

EIR

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saving human lives**



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EIR

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From the Managing Editor

As we go to press on Jan. 11, the Soviet tanks are rolling in the streets of Lithuania, just as we have warned that they would, if the West did not act to prevent it. With two dead and hundreds wounded in the first hours of the crackdown, the U.S. media are virtually blacking out the news, relegating it to a postscript after the latest psy-war stories about the Gulf. This is a deliberate, top-down policy by the moguls who control the networks and the wire services. One year ago, the National Security Council devised a plan for a press blackout in the event of a Soviet invasion of the Baltic republics, to prevent Americans from getting “upset” at the sight of blood—and overturning the Bush administration’s condominium arrangements with Gorbachov. Now, the condominium is finished, and the U.S. drive for a war in the Gulf is spurring the re-emergence of a neo-Stalinist Soviet faction, propelling us toward World War III (see page 30).

Another crucial development of the week on which *EIR* has been right, and our opponents and competitors dead wrong, is the new downward ratchet of the financial collapse (page 4). With banking holidays declared in New England, the resources of the FDIC stretched to their limit, and the bankruptcy reorganization of Pan Am airlines, it should be obvious to all that the “great financial mudslide” which *EIR* and Lyndon LaRouche have been warning about, is now well under way.

It is therefore all the more horrifying that the latest political frameup trial in Roanoke, Virginia against three fundraisers for the LaRouche movement, has ended in convictions on all counts of “securities fraud” (page 51). Corrupt prosecutors argue that the fundraisers committed “fraud,” by telling people that their money was not safe in the banks, and would be better used to help reverse the insane policies that are leading to a crash. Well, who was right, and who was wrong?

Finally, let me draw your attention to our *Feature* on the animal rights movement (pages 20-29). The impact of this movement is much greater than you probably are aware. It is not a small band of mush-headed kooks, but a real threat to biomedical research and, hence, to human life. If aggressive action is not taken, it will soon be impossible to conduct any research with animals anywhere in the world.

Susan Welsh

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Banking panic grips U.S. as R.I. declares bank holiday

by John Hoefle

The old saying that you can run but you can't hide was brought home with a vengeance to the Bush administration, federal banking regulators, the financial community, and the American public during the first week of 1991, when the shaky New England banking situation turned to outright panic.

The panic started on New Year's Day in Rhode Island, where just three hours after his inauguration, Gov. Bruce Sundlun was forced to declare a banking emergency and close 45 state-chartered credit unions and banks.

The wave of panic quickly spread to neighboring New England states with the Jan. 4 announcement by the Bank of New England Corp. that its fourth quarter losses had pushed it into insolvency. The news started runs at the holding company's three New England banks: the Bank of New England of Boston, the Connecticut Bank and Trust of Hartford, and the Maine National Bank of Portland. As much as \$1 billion in deposits was pulled out of these banks in just two days, prompting federal regulators to take emergency action and seize the banks on a Sunday, Jan. 6.

As part of this emergency action, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) announced it would guarantee *all* deposits at the Bank of New England Corp.'s banks, including the \$2 billion in deposits over the nominal \$100,000 federally insured limit.

"Any abrupt action at this time, in this area, was judged to be unwise," explained FDIC Chairman William Seidman. It was, he said, "clear at this time, to protect the stability of the system, we should protect all the depositors."

The government's action marks a sharp departure from its recent posturing. For months, the Bush administration has been insisting that the current system of deposit insurance is responsi-

ble for the bulk of the troubles in the banking and savings and loan systems, and that banking reform must begin with trimming that insurance. The administration's plan was to gradually scale back federal deposit insurance until it disappeared completely, replaced by private insurance.

What the banking system needs, the Bush-leaguers insisted, is discipline. We can keep the system together during 1991, by downplaying the severity of the crisis while we implement our banking reform plans, they told themselves. The reorganization of the financial system was to be the keystone of President Bush's 1991 domestic agenda.

The entire 1991 strategy—or rather, what passes for strategy in the shallow-minded universe of the Bush administration—was blown out of the water the very first week of the year.

