a sustained basis will create social chaos, throwing China into instability. The tell-tale signs are already there. China had stocked up 64 million tons of foodgrains as of 1985, but according to FAO estimates, that stock will have dwindled to 39 million tons in 1989. Within this four-year period, China will be exhausting 40% of its foodgrain stock due to stagnation-caused shortages. At this rate, by 1995, China will have insignificant foodgrain stocks to rely upon.

Why not import?

The obvious solution to such a problem is to buy foodgrains from the world market to shore up stocks and meet production shortfalls. The problem is that world foodgrain stocks lie mostly with those nations that cannot afford to export; they need those stocks for their own food security. Total world cereal stocks, in fact, are below the minimum necessary to assure security in the face of emergencies, not to mention supporting a major new import demand for 1 billion people.

For example, milled rice, the main cereal consumed in China, is only exported by a handful of nations, of which Thailand and the United States can be considered foremost. According to the FAO, only 11.2 million tons of milled rice will be available from the main exporters in 1989. If China's foodgrain production continues to stagnate, and there are indications it will, by 1995 that meagre 11 million ton sur-

TABLE 1
Cereal production in China, 1975-88
(in 1,000 tons)

Crops	1975	1984	1985	1986	1987*	1988**
Rice paddy	128,827	181,193	171,479	175,200	177,200	173,800
Wheat	45,313	87,817	85,812	90,000	87,800	87,500
Coarse grains	70,483	96,974	83,004	87,300	97,300	92,400

*Estimate

**Forecast

Source: U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

plus, or even twice that amount, would not be able to solve the problem. Should China choose to buy every year, exportable milled rice will vanish, posing a danger to other nations that may require emergency food supplies. Moreover, with the Soviet Union mopping up 40-50 million tons of wheat and coarse grain annually from the world market, and with the United States and Europe cutting back production, China may also find it increasingly difficult to procure surplus wheat.

Furthermore, China is building up foreign debt fast, a development which may eventually cripple its capability to make decisions freely. In 1984, China's foreign debt was less than \$300 million, but in 1986 it stood at \$17.2 billion. Although exports have soared (to about three times that of India), so have imports, and China's inability to generate resources from within is slowing down infrastructural development—the key ingredient for increasing productivity. Most of the foreign capital that China is borrowing presently is being invested to generate more exports so that more imports can be negotiated and debt can be repaid. It is a syndrome which, by definition, will increasingly preempt the investments necessary to break through the impasse in agriculture.

Brakes on production

The problems with China's agriculture stem from the fact that 50% of the land under cultivation (which produces 30% of total foodgrain output, or about 105 million tons) is non-irrigated. This makes China not marginally, but wholly vulnerable to the vagaries of nature.

In the irrigated areas, China has achieved significant success in enhancing yield per hectare. China's rice paddy yield under irrigated conditions is 5,100 kg/hectare—better than all other Asian nations except Japan and South Korea.

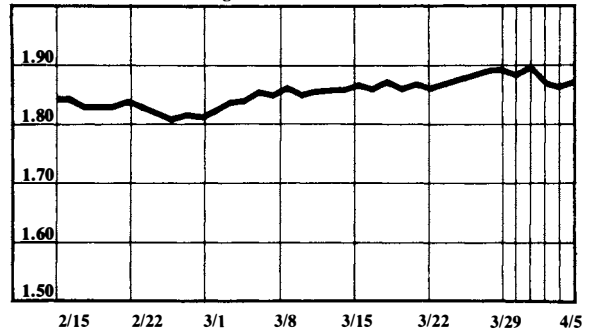
But what it means is that with prevailing levels of technology, China has almost reached the yield-plateau that Japan and South Korea hit in 1975. Now, any further productivity increases will depend on a serious intervention by agricultural science. Alternatively, irrigated acreage must be expanded—but this requires substantial infrastructure investments in the rural areas, which have already begun to be affected by a paucity of funds.

According to a report in the *Agricultural Daily*, published in China, which appeared in October, the Agricultural Bank of China cut back on loans to rural enterprises prior to the autumn harvest and handed interest-bearing deposit certificates to the peasants in lieu of cash. The shortage of cash has also affected government procurement of foodgrains—a major subject of discussion among China's leaders. This may mean further weakening of the foodgrain distribution system in rural areas and less possibility of refurbishing the dwindling foodgrain silos. There is yet another reason why procurement has remained low this year; the government's official support to the free market policy has prompted hoarding of foodgrains among private traders.

Currency Rates

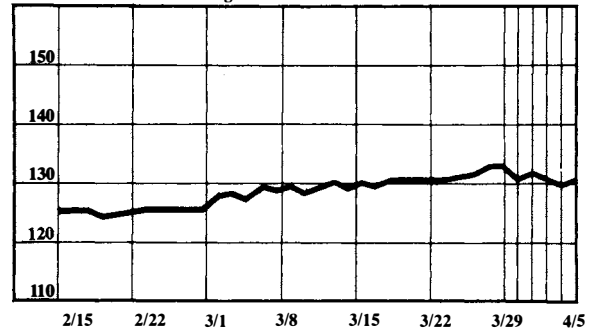
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



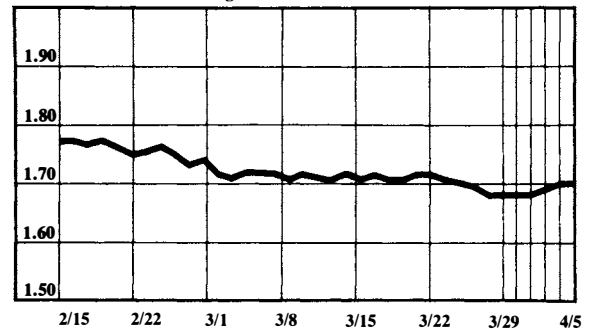
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



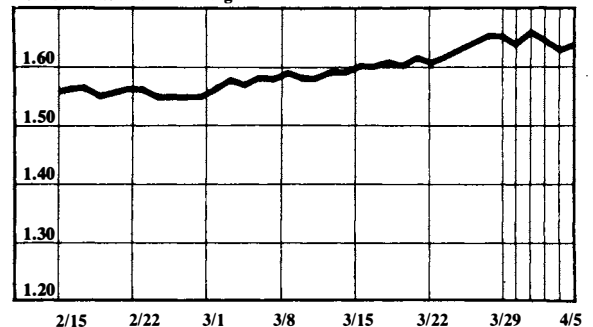
The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



Plenum shows upheaval in rural Russia

by Rachel Douglas

The debates at the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Plenum of March 15-16 painted a starker picture than ever before, of the crisis in Soviet agriculture. Its collapse is the backdrop to Moscow's extraordinary grab for grain, reported on p. 14. Destitution in the Soviet countryside will impel the Soviet empire to reach increasingly abroad, by concession or by force, for what it cannot provide itself.

General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov, in the main report to the plenum, said that Soviet food shortages were so grave as to "generate not merely criticism, but actual discontent." He and other officials made clear that the rural crisis encompasses not only the horrendous losses of foodstuffs due to poor infrastructure (equal, in the case of grain, to the total amount imported from abroad), and the poor yields that result from inadequate levels of technological input, unevenly applied. It has also brought a great upheaval in the rural population, especially in the Russian Republic (R.S.F.S.R.) and Ukraine.

An official of Gosagroprom, the four-year-old state agro-industrial authority that the plenum resolved to disband, told TASS on March 13 about "a decrease of 6 million hectares in the areas sown to grain crops in the country over the past three years." The total area under grain crops in 1986, according to a Soviet statistical yearbook, was 116.5 million hectares, so this means a reduction of the area under grain crops, of 5% in the space of three years.

At the plenum, Gorbachov said that 22 million hectares of previously cultivated land have been lost during the past 25 years. Soviet statistics record a stagnating level of land under cultivation:

	Millions of hectares
1960	203.0
1970	206.7
1980	217.3
1985	210.3

Gorbachov's figure means, therefore, that the area of land abandoned or built over has practically cancelled out the area brought under cultivation through land reclamation. The 22 million hectares lost equals over 10% of the total land under cultivation in the U.S.S.R. a quarter of a century ago.

Population flees

"In the last eight years," R.S.F.S.R. Prime Minister A. Vlasov told the plenum, "4.5 million people have left the Russian countryside, and every year around 3,000 rural settlements disappear from the map of Russia."

Four and a half million people is approximately 10% of what the rural population was in 1980! A human migration of that magnitude inevitably is feeding turmoil in the cities of Russia. The numbers help to make sense of the crime wave reported for some cities, and of reports that have surfaced as "human-interest" journalism. The weekly *Ogonyok* carried a feature story on homeless people living in the railway terminals of Moscow, among them whole families from the countryside.

The R.S.F.S.R.'s loss of 10% of its rural population in less than a decade, or over 1% per year, is matched in Ukraine. There, according to a December 1988 report in *Izvestia*, a typical village in Kirovograd Oblast had 324 households and 937 people 25 years ago, and today only 253 households and 725 people—a decline of 23% in the rural population in 25 years.

"I do not wish to arouse passions," said Gorbachov, "but it ought to be said, nevertheless, that the situation is so grave in many regions, that people are deserting the land, moving out of villages. Migration of the rural population has reached a critical level in several regions of the country."

One reason is the utter failure of infrastructure and services. Again, Gorbachov: "Lack of good roads is a problem in all regions. It is a sheer disaster in the Non-Black Earth belt. [*Izvestia* reported March 21 that as of 1988, only 6.2% of on-farm roads and little more than half of the general roads in the R.S.F.S.R. were paved.] Provision of the countryside with well-appointed housing, communal services, schools, medical, and cultural institutions is beneath criticism. Sometimes one has to travel scores and even hundreds of kilometers to get the most urgent things done—receive medical assistance, benefit by elementary services or buy basic necessities."

Health Minister Yevgeni Chazov intervened at the plenum with a report on horrible health conditions in the rural areas. According to *Pravda*, he "recalled that there was a time when people went from the town to the country for their health. Now it is the other way round." Chazov "dwelt on the state of the material and technical base of health care in the countryside, the turnover of medical staff, and the low standard of health and hygiene in the countryside. We are adopting decisions on the provision of gas and heat supplies to the country—they can only be welcomed. But let us give the rural dweller good quality drinking water first of all. After all, at present only 36% of the rural population have a good quality central water supply."

Nineteenth-century productivity

The plunge of land cultivation and rural inhabitants con-

stitutes an absolute shrinkage of the Soviet farm sector. Unlike in the United States, where the historical decline in the farm population was associated with rising productivity due to the application of new technologies, the drop in the Soviet rural population has gone hand in hand with stagnation or decline in productivity.

On March 11 and 12, *Izvestia* correspondent A. Pushkar described a visit to several villages in the Non-Black Earth zone of the Russian Republic. Since it was Chern Region in Tula Oblast (Province), south of Moscow, where the 19th-century writer Ivan Turgenev set his *Sportsman's Sketches*, Pushkar drew a comparison of conditions today with those of a century ago.

Of the 25 collective farms and state farms in Chern, Pushkar reported, officially 7 and in reality 18 are "weak." Turgenevo village had 450 children in the local school before World War II. Today there are 50. "The dilapidation of its farmsteads, the crowdedness of the local store, the club in a rotting hut all cry out: It is time to repay debts to the countryside." At the same time, however, the sight of a huge junkyard of rusting farm machinery and "a mountain of mineral fertilizers in tattered bags, not covered even by straw" make the writer think that the rural inhabitants themselves owe some debts.

At Bezhin Lug (Meadow), site of one of Turgenev's stories, the village consists of 18 households with 29 residents. The collective farm to which it belongs, Pushkar is told by the locals, "built an irrigation system, spending around R100,000, then for no good reason failed to complete it and wrote it off." Thanks to damage inflicted on the meadow by use of the wrong sort of machinery, hay production has plummeted. In the old days, when the peasants were cutting the hay by hand with scythes, they mowed five or six stacks by hand; last summer, the machines cut only one haystack.

When the villages were consolidated into a single collective farm, in 1951, the directors began to close down schools, shops, and services in the villages that lacked promise. "They built no housing in the central farm, and the youth began to flee: first to Tula and Moscow, and then they would take the bus to neighboring Mtsensk, where [two factories] were built, which sucked up youth like a vacuum cleaner."

The farm went through nine different directors. Today, it averages a yield of 13 centners of grain per hectare, while the peasants in the old days would get 16 centners of rye from a *desyatina*. (1 ha = 2.45 acres; 1 *desyatina* = 2.7 acres.)

Dairy productivity has crashed. This farm's cows gave 2,076 liters of milk each, last year. In the United States, cows give 5-6,000 liters. But never mind America, says Pushkar; even locally in Chern, nobody will keep a private cow that doesn't produce at least 4,000 liters. What's wrong in Bezhin Lug? "We've grown old. Look who's working with the cattle. Just old ladies with their gnarled hands. The youth doesn't want to stay on the farm. There aren't enough tractor drivers, either."

'No miracles' seen in Argentine shakeup

by Cynthia R. Rush

A few hours before he was scheduled to get on a plane for Washington to attend the International Monetary Fund's Interim Committee meeting, Argentine Finance Minister Juan V. Sourrouille handed in his resignation to President Raúl Alfonsín. The rest of his economics team quickly followed suit. The March 31 resignation, which caused some surprise in Buenos Aires, occurred after Eduardo Angeloz, presidential candidate of the ruling Radical Civic Union (UCR), publicly suggested to Alfonsín that "this could be the occasion to replace Minister Juan Sourrouille and his economic team." Angeloz charged that Sourrouille had been incapable of controlling the exchange rate, which has seen the national currency, the austral, plummet on the free market from 17 to 53 per U.S. dollar in less than two months.

Presidential spokesman José Ignacio López explained that Sourrouille's resignation was unrelated to the current presidential race. But most on-the-scene observers agree that the move is an electoral ploy, designed to improve Angeloz's image, 30 days before the May 14 elections. Angeloz has tried to distance himself from Sourrouille's economic policies, which have produced chaos on financial and exchange markets, maintained prohibitively high interest rates, and caused inflation to soar. The inflation rate for March is expected to be 15%, with rates of 17-20% predicted for April.

The April 1 *Washington Post* lamented Sourrouille's departure, characterizing his team as "one of the most professionally trained and enduring economic management teams in Latin America." However the *Post* was the only one sorry to see the technocrats go. Peronist presidential candidate Carlos Menem remarked that the minister's resignation was long overdue. So great is the hatred for Sourrouille's boys among the population, that Harvard-trained Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn, the cold-blooded budget slasher who has denied funding to bankrupt provinces, was nearly assaulted a few weeks ago by irate citizens as he walked down a Buenos Aires street.

Sourrouille's replacement, 74-year-old Juan Carlos Pugliese, is the president of the House of Deputies, a respected political figure. Although he announced that he could offer "no miracles," he moved immediately to calm financial markets and assuage the anger of exporters and importers by devaluing the austral by 21%, and establishing a fixed rate of 20 australs to the dollar, down from the official rate of 15.8.

According to measures announced on April 5, exporters and importers will now be able to operate using both the official and the unofficial exchange rate, transacting 50% of their business in each. Previously, exporters were forced to exchange dollars at the commercial rate of 15 australs to the dollar, and then watch the government trade those dollars on the free market at close to 50 australs to the dollar. For the agricultural sector, whose exports provide the bulk of Argentina's foreign exchange, this meant millions of dollars in losses. The new mix means an effective devaluation for agricultural exporters of close to 40%.

These measures are meaningless, however. Argentina has been battered for five years by International Monetary Fund policy, and citizens want to know how the next President is going to change that. Angeloz says he can do a better job of implementing IMF policy than Alfonsín has done, promising to privatize the entire state sector, impose more drastic austerity, and dismantle the organized labor movement, while paying foreign debt. But it is Menem's call for a "revolution of production," promotion of Ibero-American integration and defense of national sovereignty, that appeal to broader layers of the population, especially the working class and the poor.

Menem's program

In an interview published in the March 26 issue of the Buenos Aires daily *Clarín*, Menem explained, "We are talking about integrating ourselves, first with Latin America, to build a common market, to create continentalism. A continent with work and production, to give happiness to our people." The Peronist candidate warned that foreign creditors want to "impose policies from abroad. Look what happened in the case of Venezuela: They followed the policies which the Monetary Fund told them to, and they had over 300 dead."

In the interview, Menem outlined a series of infrastructure projects which he hopes to implement if elected. These include crucial irrigation projects, to put 200,000 more hectares under cultivation in five provinces; construction of deep-water ports; hydroelectric projects; and the completion of the long-delayed Yacretá dam and Atucha II nuclear plant, because, "without energy there is no production." Any plan for payment of the foreign debt must be subordinate to a program of economic growth, he added.

Such optimistic plans don't sit well with the Peronists' social democratic wing, which maintains a cozy relationship with the IMF and the Socialist International. Worried that they might not be able to control a Menem presidency, the spokesman for this faction, Buenos Aires Gov. Antonio Cafiero, proposed on March 27 that even if Menem wins the May 14 elections, "the next government will have to be a coalition, and not [based] on one political party, because the country's grave crisis demands it." Presumably such a coalition would be with Alfonsín's discredited UCR.

Cardinal Sin on hot

by Antonio A.S. Valdes

We reprint here a March 29, 1989 commentary from the Business World daily of Manila, Philippines. The author, a businessman and columnist in the Philippines, explains why he has written to Jaime Cardinal Sin, the powerful head of the Catholic Church in the Philippines, to protest the Cardinal's agnosticism on the fight around the Philippines debt crisis and the IMF. The country is currently paying 45% of its export earnings to its foreign creditors. Emphasis is the author's. Mr. Valdes entitled his article, "An ecclesiastical cop-out."

Last week, for the first time in my life, I addressed a letter to His Eminence, the Cardinal Archbishop of Manila. I was emboldened to do so by an article which appeared on the front page of the March 21 issue of the *The Chronicle*, where on being asked to comment on the latest Letter of Intent submitted by the Aquino government to the International Monetary Fund, His Eminence was quoted to have said:

"I do not know what it is all about; you ask me about the Church, but not banking. . . . I should not interfere because I am not an expert, and I am too busy with other things to bother about additional loans."

I wrote with mixed incredulity, anguish, and frankly, exasperation. I wrote because I found it impossible to believe that these words were spoken by a man who has never hesitated to make known his views on just about everything else, from the re-entry of Harry Stonehill to graft and corruption in the administration.

And I wrote because I found it even more difficult to accept that they emanated from the highest ranking member of the hierarchy in this most Catholic of Asian nations, who also happens to be the second—if not actually the first—most powerful person in the country.

Why, I wanted to know from the good Cardinal, the sudden reticence and modesty about so fundamental and critical an issue as the foreign debt?

And why, when the Church would have all of us agonize over the errors and perils of artificial birth control, divorce, and the fundamentalists, has its de facto spokesman seen fit to dismiss what many of us perceive as a matter of life and death so casually and, indeed, even callously?

And so I wrote His Eminence:

seat in IMF debate

"I lament the loss of a golden opportunity on the part of the Catholic Church to finally articulate its position on a matter affecting all of us Filipinos and millions of others whose governments are similarly influenced by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

"I am convinced that the Filipino people, including our leaders in government and especially our negotiators, will appreciate being enlightened by the Church's position on debt. Then and only then can we be assured that our government's policy on debt also answers the moral questions attached to it.

"Banking acrobatics is a talent given to very few, but morality is everyone's responsibility."

Had he taken the bull by the horns in the instance, I told the Cardinal, he would have been standing on very solid ground. For in February 1987, the Pontifical Commission on Justice and Peace had issued a report, *An Ethical Approach to the International Debt Question*, setting forth in no uncertain terms the stand of the Church on this global malaise.

And barely a year after, John Paul II had adopted the commission's report *in toto* in his encyclical *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, which confirmed the "failure of the mechanisms" developed and implemented by the multilateral agencies, which merely worsened the economic predicament of countries which they supposedly are meant to help.

Is it at all possible that His Eminence has not had the opportunity to read and digest these vital documents, possibly the Catholic Church's most enlightened and boldest essay at defining its own moral and spiritual mandate vis-à-vis the world's most pressing economic and social concerns? (Why, I had asked in a previous piece, had the encyclical not been read from our pulpits?)

If so, then perhaps we should condense these lengthy pronouncements down to the most essential point they raise, which is:

"Debt service cannot be met at the price of the asphyxiation of a country's economy, and no government can morally demand of its people privations incompatible with human dignity."

Surely nothing can be more straightforward and unequivocal than that.

Asphyxiation, as in automatically setting aside in excess

of 40% of our revenues to keep our accounts current, even at the risk of defaulting in the delivery of the most basic goods and services to our people.

And as a consequence of blindly accepting the World Bank and IMF's prescriptions, we must bear such privations as inevitable and continue increases in power rates, the prices of food and other basic commodities, the price of gasoline and transportation fares, of imports and the cost of imports, and eventually of taxes.

All these, the latest Letter of Intent would have us swallow wholesale in return for imaginary carrots like the PAP and whatever alms the Paris Club promises to dole out, most of which will come from our debt service payments anyway.

Let me suggest to the Cardinal that to appreciate the gross imbalance and near-total loss of sovereignty now being foisted on our people, banking expertise is not necessary. But moral sensitivity, conviction, and courage are, and the imperative for such sensitivity, conviction, and courage does not disappear merely because one says: "I do not know."

To plead ignorance in the matter is a cop-out, pure and simple. It is to wash one's hands like Pilate while innocent, helpless people are condemned to carry the cross of abject poverty and starvation.

I'm sorry, Your Eminence, it just doesn't wash.

The old monetary system is dead. Put it in the closet, and open the closet to horrify children on Halloween. The question is, how do we build the new monetary system?

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Colombia-Bulgaria-Swiss dope money connection exposed

by Jeffrey Steinberg

U.S. federal agents, working with Swiss, Turkish and Italian counterparts, have cracked one of the world's largest drug-money laundering organizations. It has serviced not only Colombia's Medellín Cartel, but a Bulgarian heroin connection linked to the very East bloc intelligence circles implicated in the May 13, 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II.

Two U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) probes, "Operation Polar Cap" and "Operation Moonbeam," outgrowths of the early 1980s "Pizza Connection" break-up, produced a series of indictments in March and April. These focused on a multibillion-dollar Swiss-based money-laundering operation run by a pair of Lebanese brothers, Jean and Barkev Magharian. "Polar Cap" tracked cocaine revenues of the Medellín Cartel through a series of bank accounts and business fronts, including a string of wholesale jewelry companies in Los Angeles, New York, and Houston, and a gold-processing firm in Florida. Funds ultimately found their way, via Uruguay, into accounts at the Banco de Occidente, headquartered in Cali, Colombia. "Moonbeam" probed a Turkish-Bulgarian heroin and arms smuggling ring run through Bulgaria's state export-import agency, Globus (formerly Kintex). According to a series of DEA and U.S. Customs Service documents provided to the press in March, both probes eventually converged on a single numbered bank account in New York City held in the name of Shakarchi Trading Co., a Zurich-based gold and currency house whose activities closely overlapped those of the Magharian brothers.

The information provided in the recent indictments and in the "Moonbeam" files confirms some of the allegations contained in *EIR's* booklength probe of the international drug cartel, *Dope, Inc.*, first published in 1978:

- That the international drug trade would choke on its own profits if major elements within the "legitimate" world banking community did not cooperate fully in laundering narco-revenues. The authors of *Dope, Inc.* argued that the money-laundering aspect of the world dope trade was the key "choke point" for launching a war on drugs—and that a targeting of dope banking would reveal the hand of many powerful "citizens above suspicion."

- That Soviet bloc intelligence services, by no later than Yuri Andropov's 1967 takeover of the KGB, were up to their eyeballs in the international drug trade, and that Moscow had indeed launched narco-terrorism as a new and deadlier form

of irregular warfare. In the second edition of *Dope, Inc.*, first published in Spanish as (*Narco trafico S.A.*) in January 1985, the *EIR* editors underscored a Bulgarian-Colombian connection, established top down in the late 1970s by then Colombian President Alfonso López Michelsen and Bulgarian Premier Todor Zhivkov.

- That corrupted elements within Western intelligence services were also involved, thus creating a potentially serious road block to effective drug enforcement under the false flag of "protecting national security methods and procedures." In the 1985 edition, the authors cited the attempted assassination of the Pope as an instance of corrupt Western circles collaborating with narco-elements in the Warsaw Pact secret services.

The April 1986 English-language edition of *Dope, Inc.* also underscored the role of Syrian-born banker Edmund Safra:

"Shearson/Lehman/American Express, as the ultimate Wall Street merger calls itself, is the phoenix which has arisen from the ashes of the offshore money markets. The new entity is effectively controlled, in turn, by two of the world's shadiest financiers, Edmund Safra and Carl Lindner, each of whom own about 4% of the stock. . . .

"Safra's controlling share of American Express derives from the January 1983 merger of his Trade Development Bank of Geneva with American Express International Bank, where Safra briefly served as chairman. Amex took control of the Swiss institution and its global network, in return for 4% of its outstanding shares. . . . These are current employers of Henry Kissinger. . . . The members of Kissinger Associates represent a de facto board of directors for the entity we call Dope, Incorporated."

Indeed, "Moonbeam" and "Polar Cap" files obtained by *New York Newsday* and reported April 2, 1989, identify Safra's Republic National Bank in New York as one of the major outlets for Shakarchi. Shakarchi Account No. 606347712 came up in both probes as a laundromat for funds derived from Medellín Cartel cocaine sales in the United States and from Bulgarian-Turkish heroin and morphine base sales in the Middle East.

The laundering operation worked as follows.

According to the "Polar Cap" indictments, a Los Angeles-based wholesale jewelry house, Ropex, part of a laundering network referred to as "La Mina," served as a front for

the Medellín Cartel, collecting cash revenues from street sales of cocaine in Florida, Texas, New York, and California, and shipping that cash to Los Angeles. According to the *Newsday* account:

"Ropex then wired the money to several New York banks, including Chase Manhattan and Citibank, according to allegations in a prosecution affidavit.

"One of those records, a bank wire analysis contained in Polar Cap affidavits, discloses that Ropex also placed hundreds of thousands of dollars in 1987 and 1988 into Shakarchi Trading's Account No. 606347712."

Safra's relationship to the Shakarchi family goes back years, according to DEA files. Mahmoud Shakarchi, the father of Shakarchi Trading's Mohammed Shakarchi, was a lifelong close personal friend and business associate of Safra. The DEA files place the senior Shakarchi, who started the family's gold and currency-trading business, in the middle of a longstanding Turkish-Bulgarian heroin, morphine, gold, and arms-smuggling ring which operated uninterrupted from the 1960s. This ring was at the center of the Pizza Connection heroin operation, and more recently has been associated with a Lebanese connection apparently involved in smuggling drugs produced and refined inside Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Son Mohammed established the trading company in 1983 and used the "special relationship" to Republic National Bank in furtherance of his laundering activities. To date, however, neither Shakarchi nor Safra have been indicted by either American or Swiss authorities. The Magharian brothers, whose courier system made significant use of Shakarchi personnel, according to DEA records, are being held in a Swiss jail on local indictments and a March 7, 1989 indictment in Los Angeles.

The Bulgarian Connection revisited

According to a 13-page DEA report written on Jan. 3 of this year, Shakarchi surfaced in the course of the Magharian brothers probe as "one of the largest identified drug-money laundering organizations in Switzerland." The bulk of the Shakarchi business involved the Turkish-Bulgarian heroin ring. Revenues from heroin, morphine, and arms sales in the Middle East would be transported in the form of cash and gold by chartered tourist bus from Istanbul to Sofia, Bulgaria. There, officials of the state export-import firm, Globus, transferred the funds onto airplanes bound for Zurich. Shakarchi employees picked up the money, deposited it in Swiss banks and wire transferred the funds overseas, often to New York bank accounts.

The DEA documents, according to the accounts, contain the names of dozens of Bulgarian officials and Sofia-based criminals who participated in the Shakarchi laundering operation, in particular, two senior Bulgarian secret police officials working for Globus, Ivanoff Tochkov and Stoyan Pounov. Tochkov was formerly the director of Kintex, the predecessor to Globus, which, according to DEA records, pro-

vided the funds to Mehmet Ali Agca for the assassination attempt on the Pope.

The Bulgarian government is also documented in the DEA reports to be housing a series of heroin refineries. One name mentioned prominently is Yasar Avni Musululu, a well-known Turkish heroin supplier who fled to Bulgaria at the time of the breakup of the Pizza Connection. Musululu's Swiss-based associate, Mehmet Cakir, was the principal supplier of morphine base to the Italian Pizza Connection, and his money laundering was handled by Shakarchi, according to the DEA report.

On March 29, Attorney General Richard Thornburgh gave a press conference in Washington, D.C. announcing the unsealing of further indictments in the "La Mina" case and also announcing that the DoJ had filed a civil suit in New York City against nine banks in an effort to recover \$433 million in drug proceeds. The suit tests a new 1988 federal law permitting the government to seize all assets of companies and individuals involved in drug trafficking. The nine banks named in the suit included: Republic National Bank, Citibank, American Express Bank, the Bank of Commerce and Credit International, the Bank of America International, and the Bank of New York. At least the first four banks named have longtime intimate ties to Kissinger Associates. Two are directly linked to Safra.

A bigger scandal still brewing?

Early this year, a mini-scandal erupted which led to the resignation of then-Swiss Justice Minister and Vice President Elisabeth Kopp. In late 1988, Kopp had alerted her husband, a vice chairman of Shakarchi, of pending criminal indictments. He promptly resigned from the trading company. When this "insider" tip surfaced, Mrs. Kopp was forced to resign from the government. However, many Swiss influentials accused the United States of playing dirty pool, to cover up a bigger scandal.

According to *Newsweek*, at least one feature of that bigger scandal centers around the fact that a CIA front, between 1981-88, bought \$25 million in Iranian, Afghani, and Lebanese currencies from Shakarchi. That front was reportedly involved in financing the Mujahideen in Afghanistan, and according to one source, was entirely distinct from the Secord-North Enterprise behind the Iran-Contra affair.

The Safra connection, however, may be more central to the bigger scandal still brewing. According to Irangate congressional records, Safra's Republic New York Corp. in 1985 set up a joint "corporate jet" company with Irangate biggie Willard Zucker, whose Geneva-based CSF handled all the money laundering for the North-Secord "Enterprise." To have a prime suspect in the Bulgaria-Colombia drug connection linked to the "parallel government" in Washington might sufficiently poison the "new relationship" between Washington and Moscow to do fatal damage to the New Yalta process.

Euthanasia sought for six-year-olds

by Linda Everett

The "Right to Die" movement in the United States has taken new steps in the gruesome policy of euthanasia, for which Nazi doctors were hung at the Nuremberg Tribunal. The latest outrages include a plan that would authorize euthanasia for six-year-olds; a prestigious medical journal's "ethics" recommendations to kill patients; and a program passed by the Oregon Senate that makes abortion and euthanasia "health care priorities."

An 'academic' exercise

Third-year students of the University of Iowa Law School launched a new project this year—the emulation of Nazi euthanasia law. Eighteen students, enrolled in a seminar taught by Sheldon Kurtz and Michael Saks, drafted a "Model Aid-in-Dying Act," which would allow physicians, nurses, "teleostriicians," patients, or those designated by patients to administer life-terminating drugs. Terminally ill individuals, those needing dialysis or a feeding tube, or anyone who feels they have an intolerable condition, would qualify for death-on-demand.

The "model" bill makes a mockery of the principle of informed consent, since even a six-year-old child can demand and receive "aid-in-dying" with the approval of a parent or a legal guardian. Death can be requested "on behalf of" a patient who is incompetent, whether he asked for it or not; for minors over six years old who "request" it, even if their parents disagree. Death requests can be made for minors over and under six years of age if their parents disagree with each other about the decision, if both parents are unemancipated minors, or are dead or incompetent.

Requests go to an "aid-in dying" board set up by the state to oversee the killing. If the patient cannot speak for himself, the board decides if "a reasonable person" in the patient's condition would want to die.