The only thing that stands between the U.S. banking system and total oblivion at the moment, is the perception of the population that their deposits are safe. That perception is based, not on confidence in the banks, but on the belief that the U.S. government can guarantee all deposits. Take that away, as the Bush men have proposed to do, and the entire house of cards collapses.

Bank holiday declared

Events in Rhode Island made that very point. On New Year's Day, a private company known as the Rhode Island Share and Deposit Indemnity Corp. (RISDIC) declared itself insolvent. RISDIC provided private deposit insurance to 45 state-chartered banks and credit unions. Since state law requires all banks, thrifts, and credit unions to carry deposit insurance, Rhode Island Gov. Bruce Sundlun was forced to close them all effective Jan. 2.

"As a result of RISDIC's action," Governor Sundlun announced Jan. 1, "there are 45 uninsured credit unions and loan and investment companies in Rhode Island. On behalf of all the depositors—especially the small depositors—I am declaring a bank emergency in Rhode Island. A bank holiday will begin tomorrow, closing all the institutions formerly insured by RISDIC. I am taking this action to help insure the hard-earned savings of working Rhode Islanders." Sundlun called upon the public "to be calm and patient while we work on a plan to assist every depositor in any way possible."

The problem was that people were already panicked: The bankruptcy of RISDIC was itself triggered by runs against its member institutions.

The crisis at RISDIC began Oct. 19, when state examiners found "a significant amount of money" missing from Heritage Loan and Investment Corp., a small RISDIC-insured bank in Providence. On Nov. 8, Heritage president Joseph Mollicone disappeared, prompting then-Gov. Edward DiPrete to order an investigation into the matter.

As word of the troubles leaked out, panicked depositors withdrew \$13.6 million of Heritage's \$22.4 million in deposits, forcing the bank to turn to RISDIC for funds. On Nov. 16, RISDIC pumped \$16 million into Heritage in an attempt to keep it afloat—depleting most of RISDIC's own reserves. Two days later, on Nov. 18, the state seized the bank. Eleven days after that, the state issued an arrest warrant for Mollicone, charging him with embezzling more than \$13 million.

The failure of Heritage prompted runs at other RISDIC-insured banks and credit unions, as nervous depositors rushed to withdraw their funds. Unable to meet the outflow, RISDIC was forced to close its doors, stranding 35 credit unions and 10 banks, with \$1.7 billion in some 300,000 accounts.

While 22 of the 35 closed credit unions have qualified for federal deposit insurance under the National Credit Union Association and have reopened, the remaining 13 will not. The NCUA rejected 11 credit unions as "not currently insurable," stating that "These credit unions were found to hold a high proportion of commercial, real estate, and other loans which are non-performing or are poorly underwritten. Some credit unions have extremely high delinquency and in some cases solvency is in question." Two of the closed credit unions did not even bother to apply for NCUA insurance.

Of the ten closed banks, only five, with deposits of \$365 million, applied to the FDIC for federal insurance. The FDIC rejected all five applications as not meeting federal standards.

Faced with an angry citizenry, scared bankers, and pressure from the state legislature, Sundlun promised to stand behind the depositors of the 23 institutions which failed to qualify for federal insurance. "It will be our policy to see to it that depositors . . . receive payment for their deposits up to a limit of \$100,000," he said Jan. 3.

Where the state will find the money remains to be seen. The state already faces a deficit of \$162 million—the highest per capita deficit of any state in the nation. Estimates of the

cost of bailing out the depositors range from \$250 million to \$1 billion. Complicating matters, the state's balanced budget law requires that the budget be balanced by June 30, the end of the fiscal year. So either the state finds a way to bail out the depositors with money it does not have, or the depositors get wiped out.

Bank runs escalate

The banking panic quickly spread to Massachusetts, where runs quickly sank the Bank of New England, perhaps the leading example of zombie banking in the country. The Bank of New England Corp., at one time one of the ten largest bank holding companies in the country, spent most of 1990 selling its assets and vainly attempting to shrink fast enough to salvage its capital-to-assets ratio. The bank fell from \$32 billion in assets in 1989, to \$22 billion at the time of its seizure. Many depositors had fled the Bank of New England, but some die-hard individuals stayed on, perhaps emboldened by the presence of deposit insurance, or perhaps reluctant to admit the danger.

The Bank of New England's final crisis began Jan. 3, when word began to leak out about the bank's dismal fourth quarter performance. The deposit leak turned into a torrent the next day, when the bank announced that due to fourth quarter losses of some \$450 million, it was technically insolvent. During Friday and Saturday, depositors pulled an estimated \$1 billion out of the holding company's three banks. Furthermore, the run was spreading to other banks in the region and beyond.

Faced with this rapidly spreading banking panic, and not daring to face the horrors awaiting them on Monday, federal regulators hastily abandoned their "market discipline" illusions and rushed to plug the leak. On Sunday, Jan. 6, the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency closed the Bank of New England Corp. of Boston's three major subsidiaries.

To ease public panic, the FDIC immediately announced that it would insure all of the deposits at the failed banks, including the \$2 billion of the \$16.8 billion in total deposits which exceeded the agency's nominal \$100,000 limit. The FDIC also announced that the three banks would reopen on Monday, as FDIC-owned and operated "bridge banks," until buyers could be found. To meet any "unusual liquidity needs" of the three banks, the FDIC said, it would immediately pump in \$750 million. As Seidman said, the "stability of the system" was at stake.

While the FDIC's actions may have slowed the deposit runs a bit, they did nothing to restore "stability" to the system. The collapse of the banking system is inevitable, because it is the final phase of the bankruptcy of the United States. As economist Lyndon LaRouche has repeatedly stressed, the physical economy has already collapsed, leading to the bankruptcy of the financial superstructure. All that remains is the runs on the banks, when the public catches on. And the runs have begun.

Poland keeps suicidal Sachs economic policy

by William Engdahl

The new President of Poland, Lech Walesa, in the first week of January, after several weeks of attempts to enlist better-liked figures to become prime minister, named a 39-year-old unknown economist turned "entrepreneur," Jan Bielecki, to the post. Bielecki has already pledged to speed up Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz's radical "free market" economic strategy. He took the job on the understanding that Balcerowicz, the man most blamed for the unpopularity of the former Mazowiecki government, stays on as deputy prime minister and finance minister.

The London *Guardian* on Jan. 8 reported that the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw and a former Reagan White House adviser threatened to cut off any future International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank monies and other Western bank capital to the desperate Polish economy if Balcerowicz were stripped of power in the new regime. Hence, the *Guardian* reports, "the government of Poland is effectively under Balcerowicz's control."

One year ago, on Jan. 1, 1990, Balcerowicz imposed the economic "shock therapy" policy of 34-year-old Harvard economics professor Jeffrey Sachs. With a parallel black dollar economy, and inflation of the zloty running at a rate of 640%, Balcerowicz and Sachs demanded radical measures. As *EIR* predicted, the results have been catastrophic.

Balcerowicz, in concert with Sachs and the IMF, removed or sharply cut state price controls on food, gasoline, and other necessities; severely squeezed credit; and devalued the zloty 60% against the U.S. dollar, to reflect the black market level. While most prices climbed to the black market levels, the government slapped on a wage freeze via punitive taxation. Protective tariffs were removed to "expose" the internal economy to the "world market competition pressures"—as patrician parents of ancient Rome exposed unwanted infants.

Balcerowicz told Poland's Parliament, the Sejm, in February that a "recession" would be inevitable as Poland moved into the promised paradise of his "free market" model.

Yet inflation, the nominal target of the Sachs "shock," by November 1990 was running at 250% by official Polish statistics. Unemployment rose tenfold, from 9,700 in December 1989 to 926,000, and is expected to hit 2 million in 1991. Real incomes have fallen 31%, in a country where average earnings are an abysmal \$60 a month. Farmers are holding produce back hoping for higher prices. Industrial output has collapsed by 27%.