The bill specifies, "No health facility may qualify as a conscientious objector [translation: refuse to kill] if the department of health determines that it is either government owned or substantially government funded."

Doctors as murderers

At the end of March, the *New England Journal of Medicine* proposed a new set of Nazi "ethical guidelines," with an

article on "Physicians' Responsibility Toward Hopelessly Ill Patients." According to the authors, dying patients have special rights and they should get special treatment—like drug overdoses if they ask for them—or maybe even if they don't. The article calls for more home and hospice care, in lieu of high-technology treatment. Should a dying patient (all patients are dying—if there is a decision not to save them) go to a hospital, he or she should be cared for in a specialized room which facilitates "comfortable interchange" with family and friends. But, the article states, "The presence of life-sustaining equipment would be inappropriate in such an environment."

Besides inducing all patients to sign living wills, the authors want nursing homes to insist that all patients sign similar directives. Nurses and doctors in intensive care units might get "hung up" about saving lives; if so, they should be told by others outside the ICU "to change the treatment goal"—i.e., let the patient die.

The article was based on a meeting held in October 1987 at Harvard. Many of the same authors met three years earlier to announce then that starving senile patients was "ethical." Both seminars were organized by the Society for the Right to Die. Over half of the 12 "prestigious" physicians who authored the *NEJM* article, are staunch advocates of the euthanasia lobby. Four are on the board of the Right to Die Society; and one is on the Concern For Dying board; another, neurologist Ronald Cranford, has spent much of the last decade testifying in courts around the country in favor of killing and starving patients.

Health care, Oregon-style

After just four days in the Oregon state Senate, S.B. 27, Sen. John Kitzhaber's (D) master plan to institute health care rationing, passed by a vote of 24-2. On April 3, Kitzhaber unveiled his list of those "health care" services that would be given priority: family planning services, genetic counseling, pre-conception counseling, abortion, reversible contraception, sterilization, and programs addressing "life-styles," like safe sex, drugs, alcohol, and smoking programs. These services, according to the bill, will shrink when the state budget shrinks.

The list was drawn up by a commission under the auspices of a Jesuit bioethicist, J.D. Golinski. The Oregon Medical Resources Foundation described the list as "based on public attitudes that quantify the trade-off between the length of life and the quality of life." Those "public attitudes" were shaped by the health insurance company-funded Oregon Health Decisions, whose document "Quality of Life and Allocation of Health Care Resources" was the basis for Kitzhaber's rate-setting project.

No one has raised the issue of whether, or when, Congress will waive the Medicaid rules that stipulate a certain level of health care must be provided by the states in order to qualify for federal funding. Such a waiver would be necessary for Kitzhaber's program to go into effect.

India and 'the Brady Plan'

With increasing debt service, New Delhi prefers not to bite the hand that may offer it feed.

If India's role in the present round of International Monetary Fund-World Bank meetings on international financial matters is any indication, meaningful initiatives are not to be expected from the nation that was the former head of the Non-Aligned Movement.

India's Finance Minister Mr. S. B. Chavan told the Interim Committee meeting April 4 that the so-called Brady Plan smacked of a bailout for the commercial banks and diversion of resources for development.

But Mr. Chavan's protests in the same meeting that India did not oppose assisting the most indebted nations of Ibero-America, and only wanted assistance spread evenly around the world, point to the contradictions in India's stance.

Earlier, according to Indian news agency reports from Washington, Chavan had told the Group of 24 developing nations that while India welcomed the U.S. inclination to provide relief to developing countries, as envisioned in the "Brady Plan," the strategy would only benefit countries not prudent enough to manage their economies, putting at a disadvantage countries like India who had done comparatively well. According to the same report, Pakistan, Communist China, and other Asian countries "where debt is not a problem" shared India's concern.

Who is kidding whom? The P.R.C. is heading fast into the "debt trap," and Pakistan is already deep in the clutches of the debt dilemma, with extensive and intrusive IMF involvement in its economy. Less well known

is that India also has one leg in the "Latin American syndrome."

While Indian officials may choose to chide others' "irresponsibility," India's foreign debt is soaring, producing a debt service ratio that already qualifies India as a "problem case." The burgeoning balance of payments crisis shows no sign of reversal, and a declining rate of savings and a non-performing public sector have added pressure on the development budget.

With external debt at an official \$40 billion or so, debt servicing has jumped from 8.5% of total external receipts in 1979-80 to 24% in 1988-89—well within the IMF's "danger zone"—according to the government economic survey for 1988-89. But the official debt statistics have been widely questioned. The latest estimates from private sources put the actual debt as high as \$60-85 billion—which means that the debt service ratio is more likely in the range of 35% (or 60% of export earnings).

The balance of payments picture as a whole is no less bleak. According to the latest Commerce Ministry report, provisional data for April 1988 to January 1989 show that the trade deficit has increased by about \$1 billion in the past year. During this period import growth at 27.5% outpaced exports at 26.9%.

The top two import categories, capital goods and petroleum, will be difficult to reduce. The failure to tap major new oil reserves will keep petroleum at the top of India's import list for the foreseeable future, at \$2.7 billion in 1987-88. The rise in oil prices

and threat of a new oil crisis could suddenly make this a devastating liability.

Import liberalization measures over the past four years have led to a doubling of capital goods imports to about \$4 billion in 1987-88. In the prevailing economic policy regime this cannot be reversed, since improved technology to produce internationally competitive products is a necessary (if not sufficient) condition for expanding exports—the magic formula that both the World Bank-IMF crowd and the Rajiv Gandhi government officials say is the key to India's economic future.

In the last five years, despite declarations of an expanded export policy, exports haven't made a dent on the annual trade deficit. According to the Commerce Ministry, the trade deficit has increased from about \$3.6 billion in April-January 1987-88 to some \$4.7 billion in April-January 1988-89.

Government denials concerning rumors that India is negotiating for another big IMF loan are not to be taken seriously. Analysts here point out that already, foreign exchange reserves are back to the low level following the 1979 "oil shock" that prompted India's taking the \$5.6 billion IMF loan in 1981, and that the question of a new IMF loan is not "if," but "when."

There is virtually no flexibility on current account, given the present policy path, these analysts stress. Diversion of funds from capital account, in light of a mushrooming internal budget deficit and increasing difficulty in raising domestic capital, would imperil development plans and poverty alleviation schemes. In fact, the government is trying to get World Bank permission to siphon off unused project funds for general use, and has been lobbying for more untied funds from aid givers and the financial institutions alike.

New riots confront Venezuela's CAP

All sectors are in rebellion against the socialist President's economic devastation policies.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez went home after hobnobbing in the United States with George Bush and Jimmy Carter March 29-April 1, only to face new disorders provoked by his slavish obedience to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). High school students in working class districts in western Caracas burned tires and blocked traffic to protest quadrupling of bus fares. One person was killed; 1,000 died in Feb. 27-March 4 riots against the reductions in living standards ordered by President "CAP."

Hours before the demonstration, Pérez told reporters, "There is unease, there is confusion, and I understand the impatience of many sectors." The day before, as Pérez's negotiators sat down in Washington to try to renegotiate Venezuela's \$33 billion foreign debt, thousands of residents of a lower-middle-class region of Caracas marched and blocked traffic to protest having to pay more than double on their mortgages. Over the past month, rates floated up from 13% to 28%, with the sky the limit.

Pérez promised the IMF he would let internal interest rates float, while putting a straitjacket on wages. His party's secretary general, Humberto Celli, insists, "The measures are irreversible."

In Washington, CAP lauded the suggestion made by Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady that selected countries be allowed to reduce their debt burden, if they were willing to apply IMF bloodletting. He proclaimed, "The Brady Plan is going to function for Latin American debt and it is going to function immediately for

Venezuela." No one expects Venezuela will see even token "debt relief" for at least six to nine months. But the disorders showed that the tough Brady conditionalities did "function immediately for Venezuela."

On March 26, the government doubled prices of most basic foods. Even so, the price control agency reported that there was no milk powder, flour, cornmeal, salt, rice, or toilet paper anywhere on the market, and that meat and fish were scarce. While many of the shortages are caused by the regime's willingness to reward speculators, agriculture and industry are slashing output.

A large tractorcade rolled through the key agricultural state of Guarico on April 5. Its organizers said the purpose was "to rescue our agriculture, today threatened with being wiped off the map of Venezuela."

Due to the impact of IMF measures like floating interest rates and elimination of food subsidies, Venezuela would produce 40% less grain than expected this year, farm leaders of the powerful Fedecamaras Chamber of Commerce projected March 31. Total national grain output would drop 786,000 tons, due to Pérez's policies. In Guarico state, only half the land is being planted. Production losses there alone mean 130,000 tons less rice, 170,000 tons less corn, and 160,000 tons less sorghum.

Farmers are outraged. Cattlemen in the west are paying their interest bills at the contracted old rate; they won a Supreme Court ruling March 31 that the rate increase was unconstitutional. At a meeting of the national farm federation, Fedeagro, some sub-

scribers to *EIR's Resumen Ejecutivo* urged an alliance between farmers and eaters, to prevent the government from playing its usual game of pitting them against each other. As per IMF orders, prices paid to farmers are far below rapidly rising costs, while consumers are being forced to pay exorbitant prices.

Industry, heavily dependent upon imported inputs, is contracting. Some \$3 billion worth of last year's import bills are being collected at triple the number of bolivars the central bank contracted. New inputs will cost three times more, and the World Bank is forcing tariff protection to be eliminated. The whole country will end up in the hands of a half-dozen oligarchical families and their international cartel partners, producers fear.

"The Country Has Risen Up Against the 'Package,'" bold headlines across the top of the daily *El Nuevo País* blared March 31. It reported that organized labor would go on general strike April 25, the students would close the universities April 6, the industrialists were suing the central bank, and the cattlemen were not paying higher interest.

"The charismatic defense minister, Division General Italo del Valle Alliegro, tomorrow could become a different and refreshing President of the Republic," the daily *El Mundo* commented March 31. The president of CAP's Democratic Action party, Gonzalo Barrios, charged the same day, "There is a campaign by those who want a coup."

The question of a coup is on people's minds because many remember that, under the military rule of Gen. Marcos Pérez Jiménez in the 1950s, Venezuelans suffered none of the bloody repression or economic devastation that they have felt under the "democrat" Carlos Andrés Pérez.

Food supply: fantasy vs. fact

As a food crisis of global proportions looms, Mexico debates whether to produce food, or import it.

An underground factional battle is currently shaping up inside the Mexican government over whether the country will produce its own basic food requirements or not. On the one side are those who believe that food self-sufficiency and sovereignty are inseparable concepts. On the other are those who believe that food sovereignty does not necessarily require self-sufficiency; their argument is that with enough financial help, sufficient food can be purchased abroad.

Unfortunately, the first side has its head buried in the sand, while the other is in apparent cahoots with the very forces committed to the destruction of both Mexico's sovereignty and self-sufficiency. What neither faction acknowledges is the very real threat of starvation on a global scale, as the international financiers and the food cartels they operate are not only *not* providing financing for food and other basic import requirements, but are deliberately draining whatever resources remain to countries like Mexico for providing for their own needs.

The pro-sovereignty group is weakly represented by Mexico's secretary of agriculture and water resources, Jorge de la Vega Domínguez. The second, the "financial faction," by trade and industry secretary Jaime Serra Puche.

The most open and public manifestation of this struggle was De la Vega's statements in early March, before the National Popular Forum for the Modernization of the Countryside. At that event, attended by cabinet members, state governors, and private

sector leaders, the agriculture secretary demanded to know "if we are prepared to fight for self-sufficiency in certain basic food products, or to produce other kinds of high-priced goods for export in exchange for food imports."

One month after issuing his challenge, the agriculture secretary has only seen a delay in the setting of goals and policies for food production for 1989, a delay which will have serious negative repercussions on the spring-summer production cycle this year.

Secretary De la Vega himself has shown that he hasn't the slightest idea how to address this crisis situation. In statements to the daily *Novedades* of March 12, he admitted, "I don't see any way that agriculture can recover this year." The deputy secretary of agriculture, Sergio Reyes Osorio, has added that "this year will be more critical than 1988," and that the only thing of which he is sure, is that "if the proper attention is not paid, the import of basic food products—which this year will reach 8 million tons—will have to be increased."

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the other faction insist that conditions are ripe for a food import policy. José Manuel Pasalagua, trade director for the state company Conasupo (Compañía Nacional de Subsistencias Populares), which is the entity responsible for importing 40-50% of Mexico's food imports, declared that 95% of purchases abroad are being carried out through preferential-rate credits contracted earlier through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), an agency

of the United States Department of Agriculture. Pasalagua said that the CCC annually provides \$4.9 billion worth of credit, of which Mexico has access to \$1.2 billion, "which reflects the political willingness of the neighbor to the north to collaborate in assuring a supply of basic products for our market."

According to Hector Olea, director of the Commerce Ministry's international department, Mexico will ask to be declared a net food importer within the GATT, should the elimination of agricultural subsidies by his department be approved. Olea said that this would be "the only way to alleviate the damage the nation would suffer."

The Commerce Ministry meanwhile is continuing to use the weapon of food imports against producers who are demanding price increases for their products, by alleging that indiscriminate food imports have contributed to reducing internal inflationary pressures, thus eliminating the need for price hikes.

However, the most direct effect of the import policy has been to set up a vicious cycle of destruction of national productive capacity, which in turn causes increased imports, and so on. For example, milk production has fallen 27% in the past two years; of 180 pasteurization plants that existed in 1985, only 41 still operate. Milk imports in 1988 represented 30% of national consumption. Pork production in only eight months has lost 50% of its market, and the inventory of swine has gone in six years from more than 16 million to less than 8 million head. Chicken imports represented 20% of national consumption last year, while thousands of chicken farms have been bankrupted. The same with eggs, and even beef. Five million tons of corn will be imported in 1989, leaving Mexico's producers bankrupt.

Soviets demand record food imports

Drought and scarce food stocks in the United States mean millions of Americans could go hungry.

The Soviet Union is importing U.S. grain and other foodstuffs from the West at record rates. With the ongoing drought and poor crop and livestock conditions now prevailing in much of the farm state heartland, millions of Americans face malnourishment and hunger. In Third World nations dependent on grain imports from the United States, the lack of stocks means certain death for millions.

The Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reported last month that this year, there will be only 9.5 million tons of grain pledged to the world food relief program by the United States and other donor nations, due to the effects of drought in the North American grain belt and record Soviet rates of imports. The annual level of 10 million tons for food relief is considered a minimum, and for the past few years, a total of 12-13 million tons of grain has been pledged and distributed.

The conditions for the 1989 wheat harvest are very poor in Kansas the heart of the U.S. wheat belt. On March 27, Kansas Gov. Mike Hayden officially called for federal drought-relief action and invited the secretary of agriculture to visit Kansas to inspect the damage. Hayden said in his request letter, "The dry conditions and unusually volatile temperatures in Kansas have significantly injured this year's wheat crop." Kansas alone accounts for almost 20% of the annual U.S. wheat harvest, and a much higher percentage of high-quality bread wheat.

On March 29, the purchase by the Soviet Union of 450,000 metric tons of U.S. corn—completing a total of 1 million tons of corn purchased that

week alone, brought the total for the trade year to date (Oct. 1, 1988 to Sept. 30, 1989) to 15.2 million tons of corn and wheat. This is more than the entire 14.6 million tons of corn and wheat purchased by the Soviet Union during the previous 12-month trade year. And there are still six months left to go.

In addition, the Soviets have bought at least 1.133 million metric tons of soybean meal from the United States. It is to be presumed that more sales have been booked that are not yet announced officially.

U.S. trade officials project that the Soviet Union may buy over 35 million tons of grain this year from all sources, but the eventual total shopping list may add up to over 50 million tons.

Because of last year's devastating impact on corn, sorghum, spring wheat, and other small grains in the Northern Plains, the Soviet buying spree has cut deeply into scarce stocks that would otherwise go to domestic needs and to grain-dependent Third World nations.

The USDA's view of this was expressed during the 1988 drought months by Assistant Secretary for Economics Ewen Wilson, who said that stocks will be sufficient because there will be "rationing by price." In practice, this means that the USDA sanctions huge food price rises for consumers, cutting off Third World customers, and meeting every demand of the Soviet Union as if it were tribute to imperial Rome.

To make matters worse, the USDA is giving away scarce government-held grain stocks (Commodity Credit Corp.) for free to the grain cartel com-

panies (Cargill, Bunge, Continental, Louis Dreyfus, Garnac/André), for them in turn to offer the Soviets subsidies on their grain purchases. For example, a sale of 400,000 metric tons of wheat to Russia in March had a subsidy worth \$22.06 a ton. This is over \$8.8 million for just this one purchase.

Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter has testified to Congress this winter that these subsidies—called the "Export Enhancement Program"—must continue, despite any budget considerations. When pressed by members of Congress on whether Yeutter planned for the USDA to maintain its domestic food assistance programs (to institutions, the needy, and so forth), he would make no such commitment.

Domestic distribution of CCC stocks to the needy have been cut almost to nothing. Very little wheat flour or cornmeal is being made available, and no milk powder. The stocks are gone.

For the general consumer, the price of a loaf of bread has gone up from about 99¢ a year ago to about \$1.05. January and February of this year marked the largest increases in food prices for any equivalent period in decades.

This is just the beginning. The prospects for crops and livestock in 1989 are grim, due to the lingering impact of the 1988 drought, and to poor weather prospects. What this means you can expect, in terms of wheat, for example, was described by Monty Johnson, general manager of the Southeast Nebraska Co-op in Beatrice, Nebraska: "First of all, you have to look at the price for the old crop and the price for new crop grain. And right now, the main inspiration in the market is the tightness in old-crop supplies combined with concerns about the new crop."

What happened to nuclear energy?

It's still the best energy technology available, but a decade after TMI and Volcker, nuclear has ground to a halt.

Coming a day after the creation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and during the tenure of Pennsylvania Gov. Richard Thornburgh, the Three Mile Island nuclear event is still being manipulated to stop the best energy technology available.

It is more than 10 years since the March 29, 1979 incident at the Middletown Three Mile Island-2 nuclear power plant. The hysteria generated by the media during and after the event have created a phase-shift for the worse in world economic growth potentials. Here, we will not recapitulate the queer coincidence that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was created one day before the TMI event. Nor will we recall the strange circumstances around the handling of the event by Governor Thornburgh's office. Let us briefly review the state of the nuclear power industry since that well-publicized Pennsylvania occasion.

On paper, the United States has increased its use of nuclear power electricity generation. In 1979, the United States had 71 licensed reactors, whereas by February 1989, it had 111 nuclear units. This is fully 20% of all U.S. electric power versus 11% in 1979, making nuclear the nation's second largest source of electricity after coal.

This is very deceptive. Most of these reactors represent simply completion of costly investments by electric utilities which were already in the construction phase a decade ago. The real story is that the United States, after a decade of delay and cancellation, has dangerously too little electrical capacity, as last summer's heat

wave revealed in the form of power brownouts.

In a White Paper delivered to Energy Secretary James Watkins and President Bush several weeks ago, the Nuclear Power Oversight Committee warned that the U.S. will need the equivalent of 120-220 new electric power plants of equivalent 1,000 megawatt nuclear-unit size by the end of 10 years' time, if the country is to only keep up with replacing outmoded plants and keep a minimum of 2-3% per year electricity growth, a level less than half that of the 1960s. But not one new order for a nuclear plant has been placed by a U.S. utility since Three Mile Island.

Worse, since 1979, U.S. utilities have scrapped existing plans to build 106 nuclear plants.

The hysteria after the Three Mile Island event created a temporary pause in new nuclear orders around the world at precisely the time when the Carter regime and Anglo-American oil interests created conditions for the cutoff of Iran's oil and a panic which created the second shock in less than six years to the world's principal energy resource, petroleum.

Now, I don't want to try to convince you that those big nasty Anglo-American oil multinationals had something to do with the post-1979 attacks by environmental groups on nuclear energy, just at the time nuclear was about to increase its share of world energy at the expense of oil. But it is a matter of record that precisely those oil majors were main financial sugar daddies for groups such as Friends of the Earth, who organized the big anti-nuclear campaigns.

If Three Mile Island gave a "pause for reflection," Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker's October 1979 monetary revolution, which hiked interest rates above 20% for the next three years, dealt the death-blow to long-term capital investment in nuclear power. He was materially abetted by a fanatically anti-nuclear Carter presidency. The results have been as staggering as they are tragic. Regulatory obstruction and delay since Three Mile Island, after the Volcker "shock," became coupled with unpayable costs of capital, and reactor construction delays to threaten to bankrupt major U.S. and other nations' electric utilities.

Today, South Korea, among developing nations, stands alone. It plans to expand its nuclear capacity by five plants over the coming decade to a total of 14. The earlier nuclear programs in Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Taiwan, Philippines, Egypt, Iran, and Pakistan all have but ground to a halt. Soaring interest rates and economic depression have gutted long-term industrial investment.

Most of the major industrial countries, with the exception of Japan, have all but stopped their nuclear efforts. West Germany, only a decade ago one of the world's most active nuclear exporters, is embroiled in local political scandals and growing efforts by the Green and Social Democratic parties to shut down existing reactors, even though German nuclear reactors are, next to Switzerland's, the world's safest and best-functioning in terms of percent utilization, according to a recent MIT study. France, which refused to be panicked after 1979, today gets 70% of all electricity from nuclear plants. But even the French nuclear industry is now threatened by lack of export markets. Environment Minister Brice Lalonde is a former "militant" of Friends of the Earth.

Business Briefs

International Credit

Baker hears pleas for greater debt relief

At a meeting on Third World debt at the Carter Center in Atlanta, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker "got an earful" from Ibero-American delegates, reports Reuters. "The Latin Americans let him know that their only agenda is debt and that they are desperate. . . . I think he walked away with that," one observer reported.

Venezuela's Carlos Andrés Pérez and former President Rafael Caldera, as well as the Brazilian and Mexican foreign ministers, pressed this point.

However, in public, Pérez said, "The Brady Plan is an excellent initiative and it is very much in agreement with what the Latin American countries proposed," but he added that "we believe it really doesn't have any operational mechanism so this is why we are afraid it might be delayed. . . . Time runs against us."

Pérez the day before had said that the mere 20% reduction of debt service envisaged by the Brady Plan "would resolve absolutely nothing," a sentiment echoed by Mexican Finance Minister Pedro Aspe, who observed that 20% "is not worth anything to us." Pérez also noted that rising interest rates would more than erase any gain from the Brady Plan as now on the table.

Former President Jimmy Carter said, "I hope there will be a drastic reduction in debt burden, maybe 50% at least, and maybe more for some like Peru that are unable to pay." Speaker of the House Jim Wright also said that "20% is not enough," though it is a starting point.

Public Health

Thailand takes new action against AIDS

Thailand's Ministry of Public Health has devised a plan which includes construction of up to 19 "Communicable Disease Wards"

attached to Lerdain and Raywithee hospitals in Bangkok, and to 17 regional hospitals in the provinces.

Construction will begin with two centers in Songkhla and Lampang, to be carried out between 1990 and 1992. According to the plan, patients with AIDS will be treated in these separate wards by a specially trained staff, with higher salaries.

Opposition to the plan is reflected in an article in the English-language daily *The Nation*, entitled "Separating AIDS patients: Will it Work?" It bases its objection on the charge that the plan will be too expensive. One doctor's criticism is that "separating patients with AIDS will not work unless all patients are tested—a measure that would be economically unreasonable."

Genocide

IMF austerity cited in infant mortality

The Third World debt crisis has increased infant mortality, a UNICEF study, "Crisis and Infancy in Brazil," shows. It found direct correlations between policies imposed on nations by the International Monetary Fund, living conditions, and infant mortality.

In Brazil's impoverished Northeast, the death rate of children under one year dropped steadily to a low of 91 in 1982. But, once Brazil put itself under IMF starvation austerity at the start of 1983, the rate jumped back to 101, and reached 114 in 1984. Prof. Pedro Israel Cabral said that infant mortality receded in 1985 and 1986, when Finance Minister Dilson Funaro began putting food back on the tables and providing funds for sanitation and vaccinations. The trends for Brazil as a whole are similar, although the numbers are lower.

Overall, 163 million Ibero-Americans are undernourished, according to Autonomous University of Mexico researcher José Luis Calva. He calculates that half of Ibero-America's children under five years are undernourished, causing severe retardation to 15% of them. Former actress Audrey Hep-

burn, now with UNICEF, said the average family income in the region has fallen 10-25% since 1980, and governments have reduced social spending to the detriment of infants. She said UNICEF calculates that 500,000 children a year die in the region.

Calva noted that meat consumption in Mexico City fell 45.1% from 1982 to 1987, and that 42% of Ibero-America's export revenues were used to pay debt in 1988. Calva concludes, "Although some technocrats are reluctant to accept it, the worsening of hunger is associated with the foreign debt crisis and the severe adjustment policies applied by many governments."

Statistics released by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), indicated that at least 165 million Ibero-Americans live in poverty, 55 million more than in 1970. "The problems of poverty and marginalization, which were already serious in the region 10 or 20 years ago, have now grown even worse," said Gert Rosenthal, ECLA executive secretary. The 165 million in poverty represents 40% of the entire population.

Thrifts

FDIC seizes solvent savings and loans

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board seized control of two solvent savings and loans March 31, an unprecedented action. The FDIC depicted Gibraltar Savings of Beverly Hills, Calif., and Gibraltar Savings of Bellevue, Washington, as "troubled." Gibraltar chairman James Thayer confirmed to the press that he had been removed as head of the S&L by federal authorities, labeling the seizure "a surprise."

While the firm had reported losses of \$100 million this year and could not long remain solvent without a merger partner or capital from an investor, it was neither insolvent nor the subject of any legal action.

When the FDIC takeover occurred, Gibraltar of Beverly Hills still had \$428 million of regulatory capital and was technical-

ly solvent.

The April 1 *Wall Street Journal* justified the action by saying that Gibraltar "is believed to have a negative net worth if its assets are valued at market. Although regulators are trying to implement a new policy of intervening earlier in troubled institutions to reduce losses for the federal deposit insurance funds, Gibraltar may have been taken over simply to end a run."

Gibraltar is the ninth largest thrift in the U.S. with \$13.4 billion in assets.

Gibraltar got into trouble because of the short-term interest rate squeeze. Its troubles were compounded because, in 1986 and 1987, executives thought interest rates had peaked, and bought \$6 billion in fixed-rate, mortgage-backed securities. When interest rates began to take off in the summer of 1987, Gibraltar suffered net operating losses. Gibraltar began to depend heavily on brokered deposits, and on reverse repurchase agreements, with \$3.5 billion repos outstanding last fall—the second highest of any thrift.

Repos are short-term loans collateralized by mortgage-backed securities.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the FHLBB recently issued a news release which "has reassured holders" of repos by informing them that their loans would be protected even if Gibraltar is liquidated or sold. The takeover confirms that Gibraltar Financial's shareholders have been wiped out."

Banking

Seized MCorp sues FDIC

After having 20 of its 25 banking units suddenly seized by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation the morning of March 31, MCorp of Texas, the state's largest bank holding company, filed the first-ever legal challenge to the broad authority federal regulators claim for themselves to dispose of troubled financial institutions.

MCorp went into federal district court to file a lawsuit charging that at least 12 of 20

banks seized had been seized illegally. At the same time, it filed a petition in New York bankruptcy court for Chapter 11 protection, which takes precedence over a Chapter 7 forced-bankruptcy petition filed earlier by three small bondholders.

Two MCorp subsidiaries, MCorp Financial and MCorp Management, filed for Chapter 11 protection in a Houston federal bankruptcy court; and the holding company itself will try to have the New York venue changed to Houston.

Corporate Strategy

Drexel's Milken indicted on 98 counts

Drexel Burnham Lambert junk-bond dealer Michael Milken was handed a 98-count criminal RICO suit at the end of March, with the Justice Department seeking a staggering \$1.8 billion in compensation. The government charged that Milken was paid \$550 million in salary and bonuses in 1987.

Senior Drexel executives say Milken's enormous compensation is testimony to the importance of his role in arranging financing for corporations planning to expand or acquire other companies. The government alleges in its indictment that Milken's salary represented the fruits of an illegal racketeering enterprise he conducted through Drexel.

A *Washington Post* report notes that a Milken trial would become a real public spectacle, with new documents and information about Milken's junk bond empire and its role in the boom in corporate takeovers. The article notes that if the economy stabilizes and there is no rash of defaults of junk bonds, Milken's lawyers could argue that the junk bonds did a great service in creating jobs and stimulating corporate growth. "If a serious recession were to occur, on the other hand, jurors might see Milken as a scapegoat for the nation's ills."

The *Post* compares Milken's situation to that of J.P. Morgan during the 1930s Depression; he was forced to defend his Wall Street banking business from public attack, as a "national treasure."

Briefly

● **U.S. FACTORIES** in South Korea have been closing without advance warning. Pico Korea, Ltd., suddenly withdrew from Seoul in mid-March, without paying its workers, who have been occupying the plant since then, and on March 22, wrecked the office of the American Chamber of Commerce in Seoul.

● **COAHUILA** State in Mexico has called for a moratorium on foreign debt, the first such resolution to be voted on in Mexico. The state legislature voted up a resolution directed to Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. According to Arturo Lomelín, of the Mexican Association of Studies for the Defense of the Consumer, Mexican living standards have fallen by up to 70% in the last 18 months.

● **EPA RULES** will force gas station owners to shell out \$20,000 a tank to retrofit their underground storage tanks with safety devices to prevent leaks, and to carry a minimum of \$1 million in liability insurance for each tank. According to Frank Bedell of the Virginia Petroleum Jobbers Association, this will mean an end to gas pumps at rural grocery stores that supply farm customers with gas.

● **11% OF SOVIET** farm machinery is being produced in 250 labor camps with an estimated total of 600,000 prisoners, under inhuman conditions, Western intelligence sources report.

● **MEXICAN BISHOPS**, meeting at their XLIV Plenary Assembly in Mexico City, heard their nation's foreign debt called "unpayable and unjust" by Monsignor Adolfo Suárez, president of the Mexican Bishops Conference. Mexicans, he said, are "overwhelmed by poverty" due to Mexico's debt, which "inhumanly prevents its growth and development."

'Ecology' will be used to legislate fascism in the U.S.

With not a shred of hard scientific evidence to back it, the "greenhouse effect" is being used to turn the nation into a police state. Rogelio A. Maduro reports.

A legal framework of fascist ecological measures is being quietly put in place in the United States under the rubric of saving the Earth from the "greenhouse effect" the "ozone hole," and "toxic pollution." More than 12 major bills have been introduced in Congress so far this year, which not only call for the systematic shutdown of most U.S. industries, but also specifically mandate U.S. intervention into the affairs of other nations—as a creditor nation—to enforce policies which would not only prevent development, but actually throw them back into dependence upon pre-industrial technologies. All of this is being done without the least shred of hard scientific evidence that such climatic cataclysms will even occur, as past issues of *EIR* have fully documented.

What can only be described as a "religious revival" to protect "Mother Earth" seems to have gripped political leaders in the West following Mikhail Gorbachov's Dec. 7 "Day of Infamy" speech at the United Nations, where he called for the creation of an ecological security council at the United Nations that will oversee the creation of a global ecological regime. This cult fervor is clearly evinced by Sen. Albert Gore of Tennessee, who compares the present level of response to the global environmental danger, to the passive way in which the world community reacted to Adolf Hitler, the Nazis, and the *Kristallnacht* pogrom. In a commentary in the March 22 *International Herald Tribune*, under the title, "The Environment Indicts Our Civilization," Gore writes the following Orwellian diatribe, in which he evokes the memories of the rise of Hitler fascism in the 1930s, as a psycho-

logical weapon to urge imposing exactly the same Nazi economic policies of slave labor, genocide against "inferior races," running roughshod over national sovereignty to grab other nations' land, and enforcing technical backwardness today—on a global scale undreamed of by the Nazis! Gore writes:

"Sixty years ago, as war clouds gathered over Europe, many refused to see what was about to happen. No one could imagine a Holocaust, even after shattered glass had filled the streets on *Kristallnacht*. World leaders waffled and waited, hoping that world war could be avoided. Later, when aerial photographs revealed death camps, many pretended not to see. Even now, many fail to acknowledge that victory was not only over Nazism, but also over dark forces deep within us.