Applying the same IMF "cure" which has savaged the economies of debtor nations in Ibero-America and Africa, Balcerowicz aimed to slash imports and boost exports, so as to create a "stable" zloty. At what social and economic cost? Imports for the first nine months of 1990 fell 24%, while exports, with the devalued zloty, increased a similar amount. Gross domestic investment fell the same period by 13%, state industry output by 23%, and construction by 17%. Defenders of the Sachs shock plan point to a 35% rise in the share of the "private sector" in the Gross Domestic Product. They ignore the fact the initial base was extremely low and that most of the private business is desperate trading operations which previously were on the black market. Sachs, commenting on the defeat of former Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, attributed it to "extravagant fears" among Poles, and Mazowiecki's being a "lackluster communicator."

Now, a second shock: oil

As of Jan. 1, Poland undergoes a second "shock." With the old East bloc Comecon trading system abolished, all oil must be paid on a dollar or hard currency "world market" price to the U.S.S.R. Poland is fully dependent on imported oil. Thus, assuming world oil prices in a range of \$30-35 a barrel, Poland faces an economic blow more devastating in relative terms than the 1974 oil shock to Western economies. Under old Comecon trade terms, Poland got Soviet oil at an equivalent of \$7.50 a barrel in a barter for Polish coal or food. Plus, Poland had an agreement with Iraq to take Iraqi oil in repayment of Iraq's war debts to Poland. That is now suspended indefinitely.

Nor has Balcerowicz dealt with Poland's huge foreign debt, estimated at \$44-50 billion. This year and next, the repayment of interest will rise to deplete the national currency reserves, sucking out capital needed to rebuild the productive economy.

In a critique in the Dec. 5 *International Herald Tribune*, the former director of the Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, Melvin Fagen, wrote, "The shock treatment was a mistake. The fundamental mistake of the Mazowiecki government was to encourage consumers' prices to rise rapidly and dismantle state subsidies too abruptly." Fagen argued that price reform should eventually come, "but not as a first step in transition to a market economy, especially in a country with so low per capita income," noting the policy in Poland has predictably led to panic buying, strikes, and even street riots, a repeat of what Fagen terms "the disastrous experience of the IMF with its austerity policies" in Zambia or Venezuela.

Fagen advocates the model of a South Korea or Taiwan, nations which have gained high growth rates with a national economic strategy which included low labor costs, but also maintaining state subsidies, protective tariffs, and cheap credit for industry. Although Fagen does not say so, Korea took its cue from the "American System" approach of 19th-century German economist Friedrich List—the school led in our day by Lyndon LaRouche.

Czechoslovakia is on a 'Polish' course

by Angelika Raimondi

On Jan. 1 the first radical economic cure went into effect for Czechoslovakia, under the guidance of Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus and the International Monetary Fund. The measures will plunge this potentially great Central European industrial nation into chaos.

In order to continuously oversee the progress of the measures, since Jan. 1 a representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been installed at the central bank in Prague. Vaclav Klaus, a declared follower of Thatcherism and of the Chicago school of economics around Milton Friedman, will subject Czechoslovakia to the same rapacious austerity mechanism that Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs has already carried out with his "Polish model." On Jan. 1 prices and foreign trade were greatly liberalized. Already during the very first days of the new year, prices rose by about 40-50%, while wages were either frozen or fixed at an annual raise of only 3-4%. The government set minimum and maximum prices for consumer goods. Naturally, the recently pri-

vated state factories are calculating the maximum prices, and in order to get their hands on hard currencies, will export increasing quantities of consumer goods which are urgently needed at home.

Currently, a retired person on a pension in Czechoslovakia gets an average of 1,300-1,600 korunas (crowns), while a worker's average income is about 2,500-3,300 crowns. That will not change, whereas the cost of living will shoot upward. At an exchange rate of about 40 crowns to a U.S. dollar, that amounts to an average income of \$60-80.

The legacy of over-centralization

If the former East Germany is having great difficulties in transforming itself into a modern industrial society, these problems are almost impossibly difficult in Czechoslovakia, and are for all intents and purposes insoluble if the country follows Klaus's IMF program. The degree of centralization and monopolization was nowhere greater throughout the former Comecon nations than here, and dependence on the Soviet "partner" was huge: Czechoslovakia received no less than 90% of its energy supplies and 50% of its raw materials from the U.S.S.R. During the first quarter of 1990, the Soviet Union delivered only one-third of the contracted amount of oil, and since then this amount has been reduced further still.

Czechoslovakia will also be hit especially hard by the crisis in the Persian Gulf, since Iraq had been one of its important trading partners, and Czechoslovakia has been looking toward oil imports from there in order to compensate

An economic threat to Czechoslovakia

From a guest contributor:

Amid a number of severe dangers, lingering above the fragile Czechoslovak economy, there is one of unique importance: the strike threat racket. The monopolist structure, very traditional in communist economies, has unfortunately combined with the effect of Comecon's bankruptcy to produce a result that may be highly devastating already in the first months of 1991.

With most of the business relations to former Comecon partners disrupted and given the very limited convertible currency resources, the Czechoslovak economy is much more isolated than ever before. At the same time, living standards are expected to fall and the personnel of many enterprises will be tempted to increase their salaries, and eventually to gain investment, subsidies, or other advantages through strikes. But strikes in a monop-

olized economy which is also forced to be self-sufficient, have quite a different meaning than in the West or even in Poland of the 1980s: There are hundreds of enterprises that could knock out the economy, and tens of those, that can do this within a few days.

The test of the government's resolution to stand up to the strike blackmail already took place in November 1990. The aluminum factory in the city of Ziar nad Hronom, monopoly supplier of aluminum products for the rest of the economy, stopped delivery until it got a government-guaranteed credit of 500 million Czechoslovak korunas—approximately \$20 million. The government faced the closing of hundreds of important firms, because import possibilities were virtually nil—both for technical and economic reasons. It yielded to the pressure and gave the guarantee for credit, which from a businessman's point of view made no sense.

Unless the government and the main political force—the rightist groups of Civic Forum—prepare well for the match, 1991 may easily be one of the worst years in the economic history of Czechoslovakia:

—Dušan Mrňa, Prague

for the drastically reduced Soviet deliveries.

Czechoslovakia's entire investment goods industry has been oriented toward the not-very-demanding U.S.S.R. market. But now that the Soviet Union is no longer taking many of the goods destined for that market, entire branches of industry are collapsing. For instance, 33,000 jobs became redundant in the Slovakian furniture industry virtually overnight, because lacking the Soviet demand, these poor-quality items could not be sold anywhere else. On top of this, the antiquity of the plant and equipment is beyond belief: The average age of a machine in the current production is 15 years.

The privatization of industry is proceeding only with great problems. Large state factories have been partially transformed into joint stock companies in which the "old structures" still have the last word. Becoming a private entrepreneur is not easy: With high interest rates and heavy taxation, it is almost impossible for a normal citizen to make such a new beginning.

Bitterness is great among the people. On the one hand, there is great fear regarding developments in the Soviet Union and in the Persian Gulf, and on the other, there is a widespread feeling that the West understands nothing and has no desire to help. The resulting conflicts are already programmed in, since nationality conflicts between Czechs and Slovaks can be mobilized at any time in an atmosphere

of growing economic chaos. Already in December, considerable differences erupted between the two republics. The Slovaks succeeded in putting through their demands for more responsibilities for both constituent republics and for an annual rotation between Czechs and Slovaks in the leadership of the central bank. The rapidly sinking standard of living and the burgeoning unemployment are likewise social time bombs. Observers in Prague are already pointing to strike threats which could bring the entire country's economy to its knees within a few days.