"In 1989, clouds of a different sort signal an environmental holocaust without precedent. Once again, world leaders waffle, hoping that the danger will dissipate. Yet today, the evidence is as clear as the sounds of glass shattering in Berlin."

Gore then enumerates the usual environmental-alarm package, including the ozone layer, carbon dioxide raising temperatures, and so on. He continues: "Why are these dramatic changes taking place? Because the human population is surging. . . . Because the industrial, scientific, and technological revolutions magnify the environmental impact of these increases, and because we tolerate self-destructive behavior and environmental vandalism on a global scale.

"Why do we fail to rally our forces? Much of the world closed its eyes as Hitler marched because the only adequate response was a horrible war that many hoped to avoid. Do we now shrink from the unimaginably difficult response demanded by the global environmental crisis, and hope against hope that it will yet prove unnecessary?"

Then, in more psychopathic imagery: "Just as a drug addict needs increasing doses to produce the same effect, our global appetite for the Earth's abundance grows each year. We transform the resources of the past into the pollution of the future, telescoping time for self-indulgence in the present."

Gore concludes with a call for measures to be taken, including "a series of global summit meetings to seek the unprecedented international cooperation that the environmental crisis will demand."

The actual implementation of such measures will not wait for an endless series of global conferences or until the present bills in Washington are approved. Environmentalists are moving systematically to implement such policies, through state and local legislatures, and through the court system.

Two cases in point: First, the adoption of new environmental legislation by seven states in the Northeast to severely restrict the use of butane as an octane booster in gasoline starting on May 1. The result will be steep price increases in gasoline and severe shortages as refineries are forced to shift scarce capacity into more complex and expensive procedures to produce high-octane gasoline. Butane replaces lead in gasoline to obtain the higher octane required by the fragile and ultra-sophisticated modern car engines. Butane is so volatile that it is now alleged to be the biggest polluter in the lower atmosphere by creating smog. The irony is that the same green fascists who banned lead as a fuel additive, urged industry to replace it with butane, then considered "environmentally benign," the same label that environmentalists place on ethanol, methanol, and wood burning these days. As a result of the ban, gas prices are expected to rise at least 10¢ per gallon at the pump, and severe shortages of gasoline will occur as refineries shift their capacity, presently at the limit, to more complex and expensive petrochemical refining processes to maintain high-octane gasoline. The green fascists and the EPA are proposing to replace butane with alcohols from the alleged "surplus grain," which are extremely expensive and corrosive in the gas tanks and engines of automobiles.

Second is the March 17 decision of Southern California regional officials to implement a full range of ecological measures unprecedented in human history. The Southern Coast Air Quality Management District and the Executive Committee of Southern California voted to impose a three-phase plan to clear the smog, which will require 123 specific steps, such as a requirement that all cars be converted to electric power or other allegedly "clean" fuels such as ethanol

or methanol by the year 2007, when all gasoline-powered cars will be banned; a ban on barbecue grills and lighter fluid; outlawing of gasoline-powered lawn mowers and virtual elimination of free parking; a ban on drive-through windows at fast food chains, together with other, more draconian measures. The plan may cost as much as \$64 billion to implement in the first five years, and will shut down most of what industry is left in Southern California.

Some of the initial measures, like controls on paint contents and other solvents, will be imposed directly by the Southern Coast Air Quality District, while others will require action by various federal, state, and local agencies. All, however, are working under the gun of a federal court order last year directing the federal Environmental Protection Agency to draw up a plan to clean up the air if local officials do not act. The court order was the result of a successful federal lawsuit brought by the Sierra Club and the Coalition for Clean Air.

The plan affects the vast Los Angeles basin, which includes Orange County and the non-desert parts of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. This 13,350-square-mile region has 12 million people.

The plan is being hailed as a model by environmentalists across the United States, and what is needed now before the measures become law is the approval of the California Air Resources Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The first five-year phase of the plan will place sharp new controls on the contents of paints, solvents, deodorant sprays, and the like, which emit hydrocarbons, or reactive organic gases that create ozone when exposed to sunlight in the air. This is expected to have a drastic effect on industries like furniture-making and refinishing, and automobile painting.

This phase would also require costly control devices on boilers, trash-burning plants, and industrial heaters. Also, the sale of bias-ply tires, which spew particles on the road more than radial tires, would be banned, parking fees raised for cars carrying only one person, and methanol fuel would be required for buses by 1991, and for rental cars by 1993.

Debate rages over the cost of the plan and its potential social and economic effects. The environmentalists have estimated that compliance will cost \$3.9 billion a year for the first five years, a total of \$19.5 billion, and result, by the year 2010, in 80,000 jobs that would otherwise not exist.

However, according to a study done by National Economic Research Associates for the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, the measures will cost \$12.8 billion per year, for a total of \$64 billion in the first five years. That means that every household would pay an added \$2,200 a year in the cost of goods and services. This would be the equivalent of tripling the sales taxes they pay, with the heaviest burden falling on low-income families. The study, by David Harrison, also estimated that 52,500



Sen. Albert Gore of Tennessee, one of the congressional leaders of the drive for a global environmental fascist order.

jobs would be lost, particularly in manufacturing.

Another opponent of the plan, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovitch, charged that the plan isn't cost-effective and could result in a loss of up to 150,000 jobs. Antonovitch also objected to the fascist measures which intrude into people's private lives, warning, "Under this plan, the government assumes complete regulatory control over people's lives," and that people will be encouraged "to spy on their neighbors to see if they are using a barbecue."

The ominous message from California is that a green fascist ecological regime is not far off in the distance: It is here. The policies will not be implemented in a "nice" way either, but by force. This was emphasized by the head of UNESCO, who is proposing a global environmental police force as the only solution to deal with environmental crisis. Speaking in Belgium the first week of March, Federico Mayor Zaragoza, director general of UNESCO, told the press that recent conferences in London and the Hague on imposing a ban on "polluting" chemicals were good for raising public awareness, but by themselves could do little to protect the environment. Mayor Zaragoza stated, "The environment . . . has to be addressed through global measures, but you need ways of enforcing them," and proposed the creation of a green-helmeted military force to enforce world programs for saving the environment. "Each country could give a certain number of scientists, young men and women who would

make sure these global measures were carried out," Mayor Zaragoza told reporters. "I think it would be great if by the end of the century we had blue helmets to ensure peace and green helmets to ensure peace with the environment," he said. The U.N. military force uses blue helmets.

Green fascist legislation in Washington

The three major bills introduced in Washington so far that put forward a global green fascist regime are those introduced by Sen. Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.), Rep. Claudine Schneider (R-R.I.), and Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.). They are nearly identical, except that besides the basic policies they propose, each has different "topics" not present in the others.

Some of the major policies and guidelines proposed by these bills include:

- Further industrialization of the Third World must be stopped in the name of saving the Earth from industrial emissions of "greenhouse gases," and these countries must be turned into raw materials producers utilizing the most primitive modes of production. The bills outline the role of international lending agencies in imposing their ecological world order.

- A rabid policy of population control: The bills demand that 72% of the population of Third World nations either be sterilized or use contraceptives.

- Convening an international meeting in the United States to force the adoption of a binding multilateral global climate protection convention to reduce global carbon dioxide emissions 20-50% below 1988 levels by 2000, and further reductions beyond 2000.

- Adoption of a binding multilateral agreement requiring reductions of not less than 30% in emissions of nitrogen oxides over 1987 levels by 1998.

- Adoption of additional control measures requiring the virtual elimination of all production of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) worldwide by the year 2000.

- Adoption of stricter fuel-economy standards. By 1995 new cars will have to achieve 40 miles per gallon, and those that are considered "gas-guzzlers" will have to pay a yearly tax of up to \$4,600 starting in 1991, and higher every year afterwards.

Besides these bills, there are quite a few others that impose detailed environmental guidelines. These include:

- The **National Acid Rain Control Act of 1989**, S.57, introduced by Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), which imposes very tough reductions on industrial emissions of sulfur dioxide and other "greenhouse gases," which will shut down a sizable percentage of all U.S. industries and power plants, and cost tens of billions of dollars in unnecessary expenditures.

- The **Global Environmental Protection Act of 1989**, S.333, introduced by Vermont Senators Pat Leahy (D) and J. Jeffords (R). This is one of the most detailed bills in terms

of regulations and amounts of emissions of carbon, sulfur, and nitrogen oxides, methane, CFCs, etc. that may be released into the atmosphere. Its hatred of mankind is evidenced in its opening paragraph, which states, "The Congress, recognizing the profound, irreversible and potentially catastrophic impacts of humanity's activities on the global atmosphere and the world's environment, and the inability of science to predict with certainty the consequences for humanity of any such changes, hereby declares that each person has a responsibility and obligation to avoid contamination of the atmosphere."

- **The National Global Change Research Act of 1989**, S.169, introduced by Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.). The purpose of this bill is to "amend the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 in order to provide for improved coordination of national scientific research efforts and to provide for a national plan to improve scientific understanding of the Earth system and the effect of changes in that system on climate and human well-being."

- **The Global Climate Change Assessment Act of 1989**, S.251, introduced by Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.). According to Moynihan, "This bill addresses a situation of potentially staggering proportion—possible changes to the worldwide climate as a direct result of human activity. It has been called the largest uncontrolled experiment in the history of mankind." This bill creates an inter-agency task force to oversee and conduct all research related to global warming. It is modeled after Moynihan's 1980 bill establishing the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program, or NAPAP, which has been a dismal failure.

- **The Department of Environmental Protection Act**, S.276, introduced by Sen. David Durenberger (R-Minn.). This bill would elevate the Environmental Protection Agency to cabinet status, on the same footing as the Department of Energy or Commerce. There are three basic reasons for this, according to Senator Durenberger, who stated on the floor of the Senate upon the introduction of the bill, "The central issue here is the relationship between the President of the United States and the head of our federal agency for environmental protection. Under the existing structure that is not a close relationship. The President is not directly involved in making environmental policy. The administrator of EPA does not have direct and frequent access to the President and EPA is not involved in the cabinet decisions which set the broad policies for our nation. That needs to be changed."

"A second concern is the relationship between the environmental agency and the other cabinet departments. Some of our worst polluters—unfortunately—are agencies and departments of the U.S. government. We have big problems with hazardous waste sites at Defense and Energy facilities. EPA needs to be on equal footing with those departments as the cleanup efforts at federal facilities are designed and car-

ried out.

"And a third issue is the growing environmental aspect of international relations." The EPA would thus have greater power to become a global environmental policeman.

- **The Ground Water Research, Management, and Education Act**, S.203, introduced by Sen. Quentin Burdick (R-Minn.). Everything that can go in the air has already been legislated, so why not everything that goes down into the ground? This bill fills the gap, setting forth stringent regulations and guidelines for groundwater pollution.

In order to implement the ecological world order that these bills seek to impose upon humanity, national sovereignty will have to be overruled by supranational institutions. Sen. Albert Gore's bill targets Brazil specifically to give up its national sovereignty. It states in section 904, under the title "Preservation of the Amazon Basin" that "the Government of Brazil . . . is promoting the development of the Amazon Basin in a manner which seems certain not only to threaten Brazil's own natural endowment, but that of the entire planet. . . . The Government of Brazil is aware of this danger," but "its options are sharply constrained by severe problems in other sectors of its economy, aggravated by its heavy international debt," therefore, "the Government of Brazil cannot be expected to act as conservator of a global resource, unless the international community is prepared to act responsibly."

The Gore legislation then threatens Brazil with economic reprisals, and orders the Brazilian government to carry out the following steps:

"The Government of Brazil should be encouraged to begin a process of urgent international consultation directed toward a program for conserving the resources of the Amazon Basin . . . the Secretary of State should, having sought parallel statements from the Governments of Japan and the European Community, declare that the United States is ready to participate in these consultations at ministerial level . . . meanwhile . . . members of the international community including international lending institutions, should reassess their investment policies to assure that these do not contribute to the accelerated destruction of the Amazon Basin rain forest; and the Congress further directs United States directors of multilateral development banks and other development assistance institutions to urge restraint, pending the development of an approach which more fully blends Brazil's requirement for national development with global environmental imperatives."

Thus Gore legislates that the health and well-being of the population of Brazil, the sovereignty of that nation, and the future generations of Brazilians should all be sacrificed at the altar of "Mother Earth." *EIR* in previous issues has documented the nature of the destruction of the Amazon rain forest, and its disastrous impact upon the world weather systems. However, *EIR* proved that this was the result of a

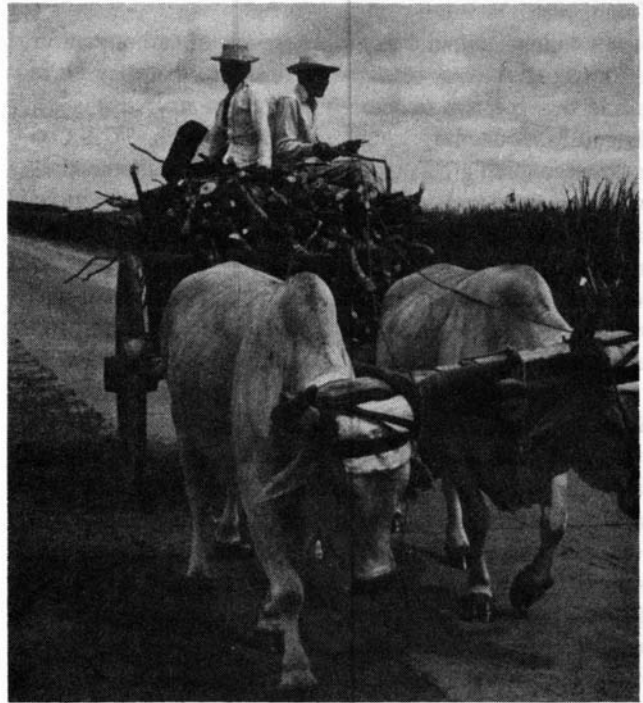
deliberate policy by international financial institutions to force Brazil into looting its primary resources to pay the foreign debt, and that most of the destruction is carried out systematically by transnational corporations, which use the burnt-out Amazon land to raise cattle. The news media and the ecologists have focused their publicity on the small proportion of Amazon rain forest destroyed by land-hungry peasants, driven to desperation by the horrible poverty in Brazil, and completely covered up the role of the multinationals, which also happen to be the major corporations that fund different environmental groups. Curiously enough, these "environmentalists" have also chosen to completely ignore the destructive impact of millions of pounds of toxic chemicals, used by the drug mafias to process coca leaves into cocaine, and which are being poured into the Amazon River system with devastating results in the environment. Furthermore, clearing of rain forest to cultivate coca plants is the leading cause of deforestation in the Amazon regions of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. In Peru, more than 1 million hectares of rain forest have been destroyed to grow coca plants over the past few years. Yet one never hears the World Wildlife Fund/Conservation Foundation protesting against the drug traffic. Perhaps the green fascists consider smoking dope and sniffing cocaine more important than the environment.

The only rational policy to save Brazil's and other nations' tropical rain forests has to be based on the in-depth economic development of these nations, utilizing the most advanced technologies, not the systematic destruction of those nations' economies.

Population control

It is now time to examine the major aspects of the three most important bills, those of Wirth, Schneider and Gore. It is appropriate to commence with an examination of the topic that receives the least amount of space in the bills, yet receives the greatest amount of funding, and that is population control. This is not surprising, since the lawful result of the implementation of the policies contained in these bills would be the genocide of billions of human beings, which is exactly what their objective is. This point was made explicitly by Bertrand Russell, the godfather of the ecologist movement, who wrote in "Impacts of Science on Society," "At present the population of the world is increasing at about 58,000 *per diem*. War, so far, has had no very great effect on this increase, which continued throughout each of the world wars. . . . War has hitherto been disappointing in this respect . . . but perhaps bacteriological war may prove effective. If a Black Death could spread throughout the world once in every generation, survivors could procreate freely without making the world too full. The state of affairs might be unpleasant, but what of it?"

The severe effect that measures to deal with climate change will have on Third World nations has been raised by Linda



Carlos Wesley

Representative Schneider's bill emphasizes the use of "affordable, non-motorized vehicles," like the transport shown here in Panama.

Fisher, assistant administrator for policy, planning, and evaluation at the EPA. In an interview with the *Los Angeles Times*, she stated, "You are going to look at some pretty fundamental things about people's societies, how they produce food. Some of the bills in Congress have put on the table population control. Those are pretty fundamental public policy concerns in every single country. Everyone comes with a different cultural and economic basis. It will not be easy."

As printed in the *Congressional Record*, Senator Wirth's bill is 24 pages long, and Title XV on the need to reduce population growth is only one-third of a page, insignificant in comparison to the other titles. Yet, in the compendium of funds authorized by the act, fully *one-third* of all the funds will be spent on population control. The act allocates \$1.62 billion for international population control programs over a three-year period, by far the largest expenditure. By comparison, Wirth's bill allocates \$500 million to be spent on population control for 1991, yet "only" \$191 million for renewable resources, despite the fact that most of the bill is dedicated to regulation of the expenditures on renewable resource research. Representative Schneider's bill goes even further, allocating \$2.78 billion for population control and "at least \$300 million available for the United Nations Population Fund."

The section on population control in Senator Wirth's bill is titled "Moderating World Population Growth" and states,

“Taking into account the impact that future world population growth will have on increased demand for energy and on the rate of tropical deforestation, Congress hereby finds that: 1) in order to avoid the potentially catastrophic consequences of significant global warming a coordinated effort to address world population growth must be initiated; 2) U.S. participation in international programs to moderate high rates of population growth is necessary to control rising levels of atmospheric pollutants and greenhouse gases. . . . 4) half of the world’s people depend primarily on biomass energy, principally fuelwood, for their most basic non-food energy needs—cooking, water heating, and space heating—and 1.5 billion people are cutting wood faster than forests can grow back; 5) growing rural populations will continue to encroach on remaining forests in search of land for food and commercial crops, for fuelwood needed for cooking and heating and fodder for livestock.”

Therefore, one might suppose that Wirth would deal with the obvious: These people need fossil fuel plants immediately, followed by nuclear and fusion power plants, so they can stop cutting down the forests for fuelwood. However, the Wirth bill dismisses all solutions except the reduction of the population of the Third World. It continues: “The World Bank estimates that at an average fertility rate of 2.4 children per woman, the rate needed for eventual population stabilization at present death rates, could be achieved by the year 2000 if the proportion of couples in developing countries using contraception were to rise from the current rate of 40% to 72% and; 7) these population stabilization goals can be accomplished through a mix of bilateral and international population policies to make family planning services universally available on a voluntary basis in order to slow the rate of population growth and therefore reduce pressures on global resources.”

The bill by Claudine Schneider reads almost word for word the same as Senator Wirth’s, except for a section at the end calling for the President of the United States to call for an international conference on population, stating, “The purpose of this conference shall be to examine the policies necessary to achieve sustainable world population levels, including advancing scientific understanding of the interrelationship between population, resources, environment, and economic development. Such conference may take place in conjunction with other international efforts for global climate protection authorized by this act. . . . As part of this conference, or in conjunction with the other international efforts, the President is requested to seek an international agreement on population growth. Such agreement should recognize the policy that family planning services be made available to all persons desiring such services, should seek to effectively implement this policy, and should promote such other measures to achieve sustainable world population levels as are necessary and otherwise consistent with the policies and restrictions established in this title.”

The New Dark Age

The Wirth, Schneider, and Gore bills all have a section euphemistically called “development assistance.” The point of this section is to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to remove any vestiges of the concepts underlying President Eisenhower’s “Atoms for Peace” program, and the Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe following World War II. The emphasis is placed on imposing ecological guidelines for all “development assistance” going from the United States and international lending institutions to the Third World. The bills mandate an end to the construction of any advanced modes of energy generation, and large-scale facilities for the production of energy. Mankind is supposed to revert to a “high-tech” version of the Dark Ages, using the latest technologies for solar power, windmills, etc. At the same time, Third World nations will be forced to rely on “renewable resources,” the burning of firewood, charcoal, and biomass for their energy needs.

Representative Schneider’s bill orders the U.S. government to take extensive tracts of land out of food production and cultivate sugar cane for ethanol production. It states that “no assistance may be furnished under this act for large-scale production of energy,” and that “the Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director to each multilateral development bank to oppose loans and other financial or technical assistance to any country for which a least-cost energy plan is not in place.” Thus, as defined in Schneider’s bill, any underdeveloped country which dares to build a hydroelectric dam, fossil fuel power plant, or a nuclear plant, will have all its international loans cut off.

To further send humanity back to the Dark Ages, the bill insists that loans and aid for the development of modern motorized transportation in the less developed countries (LDCs) be eliminated, and instead, “Priority shall be given to programs that enhance access of the poor to low-cost vehicles and efficient carrying devices, including access to credit for the purchase of bicycles, carts, pack animals, and similarly affordable, non-motorized vehicles,” and to “encourage countries to develop local bicycle assembly and cart production capabilities for domestic use.”

That the intention is to maintain the Third World in a completely backward and subservient mode, was made clear by Sen. J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), who, during his opening remarks at the Sept. 20, 1988 Senate hearings on the greenhouse effect, stated, “Devising energy and environmental protection strategies for Third World countries that take into account rapidly expanding economies and populations is not an easy task. How do you convince newly developing countries to forego economic and industrial expansion that developed nations already enjoy in the interests of a future global environmental threat? The secret lies in helping nations to fully realize the global implications of climate change. . . . We must seek to ensure that Third World development funded by industrialized nations is not wreaking

havoc on the world's environment."

The policies to be implemented by these bills would actually cause the biggest ecological holocaust in the history of the human race. To do away with all modern modes of energy production, and replace them with biomass burning, is exactly what is causing the anomalous global climate. Over 60% of all deforestation worldwide is the result of the use of trees for making charcoal and firewood. The Sahara Desert has expanded almost 300 kilometers south of its 1930s boundary, largely as a result of these primitive "renewable resource technologies." The nations of Central Africa, such as Uganda and Zaire, are the showcase example of the use of "environmentally benign" renewable energy resources. Over 90% of their energy comes from the burning of "ecologically sustainable" firewood and charcoal. The result: It costs three times more money to purchase firewood than the food it will cook. The population of these nations faces extinction through hunger, poverty, and disease.

If these savage environmental measures are not adopted by Third World nations, they will face economic retaliation. Senator Gore's bill explicitly calls for cutting off loans if any environmental damage is caused by any project, a standard to be arbitrarily decided by green fascists deployed by the environmental lobby. The Gore bill states, "Congress directs the Secretary of the Treasury to enter into discussion with the President of the World Bank and with appropriate officials of the governments of other major contributors to that institution, for the purpose of working out guidelines for advance disclosure and discussion of prospective bank loans prior to their approval within the Bank. The purpose of this disclosure shall be to make it possible for the major donor governments to have the opportunity to satisfy themselves that major environmental consequences unfavorable to global environmental interests will not occur as the result of the proposed project."

Drastic action on the international financial front is also being taken by Congressmen Lee H. Hamilton (D-Ind.) and Benjamin A. Gilman (R-N.Y.), who co-chaired a task force report on foreign assistance to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The report, which they are trying to turn into law, calls for the "enactment of a new international economic cooperation act to replace the existing Foreign Assistance Act," and the "creation of a restructured foreign aid implementing agency to replace the Agency for International Development." Their purpose is to make environmental protection the priority issue in all international assistance.

Senator Wirth's bill amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, striking out a section emphasizing the need for large-scale production of energy as a prerequisite for industrial progress, and it insert a new sub-section that states:

"The Congress finds that energy conservation, improvements in end-use energy efficiency, and energy production from renewable, decentralized sources have great potential for meeting energy needs in developing nations, especially

the needs of the rural poor. These techniques can enable developing countries to make efficient use of scarce resources; minimize environmental harm (including warming of the Earth's atmosphere due to the "greenhouse effect"); lessen the danger of nuclear weapons proliferation and reduce dependence on dwindling oil reserves and expensive imported energy. Often, energy needs can be met more cheaply and more employment can be generated by these methods than by production of energy from conventional sources."

Further, Wirth's bill makes so-called "appropriate technologies" the law of the land. It states, "In providing assistance to developing countries, the President shall . . . support projects to develop and demonstrate energy conservation, improvements in end-use energy conservation, improvements in end-use energy efficiency, and small-scale, decentralized, renewable energy sources for rural areas. Such projects shall feature close consultation with and involvement of local people at all stages of project design and implementation, and shall be directed toward the earliest possible widespread application. Appropriate technologies include, but are not limited to biomass, biogas, wind energy, passive solar, solar electricity, fuel cells, and low-heat hydroelectric generation."

To dispel any doubts that Wirth and his greenie cosponsors intend to impose enforced backwardness in the Third World, the bill emphasizes that "*no assistance shall be furnished under this act for large-scale production of energy from fossil fuels*" [emphasis added].

Senator Wirth's bill, however, does not limit the enforcement of such policies to the United States; it instructs the President to "promote vigorously the adoption by other bilateral donors of energy efficient programs for countries that receive development assistance that emphasize least-cost energy planning, energy conservation, and end-use energy efficiency."

The next section of the bill, "Multilateral Energy Conservation and Efficiency Program," goes even further in imposing a global fascist energy dictatorship. The bill states, "Beginning two years after the enactment of this Title, the Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States, Executive Director to each of the multilateral development banks to oppose loans and other financial or technical assistance to any borrowing country for which a least-cost energy plan giving priority to energy conservation, end-use energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources is not in place," and that "all future contributions to such bank from the United States shall be conditioned upon adoption and successful implementation of a program meeting the [aforementioned] standards."

It also orders the Secretary of State to "instruct the United States Ambassador to the United Nations to oppose the adoption of any country programs for which a program of least-cost energy planning . . . is not in place."

The Agency for International Development is also in-

structured specifically to make backwardness its official policy. Rep. Claudine Schneider's bill states, "The Administrator of the Agency for International Development shall . . . issue guidance to all agency missions stating that ecologically sustainable renewable energy resources and energy efficiency are to be the centerpiece of their energy efforts ranked in order of cost-effectiveness."

The enforced backwardness is not limited to energy programs. The bills in Congress intend to throw humanity 100 years in reverse, by emphasizing the use of draft animals, with the deceptive name of "non-motorized transport technologies." Rep. Claudine Schneider's bill, excerpted below, is quite explicit on the subject.

Some misguided pro-nuclear individuals and industries in the United States and the rest of the world have been supporting the "global warming" theory because they mistakenly believe that it is the only chance left for advanced modes of energy production, nuclear fission and fusion, to revive from their near destruction by the environmentalist forces. Now that all fossil fuel power plants have allegedly become dangerous to humanity because they emit carbon dioxide, the thinking is that nuclear power plants should be built because they do not produce any pollution emission. Nuclear power industries have provided millions of dollars behind the scenes to the most radical ecological groups to spread the "greenhouse effect" hysteria. They have been enticed by Sen. Timothy Wirth, who has been making beautiful promises about how we need nuclear energy. His bill calls for the expenditure of \$500 million on research for "inherently safe nuclear reactors," over a three-year period, and such kooks as Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), and Albert Gore are also calling for nuclear research. A look at Wirth's bill, however, dispels such illusions.

Wirth's bill does indeed include expenditures of \$100 million on nuclear research for 1991. But the present allocation of funds for that category is \$286.7 million. So Wirth's "pro-nuclear" greenhouse bill will just happen to *cut* nuclear research by one-third.

Furthermore, the amount of funding allocated to advanced civilian nuclear research in 1981 was \$650 million, so that Wirth's paltry \$100 million is not even one-sixth of what was being spent eight years ago, which was still a significant reduction from research funding before Jimmy Carter became President. After savagely cutting funding for nuclear research in 1991, then Wirth's bill increases the funding to \$200 million in 1992 and 1993, for a total expenditure of \$500 million in research for a three-year period, still not even close to the 1981 expenditures of \$650 million. The amount allocated to nuclear power research by Wirth in 1991 is also paltry, if compared to research on renewable resources: \$190.8 million.

Wirth's bill emphasizes that any other allocations for nuclear power research will not be allowed after the bill is passed. It states, "The purpose of this Title is to redirect

programs in existence on the date of the enactment of this Title for research, development, and demonstration of technologies for the generation of commercial electric power from nuclear fission. notwithstanding any other provision of law, this title shall be the exclusive source of authority for appropriations for such programs." Thus, any promising nuclear technologies disliked by the environmentalist kooks will be killed under Wirth's bill.

Greenhouse bills' sponsors in Senate

Although it is not likely that any of these bills will be adopted in their entirety during this session of Congress, the strategy, according to several congressional aides consulted by *EIR*, is to push through elements of these bills as riders to other bills, so that overall, many of the policies of these genocidal bills will be adopted piecemeal. There are almost enough co-sponsors to these bills, a total of 49 U.S. senators, so that even some of the most draconian policies may be adopted as law. The senators sponsoring and co-sponsoring the green fascist bills mentioned in this section are:

Brock Adams (D-Wash.), Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.), Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.), John B. Breaux (D-La.), Richard H. Bryan (D-Nev.), Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), Quentin N. Burdick (D-N.D.), John H. Chafee (R-R.I.), Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.), John C. Danforth (R-Mo.), Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), David Durkenberger (R-Minn.), Wyche Fowler, Jr. (D-Ga.), Albert Gore, Jr. (D-Tenn.), Slade Gorton (R-Wash.), Bob Graham (D-Fla.), Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa), Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), John Heinz (R-Pa.), Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.), Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hi.), James M. Jeffords (R-Vt.), J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), Nancy L. Kassebaum (R-Kans.), Robert W. Kasten, Jr. (R-Wis.), John F. Kerry (D-Mass.), Frank R. Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.), Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), Sparky M. Matsunaga (D-Hi.), John McCain (R-Ariz.), Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), George J. Mitchell (D-Maine), Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), Larry Pressler (R-S.D.), Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Donald W. Riegle Jr. (D-Mich.), Terry Sanford (D-N.C.), James Sasser (D-Tenn.), Paul Simon (D-Ill.), Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), Steven D. Symms (R-Id.), Pete Wilson (R-Calif.), Timothy E. Wirth (D-Colo.).

Strategic Defense Initiative: the rising storm

by Lyndon LaRouche

Editor's note: The strategic analysis published here was written by political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche at the Alexandria (Virginia) Detention Center on April 2, 1989.

It was December 1984. Prime Minister Thatcher's London rolled out its red carpet for the visiting Soviet royalty, "crown prince" Mikhail Gorbachov and "princess" Raisa. The gawking Western news-media swooned in admiration of Soviet royalty's adoption of such Western moral values as Mr. Gorbachov's Gucci shoes and "princess" Raisa's Pucci accessories.

The second Reagan administration joined Mrs. Thatcher's "I Love Gorby" fan-club. To some observers of this saddening spectacle, it was suddenly 1938 again, with Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain appeasing Adolf Hitler, amid unctuous murmurings of "peace in our time."

Now, as in 1938, a world which is hyperventilated by chants of "peace," is moving rapidly toward the brink of a new world war. The approaching storm is the true context of U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney's unfortunate March 28 remarks to the press, on the subject of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

Consider some highlights of a rapidly deteriorating strategic situation today: 1) The world's leading military power, the Soviet empire, is now seized by a spiral of internal physical-economic collapse. This impels Moscow toward exploiting both its now-emerging war-winning margin of military advantage, and the increasing cowardice of the West, to seek an external military solution for an otherwise hopeless spiral of internal collapse.

2) Echoes of 1912-1914 are felt in two regions of the old Ottoman Empire, the Balkan and Middle East "cockpits." The attempted dismemberment of Yugoslavia is far advanced. We are proceeding rapidly toward a long-expected new war between Israel and Syria, a war which, if it occurs, will almost certainly engulf and destroy the oil-exporting and other sectors of the region.



James Legare



Philip Ujanowsky

A Schiller Institute rally in San Francisco in 1985 linked stopping genocide in Africa to building the Strategic Defense Initiative. Inset: Lyndon LaRouche at the historic seminar in Washington in February 1982 where he laid out the military doctrine that became SDI.

3) The world is gripped by the worsening world food shortage. We are in the second of probably three successive years of globally disastrous extremes in weather-system instabilities. In consequence of this, combined with lunatic agricultural policies of the U.S.A. and other governments, perhaps only sixty percent of world grain requirements will be met during 1989, and a worse catastrophe during 1990.

This growing instability of world weather patterns has been caused chiefly by the cumulative effect of malthusian "post-industrial society" policies of the recent twenty-odd years. The cutting of rain forests, as an alternative to nuclear power and energy-intensive agriculture, is only one example of this connection. The failure to complete urgently needed, large-scale water-management projects, is another contributing cause. The cut-backs in high-technology investment and maintenance in modern agricultural modes, is another, major contributing cause for immoderation of weather-patterns.

To make matters much worse, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other institutions globally, are responding to a worsening famine-condition by ordering *extensive further cutbacks in food production*. This includes shutting down land already in production, lowering fertility drastically by cutbacks in use of fertilizers and pesticides, and holding prices of farm products generally way below the farmer's

out-of-pocket cost of production.

The effects of such a lunatic combination of malthusian, "free trade," and monopolistic cartel policies, is, quite literally, the practice of genocide against the populations of the nations of Central and South America, Africa, and Asia. The same effects are promoted, quite wittingly, by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank malthusians, as well as the World Wildlife Fund, the Soviet-funded Greenpeace, and the Soviet Global Systems Analysis Organization of Ivan Frolov et al.

The destructive effects of this world weather instability are severely aggravating the already ruinous state of food production and distribution within both the Soviet empire and mainland China. Both Communist powers were already affected by flaws, built-in structural and cultural features of their social systems, flaws which were impelling both societies toward an internal physical-economic collapse sooner or later. The combination of global weather instabilities, and growing food shortages outside the Communist sector, has accelerated the economic crisis of both Communist powers.

This factor of food-crisis is a leading impulsion tending to provoke the Communist powers into the kinds of external adventures likely to trigger World War III.

4) The global political and economic crises of the coming months will be aggravated by the growing awareness that the

U.S. and other governments have all lied monstrously about the HIV ("AIDS") pandemic, especially since the summer and autumn of 1986.

The rapidly mutating family of HIV ("AIDS") lentiviruses has been building up a vast reservoir of infected, but nominally asymptomatic cases. In one nation in black Africa, the medically estimated percentage of the population infected is 60 percent; that nation is already politically extinct, biologically: HIV infection is 100 percent fatal. In other, nearby African nations, lower but comparable incidences of infection exist already. In the U.S.A., responsible sources' estimates range from not less than between 1 to 5 percent of the total population.

Sooner or later, with a lag of perhaps about five years average between infection and symptoms, the reservoir of silent infection must explode: an avalanche of symptomatic cases, touching intimately virtually every family in even the least disadvantaged industrialized (and "formerly industrialized") nations. At that time, a popular political panic will explode, in rage against the governments which have been lying so wildly since summer and autumn of 1986.

The HIV ("AIDS") pandemic is the "Black Death of the Twentieth Century," but twice as deadly as the "Black Death" of fourteenth-century Europe. Once this reality is perceived popularly, as will be the case within less than two years, a political panic will take over the population, comparable to the desperate, mass-scale madneses of the fourteenth century's "New Dark Age."

5) The worst potentials of these four, and other crisis-factors, are about to be accelerated by an outbreak of the deepest financial crisis of the century.

For convenience, put aside for a moment discussion of factors which might hasten or delay the next financial collapse by a few months, earlier or later. For our purposes here, in assessing the importance of the SDI, it makes little difference whether U.S. financial markets blow out some time during the spring of 1989, more probably the summer, or perhaps October. The net effect is approximately the same. Similarly, it makes little difference when the next financial panic (following that now expected for August 1989) occurs. It is sufficient that we face the general reality, that the new great world depression is already in progress, and that, under a continuation of present U.S. policy-trends, the next major financial crisis is a matter of months.

Sixty years after 1929, George Bush has been elected a "new Herbert Hoover." He will be most fortunate if his reputation sinks to no lower a level than did Mr. Hoover's during the course of the 1930s.

These five listed considerations—Soviet desperation, hot-spots in the eastern Mediterranean, the worsening food shortages, the "new Black Death," and the imminent financial panic—do not encompass explicitly all of the factors impelling the planet toward general war. They serve here to highlight the urgency of correcting Secretary Cheney's mistaken

assertion, that the Reagan administration "oversold" the SDI.

The following points respecting SDI are chiefly to be considered here:

1) The general strategic crisis now coming to a boil, is the cumulative effect of wrong-headed policy-trends of London and Washington, chiefly those of the past twenty-odd years.

The crucial political issue immediately before us all, is whether or not London and Washington are still capable of moments of sanity. Are these governments still sufficiently sane, that they could recognize that the malthusian and monetarist "post-industrial society" policy-trends of the past twenty-odd years have proven themselves a catastrophic error? If those capitals are still capable of sanity, they will promptly scrap the rotten fruit of Adam Smith and Thomas Malthus, for a return toward policies modeled upon what Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton named "the American System of political economy."

Most observers today argue that we can not expect such a shift in direction of policy-trends. If those observers are correct in that estimate, then London and the United States are doomed to the worst. In that case, we must expect, instead of sane reform, a response akin to Hjalmar Schacht's role in bringing Adolf Hitler to power—with London and New York backing them. We must then expect a vicious spiral of successively more brutal financial austerity, and a rapid transformation of the United States into a brutal form of totalitarian state. In that case, the United States and civilization generally are doomed to virtual extinction by approximately the end of this century.

2) The peculiar, decisive, added feature of the situation, is that the crisis is now "running off the charts."

We are now entering into a "nonlinear" phase-shift in the global situation. We have entered the phase, globally, at which the subjective will of the ruling establishment ceases to control the shaping of events. Instead, the force of crisis will determine new major trends. In this circumstance, as in similarly "nonlinear" aspects of earlier human history, the establishment itself is reduced to being virtually a mere puppet of forces which it has beckoned into play, but which it can control no longer.

The present situation of the Anglo-American establishment is somewhat comparable to the unfolding of World War I.

The ultimate cause of World War I, was Britain's 1815-1912 effort to continue the Metternichian "balance of power" at all risks. The case of Britain's manipulation of Germany's affairs, through the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha and Bismarck, notably, setting Germany and France against one another, is part of this. By configuring the history of nineteenth-century continental Europe, to conform to the perceived requirements of London's balance-of-power game, the preconditions for World War I were pre-established, and that war more or less pre-assured.

The proximate cause for World War I, was London's—unfortunately—successful effort to demolish the diplomacy of France's Hanotaux, done with exemplary aid to Britain by President Theodore Roosevelt. Hanotaux's diplomacy, toward Germany, Count Witte's Russia, Japan, and Sun Yat-sen's China, would have prevented World War I.

By defeating Hanotaux, Britain emplaced the complex of alliances and mortal issues which became the World War I alignments of forces and issues. So, London paid a price for its defeat of Hanotaux: the pride of Britain's youth draped as corpses over the battlefields of France.

A similar folly is to be noted on the German side. Had Germany followed the Schlieffen Plan strictly, during the month of August 1914, the war in Europe would have come to an end by October. On this, much has been said of the corrupting influence of theosophy on "young Moltke," and the follies of ambition of the Bavarian Rupprecht and Hohenzollern crown prince. Those details have their importance, but they are more symptoms, than causes in the unfolding of the terrible folly on the German side.

So, the various contributing follies of "young Moltke," the crown prince, Prince Rupprecht, and so forth, are reflections of a potentially fatal cultural disorder of 1914 Germany, relative to Schiller's Germany. If we examine closely the way in which "sundry considerations" pragmatically eroded the Schlieffen Plan's implementation, we are obliged to see that it was the toleration of such *pragmatism* which is the essence of the relevant failures by the German command.

In short, the Weimar Classical Germany of Schiller, Humboldt, vom Stein, Scharnhorst, and Blücher would not have made the folly to which the Kaiserreich of 1914 showed itself to be so prone.

That pragmatic compromising of military reasoning, weakened the German forces' northern flank by more than enough margin of strength, in combat forces and logistics, to have prevented the First Battle of the Marne. "For the want of the horseshoe nail," the toleration of courtly pragmatism brought about the chain of circumstances in which the Hohenzollern court soon ceased to exist.

All such classes of blunders, British and German, from 1914, are predominant in the policy-trends of London and Washington today. That the earth may be freed of perpetual repetition of such great folly, the planet itself may arouse itself to outlaw and destroy the craft of folly. (Let all crafts take warning from history on this account.)

As the First Battle of the Marne began, the logic of war assumed command over those mere generals and political leaders war made its mere puppets. That folly which the politicians, monarchs, and generals had had the power to unleash, they could control no longer; rather, they became its mere instruments.

3) Presently, even at this late stage, there exist objective solutions for the terrible crises now threatening us all. A renewed commitment to implementation of the SDI, as an-

nounced on March 23, 1983, is an integral, indispensable included feature of any solution for these crises. It would not be, by itself, a solution; but there is probably no solution without it. The SDI is an integral part of the needed solution.

'Intellectual author of the SDI'

From the moment, on March 23, 1983, President Reagan completed his televised announcement of his Strategic Defense Initiative, congratulations were transmitted to me from numerous parts of the world. For the moment, at least, I had won; my work with the Reagan administration, during all of 1982, and early 1983, had succeeded. Without my personal effort, the March 23 announcement could not have happened; for that reason, I have been described often, in various parts of the world, as "the intellectual author of the SDI."

Such are my credentials for correcting Secretary Cheney's referenced misstatements to the press.

Although many of the included elements of the package I developed for the use of NSC, during 1982 and early 1983, represented my adoption of selected parts of the work of others, the design of the package as a whole was chiefly my own work. Otherwise, I contributed original scientific work which was a unique and crucial part of any workable design of a strategic nuclear defense policy.

Situate my unique part in this by identifying the most important work of others:

Contrary to opponents of the SDI, the principle of strategic defense is as old as ancient classical military science. Already, by 1945, the outlines of a strategic *nuclear* defense were already clearly defined. It was obvious that Germany's V-1 ("Cruise" missile) and V-2 ("Pershing" missile) rockets typified the strategic nuclear arsenals of the 1950s and beyond. So, in 1945 strategic nuclear defense looked like this:

Passive Defense

1. Civilian Defense.

2. Need for redundancy and dispersal of essential institutions and logistics.

Active Defense

("Kill" the warhead and/or vehicle before the warhead can be detonated on target.

1. On "warning" before the warhead is launched.

2. In mid-course.

3. The descending warhead ("terminal" and "point" defense).

From there, to the present, no qualified proponent of strategic nuclear defense has promised that we might, assuredly, destroy 100 percent of enemy war-heads launched against us. Both Western and Soviet proponents (e.g. Sokolovsky, 1962) have stipulated that we must destroy "a strategically significant" ration of the war-heads deployed by the adversary. The object of strategic nuclear defense is not the utopians' dream of an absolutely impenetrable nuclear "fence"; the object is to ensure that the U.S.A. would survive as a functioning nation, to win a general war, should Moscow

attempt a first strike.

“Strategically significant,” is the degree of preemptive destruction of Soviet warheads required to assure such standards of *survival* of the nations of the Atlantic Alliance, and to assure victory over the Soviet empire following that.

The immediately *desired* objective of strategic nuclear defense, is not to launch war, but to deny Moscow the advantage inherent in a totalitarian state such as its own: *nuclear first strike*. By neutralizing the Soviets’ desired goals of nuclear first strike, we tend to prevent Moscow from launching a first strike.

Until approximately 1962 (V. D. Sokolovsky, *Military Strategy*), active measures of strategic nuclear defense meant either *preemptive* destruction (“on warning”) of Soviet nuclear arsenals, or destroying incoming Soviet aircraft, missiles, and warheads by use of high-speed interceptor rockets. So, until approximately 1962, interception was limited to the (presently) obsolete techniques named (today) *Kinetic Energy Weapons (KEWs)*.

The development of the laser changed this. By 1962, as Sokolovsky’s text illustrates the point, it was foreseen that the development of lasers of greater efficiency and power would supply anti-missile, and anti-warhead weapons of far greater mobility and (cross-sectional) power than any conceivable KEW system. As Sokolovsky (1962) stressed quite rightly, the superior strategic defense arsenals of the future could include not only lasers, but an entire spectrum of systems, each orders of magnitude superior to KEWs in mobility and firepower. Today, such more advanced strategic defense techniques are termed “new physical principles.”

“New physical principles” includes today: lasers, so-called “particle beams” and kindred “nonlinear” effects, “enhanced radiation” effects, and so forth. The notable characteristics of such systems include: *superior mobility* (propagation at speeds of light or “relativistic” velocities), *superior firepower* (measured in work done on target per square centimeter of cross-section), *greater efficiency of power-use* (non-Maxwell, harmonic electromagnetic effects), and *greater depth* (much more difficult to “saturate” with overload or counter-measures).

Except as I have contributed significantly to fostering mastery of the physics of harmonic resonance, all the other general advantages of “new physical principles” were established facts by the time I took up the cause of strategic nuclear defense, in 1975.

My central contribution to the theory and practice of the purely military side of strategic nuclear defense, was my unique and crucial personal role in redefining the question of *economic feasibility*. Until I entered the field, “economic feasibility” meant simply what any trained accountant or Harvard Business School graduate would (wrongly) imagine it ought to mean. The question can be defined competently only from the standpoint of a relatively little-known branch



Stuart Lewis

Robert Strange McNamara, the former U.S. defense secretary, who introduced “systems analysis” into the Pentagon and is now a fervid foe of the SDI: “If McNamara’s ‘reforms’ were not designed in Moscow, they should have been.”

of physical science, Leibniz’s *science of physical economy*. I have the good fortune to be the world’s leading specialist in that branch of science.

My role as a physical economist enabled me to solve some critical problems of military strategic nuclear defense. I made possible a more or less direct correlation of the military with the cultural aspects of warfare, helping us to take into account more adequately the strategically most beneficial sort of “cultural paradigm shift” fostered by U.S. deployment of an SDI based chiefly on “new physical principles.”

We shall come to the cultural-warfare side of SDI after examining briefly several of the technical matters which contribute to the desired cultural impacts on both our own nation and the population and institutions of adversary nations.

‘Technological attrition’

There never was, and will never be a perfect weapon. Every weapon can be rendered effectively obsolete by weapons reflecting more advanced technology. Every change in military technology tends to shift the balance between the

relative weights of both strategic and tactical defense and offense.

Exemplary are the motorized armored artillery platform, the “tank,” as the solution to trench-warfare stalemates of attrition, and, similarly, the present relative obsolescence of armored-columns of assault under the impact of special forces exploiting the potentials of new classes of weaponry.

Therefore, *there is no fixed system of strategic nuclear offense, or defense, which can not be rendered progressively obsolete by improved countermeasures.* In conflict between capable modern adversaries, war-planning is premised upon the conception of a continuing race for deployment of superior technologies. New offensive technologies outclass existing modes of defense; new defense technologies outclass countermeasures, and so on, and so forth. This is termed “technological attrition.”

The implicit notion is, that the power which is able to realize the higher (faster) rate of technological attrition, wins the war, or, at least, tends to do so, all other considerations being equal. Technological advantage may be compared to having an additional corps to outflank the adversary.

In defining what we call SDI today, back in 1982 and 1983, I assumed that Moscow would develop countermeasures against any strategic defense technology the United States deployed. For purposes of planning, I assumed that the Soviets might deploy such new anti-SDI countermeasures within a period of between three to five years following our deployment of any SDI technology. I described the proposed strategic nuclear defense this way.

I said to myself, and my collaborators, in effect:

“Let us list the successive, foreseeable advantages in technology we can be able to develop and deploy during the coming period of 15 to 20 years. Let us group these, in succession, as Mark I, Mark II, Mark III, and Mark IV. Let us assume, that between three and five years elapses between the deployment of Mark I and the deployment of these more advanced modifications representing Mark II. Assume approximately the same for Mark III and IV.”

I recognize that this implies an overdue change in defense procurement procedures, junking McNamara’s “systems analysis” (and other by-products of the Hoover Commission recommendations), to return to the traditional “arsenal” system of military procurement. (If McNamara’s “reforms” were not designed in Moscow, they should have been.) The principle of technological attrition shows us why the recommendations of the Hoover Commission and “systems analysis” are absurd, and monstrously wasteful, too.

In military procurement, what we must purchase is *effective technological attrition*. So, in defining the future SDI, I redefined the question of “economic feasibility,” to reflect the principle of technological attrition. I assumed, as indicated, a “minor technological revolution” in defense-weaponry deployed, at intervals of between three and five years.

This was a simplified, and very practical way to take into account the implied mathematical physics function: *rate of advance of technology with respect to time*. The latter is the obvious, first-approximation definition of *technological attrition*.

Notably, the term, *technology*, was defined by Leibniz, as a central feature of the science of physical economy. My own crucial, original contribution, to the science of physical economy, has been to show, that the implied *causal* relationship between advance in technology and resulting increases in the productive powers of labor, is a measurable (quantifiable) function.

What was required, in 1982, was to express the functional relationship between defense and offense, not only in terms of technological attrition, but to state this in terms of physical economy. To do that required, absolutely, my earlier work on the problem of quantifying the notion of *technology per se*, which I had accomplished by refuting the fallacies of Norbert Wiener’s use of the inappropriate H-theorem for so-called “information theory.”

To solve the question of economic feasibility *in terms of some assumed rate of technological attrition*, it was necessary to define *technology* in terms equally applicable to the battlefield as such, and measurement of *physical* (not monetarist’s) *rates of growth of productive powers of labor in the economy as a whole*.

For example, in the worst imaginable case, the level of expenditure required to provide an adequate strategic defense might draw down so much wealth from the economy, that the productive powers of labor, of the economy as a whole contract, leading toward virtual economic collapse.

If that were the civilian result of a militarily adequate SDI program, SDI might be militarily effective, but not economically feasible. That is comparable to the remedy which conquers the disease, but kills the patient with its side-effects.

In contrast to such a gloomy result, *economic feasibility* means that the per-capita physical output of the nation continues to increase, even after all defense requirements are met. By “defense requirements,” we mean a level of pre-war preparations sufficient to ensure that the nation, and its allies, survive and win a general war *under any condition they were forced to war*.

In the case of SDI (based chiefly upon “new physical principles”), the tests for “economic feasibility” yielded the happiest kind of result. The rate of economic *growth* fostered by an SDI *based on high rates of technological attrition* would be higher than without SDI!

SDI ‘spill-overs’

The results of my economic feasibility studies for SDI were rather widely reported by the National Security Council’s Dr. Norman Bailey during spring 1983. Those of us in the team developing the SDI policy laid great emphasis on

what we all termed “economic spill-overs.” In describing the benefits of SDI technologies to the nation’s civilian economy, we referenced the fact the U.S. economy had enjoyed economic benefits from the Kennedy aerospace program many times the U.S.-government’s investment in both NASA as a whole and aerospace R&D generally.

Many specialists know of this effect; only a physical economist may show how and why this effect must occur necessarily.

The key to “spill-overs” is the causal connection between the design of a crucial physics experiment and the replication of such a successful experimental design as a new technological capability of either a commercial machine-tool firm, or a military arsenal. The new technology, so implanted in commercial and related machine-tool facilities, is transmitted to the economy at large (chiefly) in the form of improved capital goods of agriculture, manufacturing, and infrastructure. The use of such improved capital goods causes, directly, an increase of the productive powers of labor, and tends thus to increase the (physical) productivity of the labor-force as a whole.

The optimal “spill-over” effect demands economic policies which foster rapid release of new military technologies into the civilian sectors of agriculture, manufacturing, and infrastructure.

For example, during the 1961-64 Kennedy recovery from the 1957-60 recession, the aerospace spill-over was fostered by policies including:

- 1) The “Kennedy” investment tax-credit incentive for capital investments;
- 2) Relatively favorable capital-gains treatment of reinvested earnings (in contrast to the present tax code);
- 3) Relatively advantageous borrowing-charges.

If the private sector’s farming, manufacturing, and infrastructural sub-sectors are assisted and encouraged to use new technologies embodied in high rates of investment in capital improvements of product and production, the optimal rate of “spill-over benefit” will tend to occur.

It happens to be the case, that the industrial applications of SDI’s “new physical growth” imply, axiomatically, the highest rates of growth of per-capita productivity in history.

This meant, in effect, that the only “upper economic limit” on investment in SDI is as much SDI as military requirements dictate.¹

That excellent economic feasibility (for SDI based chiefly on “new physical principles”) had direct bearing upon the cultural aspect of warfare between the Atlantic Alliance and Moscow. Not only does such an SDI mean a strengthening of non-communist economies, in per-capita and total terms; it has war-winning cultural benefits.

A Tavistock study (Rapoport report) of the social effects of NASA programs, during the mid-1960s, reported that the notable effect was a higher value placed upon rational behavior. Economic growth, especially growth generated by tech-

nological progress, has always tended to foster a climate of optimism, and promotes improvements in levels of morality in relations among persons. In contrast, economic collapse, especially when combined with lowered esteem for scientific and technological progress, promotes the Soviet cause.

Opponents of SDI

So-called “critics” of the SDI have tried to make it appear that strategic defense is some sort of “wild-eyed science fiction” idea which had no precedent in military history. In fact, as noted, the idea of strategic defense is as old as current classical military science. Throughout the history of military science, until the late 1950s introduction of a Pugwash Conference ban against strategic nuclear defense, all classical war-planning and related doctrines included the notion of strategic defense.

Take the case of two influential gentlemen who have expended great personal effort on attempts to destroy (i.e., “trade away”) the SDI, former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, and Vietnam War Secretary of Defense, Robert Strange McNamara. These two gentlemen are among the public figures promoting a dogma appropriately named MAD (Mutual and Assured Destruction). MAD is the doctrine directly opposed to the existence of U.S. strategic nuclear defense in any *effective* form.

How did the opposition to strategic nuclear defense, *MADness*, come into existence? To make the account less complicated, and briefer, let us discuss only facts easily available on the published record.

It began during the postwar period, with Bertrand Russell’s contribution to the October 1946 edition of *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*. On the surface, Russell seemed to say the United States should prepare to launch a “preventive” nuclear war upon Stalin’s Soviet Union. Reading Russell’s statements on this subject a bit more carefully, Russell actually said “unless.” He said, that *unless* Moscow accepted Russell’s plan for a one-world, world-federalist system, the Anglo-Americans should launch a “preventive nuclear war” against Moscow.

Russell also said something else. He said that if Britain and the United States lacked the nerve to prepare a “preventive” nuclear war, we should seek still to win Moscow over to a one-world world-federalist government. He warned, that if we waited until after Moscow had nuclear arsenals, we would have to offer Moscow much more generous terms for joining Russell’s one-world socialist empire.

By 1953, Moscow had both nuclear-fission arsenals and the hydrogen bomb. Russell, and his crony, Leo Szilard, were prepared to offer Moscow generous concessions. Stalin died, conveniently. In 1955, the new Soviet dictator, Nikita S. Khrushchov, signaled Russell that Moscow was ready to negotiate his proposed, world-federalist agenda. (Conference of Russell’s *World Association of Parliamentarians for World Government*, London, 1955). In response to Khrush-



Young potheads draw the logical conclusions of the Adam Smith economic philosophy. "More and more Americans have not only lost the capacity to recognize a difference between right and wrong, but do not regret the loss of that moral faculty."

chov's 1955 signal, the Anglo-American Liberal Establishment created a special task force at the New York Council on Foreign Relations, and proceeded to organize a Fabian Society back channel, the Pugwash Conference.

The only thing new in Russell's utopian scheme was the nuclear arsenal. The rest was laid out in Russell's and H.G. Wells's writings of the 1920s, when Russell called the scheme his utopian design for "international socialism." That was during the period, 1921-1927, of the original Anglo-Soviet Trust. That Trust was an arrangement between certain Anglo-American grain-cartel and other financier interests with the Soviet secret police (Cheka), part of a project for building up one-world government with Soviet cooperation.

Enter Henry Kissinger. Kissinger had entered the British intelligence service at Harvard, through Professor William Yandell Elliot's Wilton Park subdivision of London's Chatham House. Following Khrushchov's 1955 signal, Kissinger found himself assigned to CFR, under the direction of George Franklin, McGeorge Bundy, and Gordon Dean. The book, largely written by Dean, attributed to Kissinger, *Nuclear Weapons and Foreign Policy*, was, in all essentials, pure Bertrand Russell.

The British Fabians used a Rockefeller-linked Cleveland sympathizer Cyrus Eaton, to sponsor the new back channel to Moscow. Since Eaton used his Pugwash, Nova Scotia hideaway as the site for the first conference, the back-channel adopted the name of Pugwash Conference. It was at the

second meeting of the Pugwash Conference, in 1958, at Quebec, that Russell's crony, Dr. Leo Szilard, set forth the MAD doctrine later associated with Kissinger and McNamara. It was there that Kissinger's circles first actually negotiated (privately) with Moscow, a ban on U.S.A. (not Soviet) strategic nuclear defense.

It was not until McNamara's reign at Defense, that Szilard's MADness took over U.S. strategy officially. It was not until Pugwash associate Kissinger became Nixon's national security adviser, that Pugwash arms-control philosophy became official U.S.-Soviet diplomacy openly. It was not until 1972, that Kissinger succeeded in foisting Szilard's 1958 ABM Pugwash deal with Moscow on the United States.

Thus, the origin of the Kissinger-McNamara sort of opposition to SDI, is their adherence to a queer sort of utopian-socialist one-world ideology. Any differences among Russell, H. G. Wells, Szilard, Kissinger, and McNamara are relatively incidental; on the essential features of this issue, they are *pods out of the same pea* (sic).

Conflict as cultural warfare

This past month, the American Catholic Bishops Conference convened in Rome. The proceedings were dominated by a theme treated by Cardinals Ratzinger, Gagnon, and O'Connor, among others. The addresses by Cardinals Ratzinger and O'Connor are of most notable bearing on the subject of SDI.

These cardinals emphasized that the influence of American pragmatism had destroyed the morals and culture of the United States. The U.S. people, in the main, have replaced the search for truth, with a search for an unprincipled consensus. More and more Americans appear to have lost not only the capacity to recognize a difference between right and wrong, but do not regret the loss of that moral faculty.

It is for those reasons, that the policies and agencies of the U.S. government are almost invariably incompetent or worse in matters of foreign policy, intelligence estimates, and strategic planning. I stress here, the typical U.S. officials' bungling incompetence in matters where the influence of culture is more or less decisive in shaping the outcome.

The effort to establish a principled, efficient, and durable perception of common intent, among nations with significant differences in culture, defines the kind of problems to be considered. The strategic-cultural impact of the original SDI, if ever implemented, is the setting in which this class of problem is considered here.

The essential thing which sets all human beings apart from, and absolutely above the beasts, is the quality of the human mind which has enabled mankind to increase the human species' potential population, from approximately 10 million, to more than 5 billion persons. This unique quality of accomplishment is directly a result of the efficient generation, transmission, and assimilation of what we commonly term scientific and technological progress.

The quality of the human individual which has made such success possible, is what we best name the creative processes of the human mind, processes whose species-quality is characterized by the original discovery of a valid fundamental principle of physical science.

This sort of behavior—such creative processes—could never be simulated by any machine, could never be represented by any digital computer-system, could never be described by means of a function based upon the formalist mathematics of today's mathematical-physics textbook and classroom. The proof of that is axiomatic; any true fundamental scientific discovery overturns one or more among the set of axioms and postulates of any formalist mathematical physics, generating a form of mathematical (logical) discontinuity which is not susceptible of intelligible representation in any system of axiomatic algebra.

This quality of creative potential, insomuch as it sets mankind absolutely apart from, and absolutely above all animal species, is the "axiomatic" center of any rational definition of human individual and collective self-interest.

SDI: the rising storm

Immediately we say that, we are confronted implicitly with the concept encountered under the topical sub-heading of "technological attrition." Creative activity is expressed uniquely by valid changes, from one set of consistent assumptions, to a new, superior set of consistent assumptions.

So, *value* does not lie within the confines of any one among the series of such successive sets. Rather, *value* lies in an implicitly endless process of generating the successive members of that series. *Value* is *transfinite*, in Georg Cantor's sense of the mathematical transfinite.

With man *value* does not lie in what mankind has produced; *value* lies in that which ensures progress to more advanced conditions. Human interest lies in the preservation and fostering of an endless process of human perfection, human *creative* progress. The expression of valid creative activity, if it is for the benefit of mankind as a whole, is a good per se—in the sense Gottfried Leibniz treats such matters in his *Metaphysics*.

Within this general truth, there is situated an apparent, troublesome contradiction; an echo of the Parmenides Paradox. How do we reconcile individual interest with the interest of the human species as a whole? Nicolaus of Cusa addressed, and solved this apparent paradox, in his *De Docta Ignorantia*.

We each exist, to the purpose that the sum-total of our mortal individual existence contributes to the efficient power of society as a whole, to the effect of fostering the existence and better development of the creative powers of the individuals, and the entire society which comes after us.

In that way, there is a reciprocal, causal interdependency between *true* individual self-interest and the *true* interest of society as a whole. As society requires such a benefit for itself from each of us, society requires for our benefit that which enables us to contribute our portion of benefit to society. Society requires that which fosters our individual development, that we might thus contribute our development's fruits to prompt a better rate of potential development of our society as a whole.

No matter what person, what nations, of what nominal culture, the nature of human self-interest, as we have summarized the argument, is the only true self-interest of each and all.

If, thus, each nation knows such to be its true interest, all nations know themselves to share nothing other than a common interest. Then, nations differ from one another only as a kind of division of common labor varies the special requirements of each.

The true object of statecraft is to bring an efficient, and concrete apprehension of such a form of common interest into being on this planet. Thus, it becomes a central problem of statecraft, that existing cultures induce nations to define individual and national interest in a false way.

The statesman's task on this account is simplified by an understanding of the nature of evil. Evil in all forms has but one origin, and two general degrees of evilness.

The root of all evil is typified by the feminine principle in pagan cults: Shakti, Ishtar, Athtar, Astarte, Isis, Venus, Cybele, et al.—the "Whore of Babylon." Satan is the son-consort of Shakti-Ishtar, Siva, Baal, Osiris, Lucifer, Satan, Dionysos, . . .



Lyndon LaRouche and his wife Helga during a 1981 visit to the Goddard Space Center near Washington, D.C. Just as the U.S. space program produced a climate of optimism by fostering growth through technological "spillovers" into the civilian economy, so SDI is an instrument of cultural warfare today.

Carlos de Hoyos

The root of evil is the tendency to locate the human identity in the loins, rather than the creative process of the human mind. Evil is the tendency to emphasize one's hedonistic affinities to the mere beasts. Evil is the tendency to associate "race" or "culture" with the domain of some earth-mother-goddess, with a dogma of "blood and soil."

The naughtiness which flows directly from submission to hedonistic impulses irrationally, becomes purely evil, Satanism, when God is attacked on behalf of the feminine principle's cause. All such commitment to the feminine ("old religion") principle is pure Satanism, the ultimate crime, the ultimate evil.

This consideration warns statecraft that the issue of existent culture confronts us with two kinds of required response. If a culture *values* the creative mental *potential* of the human individual, our task is to help to strengthen that feature of the culture, to make that element of value in the culture the basis for offering our collaboration and common interest with that nation. Yet, wherever a "blood and soil" or kindred anti-value appears, we meet the face of our adversary and must do nothing which encourages that corrupt feature of that culture.

For reasons catalogued by Cardinals Ratzinger and O'Connor, consensus-ridden, "other-directed" American pragmatists, are incapable of distinguishing *efficiently* between right and wrong, and are incapable of grasping the implications of culture we have just identified.