And yet, it is precisely this Central European heartland of Czechoslovakia which constitutes one of the geographic foci of the conception of the "Productive Triangle" which is based on Lyndon LaRouche's theory of physical economy. With its relatively high population density and skilled labor force, its great historic, cultural, and city-building tradition and great possibilities for infrastructural development, Czechoslovakia could within the foreseeable future become a flourishing, productive industrial nation. The life or death of this nation will therefore be determined by whether or not President Vaclav Havel reverses the catastrophic economic course of his economics minister, throws the IMF advisers out of the central bank as quickly as possible, and, instead of this, calls back to mind the traditions of successful physical economic policy of Gottfried Leibniz, Friedrich List, and Lyndon LaRouche.

**EIR publishes
new strategic
study on Japan**

JAPAN'S STRATEGIC DILEMMA: AN INFORMED VIEW

Is Japan the invincible economic colossus which is determined to destroy the American way of life in its ruthless pursuit of market control? Or could it be that Japan today is a far different entity than that often depicted in the sensationalist media?

This new study by Uwe Henke v. Parpart and William Engdahl traces the elements of the policy crisis inside Japan, which are often completely misunderstood even by those trying to deal impartially with the situation.

It includes a Foreword by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. and chapters on:

- 1) Strategic Overview: Japan's Security and Economic Policy Dilemma
- 2) The External Context of the Dilemma
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Brazilian harvest fails; famine looms

by Geraldo Lino

In Brazil, the 1980s is thought of as "the lost decade," due to the country's poor economic performance. However, despite the fact that there was no visible progress in social indicators or in the production of goods during this period—in some cases they were lower at the end of the decade—the feared social explosion did not occur. This was largely because there was not a dramatic shortage of basic foodstuffs in the country. Such a shortage is now a very real possibility for 1991, if the harvest fails for the second year in a row, especially given the situation in the Northeast Region.

An agriculture ministry document cited by the daily *O Estado de São Paulo* on Nov. 29 warns that a new crop failure "would be the trigger for the resurgence of inflationary factors, such as an increase in the deficit, spiraling prices and psychological insecurity."

To avoid shortages of basic foods and the specter of hunger, with consequent social unrest, President Fernando Collor de Mello's administration has already been obliged to resort to importing food, and may have to import much more in 1991. In the opinion of the president of the National Agriculture Society, Octavio Mello Alvarenga, quoted in *Tribuna da Imprensa* Jan. 2, "without food imports, Brazil would already be on the road to famine." Increased imports, however, could blow out Collor's "economic stabilization plan," which is based on rigid monetary controls, a supposedly balanced budget, and large trade surpluses.

According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), the production of cereals, legumes, and oil seeds in 1990 was 56.6 million tons, 21.2% less than in 1989 (Figure 1). The area planted was down by 11.8% and the average yield per acre was down by 10.7%.

The government blamed bad weather in some regions of the country, such as the South and the Northeast, for the decline in output. But the government's decision to sharply cut back credit to agriculture was the principal culprit. After a period of agricultural growth in the mid-1980s, encouraged by the healthy credit policies of then-Finance Minister Dilson Funaro, credit cuts began in the final phase of José Sarney's presidency (1985-90). This was then exacerbated by the current Collor administration's strict monetarist policy, which has imposed even greater constraints on the agricultural sector.

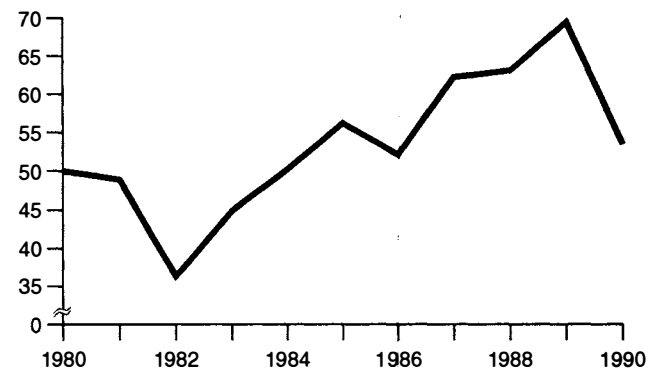
The Economics Ministry's Department of Supplies and Prices documents the way credits were cut during the spring planting season (which in the Southern Hemisphere is in September and October). Of \$2.3 billion scheduled for lend-

ing in September, only \$1.6 billion was actually disbursed. In October, which is the deadline for purchasing inputs and the effective start of planting, the constraints were even tighter: Only \$210 million of the \$1.8 billion budgeted, was loaned. For the whole year, resources to the sector were under \$4 billion, less than 17% of the \$24 billion registered in 1980. The immediate effect of this policy was a further reduction in the area planted for the 1991 harvest (Figure 2).