On the surface, SDI is a weapon of warfare. Yet, as I conceived it, it is an instrument for peace. Any policy, which fosters an energetic use of creative powers (scientific and technological progress) to solve a frightening problem of mankind, thus affirms true human self-interest, affirms the true value of the human individual.

So, in that way, the SDI acts efficiently upon the culture of the United States, and of other nations.

The notion of a *policy-trend*, a sense of directedness underlying a succession of mutually distinct policies, illustrates the way in which culture (e.g., "cultural paradigm") acts to define the will of a nation. As we influence culture (e.g., *cultural paradigms*), we affect the policy-trends of nations. We thus shape the future of nations far more profoundly than by seeking to negotiate particular amendments to a particular policy.

Such is the design of SDI. It was designed as a means to check war, and Soviet aggression, in the medium term, while also modifying, subtly, the cultural matrices of many nations, to the purpose of fostering the perception of true human self-interest, and so removing the cause for *justified war*.

Note

1. This applies, of course, only to use of "new physical principles," not KEW systems. Indeed, a global KEW version of SDI is not economically feasible, and could not accomplish its military objectives against obvious kinds of Soviet countermeasures.

Eastern Europe: in the shadow of Hungary 1956

by Konstantin George

When Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov returned to Moscow from London on April 7, he found himself faced with an escalating crisis of national unrest in the Russian Empire's satellite nations and in Yugoslavia, the Balkan powderkeg. With the threat of a 1956-style military invasion always looming, the Kremlin's task is to find right combination of imperial manipulation—of carrot and stick—that will allow it to keep control over its dominions.

Among the Warsaw Pact member states, the most acute situation is Hungary, where four rounds of price increases since Jan. 1 have brought the country to the edge of a strike wave. Added to this is a growing popular mood demanding an end to the presence of Soviet troops and Hungary's membership in the Warsaw Pact.

On April 2, fuel was poured onto the flames when Hungarian state-run radio broadcast without comment, the tape of a 10-minute speech by the late Hungarian primate, Jozef Cardinal Mindszenty, given at the height of the 1956 Revolution, in which Mindszenty demanded the immediate withdrawal of all Soviet troops; that Hungary leave the Warsaw Pact and become neutral; and that there be immediate free elections involving all political parties. Some observers are interpreting the decision by the state to broadcast the speech as a staged provocation, designed to promote a "too far too fast" destabilization, and thus ensure a Russian military intervention.

Such reasoning was supported the next day, when the Soviet Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* broke its silence on the Hungarian "experiment" to establish a 1945-48 model "multi-party system." *Pravda* denounced the Hungarian "opposition" for "seeking not the renewal, but the abolition of socialism," adding in very menacing tones: "The Hungarian Party is facing for the first time since the tragic autumn of

1956 such an intensification of bourgeois ideology fueling a nationalist revival in the society," and "political opponents, especially extremist elements in Hungarian society, want to put into question all the achievements of the past and the proven value of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation."

The *Pravda* commentary implicitly approved Hungary's "multi-party system" policy, but reflected Moscow's concern that the "experiment" might get out of control, as the Budapest regime's extreme austerity program radicalizes the people.

The level of popular apprehension about the economy was visibly demonstrated on April 3-4 (in Hungary a two-day holiday commemorating the country's "liberation" by the Red Army), when no fewer than 400,000 Hungarians took to their cars and drove into Austria, engaging in a furious panic buying-spree, grabbing up every video cassette recorder, stereo, radio, TV, electrical appliance, refrigerator, freezer, or other appliance they could get their hands on. In what amounted to a shoppers' invasion, Vienna and every Austrian town near the border were swamped with Hungarians; many stores were sold out, and a gigantic traffic and parking mess engulfed Vienna and the roads of Burgenland. The reason for this flood: New stiff customs duties imposed by Hungary, which take effect April 8, make such purchases prohibitive at home.

Poland: the deal with Solidarity

The unstable Hungarian situation shows why Moscow has gone out of its way to ensure that the Polish "round table" talks ended on April 5 with an agreement between the regime and the Solidarity trade union. The agreement is designed to continue the policy of buying time, to postpone the next outbreak of crisis, with the cooperation of Solidarity and its

leader, Lech Walesa. Moscow cannot afford the nightmare of having both Hungary and Poland explode simultaneously.

The final phase of the round table talks was accompanied by a brutal message delivered by Moscow's Warsaw puppet regime to anyone contemplating not playing by the "rules of the game" defined by the agreement. Three days before the accord, a demonstration by 2,000 people in the western Polish city of Poznan against plans to construct a nuclear power plant—such demonstrations had been held almost weekly in Poznan without any police interference—was suddenly attacked by riot police, who engaged in an orgy of beating up hundreds of people. The attack deliberately chose what is considered in Poland a *non-political* demonstration—a demonstration which is not in a formal sense an anti-government demonstration—so as to maximize the effect of terror on the people.

How much time was bought by the round table agreement is questionable. The core to the crucial *economic* side of the agreement is that Solidarity has capitulated to the government's plan to index wages to inflation. Under the formula agreed to, wages will be increased by 80% of the increase in prices; i.e., a built-in guarantee of *declining real wages*, and thus a guarantee that a strike wave will occur; the only question is when.

Yugoslavia: calm before the storm

Potentially most explosive of all, is the situation in the Kosovo province of "non-aligned" Yugoslavia, which, as we reported last week, had erupted into the first armed uprising in Eastern Europe since Hungary 1956. Following the suppression of the ethnic Albanian uprising in Kosovo March 23-30, the Yugoslav authorities have launched a wave of mass arrests. Upwards of 400 Albanian "nationalists and separatists" have been arrested, according to official figures released April 4—and those figures vastly understate the total number jailed to date. Not included in the figures are nearly 1,000 ethnic Albanians facing trial and prison sentences of 60 days for participation in the Kosovo general strike at the end of February. The presence of more than 50,000 Yugoslav Army troops, paramilitary security forces, and police, now patrolling the towns, villages, and roads of the Albanian-inhabited region of Kosovo, has brought a temporary, but extremely deceptive calm to the area.

The Kosovo Albanians are preparing the second phase of the armed uprising. Slowly but surely, armed bands are forming to create a partisan warfare zone in the wild, largely inaccessible, mountainous region bordering on Albania. The partisans can expect full support from Albania, which at the end of March came out in full support for the Kosovo uprising.

Beyond that, the Serbian-directed political purges of the Kosovo Albanian leadership that have followed the region's coming under direct Serbian rule March 28, coupled with developments in the westernmost and anti-Serbian Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia, ensure an escalation in the Yugoslav

crisis this spring.

In Kosovo, 12 Albanians were expelled from the Kosovo Central Committee, and far more important, from the Federal Yugoslav Central Committee. The move, engineered by Serbia and its party leader, Slobodan Milosevic, gave the forces of Milosevic a decisive majority on the Yugoslav Central Committee, and thus brought Milosevic another giant step toward becoming the "Greater Serbia" strongman of Yugoslavia.

The victory scored by Milosevic in Kosovo, however, triggered an anti-Serbian backlash in Slovenia, where for the first time a popular election was held to choose the new President of the republic. The winner was 39-year-old Janez Drnovsek, a liberal economist, an opponent of Serbian policy toward Kosovo, and an advocate of far greater autonomy for Slovenia. Under Yugoslavia's system of a rotating federal President, the next President, to be named May 15, will automatically be the President of Slovenia. As President, Drnovsek will be commander-in-chief of Yugoslavia's armed forces, whose leadership and officer corps is overwhelmingly Serbian and pro-Milosevic. The military will demand that Drnovsek enforce the Yugoslav Constitution, which in March was amended to end Kosovo's autonomy. The minute Drnovsek tries to even moderate a tough policy against the Kosovo Albanians, a confrontation with the Serbian-run military, turning into a constitutional crisis, is pre-programmed. Then, the Yugoslav crisis will no longer be a "Kosovo crisis," but a confrontation between a Serbian-led group of the eastern republics, against the western republics of Slovenia and Croatia, and the danger of a Soviet-backed military coup, under the slogan of "upholding the Constitution," will grow by the hour.

The Soviet nationalities

The picture of unrest is not confined to Eastern Europe. National discontent in the Baltic, the Transcaucasus, and elsewhere within the U.S.S.R. itself is rising, as are Soviet moves in the direction of brutal crackdowns. On the same day as *Pravda's* warning to the Hungarian opposition, the Soviet media carried an ultimatum directed at the Estonian Independence Party, which was told to either abandon its pro-independence demands or face dissolution.

In March and early April, mass demonstrations and strikes have been sweeping the Soviet Republic of Georgia in the Transcaucasus. This unrest was, as in the earlier outbreaks in Armenia and Azerbaijan, triggered by KGB-inspired ethnic clashes—this time in the Abkhazia region of Georgia, which has a mixed Georgian and Turkic population. On March 18, thousands of Abkhazians took to the streets, demanding that Abkhazia secede from Georgia. This was followed on March 25 by Georgian counterdemonstrations, and then April 1, by another mass rally by the Abkhazians. By April 6, all of Georgia was engulfed in strikes and demonstrations, and unconfirmed reports speak of a general strike in the capital of Tbilisi.

Gorby wants a 'peace' of the Americas

by Mark Sonnenblick

Did Fidel Castro and Mikhail Gorbachov exchange bear hugs, or merely embraces, at the airport when the latter departed following his four-day visit to Cuba April 5? This was the sort of question that busied the State Department and much of the Western press, which focused readers and viewers on such trivial "signals" of the health of the "marriage" between the Soviet Union and Cuba. The reality is that Soviet-sponsored narco-terrorist insurgency is alive and well in Ibero-America, despite whatever differences may exist between Cuba and the Soviet Union.

On the eve of the visit, President Bush sent an open letter to General Secretary Gorbachov asking him to pressure Cuba to shut off irregular warfare in Central America. Press commentaries spun scenarios about how, to compensate for Bush's willingness to redivide the world into Soviet and American imperial spheres, the Soviets would cooperate with U.S. efforts to police the Western Hemisphere. It would all fit in nicely with Henry Kissinger's "New Yalta" scheme.

Elliott Abrams, who, as Reagan's Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, finished off any remaining pro-Americanism in the region, projected on March 31: "I suspect Central America will prove to be an item of contention between the Soviets and the Cubans. A U.S.-Soviet agreement on Nicaragua could be very troublesome for Castro, because, what is left for his international role?"

Gorbachov complied with the Bush scenario by pronouncing, in his main speech in Havana April 4, "We are categorically opposed to any doctrines that justify the export of revolution or counter-revolution." He went even further, proposing "zones of peace" in the Americas and an "international conference," including the Soviets, to resolve the Central American imbroglio.

Disarming Ibero-American military

Two years ago, State Department socialist Elliott Abrams met with his Soviet counterpart in London. It was a giant step toward today's superpower condominium on regional matters. They agreed to do everything in their power to disband the region's military institutions, which, they agreed, were "a threat to democratic rule."

In Havana, Gorbachov presented himself as the apostle of peace. "At the present time there is a real possibility to ensure peace and security in the region," he said. "A major condition for this would be a halt to military supplies from

wherever they come." Such a formula would disarm the soldiers of Colombia who are resisting, with outmoded weapons, the M-19 narco-terrorists, who trade their cocaine for the most sophisticated weaponry on the international market.

However, before Gorbachov could answer a journalist's question about Bush's appeal to him to put a clamp on Cuban aid to revolutionary movements, Castro angrily broke in: "You start from the point of view that this is a colony. I feel that this is not an appropriate question."

Castro came off looking like a rebellious Latin nationalist, whose overt support for narco-terrorist movements would not embarrass Gorbachov or Washington's apologists for Gorbachov's *glasnost* and *perestroika*. Thus the "peace-loving Soviet peoples" will be able to keep the Salvadoran FMNL and Peruvian Shining Path going without disturbing the New Yalta condominium arrangements in Europe, the Mideast, and Africa.

On April 5, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater confirmed that Communist atrocities in the Americas would not interrupt the administration's mad rush to make disarmament agreements with the Soviets. There would be no "linkage" between Central America and other East-West issues. He said the administration was "disappointed" that Gorbachov didn't announce a cutoff of Soviet military aid to Nicaragua. But, he stressed, "this is a perfect kind of issue when we would want a summit and want a chance to sit down with the Soviets and say, 'Hey look; here's our position and what can we do about this.'"

The *New York Times* editorialized the next day, "Mr. Gorbachov could well be inviting conversations with Washington about superpower conduct in regional conflicts. Equipped with a lot of questions, the Bush administration could creatively test his intentions."

By having polite back-room consultations with the Soviets about what goes on inside the Americas, the Bush administration is granting the Soviet Union more influence and authority in the region than ever before. Gone are the days when the United States regarded its Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking neighbors as the ones to be involved, if not always properly consulted, in blocking Soviet strategic inroads into the continent. The U.S. appeasement of Gorbachov confirms suspicions south of the border that the "Western Hemispheric alliance" is dead and that Washington is in fact encouraging them to cut their own deals with the Soviets.

From its own angle, the *Washington Post* concludes, "Whereas Cuba was once Moscow's privileged ally in Latin America, Gorbachov treated it this time partly as a stepping stone toward new relations with what he called the democratic 'giants of the future' on the continent, such as Brazil and Argentina, where trade prospects lie."

Gorbachov's call for a 100-year moratorium on debts owed by the Third World to *Western* banks (while not giving any relief to Cuba on its debts to the Soviets) leads to the same conclusion.

Iran's pro-Soviet radical faction gains

by Thierry Lalevée

Hossein Ali Montazeri's forced resignation as the official successor of Ayatollah Khomeini at the end of March, was an indication of strengthening ties between Iran and the Soviet Union, and the boosting of radical pro-Soviet factions around Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi. Officially, Khomeini accepted Montazeri's "offer" of resignation as divergences became evident on internal matters. Montazeri had voiced criticism of the executions that have been going on unabated since the end of the Gulf War last July. He underlined his opposition to such policies by holding a highly publicized meeting with one leading opponent, former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan.

But the question of Soviet-Iranian relations also played an important role. In a letter sent to Mikhail Gorbachov in January, Khomeini called on the Soviet leader to send Soviet Muslim students to Qom and Meshed in Iran for training. Already, Muslims from East bloc countries like Bulgaria are studying the Khomeini brand of Islam, with the approval of the Communist authorities. Moscow agreed to the offer, and while no Soviet Muslim has yet arrived, Montazeri is reported to have fiercely opposed the plan, fearing infiltration by Soviet intelligence.

The dismissal of Montazeri has created a vacuum in the religious leadership. There is no other grand ayatollah who could be named to become Khomeini's successor. Of the few remaining grand ayatollahs, all have been critical of the regime and some are even under house arrest. This means that Khomeini's succession will rest, not with one religious figure, but a council of mullahs.

Mohtashemi and the Russians

While Montazeri's dismissal certainly came as good news to his arch-rival, Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the balance of power has shifted toward the more radical circles around Mohtashemi, whose stature has been enhanced by his long-standing contact with Soviet intelligence. This started in the late 1960s, when he was the link between Khomeini, then in Najaf, Iraq, and Soviet-controlled terror organizations such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) of George Habash and its special operations group led by Wadi Haddad. Through such channels, some of Khomeini's followers received training in camps in Lebanon. Mohtashemi cultivated these connections while he was ambassador to Damascus, where he created the Lebanese section of the Hezbollah and the Islamic Jihad.

The recent mention of Mohtashemi as one of the brains— together with Ahmed Jibril of the PFLP-General Command in Damascus—behind the Dec. 21, 1988 downing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, indicates how Moscow has succeeded in integrating within a single terror command the "Palestinian" and "Islamic fundamentalist" components.

The Soviet role has been prominently featured, through the visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Teheran in late February, followed by the early-March visit to Moscow of Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Hussein Lavassani (who had played an important role in the June 1985 TWA Flight 847 hijacking), and then the meeting on April 1 between Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Mikhail Gorbachov.

Besides the resignation of Montazeri, there has been an ongoing purge within the state apparatus. Mohammed Javad Larijani, the number-three man in the Foreign Ministry, was forced to resign in mid-March upon his return from a visit to the United States, where he had met U.S. and U.N. officials. He was denounced by Mohtashemi for having asked the United States for a mere "token gesture" of compensation for the July 3, 1988 downing of an Iranian civilian airliner by the *USS Vincennes*. Larijani was immediately replaced by Mahmoud Vaezi, who has for years led the East bloc department of the Foreign Ministry and was responsible for the recent breakthroughs in relations between Teheran and Moscow. Iran's U.N. ambassador Mahallati was called back to Teheran, forced to resign, and thrown into jail.

The fact that Moscow considers a revolutionary Islam an asset in the region was also underscored by the election on March 15 of a new mufti for the Soviet Central Asian Muslim board. The election followed by a month the unexpected dismissal of Babakhanov, the previous mufti, for "corruption." Babakhanov belonged to a traditional religious family which had held responsibility regionally for decades. His successor is a 36-year-old Islamic cleric, Mohammed Sadiq. While religious leaders traditionally study at Islam's oldest university at Al Azhar, Sadiq only took classes at the Islamic Institute of the University of Tripoli in Libya.

The consequences of Moscow's radical Islamic tilt are several. It puts into Moscow's hands a wide-ranging terror weapon already mobilized around the Salman Rushdie affair. One of the immediate targets may be Turkey. In recent weeks, the Iranians have started to openly interfere into the municipal elections there, leading to the April 3 decision by Ankara to recall its ambassador to Teheran. This followed several terror bombings in the country, under the pretext of the Rushdie affair, and activities by the Iranian ambassador directly in support of the radical Muslims of the Welfare Party. Thanks to Iranian money, they scored 10% nationally in the recent elections, gaining control of entire cities such as the Islamic center of Konya. No less a threat to Turkey is the strengthening of ties between Iran and Bulgaria's Muslims.

The illusions of Thailand's 'marketplace' foreign policy

by a Bangkok Observer

In early January, at the invitation of Thailand Prime Minister Chatichai Choochavan, Hun Sen, the prime minister of the Vietnamese-backed government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, arrived in Bangkok for a visit, although Thailand has no diplomatic relations with the Phnom Penh regime. The subsequent row over the visit that erupted between the Foreign Ministry and its partisans, and the prime minister's office and its supporters, reflects the conflict between the proclaimed "professional experts" of the former and the "spontaneity" and "new thinking" of Chatichai's advisers. Foreign Minister Siddhi Savestila's low-key but persistent fashioning and execution over almost a decade of a reliable and clearly articulated foreign policy has served to reassure Thailand's allies and to prevent misjudgment on the part of her adversaries.

Historically, in style and substance, it is in line with foreign policy principles and conduct that have served the Kingdom of Thailand well since the 19th-century onslaught of the colonial powers, and that succeeded in securing its independence. The major premises of recent Thai foreign and security policy were developed and firmly established under Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan (1978-80) and during the first and second governments of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanond (1980-88), shaped mainly by drawing the consequences of the 1973-75 U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam and the 1979 Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia:

1) While deprived of direct protection by U.S. Southeast Asia-based military forces, a close security relation with the United States was nonetheless maintained and remains a cornerstone of foreign and security policy.

2) When the People's Republic of China signaled cessation of support for the Communist Party of Thailand's insurgency in the second half of the 1970s, the opportunity was grasped to improve relations with the P.R.C., a process cautiously advanced further following the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia.

3) Close consultation and stepped-up collaboration with ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) was given high priority, the viability and voice of the association being accorded greater international significance and respect as the result of its outstanding economic success.

4) A clear-cut policy of correct relations with the Indo-

chinese nations, in perception of ideological differences, was established and adhered to.

It might be surmised, for example, that Prime Minister Prem's Moscow visit last year reflected the outcome of a determination to probe the real intentions behind Mr. Gorbachov's highly touted new Asian policy initiatives.

However, with the entry of Prime Minister Chatichai and "The Advisers," notably M.R. Sukhumbhand and Messrs. Kraisak and Pansak, virtually overnight and without much consultation with either the foreign minister or senior Foreign Ministry "bureaucrats," a "New Foreign Policy" is born.

A major point in the "new thinking" is prestige ("face"). Chatichai said it still quite carefully in his foreign policy address to the Foreign Correspondents Club on Dec. 22, 1988:

"Thailand has come of age in every respect. We are becoming stronger and more mature, and more self-confident in our strength."

In an interview with *Khao Pises* a few days earlier, adviser M.R. Sukhumbhand was rather more explicit:

"We are much stronger today, our weapons considerably more up-to-date. I think we have become a regional-level superpower, held in awe by regional states. They see that our economic base has become much stronger. Our policy in the past was that of a weak party. . . . We are much stronger now, but the habit of being an underling to other countries makes us forget just how strong we are."

Two substantive points can be discerned: first, turning Indochina from a battlefield into a marketplace; second, a new appreciation of and closer ties with the Soviet Union. Aspects of this were laid out by M.R. Sukhumbhand during a Dec. 13, 1988 panel discussion at Thammasat University. He is quoted by the *Bangkok Post* Dec. 14 as having said that:

1) Previously "Thailand's relations with the Soviet Union [had] suffered because of the Communist superpower's backing of Vietnam. But recently Thailand has looked at the Soviet Union *more as itself* than as Vietnam's backer" [emphasis added].

2) The Soviet Union is assuming a bigger role in solving the Kampuchean problem, so closer ties with the Soviet Union are inevitable.

3) The Kampuchean problem is likely to be solved in a way that satisfies all parties, and the Soviet Union will play the most important role.

Was the Soviets' backing of Vietnam the only reason for problematical Thai-Soviet relations? Does looking at the Soviet Union "more as itself" somehow improve one's evaluation of the Communist superpower—e.g., of its social and economic system? And how and why, exactly, is the Soviet Union likely to "play the most important role" in solving the Kampuchean problem?

In the interest of improving relations with China and of having a freer hand in Europe, the Soviets are putting some pressure on Vietnam. Withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea might also allow the Soviet Union to reduce aid to Vietnam, now estimated at over \$2 billion per year. All this will serve the Soviets well, including Mr. Gorbachov's international image as "peacemaker."

But how does that add up to solving the Kampuchean issue or imply the inevitability of closer Thai-Soviet relations? Vietnamese withdrawal is one necessary ingredient of bringing peace to Kampuchea. But will the Soviet Union then become a major player in Southeast Asia and in the Indochina "marketplace"?

The Hun Sen visit

The extent to which the "new thinking" of the prime minister's foreign policy advisers can wreak havoc with a difficult foreign policy issue, was amply demonstrated by the visit of Premier Hun Sen. The visit came at a time when the course toward a Kampuchean settlement had been mapped out and progress was being made at a satisfactory pace. Predictably, Hun Sen's visit caused consternation and angry reactions among Thailand's allies.

The Second Jakarta Informal Meeting (JIM-II) of all parties to the Indochina conflict, scheduled for early February, was put in doubt and had to be put back together in a series of hurried consultations: Kampuchea's Prince Sihanouk, agreed by all parties to be crucial to a settlement, would not attend; China said nothing and, thus, a lot; Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was delighted that Sihanouk might "miss the train," and Soviet Ambassador to Thailand Anatoli Valkov conveyed a message from Soviet President Gorbachov praising "Thailand's decision to initiate direct contacts with Phnom Penh as a bold and far-sighted action and a practical start in implementing Thailand's idea to turn Indochina from a battlefield into a marketplace."

Regional implications

The regional implications of the turn in Thai foreign policy are by no means negligible. Thailand has fared well, over the past 10 years of the Cambodia conflict, by acting in close collaboration with her ASEAN partners. Talk of the "Indochina marketplace" with Bangkok as its banking center, or General Chavalit's even more ambitious "Golden Penin-

sula" (*Souvannaplame*) concept, comprising Thailand, Burma, and the three Indochinese nations, reinforce the suspicion in ASEAN that Thailand is seeking new alliances and fortunes.

Prince Sihanouk, predictably, but in light of historical precedent not altogether inappropriately, was quick to react to such a prospect. In a Feb. 1 interview with the Paris paper *La Croix*, he charged that Thailand and Vietnam were conspiring to turn Kampuchea into a shared condominium with the P.R.C., acting as chairman of the board of directors. Sihanouk already experienced this in the 1960s, when the Thailand-based Khmer Serie and the South Vietnam-based Khmer Krom (both CIA-spawned, under different chairmen of the board) had significant influence in the western and eastern Kampuchean provinces.

But the Prince's warnings and forebodings aside, reality is that a peninsular Thai-Vietnamese power-sharing arrangement, aping similar global deals, is an illusion. Neither Thailand nor Vietnam, at present, has the wherewithal to guarantee peace in Kampuchea. In today's world, like it or not, there is no such thing as a "regional superpower." Vietnam tried playing such a role after 1975, only at the expense of becoming increasingly a Soviet client. For Thailand to act out such a foolish fantasy, coupled with lessened commitment to ASEAN, would simply force her into a client relationship with China—a status from which she successfully liberated herself in the early 19th century.

Greater dependence on China, already evident in General Chavalit's military equipment deals, will, in turn, further alienate ASEAN partners Indonesia and Malaysia, setting in motion a process which even the authors of such policies would probably find abhorrent. Amazing, what havoc a combination of naiveté, ignorance, and the promise of cheap logs, gems, and a few hotel construction contracts, can wreak with a well-established foreign policy. (Note that Hun Sen's defense minister, who accompanied him to Bangkok, is one of Kampuchea's largest gem dealers.)

What is the alternative?

Contrary to adviser M.R. Sukhumbhand's statements in *The Nation* on Feb. 17, time for peace in Kampuchea is not "running out." At present, the only immediate beneficiaries of a quick settlement would be Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and the Khmer Rouge. Vietnam would benefit economically, the Soviets would further enhance their image as peacemakers, and the Khmer Rouge would stand as the militarily strongest Cambodian faction, able to dictate terms. A rush into an early formal settlement without clear-cut resolution of the Kampuchean factional situation, is a prescription for civil war, not a prelude for lasting peace and reconstruction.

Emphasis on ASEAN unity must be the paramount concern, if a durable Kampuchean settlement is to be reached—for two reasons: One, of the principal parties to the peace process, only the ASEAN partners have built the kind of

societies characterized by the basic liberties, economic program, and stability that can serve as a model and point of perspective for Kampuchea. Just consider the patently absurd notion of the Soviet Union and China posing as guarantors of peace, free elections, and successful economic development. Two less likely candidates for initiating and helping sustain such a development could hardly be found worldwide.

ASEAN must put itself and its own success forward as the model to emulate. Thailand, per force of geographical circumstances, will be the spearhead of this, much as previ-

A peninsular Thai-Vietnamese power-sharing arrangement, aping similar global deals, is an illusion. Neither Thailand nor Vietnam has the wherewithal to guarantee peace in Kampuchea. In today's world, like it or not, there is no such thing as a "regional superpower."

ously she found herself in the role of front-line state. But only a unified ASEAN will be a credible counterforce to contending Soviet and Chinese regional ambitions. Thailand alone can attempt to play such a role only at the price of a disastrous potential course.

Nobody should be blinded by the glitter of the past two years of Thailand's economic success and talk of achieving Newly Industrialized Country (NIC) status in the next few years. At this point and into the foreseeable future, only ASEAN as a whole and in concert with its major trading partners has the economic resources and technical capabilities to be of true assistance and a partner in Kampuchean reconstruction and overall Indochinese economic development. This is not a job for fast-buck (baht) operators, rushing in and grabbing what they can. Former "economic czar" Boonchu Rojastien's warning against such a notion of "Indochinese marketplace" at a Feb. 8 National Institute for Development Administration seminar is well taken: "Don't let those who want to reap one-sided benefits go [to Indochina]. Don't use the hit-and-run tactic."

And there are potential political pitfalls as well, as pointed out by former National Security Council Secretary General Prasong Soonsiri in *Matichon Weekly*: "Politicians who are traders often think like traders. Politicians who are bankrolled by traders will be pushed by the traders to do this and that for them. The Laotians, Khmers, and Vietnamese know

which of our parties are supported by traders. When they [Indochinese] want anything, they will use the traders who are the sponsors of political parties to put pressure for changes."

The notion of "marketplace" provides entirely the wrong direction and approach. Are we just going to legalize the present "informal" trade (smuggling) and then let the Invisible Hand (in whose pocket?) take care of the rest?

To put a positive interpretation on Prime Minister Chatichai's vision of converting the battlefield into a marketplace, it is first of all necessary to identify the major economic problems at hand and then to define a joint ASEAN-Indochina development strategy.

While there are obvious differences in level of development, both for the ASEAN members and for the nations of Indochina, deficiencies in infrastructure (energy, transportation, communications) are the principal obstacle to sound economic growth.

A second major social and economic policy problem is defined by the urgent need to resettle over 500,000 Indochinese refugees, the majority of whom are presently sheltered in border camps in Thailand. A comparative development plan for a joint attack on and solution to these problems should be defined as the principal economic policy challenge for ASEAN and Indochina through the remainder of this century, and simultaneously as the only viable framework for durable peace in the region.

The ASEAN and Indochinese countries now have a population of close to 400 million people, which will reach over 500 million by the end of the century. Located strategically at the crossroads of the major Indian-Pacific Oceans trade routes, between the world's two largest population centers—India and China—and endowed with ample indigenous resources, long-term economic development prospects for the region are excellent. The question is whether the political and business leaders of Southeast Asia can muster the vision and courage to jointly undertake the necessary infrastructure and population development projects to convert an outstanding potential into a future reality. Large-scale development of the Mekong River for hydroelectric and irrigation purposes has long been on the drawing board. A canal through the southern isthmus of Thailand ("Kra Canal") has been proposed and studied on numerous occasions. It would serve like no other project to integrate Southeast Asia's transportation infrastructure and make the most of the region's trade and industrial development potential. In this construction phase, such projects would give meaningful employment to several hundred thousand people; after completion they would define a bright future for their children and grandchildren.

Let planning for such projects, and discussion of their significance for the region's future, become part of the Kampuchean peace negotiations, and let talks of impending civil war after Vietanese withdrawal be converted into talk of how to win the peace for Southeast Asia's 400 million.

Satanist rock concert flops in Sweden

Facing a strong counter-campaign, over-aged rock star Ozzy Osbourne appeared to be near the end.

Intended to kick off a Europe-wide tour, the Scandinavian leg of Satan worshipper Ozzy Osbourne's "heavy metal" concert series may very well be a case of kicking oneself in the teeth. Thanks to a vigorous campaign launched by the Anti-Drug Coalition (ADC), a March 31 performance of Satanism in Solna near Stockholm, although not canceled, was largely neutralized by effective public exposure.

Backed by housewives and parents, teachers and youth leaders, clergy, yes, even some media and politicians, the ADC caused a public outcry against the mass brainwashing of youth in rock concerts saturated with Satanic rituals. The first large organization to join the ADC campaign to shut down the Osbourne tour was the Swedish League of Housewives, a member of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). In a March 22 press release, its national chairwoman—a former conservative member of parliament—Mrs. Ethel Florén-Winther, stated:

"At a time when violence grows continuously in Sweden, everything should be done to stop it. All over the Western world, youth are recruited to overt Satan worship of the type performed by Ozzy Osbourne. Satanic horror films and violence-promoting video films are part of this. If the advertised performance is carried out, a new wave of recruitment will occur. Stop the gala!"

In the present critical moment, when the Satanic forces have gone public, yet still lack the organized power simply to impose their will on

the saner layers of citizens, the devil worshippers are vulnerable when exposed to daylight. In numerous articles and radio broadcasts, the ADC hammered home the point that unless Satanic practices are stopped today, they will be unstoppable tomorrow.

In Solna, Ozzy Osbourne and his behind-the-scenes controllers were facing some hundred parents and a handful of municipal officials who had decided to make an unannounced, on-site inspection. The black magic mind control was effectively broken, and the Satanic show failed to electrify the young audience, whether witting or dupes.

This fact notwithstanding, and in spite of previous pledges to the contrary, the texts of the obscene songs performed at the concert were explicitly Satanic, including songs such as "Suicide Solution," which incited 19-year-old John McCollum to commit suicide, "Bloodbath in Paradise," on Hollywood Satanist murderer Charles Manson, "Mr. Crowley," on the infamous guru of Satanism, and "Miracle Man," in which the audience is incited to make the devil's sign, i.e., raising your fist with the index and little fingers pointing up.

Osbourne himself, whose publicity work for Satan began over 20 years ago as the lead singer of the British band "Black Sabbath," was recognizably down-beat, requiring more time for pausing off stage than he spent on stage. His managers tried to conceal this with endless guitar and drum solos played by the band, causing the audience to boo loudly. On stage, Os-

bourne was unable to remember his own texts, which were written on large posters taped onto the stage floor.

Press reviews of the concerts were generally unfavorable, both in Stockholm, and after the other Scandinavian performances, with headlines reading, "Ozzy Has Lost the Glow," "Weak Heavy Metal Rock by Ozzy," and "Frightening Bad." The Social Democratic daily *Aftonbladet*, however, distinguished itself by an article run on the day of the concert, defending the "rights" of Satanists.

Among political spokesmen, the Swedish cabinet minister in charge of youth questions, Margot Wallström, after receiving ADC documentation about Osbourne, issued a strong statement to an ADC representative condemning the concert—but later watered it down, after she realized that she had no backing from the Social Democratic party leadership.

In Norway, after the April 3 concert in Drammen, south of Oslo, and in spite of devastating press coverage, Osbourne was all but officially endorsed by the Social Democratic regime of Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland—who will be remembered in history for her sponsorship of the genocidal Brundtland Commission report on the environment.

Verdens Gang, a tabloid circulated throughout Norway, reported that, "The prime minister was represented during the heavy metal concert. Gro's personal secretary, Stale Dokken . . . [said]: 'This was one of the better heavy metal concerts that I have attended. Good culture—it is very few cultural events in Drammen that draw so many people.'" The tabloid reported that Osbourne's fans were waving their hands, making the devil's sign, but did not specify whether the prime minister's personal secretary was one among them.

Ecologists want a FEMA-type agency

A look behind plans in West Germany to create an emergency crisis apparatus.

In Germany, the Green Party has been spearheading a debate to turn the police and customs into an "ecology police." The idea is shared by the Social Democrats, and should they come into the position to form a government with the Greens after the 1990 federal elections, the creation of a special police apparatus would be on the agenda.

The "ecology police" and the debate on environment protection, are the roads leading into an agency in Germany like the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The nuclear disaster of Chernobyl and the mysterious spill of toxic waste into German rivers in 1986, the new oil spill off the U.S. coast of Alaska and the earthquake in Armenia, all serve as pretexts to issue calls for "special protection" measures. Like the Orwellian Newspeak, this is to promote control, rather than protection, of the population.

The discussion on "toxic spills" overlaps with the food issue. The Greens say that nuclear accidents or spills of industrial toxic chemicals into the rivers could "endanger the fresh water and food supply of millions of West Germans." The argument came up April 3, when an oil tanker crashed on a reef in the Rhine River near the city of Oppenheim. Ecologists spread hysteria about "potential poisoning of fresh water supply for 8 million Germans," ripping the state bureaucracy for "not responding fast enough to the danger."

As it turned out, there was no such danger, but citing "millions of people" is crucial for the Greens to promote an agency which could inter-

vene, "outside the bureaucracy," in such imagined ecological disasters. Some Greens want to turn the Ministry of Environmental Affairs, created in June 1987 as an outgrowth of the post-Chernobyl hysteria, into such a super-agency with special powers.

The interesting point here is that West Germany already has emergency crisis legislation, detailing precautions and measures in case of armed conflict or war, under the 1968 State of Emergency Legislation. There are also measures at hand in case of bigger civilian emergencies, like floods, earthquakes, huge fires, and the like. Why a special new agency, then?

In the view of the ecologists, the flaw in this legislation is that in the case of civilian emergencies, it does not alter the system of the bureaucracy and the basic power structure. And in cases of war or armed conflict, special emergency crisis management (which can remove or freeze certain administrative restraints and can reduce civil rights) requires a two-thirds majority of the national parliament and the upper house.

"What we need," said an official of the administration in Bonn, "is something in the gray zone between civilian and wartime emergency that could act without delay. It should have the blessing of the government and the parliament, and already be there in a case of emergency. It should have the manpower and equipment to act, and they should be trained for the 'if-case' on a regular basis."

The same official said that this proposed new institution would be comparable to the U.S. FEMA, but

added that "for historical reasons, i.e., the United States being a liberal free market society, [emergency crisis] legislation there is lagging behind." The discussion in Europe is more advanced, in his view, in Switzerland, which has a tight system of civil defense and emergency crisis management organized from the very top of the state down to all individual sections of the population and the economy. "The U.S. could learn from Europe in that respect," the official said, hinting that FEMA officials have been studying the Swiss model.

The basic proposal for a special emergency crisis agency in Germany would be to have an administrative body operating with a blank check from the government and the parliament. As an official of the Bonn Ministry of Food and Agriculture explained, the agency "which is not yet established, but is under discussion" could act the minute an emergency facing the food sector were recognized. It could be a "big chemical disaster in our own country, or one that would affect several of our main food suppliers abroad, which would put the supply of larger parts of our population into question," he explained.

The agency could also be called to action, should larger parts of the population get into a "mass panic," along the example of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, when a run on sugar and other basic food products turned the shelves in the grocery stores empty in a matter of a few days. A war outside Germany would be the "model situation between civilian and wartime emergency, in which the new agency could act," the official said. A new war in the Mideast would, based on the experiences with the 1973 oil price shock, possibly launch such a panic and require "regulation of the market system and rationing of basic consumer goods."

U.S. plans a 'Philippines election'

Project Democracy's CAP, Jimmy Carter, and the State Department are set to repeat what they did to Marcos.

Panama's President Manuel Solís Palma blasted Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez April 3, for his blatant interference in Panama's internal affairs. Pérez (known as CAP) and the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Governments (COFEHG), an organization set up by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, are openly attempting to manipulate the outcome of Panama's upcoming presidential elections, May 7.

During a visit to the United Nations March 31, Pérez said, "The Panamanian electoral process does not guarantee honest elections in that country." In his April 3 response to Pérez, Solís Palma said that he "regretted" the Venezuelan's remarks, adding that "the opinion that counts is that of the people participating in the elections in Panama." Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said he did not want to "guess as to Pérez's intentions." "I prefer to believe that his statement is aimed at promoting friendship between the two countries and not at further dividing Panamanian society and much less meddling in the domestic affairs of my country."

Ritter's diplomatic language notwithstanding, Pérez's "intentions" are crystal clear. After two years of unsuccessfully attempting to remove the commander of the Panama Defense Forces (PDF), Gen. Manuel Noriega, the Eastern Establishment's "Project Democracy" gang is at it again. This time they are trying to trash Panama's May 7 elections in a replay of the operation through which Ferdinand Marcos was overthrown in the Philippines

in February 1986.

As U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said March 22, unless the U.S.-backed opposition candidates win, the United States will not recognize the results. A victory by the pro-Noriega presidential candidate, Carlos Duque, will automatically constitute "fraudulent elections," proclaimed the State Department.

This is exactly how the operation to overthrow Marcos was carried out. Ferdinand Marcos did, after all, win his reelection in 1986, at which point the U.S. backed anti-Marcos mass demonstrations to protest the "fraudulent elections" and to force Marcos into exile. It is worth noting that running the campaign against Noriega from the American embassy in Panama is John Maisto, who was the case officer in charge of the operation against Marcos.

Socialist International agent Carlos Andrés Pérez is the Establishment's brown-nosed errand boy to make the "Marcos gambit" work. The irony that Pérez is the one chosen to "bring democracy" to Panama, is not lost on Panamanians. As the April 2 Panamanian newspaper *La Republica* noted, referring to Venezuela's recent riots, "In Panama we had violence sparked by Washington's corrupt money. However, the Panama Defense Forces have never committed any massacres, such as the loathesome massacre that took place in Venezuela, where the government keeps its death toll secret, but the people know that more than 1,000 people died."

While in the United States, Pérez stopped in Atlanta, where Carter's COFEHG released a report on the Panamanian elections March 28. The report poses three possible "scenarios" for the May 7 elections, none of which even remotely considers the possibility of a victory by the pro-government COLINA slate. One, that "with the prospect of a massive defeat for the pro-government slate," the elections would be canceled. Another is that "the government would commit massive fraud." The third, is that the PDF would allow the U.S.-financed Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO) coalition to win the election, provided the opposition were willing to reach a "*modus vivendi*" to allow the PDF to control certain "areas it deemed essential for its continued institutional autonomy."

The last is only possible if Noriega leaves, the report states. Right on cue, Ricardo Arias Calderón, ADO's first vice-presidential nominee, issued a statement promising to leave the PDF untouched, "in exchange for Noriega's departure." The PDF's response was to declare itself "on alert" in the face of this obvious attempt to split its ranks.

The insanity of the Carter-Pérez operations and other "Project Democracy" attempts to sabotage Panama's elections was again made evident March 29, when U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and Drug Enforcement Administration head John Lawn publicly praised General Noriega's PDF for its help in breaking up a \$1 billion international drug-money laundering ring. This open acknowledgement of continued cooperation between the PDF and U.S. law enforcement in the war against drugs, once more made a joke of the original pretext for the anti-Noriega campaign, the phony federal drug charges in Miami.

International Intelligence

U.S. and Israel sign SDI contract

The Pentagon's Strategic Defense Initiative Organization and the Israeli government at the end of March signed a \$35 million contract to jointly build a computer simulation system in Israel which is a key test component of a defense shield against short- and medium-range missile attack. The joint effort, for which the United States is to kick in 72% of the cost, is a followup to an ongoing \$160 million joint anti-ballistic missile defense system, called the Arrow.

The new contract means that Israel has now taken a larger share of the American SDI program than Western Europe.

The *Washington Times* cites growing concern over Arab governments, particularly Iraq, developing both nuclear and chemical weapons as well as intermediate-range missile systems capable of hitting Israel, as a motive for Israel's special interest in the theater defense initiative.

The *Times* also linked the new contract to Israel's September 1988 launch of a fixed orbital satellite, which permits tracking of missile launches and troop movements throughout the region.

'Assad: Satan of the Middle East'

That is the headline in Italy's *La Repubblica* daily April 3, over an interview with Lebanese Interim President Gen. Michel Aoun. Said Aoun, if the West wants to fight against "the nightmare of drugs and terrorism," it has to "help Lebanon" against Syria's Hafez Assad and get Syria out of Lebanon.

Aoun accused Assad of destroying Lebanon. He said: "I want to say clearly, that I never tried to reach a compromise with President Assad. It has always been the Syrian government that is attempting to destabilize the country, organizing attempted assassinations, retaliations, and kidnappings." Lebanon under Syrian domination "has be-

come the base for terrorism and drug-trafficking, but also for destabilizing other areas of the world." He called on the entire world to "help Lebanon put an end to the nightmare of drugs and terrorism financed by the Syrians all over the world."

Asked by the *La Repubblica* correspondent whether he were concerned over the fate of Western hostages held by Syria, Aoun fired back, there are "4 million Lebanese people held hostage by the Syrians. . . . The Syrians host and train all the terrorists. Freeing our national territory from Syrian occupation, we will put an end to the threat to the democracies."

Namibia ceasefire accord on verge of collapse

South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha charged that nationalist guerrillas had violated a ceasefire agreement, and threatened to expel a U.N. force which had just started to supervise the transition to independence for the territory, formerly known as South West Africa.

Botha said April 1 that up to 60 guerrillas crossed into Namibia from Angola in defiance of a U.N.-sponsored truce and fought a gun battle with police on the border. He said 38 rebels and two Namibian police officers were killed.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar ordered an immediate investigation of the incident.

Since then, the most extensive fighting in years has been taking place between South African Army forces and guerrillas from the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO).

A letter from Botha was delivered to Pérez de Cuéllar on April 5, which claimed that armored SWAPO guerrilla units, backed up by Cuban forces, were massing on the Angola-Namibia border. According to Botha, 4,450 SWAPO troops had been deployed since April 1, the first day of implementation of the Angola-Namibia-South Africa accords, into a zone of southern An-

gola in outright violation of the agreements. He charged that the SWAPO violation of the ceasefire agreement had been begun by no later than March 21 when the tank units began moving south to position at bases within 30 miles of the Namibian border.

Meanwhile, representatives of African states have denounced the U.N. for its bungling of the early stages of the independence accords. The African states complained that U.N. administrator Martti Ahtisaari had committed a major blunder by allowing South African regulars to leave their bases in northern Namibia to attack SWAPO forces entering the country from Angola.

Le Figaro attacks U.S. 'New Yalta' plan

"The United States: The Temptation of a New Yalta," is the headline of a feature in France's *Le Figaro* daily April 5. Correspondent Pierre Bocev stresses that the idea of a New Yalta is scarcely new, "it goes back to Henry Kissinger, in the epoch when the White House and the Kremlin converged on their 'special responsibility' for the world. What is new, is that the scenario is very seriously studied at the State Department. In the grand 'strategic reevaluation' which is now going on within the Bush administration, Kissinger's scenario is now being examined, as was just confirmed by James Baker in the *New York Times*."

Even if both Soviet and American spokesmen issue denials that they are seeking to "carve up" Europe or to "make a deal over Europe," "the business is on the order of the day." It is reminiscent of the 15th-century plans by Spain and Portugal to divide up the "New World," but a half-millennium later, it is "the Old World that could find itself on the menu."

The deal is simple, says Bocev: "In sum, Moscow would relax a bit its hold over Eastern Europe, politically and militarily. On the other hand, Washington and the NATO countries would commit themselves to not take advantage of this new 'détente' to ad-

Briefly

vance the western position in the European 'glacis' of the Soviet Union. . . ."

He concludes:

"For the United States, a certain liberalization in Eastern Europe, paid for at the price of the guarantee that NATO would not take advantage of this, can have its charms. Accompanied by clear cuts in the military forces of the two alliances which are negotiating now in Vienna, such a scenario would permit the Americans to withdraw partially from Europe. On tiptoe and in good conscience.

"That would be a singular version of the 'common European house' advocated by Moscow: two owners who commit themselves not to raise the rent excessively and agree not to consult the tenants."

Weinberger defends FSX agreement

In a letter to the *Washington Post* published April 3, former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger attacked Sen. John Heinz (R-Pa.) for criticizing the U.S.-Japanese FSX fighter jet deal as a "fire sale." The United States is the principal beneficiary of new generation technologies developed by Japan, not to mention significant trade benefits, he said, warning of the consequences of the Bush administration's flip-flopping on the agreement, which was worked out during the closing days of the Reagan administration.

"The FSX deal, as negotiated, is an arrangement of which the seller can be justifiably proud. If Japan scraps its present multibillion-dollar plans to buy AWACS, long-range land-based radars, tanker aircraft, and advanced air defense systems off the shelf from the United States and goes with the Europeans or on its own in the 1990s because the United States cannot be relied upon as a supplier, it might be time for a fire sale. But who will be the customers and who will then step forward and take credit for sinking the FSX deal?"

The Bush administration has sought to revise the agreement in a seeming effort to keep "sensitive American technology" with commercial applications from falling into Japanese hands.

This has led to sharp expressions of irritation and bitterness in Japan, the *New York Times* notes, quoting Japanese officials. "In the short term, this particular issue will be solved. But in the longer term, it will leave a very serious scar in the minds of people who should be cooperating with each other."

Japanese officials complained that the United States seemed to be invoking national security concerns in the case of the FSX simply to gain economic advantage.

London's *Financial Times* was caustic in its comments. "The case against the Bush administration is as follows, that, over the FSX, it is guilty of presumption in the first degree, with grievous sins of vacillation to be taken into account. Almost worse, it has shown itself susceptible to argument based on narrow interest, fear, xenophobia, and—let us not shirk the word—racism."

India prepares new missile test

Indian scientists are preparing to test a long-range ballistic missile that would vastly enhance the country's military and political power, the *New York Times* reported in a front-page article April 4.

"The apparent success of the Indian program comes despite efforts by the U.S. and its allies to restrict the export of technology and goods to countries that might use the technology to buy or develop nuclear missiles. . . . The move is seen as an effort to assert India's military dominance in the region and to show its determination to play a more prominent role in the world.

"If India were successful in developing a ballistic missile with a range of 1,500 miles, it would join a small group of countries—U.S., Soviet Union, Britain, France, China."

● **JAPAN'S** Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita spoke of a "new era" emerging on the Korean peninsula, and of Japan's "deep remorse and regret" for its colonization of the Korean peninsula in the 36 years prior to 1945. Speaking to Japan's parliament March 30, he urged that a direct dialogue with North Korea be established as soon as possible.

● **CHINESE** Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has ruled out Red China's participation in any collective security pact for the region, as proposed by Mikhail Gorbachov. Qian told a press conference in Beijing March 27, "In the Asia-Pacific region, there are vast differences in terms of the level of development, political and social systems, and the cultural and historical backgrounds of the countries involved."

● **VLADIMIR BUKOVSKY**, dissident Soviet writer, said that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was guilty of "spectacular misconceptions" concerning Mikhail Gorbachov. "When the Soviet state wants to change its policies, it changes its personalities—not the other way round. . . ."

● **THE DRUIDS** have a following of more than 100,000 in Great Britain, bigger than that of the Social Democratic Party and the Social Liberal Democratic Party, the *Sunday Times* of London reported April 2. Two leaders of the Mother Earth cult are mounting a legal fight to reverse the decision by English Heritage, not to allow them to celebrate the Summer Solstice at Stonehenge.

● **THE SOVIET UNION** believes there will be a "partial solution" to the Kampuchea conflict by September of this year, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said in Bangkok at the end of March.

North trial spills the beans on Bush Irangate role

by Sandro Mitromaco

More than one year after *EIR* published an exposé titled “George Bush Sinks Deeper Into Iran-Contra Scandal” (Jan. 29, 1988), the story has broken out in front-page headlines worldwide. Washington pundits who anticipated an “October surprise” that would demolish Bush’s political ambitions before the presidential elections, are now wondering whether that “surprise” may now be in the making.

The U.S. government on April 6, during the course of the trial of Oliver North, released a document that included previously classified material which begins to blow apart Bush’s “I-didn’t-know-anything” coverup line. Among other revelations, the document shows that on March 16, 1985, when a U.S. delegation met with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Córdova to convince him to help the Contras in exchange for economic and military aid, it was George Bush personally who led the delegation and made the offer of a *quid pro quo*.

“In early March 1985,” according to the document, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger informed National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane “that the DoD had commenced expedited procurement and delivery of military and other items to Honduras. When Vice President Bush met with President Suazo, Bush told Suazo that President Reagan had directed expedited delivery of U.S. military items to Honduras. Vice President Bush also informed Suazo that President Reagan had directed that currently withheld economic assistance for Honduras should be released; that the United States would provide from its own military stocks critical security assistance items that had been ordered by Honduran armed forces; and that several security programs under way for Honduran security forces would be enhanced.”

In June 1984, Bush, in a meeting at the White House, had warned the President to be careful to respect certain

formalities when using “third countries” in circumventing the congressional ban on military aid to the Contras. “The only problem that may come up,” he told President Reagan, “is if the United States were to promise to give these third parties something in return so that some people might interpret this as some kind of exchange.”

But the government document proves that less than one year later, Bush had forgotten these formalities.

Mountains of material on George Bush’s real role remain to be revealed, however. There has yet been no reference, for example, to the fact that—as *EIR* revealed more than one year ago—it was the then-Vice President Bush who, through the Special Situations Group, ran the White House intelligence coordinating bodies used by North and his group to conduct their illegal Iran-Contra activities. Bush had headed the SSG since early 1982! But while waiting for more accurate details, we can still learn from the April 6 document that the “third countries deal” was considered potentially so embarrassing that it was decided never to put anything down on paper.

Forced to lie

Unexpectedly, Oliver North decided to go on the stand to testify in his own defense, a move that is considered by trial observers as an effort to increase the pressure—some say blackmail—on Bush. “I felt like a pawn in a chess game played by giants,” North stated on April 7. “I never made a single trip . . . I never made a single contact . . . without the express permission” of his superiors.

As rumors fly in Washington, Bush is beginning to feel the heat. At his press conference on April 7, called to discuss the Alaska oil spill, he seemed to have lost his nerve. “How do you reconcile your efforts to arrange third country military

aid for the Contras with the spirit of the ban by Congress?" he was asked by one reporter. "All the material you seem to be referring to, all the material that was introduced yesterday, has been available to the independent counsel and the Iran-Contra committee," was Bush's answer.

But that was untrue. Unfortunately for him, a few hours after the press conference, one of the lawyers for the joint congressional Iran-Contra committee told ABC News, "We never got that information." And Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Me.), one of the three members of the Tower Commission which investigated Irangate in 1986-87, stated that he was not aware of the Honduran story and Bush's involvement.

Asked about this, Bush refused comment. When the press kept pressuring him for an answer, an angered Bush shot back: "I don't want to talk about it any more. Go back and interpret what I said."

A rebellion of the 'pawns'

Oliver North will continue now to testify. If he was just a "pawn in a chess game played by giants," as he claims, he was certainly not the only one. According to information available to this press agency, quite a number of "pawns" are now willing to talk.

One of these is former CIA agent Richard J. Brenneke, who testified in court Sept. 23, 1988: "The people involved have, as I said, either, in my opinion, been killed or systematically discredited over a considerable period of time. . . . And I can't live with myself if I don't at least make the court aware of it. And this has been going on for a number of years."

This dramatic statement was delivered in the court of Judge Jim R. Carrigan in Denver, Colorado, during a closed-door session at the end of the trial of *United States v. Heinrich Rupp*. Rupp, who worked for many years for various CIA proprietaries, was being tried for fraud and recycling of dirty money, after having been the witness of extraordinary events relating to Irangate.

"In October 1980," Brenneke stated, "I was present in Paris, France, at a meeting. . . . The purpose was to negotiate, not only for the release of the hostages then being held at the United States Embassy in Teheran, but also to discuss the means by which the terms [were to be settled with representatives of the Iranian regime]. . . . In the end agreement was reached, and the logistics of transferring \$40 million for the purchase of weapons was worked out. And it was for this meeting that Mr. Rupp brought the then vice-presidential candidate George Bush, and the to-be-director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Mr. Casey, to Paris, France."

The object of the proceeding was to find out more about the statement by defendant Heinrich Rupp, that he personally had flown the plane that brought Bush and Casey to Paris to deal with the Ayatollah. "The question," wrote a journalist in the *Rocky Mountain News* who was able to interview Rupp, "is this: Did Ronald Reagan and George Bush arrange to have

Iran hold 52 hostages until after the November 1980 presidential election when Reagan defeated incumbent Jimmy Carter?" According to Brenneke and Rupp, the answer is yes. According to Brenneke, the Paris journey took place on Oct. 18-19, 1980 and lasted less than 24 hours. The hostages were released only after the election of the Reagan-Bush ticket. There are 21 hours unaccounted for in the Bush schedule, precisely in those two days in 1980.

The Bush campaign tried everything to discredit anyone who claimed to know about those meetings. One participant, U.S. government informant Cyrus Hashemi, died later in a London hospital, of a form of leukemia that impressed his doctors as the fastest case in medical records. Brenneke stated that Hashemi, whom he knew very well, had been killed to shut him up. "At first I dismissed this, but not any more," said former National Security Council staffer Gary Sick, who was in charge of the hostages before the 1980 election. "I'm convinced on the basis of what I heard that there were some meetings in Paris. I know that the Iranians changed their policy at that time."

"So what if somebody gave \$40 million for 52 hostages?" asked Kenneth Qualls, who is said to have been the co-pilot who flew with Rupp to Paris. "They are alive aren't they? Who cares if [Bush] was there and he lied? You know, the fact is he made a deal, and deals like that are made in the Middle East all the time." Also former Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr declared to the *New York Times* that a meeting between Iranian officials and the Reagan campaign had taken place in 1980.

"I discussed this situation with individuals . . . at the Central Intelligence Agency approximately 10 days ago, when Mr. Rupp informed me that he was going to be tried again," stated Brenneke in his deposition. "I was told that there is a very substantive faction within the agency who feels that individuals that have served . . . have been poorly treated, like Mr. Rupp. . . . And I was told the following sequence of events will take place: An individual, a retired CIA person, would begin speaking with a foreign newspaper or a foreign journalist. He would provide the journalist with enough information relating to what I have told you today. . . . Subsequent to that, an individual employed by the agency would provide additional details."

Mr. Rupp is currently in a federal prison—accused of having stolen money—after having undergone a three-month psychiatric examination following his statements concerning George Bush. But a "Deep Throat," who apparently knows much more than has yet come out, is stressing that there are many similar cases, beside the Rupp case. Another case is that of Bob Sensi, a personal acquaintance of Bush, familiar with the details of the "British connection" of the Iran arms traffic, who ended up in jail accused of having stolen \$2.5 million. Then there is the case of Michael Aspin, who knows a lot and is now in jail near London, also accused of theft. And there are many others. . . .

Virginia lynch mob convicts LaRouche associate: 86-year sentence!

The national “Get LaRouche” task force succeeded in carrying out its latest atrocity on April 5, as Rochelle Ascher, a fundraiser for causes associated with political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, was convicted of nine felony securities violations, and sentenced to 86 years in prison by the contaminated jury that convicted her.

The sentence Mrs. Ascher received exceeds that given to Nazi war criminal Albert Speer, who received a 25-year sentence. Joel Steinberg, convicted of murdering his illegally adopted daughter in New York, received a 25-year sentence for manslaughter. Wall Street stock swindler Ivan Boesky received a four-year sentence.

Currently, Mrs. Ascher is free on a \$50,000 bond until a hearing June 1, where post-trial matters will be considered by Judge Carleton Penn. These include motions by defense counsel John Flannery to strike one further count of the indictment for lack of venue. He further asked that the court conduct an inquiry of juror Brian Seeley, and then of the entire jury. Early in the trial, Seeley had violated the judge’s order by discussing an incident of alleged “tampering” with other members of the jury.

Substantial appeal issues

Defense counsel Flannery also informed the court immediately after the conviction was announced, that there are substantial appeal issues, including the admitted bias of the jury, and that “we will all be doing this again.” Flannery argued both for bond pending a pre-sentencing report, and for bond pending appeal. Assistant Attorney General John Russell argued for the Commonwealth that Mrs. Ascher be placed in jail immediately.

Judge Penn, who had openly aided the prosecution of Mrs. Ascher, praised the jury. Outside the courtroom after the jury was dismissed, he was observed joking and smiling.

After the verdict was read, Penn told the jury—which had exhibited bias against LaRouche from the outset of the trial: “You are the most conscientious, patient, and attentive jury in my experience. I wish to commend you for the court and for the community. You have performed a valuable function for the community.”

The most fundamental violation of the defendant’s rights was the repeated denial by Judge Penn of the motion to change venue, despite the overwhelming evidence, both in copies of inflammatory media coverage presented to the court, as well as the admitted bias of jurors as they were questioned in the *voir dire* at the opening of the trial. However, Judge Penn granted a change of venue for all subsequent trials of 15 LaRouche associates to Roanoke, in recognition of the prejudice known by him to exist in Loudoun County—due to special anti-LaRouche operations run there, the location of LaRouche’s residence.

This prejudice was an issue throughout the trial, and offered numerous opportunities for the judge to stop the travesty—which Penn refused to do at any point. Numerous mistrial motions were denied, even when prosecutors John Russell and George Chabalewski shamelessly inflamed the jury on the “LaRouche” issue, up to and including in their closing arguments.

Not only jury bias was used to assure a conviction in the Ascher case. First, the crime had to be created.

Creating the ‘crime’

Mrs. Ascher and 15 other LaRouche associates are the first people ever to be charged with “securities” violations in Virginia, when in fact, they had raised loans for political causes. As was pointed out during pre-trial hearings, the same argument concerning loans would incarcerate thousands of elected officials nationally. Furthermore, it was not until *after* Mrs. Ascher and the other defendants were indicted, that the State Corporation Commission deemed that the loan notes involved were “securities.”

In addition, the federal government placed the companies to which the loans were made into involuntary bankruptcy in April 1987, guaranteeing that all repayment of loans would be impossible. The fact of this government-forced non-payment was then made an element of the crime, with Mrs. Ascher being charged with the “intent” to defraud.

The final straw to an assured conviction was Judge Penn’s charge to the jury. Penn instructed the jury to consider *all* notes securities, deliberately eliminating certain qualifica-

tions contained in the language of the Virginia Securities Statute. He ruled that the defendant did not have to know the notes were securities to be convicted of the crime.

Show trial tactics

Rochelle Ascher was initially charged with 12 felony counts, which included two counts of failure to register as a broker-dealer, and to register securities with the State Corporation Commission; 9 counts of fraud related to securities sales to 7 different individuals; and one conspiracy count tacked on later. At the end of the trial, Judge Penn dismissed three of the counts related to individuals, for the prosecution's failure to show that the violations were related to Loudoun County in any way, since she is from Baltimore. Mrs. Ascher was convicted of the nine remaining charges.

A total of 23 "lender" witnesses were called by the government, apparently in order to inflame the jury, even though the defendant was only charged specifically in relationship to 7, and later only 4 individuals.

The four individuals remaining included Robert Ware, Dr. Edward Allen, M. Cathleen Waddell, and State Police Investigator Larry Burchette. Robert Ware forgave all of his loans, and stated to the government before trial, and to the jury during the trial, that he had never been misled or defrauded. Rochelle Ascher was sentenced to 9 years for this "crime."

M. Cathleen Waddell was a major issue in the trial, as she had had a stroke after her association with Mrs. Ascher and the LaRouche-affiliated organizations. She could not remember independently a single conversation or fact concerning any transaction, unless a piece of paper was before her. Mrs. Ascher received 30 years based on testimony of a

person with no memory, who according to all legal observers, should never have been allowed on the stand. Judge Penn ruled her "competent" to testify.

In the case of Burchette, Mrs. Ascher was not the individual, according to the police officer's testimony, who negotiated the note. Furthermore, Burchette himself called the loan a favor, and not an investment.

Loans were not due

However, despite all of these circumstances, one stands out above all. Virtually none of the loans named in the indictment was even due before the bankruptcy took place in 1987. Most of the loans were long-term notes, and not due until after the year 1990.

Sources knowledgeable of the appeal issues in this case, describe the eventual appeal brief as potentially 3,000 pages in length. Untold numbers of errors, plus instances of both judicial and prosecutorial misconduct, are all elements expected to be included.

In a final note, Bruce Lillegard, the jury foreman, is employed by the Defense Mapping Agency of the U.S. Defense Department in Reston, Virginia. It is not known if this represents another case of pre-rigging the jury, as occurred in the Alexandria case against Lyndon LaRouche and six associates, in which the jury foreman, Buster Horton, was also a federal government employee, who turned out to be a member of a secret government team created to handle national emergencies in the United States. Horton, of the U.S. Agriculture Department, worked with others who were deployed on the "Get LaRouche" task force, including and FBI's number-two man, Oliver Revell.

LaRouche: 'Both a crooked judge and a crooked jury'

Lyndon LaRouche issued the following statement from the Alexandria, Virginia Detention Center April 5, on hearing of the results of the trial of Rochelle Ascher.

The results of the Shelley Ascher trial so far prove that the federal government is convinced that it cannot convict any person associated with me without having both a crooked judge and a crooked jury. The blatant facts in this case show there is no doubt that the jury was crooked, and the judge, by being fully aware of the fact that he was proceeding with a crooked jury, was acting in a corrupt manner to continue the trial.

It is a fact that a member of the jury was exposed as both lying, and lying in the attempt to set up the defendant during mid-trial. It was also indicated by testimony in court before the judge that the juror's actions had contaminated the entire jury. There was testimony of a second juror indicating to the falseness of the first juror's statements; there was conclusive evidence that the juror had lied.

So we know in this case therefore that the jury was corrupted thoroughly, and we know in this case that the judge allowed the trial to continue with that jury, without allowing a hearing after hearing evidence which showed that the jury was massively corrupted.