It is not accidental that the cited Agriculture Ministry report predicts shortages of basic foodstuffs such as rice, corn, and soy derivatives in 1991. More recently, experts of the Production Financing Corporation stated that *any* prognosis on the coming harvest is risky. They say that in the best case, if there are no problems with the weather, the supply of some

FIGURE 1
Total grain production in Brazil, 1980-90

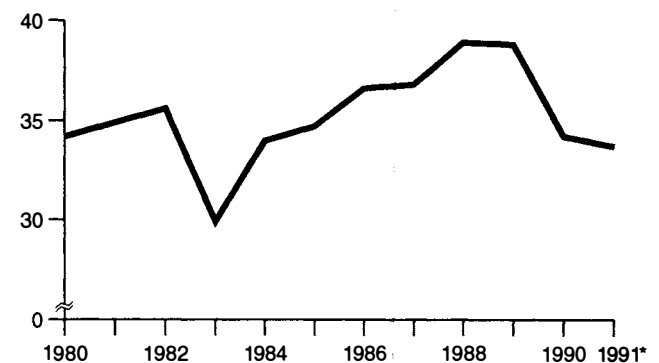
(millions of tons)



Source: IBGE, Brazil

FIGURE 2
Area of grain harvested in Brazil, 1980-91

(millions of hectares)



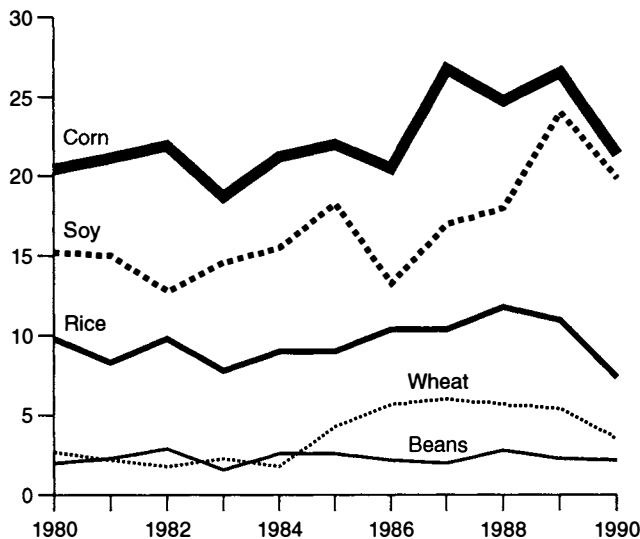
* area planted

Source: IBGE, Brazil

FIGURE 3

Brazil's production of corn, soy, rice, wheat, and beans, 1980-90

(millions of tons)

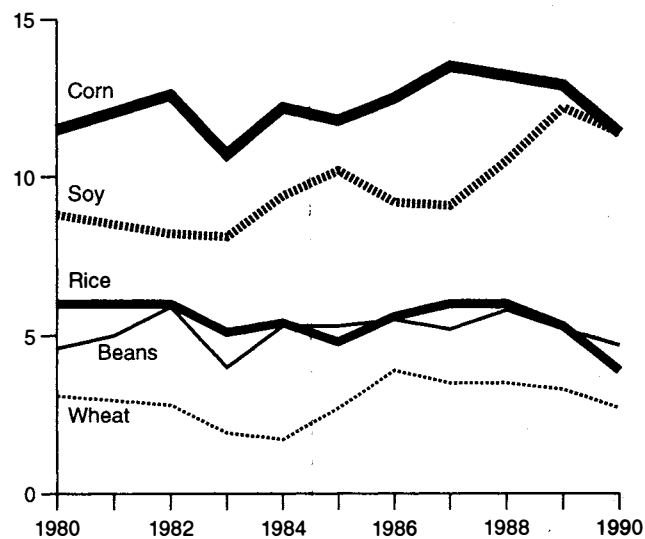


Source: IBGE, Brazil

FIGURE 4

Area harvested of corn, soy, rice, beans, and wheat in Brazil, 1980-90

(millions of hectares)