That's the lesson. This is dictatorship. This is fascism. Let's see how the American public responds to this kind of 86-year sentence of an innocent person for doing nothing, because the government found out that by using a corrupt and crooked jury, and a corrupt and crooked judge, it could pull off convictions in such cases.

Constitutional rights violated, says LaRouche motion for bond on appeal

Citing substantial violations of their constitutional rights, on April 5 attorneys for Lyndon LaRouche and his six co-defendants filed a motion for bond pending appeal before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Virginia. By presenting substantial issues of law and fact that should lead to reversal of their conviction, the defendants' arguments on behalf of their constitutional rights represent the most crucial fight for such constitutional protections in the recent period.

Submitting the 50-page appeal brief were: Attorneys Ramsey Clark and Odin Anderson, for Lyndon LaRouche and Dennis Small; R. Kenly Webster for Edward Spannaus; Brian P. Gettings for William Wertz; Michael Reilly for Paul Greenberg; Edwin Williams for Joyce Rubinstein; and James Clark for Michael Billington.

The International Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations is rushing the major portion of the appeal brief, minus its appendices, into print, in order to alert the political and legal community, as well as the general citizenry, to the issues involved. Whether the U.S. devolves into a police state, or not, will depend substantially upon the outcome of this demand for release of political prisoner LaRouche and his associates, and their subsequent main appeal.

Constitutional right to a fair trial

The appeal brief raises four major abuses of constitutional rights in the trial of the U.S. vs. Lyndon LaRouche, as it was heard in the Alexandria federal court under Judge Albert V. Bryan. As a result of the denial of these rights, "petitioners were denied the right to present a full defense to a fair and impartial jury." The following arguments summarize the issues raised:

A. The District Court denied petitioners a constitutionally adequate *voir dire*, thereby violating their Sixth Amendment right to a fair and impartial jury. The defense argues that the *voir dire* examination was not valid for probing the jury, and constitutionally inadequate.

The constitutional inadequacy led to at least five categories of reversible error by Judge Bryan:

- 1) The *voir dire* was unconstitutionally general;
- 2) The trial judge erroneously relied on jurors' subjective perceptions;
- 3) The trial judge failed to probe outside influences on jurors;
- 4) The defense was precluded from making effective use

of their preemptory strikes, because it lacked adequate information about the prospective jurors;

5) The trial judge forced petitioners to waste precious preemptories.

B. By denying the defendants' motion for exculpatory material and granting the government's pre-trial motion *in limine*, the court deprived defendants of their constitutional right to present their case to a fair and impartial jury. This denial of constitutional rights meant that the defense was not allowed to fully develop the facts relevant to its case, in particular the pattern of activity by the government against the defendants, and the involuntary bankruptcies which the government had brought against the defendants' organizations.

C. The District Court erred when it refused to grant petitioners' motion for continuance and forced counsel to trial without affording them adequate time to prepare their defense. Thus the defense was given no more than one-third of the time it would have taken them to prepare the case, with the result that cross-examination was inadequately prepared, and, most importantly, there was inadequate time to permit defendants themselves to testify on their own behalf.

The overall context for these denials of constitutional rights is outlined in the factual background section of the brief. This section demonstrates that "this case is an outgrowth of (FBI Cointelpro), which culminated in an intense five-year program by what may be accurately characterized as a national multi-agency 'get LaRouche' task force. The task force was created following repeated instigation by, among others, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. . . . The political motivations apparent have received international attention and condemnation by prominent jurists and others."

The most egregious result of the constitutional inadequacy of the jury selection procedure, which left the jurors "essentially unprobed," was the fact that U.S. Department of Agriculture employee Buster Horton was seated, and later selected as jury foreman. It was learned subsequent to trial that Horton "is a member of a special unit in the United States Department of Agriculture, and is one of the USDA's representatives on a special inter-agency task force of approximately 100 persons. . . ." Horton was associated on this task force with Lt. Col. North and a representative of Assistant FBI Director Revell, both of whom were documented in the Boston trial as involved in anti-LaRouche operations.

The case of the LaRouche jury

What follows is an unabridged section of the motion filed on April 5, 1989 for Lyndon LaRouche and six co-defendants for bond pending appeal. The full brief is being published by the international Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations.

III. ARGUMENT

The right to be tried by an unbiased jury is fundamental to our system of justice and serves as a critical guard against arbitrary and politically-motivated prosecutions. As the Supreme Court noted in *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 156 (1968):

Those who wrote our constitutions knew from history and experience that it was necessary to protect against unfounded criminal charges brought to eliminate enemies and against judges too responsive to the voice of higher authority Providing an accused with the right to be tried by a jury of his peers gave him an inestimable safeguard against the corrupt or overzealous prosecutor and against the compliant, biased, or eccentric judge. . . .

The court below scoffed at the notion that this case might be politically-motivated, declaring it "errant (sic) nonsense" to even imagine that "this organization is a sufficient threat to anything, that would warrant the Government to bring a prosecution to silence them" [See App. at Tab #18.] This point was reflected in the judge's failure to take the necessary steps to protect the Petitioners' constitutional right to a fair trial by an unbiased jury. As is demonstrated herein, petitioners were denied the right to present a full defense to a fair and impartial jury.

A. THE DISTRICT COURT DENIED PETITIONERS A CONSTITUTIONALLY ADEQUATE VOIR DIRE THEREBY VIOLATING THEIR SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO A FAIR AND IMPARTIAL JURY

As set forth in detail in the Factual Background, *supra*, Petitioners had been, for an extended period of time, targets of adverse publicity and vilification generated by the news-media and directed at audiences in the geographic area from which the members of the jury panel were selected. Given this fact, the district court should have taken particular care to conduct a thorough, searching voir dire in order to assure

a fair and impartial jury. Instead, the trial judge took none of the precautions required in high profile cases. He refused to grant Petitioners additional peremptories, denied all pre-trial voir dire motions, would not permit counsel to question veniremen, relied on panelists' self-conceived assurances of impartiality, refused to conduct a sequestered individual examination of each juror, and refused to excuse for cause persons employed by or closely affiliated with the prosecuting agencies.¹⁵

1. *There Was No Valid Voir Dire Examination*

In light of the pervasive negative publicity as noted above, Petitioners submitted several pre-trial voir dire motions aimed at detecting jury bias. Specifically, Petitioners requested that the veniremen be required to fill out a questionnaire,¹⁶ be examined on an individual-sequestered basis, and be asked specific questions; including, for example, whether they were ever approached by LaRouche associates in airports.¹⁷ Notwithstanding the above, the trial judge refused to hear any argument, denied all such motions, and informed counsel that he would conduct the entire jury selection process himself.

This examination, conducted exclusively by the judge, was directed to the panel at large, and only those jurors who responded affirmatively to the court's general questions were questioned individually. Of the 12 jurors who were ultimately impaneled, only four were questioned individually. Furthermore, since the court limited itself to asking prospective jurors about prior exposure to publicity about this case only, none of the petit jurors was ever examined about their exposure to publicity not specifically related to this case, such as the publicity surrounding the Boston, Virginia, New York, or California prosecutions, the general publicity attacking LaRouche and his associates, or about encounters with supporters of LaRouche.

Once the court found the panel without exception, counsel were given a brief recess, and peremptory challenges were then exercised in a rapid-fire fashion. Due to the lack of useful information regarding the jurors, and the inadequate time to consult among themselves, defense counsel could not intelligently exercise the limited number of peremptories (10) afforded to them.

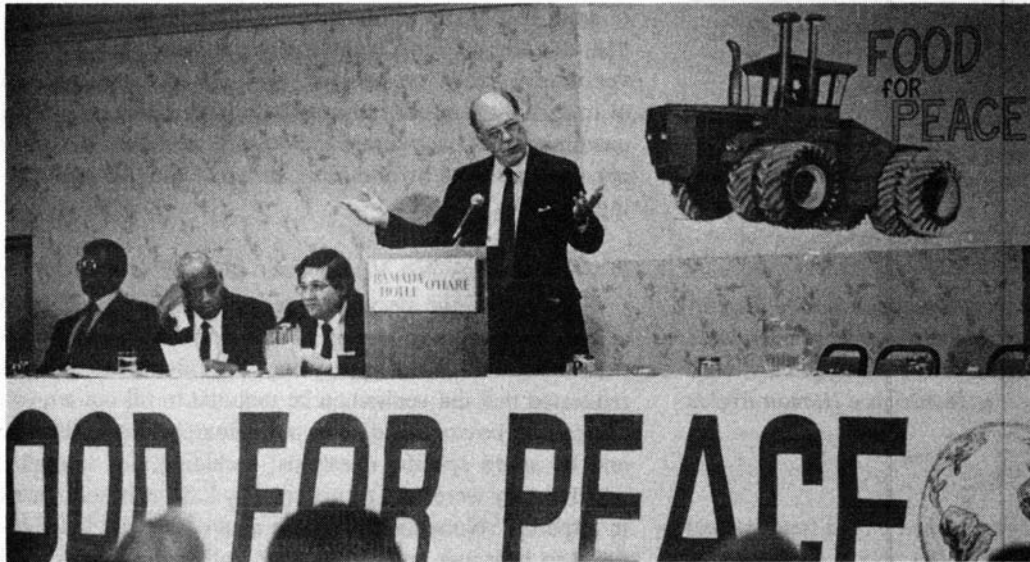
The entire jury selection process was completed in less than two (2) hours and occupies a mere sixty-eight (68) pages of the record.¹⁸ Twenty-eight (28) members of the 75-

¹⁵ Exemplary of the harmful consequences resulting from the trial court's superficial jury-selection process is the case of jury foreman, Buster Horton. Subsequent to the trial, Petitioners learned (for the first time) that Horton is a member of a federal multi-agency task force which included adversaries of LaRouche. The details of this are presented *infra*, at pp. 19-20.

¹⁶ See App. at Tab #19.

¹⁷ See App. at Tab #20, Questions Nos. 18, 19.]

¹⁸ Compare *Smith v. Phillips*, 455 U.S. 209, 213 n.4 (1982) ("ten days of meticulous examination"); and *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717, 727 (1961) (2,783-page voir dire record).



Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., speaking to a meeting of the Food for Peace organization in Chicago, Dec. 10, 1988, while his trial was under way in Alexandria.

person panel summoned by the trial judge were immediately excused on “hardship” grounds.¹⁹ Of the remaining 47, 25 admitted a knowledge of the case due to the pretrial publicity surrounding it.²⁰ The district court excused 19 additional veniremen, 16 of them because the publicity surrounding the case had caused them to form an adverse opinion or to otherwise doubt their own impartiality.²¹ Seven of the veniremen so excused were permitted to openly declare in front of the remaining panel members that they had read, heard or seen something about this case which caused them to form an opinion of Petitioners so adverse as to preclude their impartiality. Defense counsel objected to these open court declarations on the ground that they had an inevitable polluting effect on the remaining panelists. [See App. at Tab #9, p. 12 and 35.] However, as with practically all other voir dire objections/requests interposed by the defense, the trial judge merely noted this objection and proceeded to conduct the truncated voir dire.

As a result of the narrow scope and brevity of the entire voir dire, the jurors were essentially unprobed. Moreover, since the trial judge denied Petitioners’ post-trial motion to interview jurors, Petitioners still know relatively little about the jury. They did know, at the time of voir dire, that at least

two of those impaneled—jurors Horton and Connor—were employed by agencies of the federal government, but that is virtually all they knew about them.

In fact, it was learned subsequent to trial, juror Horton, who served as foreman, is a member of a special unit in the United States Department of Agriculture, and is one of the USDA’s representatives on a special inter-agency task force of approximately 100 persons. This task force deals with emergency preparedness and sensitive matters of national security under the auspices of the Federal Emergency Management Administration (F.E.M.A.).²² Horton was associated on this task force with Lt. Col. North and a representative of Assistant FBI Director Revell, both of whom were documented in the Boston trial as involved in anti-LaRouche operations.

The USDA had also been the subject of more than 200 articles published by associates of LaRouche, many of which vehemently criticized Department of Agriculture policy.²³ In addition, LaRouche’s campaign committees paid for two October 1988 prime-time, network TV broadcasts concerning the world food crisis. These broadcasts were specifically critical of the Department of Agriculture.²⁴ Because juror Horton was impaneled without ever having to affirmatively

¹⁹ The district court excused all 28 veniremen without questioning them about the nature of their hardship. In so doing, the court deprived the defendants of jurors who may not have had any hardships but simply did not want to sit on the case, or whose hardship was insubstantial.

²⁰ Many more panelists may have had prior knowledge of LaRouche or his associates, but Petitioners have no way of ascertaining this, since the trial judge limited his inquiry to knowledge of this particular case. See Argument, *infra*.

²¹ The district court excused for cause 2 employees of the IRS, one of the prosecuting agencies in this case, but refused to similarly excuse an FBI employee (Usery), a DOJ employee (Mitchell), and the wife of a retired FBI agent (Chapin).

²² Additionally, had defense counsel known of Horton’s F.E.M.A. role, he would have been challenged, as General Giuffrida, the former head of FEMA who left under disputed circumstances, was to be a defense expert witness on security issues.

²³ These articles were embodied throughout exhibits Petitioners attempted to introduce into evidence at trial.

²⁴ During the trial, Petitioner LaRouche spoke at a major “Food for Peace” conference in Chicago, organized by friends and associates of Petitioners. This “Food for Peace” movement has been denounced by a consortium of liberal and leftist organizations which work with the USDA units under Horton’s supervision and also with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Community Relations Service.

answer a question, Petitioners had no way of exploring his potential bias or the extent to which his governmental duties caused him to be exposed to anti-LaRouche operations.

2. *Constitutional Inadequacies of the Voir Dire*

The need to ensure that a criminal defendant receives a fair trial by an impartial jury becomes all the more important in a case like the present one which involves highly controversial public figures who have been the subject of extensive inflammatory publicity. *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966); *Irvin*, supra at 725–728. Given the increased likelihood of impermissible outside influence, including pretrial publicity, it is imperative for the trial judge to exercise correspondingly greater care in all aspects of the trial relating to the outside influence “which might tend to defeat or impair the rights of an accused.” *Silverthorne v. United States*, 400 F.2d 627, 637 (9th Cir. 1968). See also *Wells v. Murray*, 831 F.2d 468, 471 (4th Cir. 1987); *Wansley v. Slayton*, 387 F.2d 90, 92 (4th Cir. 1973); *United States v. Milanovich*, 303 F.2d 626, 629 (4th Cir. 1962).

In the instant case however, the court refused to undertake any serious effort to uncover bias and to ensure an impartial jury. The court’s reasoning for this was candidly expressed post-trial, when the trial judge told counsel:

[Y]ou know and I know that all this business about uncovering bias is just a smokescreen . . . for really selling your case to the jury, to these jurors ahead of time, and every good trial lawyer I have ever known will tell you that the place to get your foot in the door is during that voir dire I think we have to recognize what this voir dire really is. [Emphasis added]

[See App. at Tab #21, p. 30–31.] The court’s actions in this regard resulted in at least five categories of reversible error, as shown below.

a. *The Voir Dire Was Unconstitutionally General*

At least six federal Circuits have held that whenever there is a reasonable likelihood that individual jurors have been exposed to potentially prejudicial material, the district court must examine each prospective juror individually. See *Silverthorne*, supra; *United States v. Schrimsher*, 493 F.2d 848 (5th Cir. 1974); *United States v. Bryant*, 471 F.2d 1040 (D.C. Cir. 1974); *United States v. Addonizio*, 451 F.2d 49 (3rd Cir. 1971); *United States v. Tropiano*, 418 F.2d 1069 (2d Cir. 1969); *Patriarca v. United States*, 402 F.2d 314 (1st Cir. 1968).

In *Silverthorne*, for example, a case involving voluminous pretrial publicity, the Ninth Circuit expressed grave concern that “only five of the jurors impaneled were ques-

tioned individually by the court.” *Id.* at 639. Because the pretrial publicity heightened the likelihood of juror bias, the Court found that the trial judge’s voir dire examination should have been directed to the jurors individually. Specifically, the Court held that the trial judge should have engaged in:

[A] careful, individual examination of each of the jurors involved, out of the presence of the remaining jurors . . .

Id. at 639.

There is no doubt that the instant case raised a reasonable likelihood of juror bias due to outside influences. Like *Silverthorne*, the instant case was surrounded by prejudicial pretrial publicity. In addition, individual jurors here may have been influenced by prior contact with a LaRouche associate or their literature, or exposure to prejudicial publicity not specifically related to this case.²⁵ Only four of the jurors ultimately impaneled were ever questioned individually—i.e., one less than in *Silverthorne*—and none of the individualized questions had anything to do with either pretrial publicity or with any contact with, knowledge or opinion of Petitioners or their political movement.

The fact that none of the jurors impanelled responded affirmatively to the trial judge’s inquiry regarding the exposure to pretrial publicity surrounding this case does not establish that all of them were in fact free of such exposure. *Silverthorne*, 400 F.2d at 640 (failure to respond to the court’s general inquiries does not establish that the “publicity could not have prejudiced any member of the jury.”). Any venireman wishing to conceal their bias could do so by simply failing to respond affirmatively to the trial judge’s general questions. See *McDonough Power Equipment Inc. v. Greenwood*, 464 U.S. 548, 557 (1984) (Brennan, J., and Marshall, J., dissenting) (“the bias of a juror will rarely be admitted by the juror himself, ‘partly because the juror may have an interest in concealing his own bias . . .’”) (citation omitted). Similarly, any panelist who was unaware of their prejudice, was reluctant to admit such prejudice, or who inadvertently failed to respond to the general questions, also remained undetected. See *Kiernan v. Van Schiak*, 347 F.2d 755, 779 (3rd Cir. 1965) (jurors are often “unaware of their disqualification in specific cases.”); *United States v. Allsup*, 566 F.2d 68, 71 (9th Cir. 1977) (“more frequently jurors are reluctant to admit actual bias”). Here the court below ridiculed efforts to probe for bias or prejudice as equivalent

²⁵ The likelihood of such a situation was recently demonstrated in the voir dire at the trial of a LaRouche political associate in Loudoun County, Virginia. There it was recognized that “LaRouche is a loaded term in this jurisdiction.” [See App. at Tab #22.] Judge Vance Fry came to a similar conclusion in an unrelated Loudoun County case several years earlier, when he stated: “I would gather from reading the record in this case that LaRouche is not a popular person in this area.” [See App. at Tab #23.]

to seeking a "psychiatric examination" of those jurors. [See App. at Tab #23.]

By refusing to permit counsel to examine jurors post-trial,²⁶ the judge diminished Petitioners' ability to demonstrate specifically the prejudicial impact of the judge's voir dire procedure. Nevertheless, two recently held trials, one involving Petitioners LaRouche and Spannaus in Boston and another involving a political associate of LaRouche held in Loudoun County, Virginia, demonstrate that when counsel were permitted to make adequate specific inquiry, initial pronouncements of impartiality by prospective jurors have not been sustained. [See App. at Tab #24.]

As experience illustrates, "general inquiries as to impartiality, when directed to the group as a whole, are unlikely to elicit admissions of partiality." *Jordan v. Lippman*, 763 F.2d 1265, 1281 n.19 (11th Cir. 1985). Therefore, recognizing that "we must spare no effort to secure an impartial panel," it was incumbent upon the trial judge in the instant case to conduct a careful examination of each juror. *United States v. Dennis*, 183 F.2d 201, 226 (2d Cir. 1950), *aff'd*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951). His failure to do so constitutes reversible error.

b. The Trial Judge Erroneously Relied On Jurors' Subjective Perceptions

In the absence of an examination designed to elicit answers which would provide an objective basis for the court's evaluation, "merely going through the form of obtaining jurors' assurances of impartiality is insufficient [to test that impartiality]." *Silverthorne*, 400 F.2d at 638 (citation omitted). In the instant case, the trial judge merely obtained jurors assurances and relied on them. He did not probe these assurances, nor did he allow counsel to do so. Compare *United States v. Addonizio*, 451 F.2d 49, 67 (3rd Cir. 1971) (The court dismissed on its own motion each prospective juror who indicated extensive exposure to pre-trial publicity, without regard to protestations of impartiality).

For example, in examining juror Chapin, whose husband is a retired FBI agent, the trial judge deemed the following exchange to be sufficient:

A JUROR: My name is Lenora Chapin. My husband is a former Special Agent with the FBI, retired.

THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be an impartial juror in the case, in your opinion?

THE JUROR: No.

THE COURT: Thank you.

[See App. at Tab #9, p. 40.]²⁷ It is clear that this exchange could provide no objective basis for assessing whether the fact that her husband is a former FBI agent actually impacted on juror Chapin's ability to be impartial. The judge made no effort to ascertain what the basis was for juror Chapin's "own opinion" of impartiality, and failed to ask even the most rudimentary of questions—e.g., whether juror Chapin's husband, or any of their FBI acquaintances, had ever participated in an investigation of LaRouche or his associates, or whether Mrs. Chapin could remain impartial if the FBI's credibility were impugned or the credibility of a particular FBI agent was attacked, or if she learned of the bitter adversarial relationship between the FBI and Petitioners over a 20-year period. Defense counsel ultimately had to use one of their ten preemptory strikes on Chapin.

The trial judge's failure to ascertain some objective basis upon which to evaluate each juror's impartiality, combined with his consistent reliance on jurors' self-assuring perceptions of their own impartiality, constitutes an impermissible abdication of responsibility, warranting reversal and an order for a new trial. While "[i]t is sufficient if the juror can lay aside his impression or opinion and render a verdict based on the evidence presented in court," *Irwin*, 366 U.S. at 722–723, the determination of whether that "juror can [in fact] render a verdict based solely on evidence adduced in the courtroom should not be adjudged on that juror's own assessment of self-righteousness without something more." *Silverthorne*, *supra* at 638 (quoting *United States v. Largo*, 346 F.2d 253, 257 (7th Cir. 1965) (dissenting opinion). Accord *United States v. Davis*, 583 F.2d 190, 197 (5th Cir. 1978) (the venireman is "poorly placed to make a determination of his own impartiality.") See also ABA Standards on Fair Trial and Free Press, Commentary at 8–44 (there is a "tendency . . . to exaggerate [one's] ability to be impartial").

Clearly, veniremen in high profile cases like the one at bar cannot be relied upon to provide an objective assessment of their own impartiality. Rather, after adequate questioning, the district court must make that final decision itself. *United States v. Largo*, *supra* at 257. In the instant case, the procedure was clearly deficient.

c. The Trial Judge Failed to Probe Outside Influences On Jurors

Rather than recognizing the constitutional significance of juror voir dire in a highly publicized case, the trial judge herein considered the process merely a "smokescreen," and refused to afford counsel any opportunity to question prospective jurors. While it is within the trial court's discretion to conduct the voir dire itself, courts have recognized that this discretion is not unlimited, and that voir dire not con-

²⁶ On January 19, 1989, the trial judge denied defendants' post-trial motion to interview jurors.

²⁷ The exchange between the trial judge and juror Chapin is not *sui generis*. Rather, it provides an accurate example of the manner in which voir dire was conducted in this case. A similar deficiency occurred with respect to juror Mitchell, who revealed that as part of his routine at the DOJ, he reviewed "clippings" pertaining to LaRouche. The trial judge never pressed him on this subject, but rather accepted his equivocal protestation of impartiality. [See App. at Tab #9, p. 32.]

ducted by counsel has little meaning. *United States v. Corey*, 625 F.2d 704, 707 (5th Cir. 1980) (knowing what specific questions to ask is difficult for the judge, who lacks the same grasp attorneys have of the complexities and nuances of a particular case); *Silverthorne*, 400 F.2d at 638 (if trial court conducts voir dire, “he must exercise a sound ‘judicial’ discretion in the acceptance or rejection of supplemental questions proposed by counsel”); *United States v. Lewin*, 467 F.2d 1132, 1138 (7th Cir. 1972). Thus, if the district court insists on conducting the voir dire itself, it should at very least “give all deliberate deference to counsel’s advantage of prior research and investigation” and put counsel’s questions to the prospective jurors. *Corey*, 625 F.2d at 708. The court failed to do so in the instant case, having summarily denied the defendants’ pretrial motions on this point.

Two of the most critical lines of inquiry proposed by counsel concerned (1) prospective jurors’ exposure to the extensive prejudicial publicity not specifically tied to the case, and (2) whether any of the prospective jurors, members of their family or friends had any contact with members or the literature of the movement associated with LaRouche. Neither line of inquiry was ever pursued by the trial judge. Thus, it is plausible that some, if not all, of the 12 jurors impaneled had seen, inter alia, the NBC broadcast in which LaRouche was described as a mini Hitler, had read the Washington Post articles touting him as a political extremist and cult leader, or had been exposed to media charges that the “LaRouchies” were organizing indoctrination camps for children. It is equally plausible that some of the jurors, their family or friends, had encountered one of LaRouche’s associates in a public forum, had been solicited for funds, had been contacted by phone or mail, or had read some of Petitioners’ political literature.

The significance of Petitioners’ proposed inquiry is best understood through an examination of the voir dire transcript itself. For example, in response to the query regarding publicity specific to this case, juror Stickel luckily volunteered the following non-responsive answer:

THE JUROR: To the best of my recollection, this is about a religious group or camp in Loudoun County, Virginia.

THE COURT: I am asking you what you have read or heard about it now.

THE JUROR: I think that’s what it is. I am—I am not really sure, but I think that’s—the name rings a bell.

THE COURT: Did you form any opinion as to whether they are guilty or innocent of the charges in this case as a result of what you may have heard or read?

THE JUROR: (Pause) If that’s what it is, I don’t feel too good about it.

THE COURT: If what is what it is?

THE JUROR: It seems to me there was a lot of controversy in Loudoun County about this group of people in a religious camp that they had set up and they had guns and stuff and keeping people in.

THE COURT: Did you form any opinion, do you think, that would affect your ability to be an impartial juror in this case?

THE JUROR: It might, yes, sir.

[See App. at Tab #9, p. 25–26 (emphasis added)]. While the trial judge only asked about exposure to coverage of this case, the forthright answer of juror Stickel, which had nothing to do with coverage of this case, resulted in his excusal for cause. His awareness of the deprecating publicity generally surrounding LaRouche serves to show why adequate questioning of all jurors as to any and all media exposure was necessary.

Another juror, Richard Bradie, volunteered, again non-responsively, that while his impartiality had not been undermined by the things he had read about the case, he had formed an adverse opinion due to contact with LaRouche’s associates at a public forum:

THE COURT: Was reading the article or talking with your fellow jurors or anything else been such that would cause you to form any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this defendant?

THE JUROR: I don’t believe so, Your Honor. But I did have what might be considered not a confrontation but a meeting with some members of Mr. LaRouche’s party at, it was either at a school. I am not really sure where it was. At a table for contributions. That caused me to form an opinion at that time.

THE COURT: Adverse to the group that you are being asked to contribute or in favor of them or—

THE JUROR: Adverse.

THE COURT: Would it affect your ability in this case to be impartial, do you think?

THE JUROR: I would like to say no, but I believe that it would make me have an adverse reaction.

[See App. at Tab #9, p. 24–25 (emphasis added)]. Again, once this bias was inadvertently revealed, as with juror Stickel, the trial judge excused juror Bradie for cause. The candid, unsolicited response demonstrates that contact with members of the LaRouche movement might well induce a prospective juror to prejudice the defendants.

As exemplified by these two exchanges, the Petitioners’ proposed lines of inquiry were not only appropriate, they were critical, and were designed to reveal relevant and useful information bearing not only on challenges for cause, but also to allow counsel to more intelligently exercise their limited peremptory challenges. But for the gratuitous, non-

responsive statements of jurors Stickel and Bradie, they could have been seated in this case. There is no way of ascertaining how many seated jurors may have held a similar bias which remained undisclosed because the proper questions were not asked. Given that a trial judge does not have unlimited discretion to ignore proposed questions, Lewin, 467 F.2d at 1138, the trial judge's failure to pursue these significant lines of inquiry constitutes reversible error.

d. Petitioners Were Precluded From Making Effective Use Of Their Peremptories

The right to peremptorily challenge is recognized as " 'one of the most important rights secured to the accused.' " United States v. Rucker, 557 F.2d 1046, 1048 (4th Cir. 1977) (quoting Pointer v. United States, 151 U.S. 396, 408 (1894)). In Swain v. Alabama, 380 U.S. 202 (1965), the Supreme Court explained that:

The function of the challenge is not only to eliminate extremes of partiality . . . but to assure the parties that the jurors before whom they try the case will decide on the basis of the evidence placed before them and not otherwise."

Id. at 219. This function is vitiated whenever peremptory challenges are exercised without the benefit of adequate information upon which to rationally predicate challenges. United States v. Ledee, 549 F.2d 990, 993 (5th Cir. 1977).

The voir dire conducted by the trial judge in this case did not afford counsel the opportunity to glean the information necessary to make effective use of their peremptory challenges. See United States v. Rucker, supra at 1049 ("adequacy of the court's voir dire examination becomes inevitably bound up with the defendant's opportunity to make reasonably intelligent use of his peremptory challenges"). In addition to all of the deficiencies previously addressed, the entire selection process was conducted so rapidly that counsel were unable to effectively use what little information they did possess, or coordinate its use with the six other counsel. [See App. at Tab #24.]

The case of juror Horton previously discussed serves to illustrate the fact that, in the present case, Petitioners were denied a meaningful opportunity to exercise their peremptory challenges. It is certain that Petitioners would have struck juror Horton if an adequate, probing voir dire had been conducted. This error requires reversal. United States v. Rucker, supra at 1049 ("A voir dire that has the effect of impairing the defendant's ability to exercise intelligently his challenges is ground for reversal, irrespective of prejudice.")

e. The Trial Judge Forced Petitioners To Waste Precious Peremptories

It is well settled that forcing a party to exhaust his peremptory challenges on persons who should be excused for cause constitutes reversible error. United States v. Rucker,

supra at 1049; United States v. Nell, 526 F.2d 1223, 1229 (5th Cir. 1976). See also Swain v. Alabama, supra. Petitioners were not only forced to use peremptory challenges on two such veniremen—jurors Mitchell and Chapin—but were effectively precluded from utilizing their final peremptory out of fear that a third venireman, FBI employee Usery, might be impaneled. Notwithstanding their protestations of impartiality, the trial judge should have excused these three jurors on the grounds of implied bias.²⁸

At least five Justices of the current Supreme Court have recognized the application of the "implied bias" doctrine in exceptional circumstances.²⁹ Significantly, Justice O'Connor, the author of the "implied bias" doctrine, cited the "revelation that [a] juror is an actual employee of the prosecuting agency . . ." as an example of such "exceptional circumstances."³⁰ Smith v. Phillips, 455 U.S. 209, 222 (1982) (O'Connor, J., concurring) (emphasis added). Accord Person v. Miller, 854 F.2d 656, 664 (4th Cir. 1988) (adopting the doctrine of implied bias, but limiting it to extreme situations per the examples cited by Justice O'Connor).

After repeated requests by defense counsel that the judge excuse for cause jurors affiliated with agencies which investigated this case, the trial judge, knowingly or otherwise, applied the doctrine of implied bias by excusing jurors Schabacker and Kutzlo on the sole ground that they were employees of the IRS.³¹ However, since jurors Schabacker and Kutzlo both protested their impartiality just as vigorously as jurors Mitchell, Chapin and Usery, there is no principled basis on which to explain the distinction drawn between IRS employees and those employed by the DOJ and the FBI.

Since Petitioners were only granted ten peremptories,³² it was reversible error for the trial judge to force them to exhaust some of their peremptory challenges on persons who should have been excused for cause.

* * *

In summary, each of the five inadequacies set forth above provides separate sufficient grounds for reversing the convictions in this case and remanding for a new trial. Moreover, when the entire jury selection process is considered as a whole, the magnitude of the constitutional error committed is magnified. Simply stated, defendants were denied a constitutionally meaningful voir dire.

²⁸ See Footnote 9, supra.

²⁹ See McDonough Power Equipment v. Greenwood, 464 U.S. 548, 556–57, 558 (1984) (Blackmun, J., O'Connor, J., and Stevens, J., concurring) (Brennan, J., and Marshall, J., dissenting).

³⁰ In a recent decision, the Fifth Circuit found that there "is no dispute that [the juror] would have been challenged and excused for cause had he revealed that his brother was a deputy sheriff" in the office that had investigated the case. United States v. Scott, 854 F.2d 697, 698 (5th Cir. 1988). Thus, there is no reason to doubt that the implied bias doctrine extends to juror Chapin, whose husband had been an FBI Special Agent.

³¹ See App. at Tab #9, p. 48.

Bush picks a national security threat

by Kathleen Klenetsky

"I thought I was having a nightmare when Bush started bringing Kissinger and his gang back into power, but now I'm almost afraid to wake up." That was the response of one defense expert to the announcement that Richard Burt had been named the principal U.S. arms negotiator. He added, "It is incomprehensible to me how someone who leaked national security secrets to the media, virulently opposed the SDI, and has worked hand-in-glove with Armand Hammer can get appointed to a position where he will be privy to the most sensitive data imaginable. It just doesn't compute."

Unfortunately, it does "compute," given the direction that the Bush administration is moving. Bush's nomination of Burt fits perfectly with his administration's eagerness to strike a deal with Moscow, at whatever cost.

Burt may face some rough sledding during his imminent Senate confirmation hearings. A near-hysterical commentary in the April 2 *Sunday Times* of London charged that "a scurrilous whispering campaign is under way in Washington to blacken the character and record of Mr. Richard Burt. . . . The campaign could become more audible during Mr. Burt's impending confirmation hearings in the Senate, where one or two hard-right senators might ask some questions about Mr. Burt's past personal life, based on some unfounded allegations that have been touted around Washington for years." Insisting that "nobody is better qualified to be Mr. Bush's right-hand man on arms-control" than Burt, the *Sunday Times* called for his critics to be "silenced."

According to several sources, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and his network may be trying to block the nomination, although Helms's pathetic posturing on Lawrence Eagleburger's appointment as deputy secretary of state doesn't give much cause for hope. Helms will probably end up voting for Burt, like he did for Henry Kissinger's Eagleburger.

However, if any senator does have the brains and courage to oppose Burt's appointment, he will have no dearth of material to use against him.

Although the *Sunday Times* notably failed to mention the nature of the allegations now circulating against Burt, it compared them to those which undid John Tower's nomination as defense secretary, implying that they have to do with some sexual or related scandal.

Well, Burt did engage in some "swinging" behavior in the fleshpots of Europe during his stint as Reagan administration ambassador to West Germany. Burt was often seen in the company of Princess Gloria von Thurn und Taxis, traveling from one punk rock dive to another.

But questionable personal behavior is just one area which Burt's opponents could raise. His stand on strategic policy issues is a far more important—and fruitful—area that should be pursued. As the defense expert cited above indicated, Burt's policy record provides plenty of material to prove his unsuitability for any government post—much less chief arms negotiator.

Just for starters is the case of Burt's notorious leaking of vital national security information in 1978, while working for the *New York Times*—where he was widely known as a mouthpiece for then national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski. Burt wrote an article exposing classified details about the Chalet satellite system, used by the United States to detect Soviet violations of arms-control treaties, which nearly destroyed U.S.-Norwegian relations.

This dirty piece of work was brought to the fore by several senators during 1982 confirmation hearings on Burt's nomination as assistant secretary of state for politico-military affairs, and again in 1985, when Burt was named ambassador to Bonn. In explaining his opposition to Burt, Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) charged that he had "made disclosures of very highly classified material that nearly disrupted the relations between Norway and this country." Sen. Jesse Helms stated that Burt's action, "in publishing sensitive classified data . . . compromised his ability to serve the U.S. government [and] compromised our intelligence data."

As his subsequent actions proved, Burt's leak was hardly a youthful indiscretion. During his years at the State Department, Burt became one of the most rabid foes of the SDI within the administration, arguing that it was unworkable and should be considered a bargaining chip, at best. He also successfully fought for the Reagan administration to adopt a policy of "interim restraint" on the SALT II treaty, meaning that the United States should continue to abide by its restrictions, despite reams of documentation of massive Soviet violations.

Additionally, Burt collaborated closely with Armand Hammer to persuade Reagan that Mikhail Gorbachov was a new kind of Soviet leader, interested in reform and better U.S.-Soviet relations, to whom the United States should make significant concessions.

As ambassador to West Germany, Burt played into the Soviet strategy for neutralizing Germany and destroying NATO, by courting the Green Party, among other things.

Were Burt's nomination to be blocked at this time, it would send a desperately needed message to George Bush to stop trying to outdo Neville Chamberlain. But whether there is anyone in the U.S. Senate with the moral and political gumption to stop Burt, is questionable indeed.

Elephants and Donkeys

by Kathleen Klenetsky

LaRouche Dem puts Warner on hot seat

The existence of openly Satanic elements in the U.S. Armed Forces has become a special focus of a U.S. Senate candidate in Virginia. With recent media revelations about Col. Michael Aquino, founder of the Temple of Set, and other evidence that Satanism has penetrated the U.S. military at high levels, the issue has become one which demands national attention.

Nancy Spannaus, a LaRouche Democrat who is challenging Republican John Warner for his Senate seat, has called on Warner to conduct an immediate investigation into Colonel Aquino, an intelligence officer in good standing in the U.S. Army who has enjoyed top secret clearance.

On Feb. 20, Spannaus wrote to Warner, in his capacity as ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, outlining the facts of the Aquino case, and requesting that he meet with her to discuss what action could be taken.

Warner wrote back that he had "reviewed" her concerns on the case, and then conveyed through an assistant that he didn't want to discuss this matter with her, because she had chosen to oppose him—as if Satanism were a partisan issue.

Dissatisfied with Warner's failure even to consider the threat to national security posed by the presence of Sa-

tanists in the military, Mrs. Spannaus has taken her effort to force a spotlight on this dangerous problem to the voters.

In an open letter issued March 19, Mrs. Spannaus wrote that she was urging all U.S. citizens, but especially those in Virginia, and in Georgia—home state of Senate Armed Services Committee chairman Sam Nunn—to demand that the Senate panel take appropriate action to stop the conduct of Satanism in the armed services, including holding hearings immediately on the Aquino case.

"We cannot afford to have the U.S. Army condoning Satanism in any shape or form," Mrs. Spannaus wrote. "It is not only a threat to our national security, but a message to the country that 'Satanism' is just another 'religion.' . . . I urge that citizens begin now to flood the offices of Senator Warner, and of . . . Sen. Sam Nunn, with demands that such hearings be held immediately."

Indeed, in 1980 the U.S. Army updated its standard encyclopedia of religious beliefs, which is used by Army chaplains, to include a section on Satanism.

Mrs. Spannaus followed that up with press conferences in Roanoke and Lynchburg where she blasted Warner for refusing to take up the fight against Satanic influences within the U.S. military.

EIR contacted the Capitol Hill offices of Senators Nunn and Warner in early April to get their response to Mrs. Spannaus's charges, but so far, neither has commented.

In her open letter, Mrs. Spannaus also included the text of her communication with Senator Warner, which cited some of the reasons why Satanists like Aquino have no place in the military.

In her letter to her opponent, Mrs. Spannaus referred him to published

press accounts reporting that Aquino was accused in 1987 of being involved in a brutal child rape case in San Francisco, but was not charged. However, Mrs. Spannaus wrote, "The police did find in his home 38 videotapes, photo negatives, and other evidence that the house, which doubled as a Satanic church, had been the hub of a pedophile ring operating in and around the Army base.

"Yet, when the Army was confronted with these facts, and with the outrage of citizens who heard Aquino's confession of Satanic faith on the Geraldo Rivera show in October of 1988, Army officials came to his support. . . . U.S. Army spokesman Lt. Col. Greg Rixon, quoted in the Dec. 27 *Washington Times*, said: 'Lt. Col. Aquino is protected by the U.S. Constitution . . . serves admirably in his unit in St. Louis and . . . is an exemplary officer. I believe it would be impossible to make a case that Lt. Col. Aquino is a divisive influence.' "

This attitude is intolerable, according to Mrs. Spannaus. "Satanism, and its sordid, hideous practices, are not a matter of free speech, or freedom of expression, as our Armed Forces seem to imply. Worship of the devil, as police officers who deal with these crimes testify, directly leads to the pursuit of evil, for the explicit purpose of the destruction of the good. This is no 'religion,' but a cult committed to destruction. Perhaps our Constitution may allow an individual to profess Satanism, but it explicitly outlaws the hideous practices it prescribes."

She noted that the state legislatures of Washington and Pennsylvania have bills before them to ban Satanism. But, she added, "how much more important that the federal government cease providing sanction for Satanic leaders," and urged people join with her to demand that our elected representatives take up the matter.

Left and right embrace

A conference of the libertarian Cato Institute unites neo-isolationists from across the political spectrum.

A harbinger of the emergence in the United States of the same kind of extreme left-right coalitions that are now destabilizing governments in Europe and threatening the future of NATO appeared here April 3-4, at a conference sponsored by the Cato Institute, on the subject of pulling U.S. military forces out of Europe.

While the Cato Institute is often identified as "right-wing" because of its radical economic deregulation policies, it chose ultra-leftist Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) as its keynote speaker at the conference, entitled, "NATO at 40: Confronting a Changing World."

Joining Schroeder on the program was a crazy quilt of academics, journalists, and public officials, ranging from Karsten Voigt, the Social Democratic ranking minority member of the West German Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, to Irving Kristol of the American Enterprise Institute and William Lind of the Free Congress Foundation.

Their consensus formed around the proposition to disengage the United States from Europe.

Many analysts here dismissed the conference, because of the low credibility rating of the Cato Institute as a radical libertarian outfit. However, they would be wise to pay close attention to the particular political mix and subject matter of this conference.

The Cato Institute was set up in the early 1970s as a sub-set of the Libertarian Party, a synthetic social engineering creation of the architects of the 1960s counterculture, "the Aquarian conspiracy." The party emerged

out of meetings sponsored by William Buckley, to bring together leaders of the New Left and the right-wing Young Americans for Freedom.

Their shared values centered on hedonism, of the variety espoused by British East India Company apologist Jeremy Bentham, whose "philosophical radicalism," based on the pursuit of pleasure and the avoidance of pain, justified everything from usury to pederasty.

In its early days, the Libertarian Party was composed of pot-headed hippies in some regions (like the San Francisco Bay Area), while in others it looked like a cult of clean-cut Ayn Rand devotees of the radical right.

In the 1970s, it was always easy to embarrass the latter variety of Libertarian by exposing their party's support for legalizing drugs and sexual perversion, which was the group's main attraction to its left-counterculture wing.

But, since one of the initial deployments of the operation was to snatch disgruntled Republicans off the right fringes of that party in conservative hotbeds like southern California, the pro-drug, pro-sexual freedom side of the movement was put under wraps, where it has continued to live, in a low-key manner.

While most of the attention paid today to the fruits of the "Aquarian conspiracy" launched in the 1960s is focused on Satanic cults and drugs, it should not be overlooked that such fruits also include the disintegration of NATO, advanced through just the kind of ostensibly credible conference that the Cato Institute conducted.

Representative Schroeder, who introduced legislation in the past to pull U.S. troops out of Europe that was never taken seriously, this year has put in a bill, co-sponsored by Rep. Andy Ireland (R-Fla.), a conservative, which experts feel has a very good chance of passing. It is an amendment to the defense authorization bill calling for the removal of about 25,000 U.S. troops from Europe, on grounds that this is the number that were deployed there to handle the basing of the Pershing II and cruise missiles in the 1980s. Since the Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) treaty bans such missiles, those troops can now be called home, she argues.

Because of the fiscal pressures of the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law, cuts in the defense budget requiring some reduction of U.S. military presence in Europe are seen as inevitable this year, and it is under these circumstances that the Schroeder-Ireland amendment could succeed. If it does, this will be a foot-in-the-door for the new breed of left-right collaboration in a neo-isolationist foreign policy.

In her keynote speech at the Cato meeting, Schroeder said, "Frankly, I see no reason to maintain any U.S. troops in Europe at all." She praised Soviet leader Gorbachov as a "genius" who has taken the lead in "making the world a safer place."

Another conference speaker, the Hudson Institute's Jeffrey Record, confirmed that the Schroeder-Ireland amendment would be a "stalking horse for larger cuts" in U.S. forces. He said the budget deficit, the need for more U.S. military force in other parts of the world, the growing negative perception of Europe by the U.S. public, and congressional sentiment reflecting this public perception, will add to the pressures to pull out of Europe.

Senators try new tack on Brazilian rain forest

A U.S. Senate delegation traveled to Brazil on April 1, evidently to try to repair some of the damage that has been done by recent U.S. pressures on Brazil to cede sovereignty over the Amazon River basin, in the interests of "environmental protection."

Congress is debating legislation that would penalize Brazil if it does not give in to the environmentalist pressures and place the Amazon under international jurisdiction.

President José Sarney has emphasized that he will permit no violation of Brazilian sovereignty for the sake of the environmentalist cause. This was his response to a previous Senate delegation led by Sen. Timothy Wirth (D-Colo). That "fact-finding mission" in January was seen in Rio as an intrusion by the United States. Remarks widely attributed to Sen. Robert Kasten (R-Wisc.), that the Amazon belongs to the world rather than to Brazil because of its ecological importance, further infuriated Brazilians.

The latest "fact-finding mission," led by Sen. John Chafee (R-R.I.), is treading a bit more softly, apparently with the aim of convincing the Brazilians that the aggressive tone of the recent environmental debate in the Congress is not ill-intended. The delegation included Sen. Steve Symms (R-Id.), Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), and Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.). Accompanying the delegation were staffers from the Committee on the Environment and Public Works.

The Chafee delegation received a somewhat better reception than the previous one, although tensions are still high. President Sarney and Deputy Minister Tarso stressed in meetings with the senators that there is room for international cooperation in the

Amazon, provided it comes under Brazilian jurisdiction and with no strings attached.

The issue of the rain forest is also being used to encourage debt-for-nature swaps, which would allow the banks to buy the Brazilian patrimony dirt-cheap. President Sarney rejected such a notion, when he presented the Brazilian plan for the Amazon region on April 6. "We accept international help," said Sarney, "but we cannot accept conditions. The Amazon is ours." He attacked "great powers or international organizations . . . that would come to dictate to us how to defend what is ours to defend." Sarney said that "conditional" aid was unacceptable, because restrictions on the intelligent use of the Amazon would only further "that most abject of all pollutions, the pollution of poverty."

Mayor Barry seeks federal aid for D.C.

Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, under Senate criticism that he was resisting offers of help to combat drugs and violence, released a formal request on April 6 for \$102 million in federal aid to hire 800 more police officers, expand prison space, and fund drug prevention programs.

The District of Columbia, hard hit by drugs, crime, and the economic crisis, is being targeted for a federal takeover that would replace the local political machine with a bureaucratic dictatorship responsible to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Mayor Barry, whose government has been plagued by numerous corruption scandals, is to be axed in the process and the machine dismantled.

The immediate pretext for federal intervention is the drug problem. Barry has refused to allow the use of the D.C. National Guard in fighting drugs, although many in the Congress have been pressuring him to do that. The commanding general of the D.C. National Guard, Calvin Franklin, has been appointed by President Bush to become the new head of FEMA.

In related action in the House, Rep. Stan Parris (R-Va.) has put forward legislation that would place portions of the city services, including law enforcement, under the purview of the federal government, effectively rescinding its limited home rule.

Coleman says Brady Plan is not enough

With hearings under way on the Brady Plan for debt reduction in the House Banking Committee, a Sense of the Congress Resolution on Mexican debt and the Brady Plan was introduced by Rep. Ron Coleman (D-Tex.) urging President Bush to encourage private commercial banks in the United States to reduce the debt and debt service costs from Mexico. The resolution urges the President to encourage banks to act by the middle of July, when that country's austerity program expires.

Coleman and other sponsors of the resolution realize that if something is not done quickly to alleviate the debt situation, Mexico could blow up. Mexico's government, if pushed against the wall, could be in serious trouble, regardless of their willingness to enforce austerity.

"If our new government wants to form a long-lasting and meaningful partnership with the new Salinas government in Mexico," says Coleman, "we need to permit some breathing

room for that nation to negotiate with the other internal factions, in what should be described, despite the charges of Mexico-bashers in Washington, as a pluralist system.”

Bush education bill introduced in House

The Educational Excellence Act of 1989 was introduced for discussion and passage in the House of Representatives on April 5.

Rep. Jim Jontz (D-Ind.) was critical of the program, referring to discussions he had had with local educators in Indiana and Ohio, who said that the “President’s proposed budget does not match his rhetoric; cuts in important programs would result from the President’s budget at a time when we need to be expanding them, and educators would prefer to see existing successful programs like [those for] handicapped and vocational education properly funded, rather than money drained from these programs to pay for the President’s initiatives.”

Wright investigation seems to be losing steam

A number of charges raised against House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Tex.) have been dropped, narrowing the focus of the investigation. The charges involve his alleged intervention with federal banking regulators on behalf of distressed Texas savings and loan associations, his intercession with government officials on behalf of a Texas oil and gas company, and his alleged use of a staff aide on government time to compile parts of his book, *Reflections of a Public Man*.

The 12-man ethics committee is still wrestling with the question of whether a longtime Wright friend and business associate, Fort Worth developer George Mallick, had a direct enough interest in legislation to conclude that Wright broke House rules in accepting gifts from him. The ethics committee’s special counsel, Richard J. Phelan, has argued that Wright and his wife received substantial gifts from Mallick, including use of a Fort Worth condominium and a Cadillac provided to Wright’s wife. A related issue involves a loan to Mrs. Wright from Mallightco, an investment firm owned by Mallick, Wright, and their wives.

The campaign against Wright was initiated by the newly elected House Republican Whip Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.). The Republicans had hoped to make the Wright case into a media sensation, as a Democratic revenge for the press campaign against John Tower. Gingrich is still forecasting findings which will be “devastating” for Wright as a result of the committee’s investigations.

Grain inspector debunks aflatoxin scare

In testimony before a House subcommittee on April 5, W. Kirk Miller, the head of the Federal Grain Inspection Service, said that the campaign against aflatoxin was “management by media hysteria” and that the Grain Inspection Service “had not seen a problem.”

Aflatoxin is a natural substance produced by a mold that grows on stored grain and is believed by some to cause liver cancer when eaten at low doses over a lifetime. Guidelines have been set regarding the levels of aflatoxin permitted, and corn that contains dangerous levels of aflatoxin may

be mixed with clean corn, thereby bringing the average contamination level below the guideline.

Because of the higher demands placed on foreign buyers, corn sold abroad is subject to more rigorous testing. Consumer rights groups are making a big issue out of the aflatoxin question, demanding penalties for mixing “contaminated” food with clean food. In tests conducted last fall, only 6 out of 263 samples, or 2% were found higher than 20 parts per billion.

Submarine warfare lag alarms experts

The House Armed Services Committee released a report on March 21 which reports that Soviet advances in quieting submarines are heralding “a sea change in sea warfare” which is threatening the ability of the United States to protect sea lanes, maintain carrier task forces, and “to operate beyond her shores.”

Prepared by a panel of 10 experts, including Vice Admiral Edward Burkhalter (ret.) and Dr. Lowell Wood, the report calls for increased funding of anti-submarine warfare (ASW) research. “The importance of this research justifies significant real growth in funding in spite of today’s downward pressure on the defense budget,” the report states.

The magnitude of the research task involved is so great that the report calls for a “realignment of authority over the Navy program and budget” to ensure that adequate funds are channeled into the ASW effort, i.e., a reorganization of the Navy. As a research effort, the report notes that ASW is second only to the Strategic Defense Initiative in terms of the extent of the challenge faced.

National News

Gergen cites return of Ford troika

David Gergen, former special assistant to President Reagan, wrote on April 2 that the power of the White House is now centered in the troika of Secretary of State James Baker, Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, whose collaboration goes all the way back to the administration of Gerald Ford.

Cheney was White House chief of staff and Scowcroft was national security adviser during the period Henry Kissinger was secretary of state.

Scowcroft is the old man of the troika, having brought Cheney into the Aspen Institute national security study groups. "I saw him as a coming power in the Republican Party, and he was damn smart," Gergen quotes Scowcroft.

Cheney brought Baker in to be campaign manager for Ford. Cheney and Baker often go galavanting together in the north woods of Cheney's native Wyoming. Gergen claims that none of the troika is a "grand strategist in the Kissinger or Nixon mold."

Webster warns of Third World NBC weapons

CIA chief William Webster warned against the "increasing development of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons by countries of the Third World," in a speech made public by the CIA on March 30. The thrust of the speech seemed to bolster efforts to further deindustrialize the Third World.

The speech was the latest of several speeches during the last five months which the *Washington Post* called "one of the most public campaigns ever undertaken by a director of the CIA."

"Although missiles being developed by these countries are somewhat crude and inaccurate," Webster said, "many of them have capabilities well beyond the battlefield and can strike in a matter of minutes. Once fired they cannot be called back."

The West stopped exporting the technology needed to develop these weapons, but most of the material is "diverted from civilian use," Webster said, so it is the Third World's fault. Even worse, some Third World countries are "extensively sharing technology and they are increasingly pooling their resources and technical knowledge." The U.S. government has identified some of the targeted countries as Egypt, Argentina, and Iraq.

Iran-Contra scandal witnesses dying off

The full story of the Iran-Contra scandal may never be told, as central players in the affair keep dying off mysteriously or conveniently, according to a provocative article in the March 31 *Village Voice*, entitled, "Dead Men Tell No Tales—Iran-Contra's Seven Little Indians."

The article reports that the deceased seven are Amiram Nir, who could tell all about President Bush's role in the Iran side of the affair; former CIA director Bill Casey; Cyrus Hashemi, who sued *EIR* for exposing him and was protected by the FBI's number-two man, Oliver "Buck" Revell; Glenn Souham, President Reagan's European coordinator of the Board of Advisers on Private Sector Initiatives, who was gunned down in Paris after helping get East bloc weapons to the Contras; Barry Seal, a Contra mercenary and DEA informant who knew all about Contra drug-running operations; Steve Carr, another Contra mercenary who was found dead from a drug overdose after he started revealing what he knew of the affair; and "David," a Contra foot soldier with Carr who was an eyewitness to CIA drug trafficking from the Costa Rica ranch of John Hull, and who was allegedly tortured and murdered by Hull's henchmen.

Sexual diseases soar in Washington area

Cases of sexually transmitted diseases have "increased dramatically" in the greater

Washington, D.C. area since 1985, "prompting concern among public health officials who fear that heterosexuals—particularly teenagers—are ignoring education about AIDS prevention," according to the *Washington Post* April 6.

Incidents of syphilis in the District increased 90.7% between 1985 and 1988, from 719 to 1,371 cases, and penicillin-resistant gonorrhea jumped from 34 to 1,467 cases, according to the D.C. Commission of Public Health.

Northern Virginia health officials report penicillin-resistant gonorrhea increased from 20 to 332 cases, while Prince George's County, Maryland officials report syphilis cases increased from 49 in 1986 to 284 in 1988.

Dr. Lawrence D'Angelo, chairman of adolescent medicine at Children's Hospital of Washington, said, "It's not at all uncommon" to treat 13-year-old girls for syphilis, and said that "the biggest predictor for sexually transmitted disease seems to be drug use."

"One of the things everyone at first assumed was that a lot of sexually transmitted diseases were going to diminish because of the drop among gay men, but that's not happening," Wendy Wertheimer, deputy executive director of the American Social Health Association, commented. She said that one problem is that money formerly marked for the control of venereal diseases has been diverted to AIDS prevention.

The education campaign is not working. Carol Jordan, AIDS program manager for the Montgomery County, Maryland Health Department, said they find few people who don't know how diseases are transmitted or how to protect themselves. "The problem is that they're just not doing it."

Gates, Globe caution against 'New Yalta'

Robert Gates, the vice-chairman of the U.S. National Security Council, rejected Henry Kissinger's New Yalta formula on Eastern Europe, in remarks following an address to a strategy conference of the Center of European Policy Studies, the European branch of the Georgetown Center for Strategic and

Briefly

International Studies, held in Brussels, Belgium on April 1.

Gates said he could "only give a personal view on proposals like those aired by Henry Kissinger," given his "position in the administration," but said that "any bilateral U.S.-Soviet agreements on Eastern or Western Europe would not at all be appropriate. Let me tell you that I am not enthusiastic about it."

A *Boston Globe* editorial on March 30, entitled "Foregoing A Second Yalta," was also critical of Kissinger.

"Henry Kissinger's proposal that the U.S. enter into a formal agreement with Moscow on the the future of Eastern Europe is a bad idea. It is undeserving of even the cautious consideration that Secretary of State James Baker says the Bush Administration is giving it. . . .

"No matter how careful Baker might be in trying to control the spin on such a superpower agreement, others will inevitably perceive it as a carving up of Eastern Europe. They will do so because it will be a carving up.

"On both sides of the obsolescent Iron Curtain, those who have begun to foresee the gradual reintegration of a historic European Community will have reason to resent what the French call 'a second Yalta.' The more Moscow relinquishes its hold on their nations, the more Poles, Hungarians, or Czechs envision their future as a renewal of cultural, religious, and political affinities with Western Europe."

Pepsico halts Satanic Madonna video

The Pepsico company has finally been forced to pull a TV advertisement featuring excerpts from rock star Madonna's Satanic video, "Like a Prayer," according to press reports April 4.

Pepsi had been the target of a boycott, initiated by Catholic Bishop Rene Gracida of Texas, and the American Family Group, who demanded that the company stop its Madonna-centered ad campaign, because of its perverted and blasphemous content.

New Federalist newspaper columnist Carol White also issued a call to boycott

Pepsi products on April 3, saying, "It is an urgent task today to strip the cover of constitutionality from all Satanic practices—which emphatically include the dissemination of pornography.

"This is so not only because pornography, for example, most frequently involves the abuse of children and finances the activities of Satanic, pedophilic groups," White said, "but because any ambiguity on this issue obscures the basis upon which our Constitution rests in natural law."

The video features Madonna in a Catholic church, cutting her hands to mimic the stigmata of Christ and then writhing in an orgasm on the altar. The lyrics include, "When you call my name it's like a little prayer/I'm down on my knees, I wanna take you there."

Madonna is the personal embodiment of the spirit of the Satanic black mass, since she has adopted the name Madonna, rather than her given name Louise Veronica Ciccone, in order to desecrate the Virgin by her every act as a so-called entertainer.

New York Post columnist Ray Kerrison attacked Madonna on March 31. "What is the difference between her assault on Christianity and the vandals who deface synagogues? The difference is that the vandals will be chased down and prosecuted if caught, while Madonna is rewarded with a \$5 million sponsorship contract and world tour by Pepsi-Cola."

Project Democracy dominating Pentagon

The Bush administration is turning the Defense Department into a haven for Project Democracy's "secret government" operatives and systems analysts.

Donald Rice has been nominated for Secretary of the Air Force, and Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard L. Armitage has been tapped for Secretary of the Army.

Rice is the chief executive of the Rand Corporation, which played a pivotal role in developing the incompetent MAD doctrine and scenarios for the decoupling of NATO. Armitage is a top Project Democracy operative, who was key in toppling the Marcos regime in the Philippines.

● **THOMAS JUKES** called the Alar pesticide scare "one of the most outrageous abuses of the public trust I have ever seen." An award-winning researcher on cancer chemotherapy, Professor Jukes told the *Washington Times* on March 30, "The irony of this is that apples raised without pesticides generally show up to 45 parts per million of patulin, which is a known natural carcinogen."

● **DAVID BERKOWITZ**, the man who confessed to being the Son of Sam killer, did not single-handedly commit all the murders, but was a member of a satanic cult, according to an NBC-TV program, "Unsolved Mysteries," aired on March 29.

● **CONSTANCE CUMBNEY** suggests in her book *The Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow: The New Age Movement and Our Coming Age of Barbarism*, that Greenpeace called its ship the *Rainbow Warrior* because the Rainbow is "to signify their building of the Rainbow Bridge (antahkarana) between man and Lucifer who, they say, is the over-soul."

● **SEN. AL GORE** (D-Tenn.) is ecstatic about the oil spill in Alaska. "This may be one of those defining moments that we have heard about," he told the *International Herald Tribune* April 4. "A huge spill like this focuses media coverage and political attention, not only on the environment itself, but also on the larger problems for which it is a metaphor."

● **CHASE MANHATTAN** president Thomas G. Labrecque discussed the roots of David Rockefeller's bank in an interview in the *Banking Journal* March 30. "The pistols used in the famous duel between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr" are on display at the bank. "Burr had formed a water company which, because of some fine print in its charter, enabled it to do banking without being called a bank. The water company in time became the Chase Manhattan Bank."

Editorial

Too much is indeed too much

In the "kinder, gentler America" of 1989, the eighty-six year sentence of Rochelle Ascher is unfortunately no anomaly, even if it is grotesque. A more-than-life sentence for a "crime" which in any normal situation would have been litigated in a civil rather than criminal trial, must be compared with the twenty-five year sentence given to Nazi war-criminal Albert Speer.

The crime of being an associate of Lyndon LaRouche apparently is three times as grave—according to the Virginia jury—than that of murdering one's child, if we compare Mrs. Ascher's sentence to that of Joel Steinberg. The grossness of this miscarriage of justice is already being registered internationally.

It is being reported by Right-to-Life advocates that more than 20,000 protesters against the legalization of abortion, in the United States, have been arrested since the beginning of this year. Indeed, only the Soviet Union has a higher per capita rate of individuals in jail, than the United States.

What does this mean? Obviously, the jails are not yet, being overpopulated with LaRouche associates and others of the most moral elements in U.S. society; rather, the prisons are being filled with lower-level miscreants whose actions bespeak a degenerating culture, while the real criminals, like the bankers who launder the drug big bucks, go scot free.

Ironically, the news of the Ascher sentencing has broken at a time when the administration has suffered another major blow to its credibility. The U.S. government was forced to stipulate, in a document released during the Oliver North trial, to the direct complicity of now President Bush and former President Reagan in the "crimes" of Ollie North.

If the revelations agreed upon by the government to be facts and submitted to the court in the North trial are intended to accomplish "damage control," one can indeed wonder what is still being covered up.

As it stands, the Tower Commission and the congressional investigation of the Iran-Contra scandal are shown up for what they were—merely another government attempt at coverup. Furthermore, the document places George Shultz and Cap Weinberger at the

center of the affair, which they had pretended to oppose on principle.

The government now officially admits that as early as 1983 CIA chief Bill Casey asked the Secretary of Defense to obtain from Israel weapons confiscated from the Palestine Liberation Organization. These weapons were then provided to the Contras, without the knowledge and against the directive of the Congress.

Eleven governments, including Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China, Israel, South Korea, Honduras, and Panama were asked to give aid to the Nicaraguan resistance on behalf of the United States, which was otherwise prevented from doing so directly.

The importance of these revelations is not so much that these were impeachable offenses, as that they expose the cynical dishonesty of both the Reagan and present administrations, which are using national emergency procedures and subterfuge in place of the rule of law under the U.S. Constitution.

Another example of this is the declaration by the President of a continued State of Emergency to exist in U.S. relations with Panama. The year-long U.S. boycott against the Panamanian government—now to be extended—was declared under the provisions of a declaration of national emergency.

Unfortunately, President Bush's pre-election declarations about his intentions for the United States appear to have just as much credibility as the so-called democratic reforms in the Soviet Union inspired by President Gorbachov.

Lyndon LaRouche and his six associates are still being held in jail pending appeal. Two months remain before Rochelle Ascher's final sentencing. An appropriate intervention by the Bush administration can reverse both travesties of justice.

If President Bush does not act quickly, the LaRouche case—in which Mrs. Ascher's conviction must be included—will be the most dramatic political trial of this century. Human rights violations in the United States will overshadow those in Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

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