Source: IBGE, Brazil

basic products such as rice and beans will be tight. According to researcher Maria José Cillar Monteiro of the Getulio Vargas Foundation, the destiny of the coming harvest "is in Saint Peter's hands." If it rains, she says, it could be a bit bigger than in 1990, but if it does not rain enough, the shortfall could be very large, with the additional complication that the government's emergency stockpiles, which in 1990 were at a reasonable level, are now virtually nonexistent.

The government's credit policies, besides forcing farmers to cut areas planted, induced them to invest less in inputs and implements, which will undoubtedly be reflected in the already declining productivity indices for the main crops. Agriculture Ministry surveys show that farmers bought 18.5% less fertilizer for the 1990 crop year than in the previous year. Fertilizer use is down another 13.7% for the summer harvest. Pesticide and herbicide sales during the first nine months of 1990 were down 14.2%. Seed corn production was down 24%; soy seed down 18%; rice seed down 20%. Tractor sales dropped 62% during the same period: in September 1990, only 1,800 tractors were sold, compared with 4,700 in the same month of 1986. Harvester sales dropped even more, by 90.7%.

All these problems were reflected in the 1990 harvest (Figures 3 and 4). Rice production had a record 32.6% drop, to 7.4 million tons, the lowest since the end of the 1960s. Yields dropped an average of 10%. The output of beans—another basic food item on the Brazilian table—although less hard hit, dropped 3.4%, despite a 6.5% increase in productiv-

ity. It should be emphasized that bean output has stagnated at the 2.5 million-ton level since 1970, when the country's population was 93 million, compared with 150 million today. In other words, on a per capita basis, bean production has dropped by nearly half in two decades.

The 1990 corn harvest was down 5.2 million tons from 1989, a reduction of almost 20%, with yields falling by 9%. Soy production fell by 4.1 million tons, a 17% drop, with a 12% drop in productivity. Wheat, particularly hard hit by weather problems, fell by 1.8 million tons, or 38.4%, with a 24% productivity drop. One of the few basic foods which increased was potatoes, up 4.2% to 2.2 million tons, with a productivity increase of 3.3%.

The threat to the Northeast

A particularly severe problem has developed in the impoverished Northeastern states. Their production was most seriously affected last year, which forced massive imports of foodstuffs. The region lacks adequate infrastructure such as irrigation systems, and has a low level of capitalization. Most of its farmers have no technical training. Weather and the reduction in credits hit there hardest, resulting in dramatic drops in output and yields of the major crops. The rice harvest was 51.3% lower than in 1989, with a 36.1% drop in yield. Corn was down 61.3% in the first harvest and 78.4% in the second, with yield reductions of 46.1% and 61.9%, respectively. Despite a slight 2.2% increase in yields, bean production fell 27.3%.

'Great Man-Made River' courses through desert in Libya

by Marcia Merry

Over the past year, a major link has been completed in Libya's "Great Man-Made River" (GMR)—a project designed to provide an integrated national grid of piped water from aquifers deep beneath the deserts of the Sahara. Concrete pipes are carrying water from well fields in southern and east-central Libya, northward for various uses in the coastal areas where the population of 4.3 million is concentrated.

The water is especially welcome because the coastal aquifers that have supplied the population centers in the Tripoli and Benghazi regions, have been depleted by heavy pumping over the years, and there has been significant infiltration of salt water from the Mediterranean Sea. This is a prime location for desalination plants, but without financial credit and high technology, Libya can only afford to desalinate water to supplement water supplies for urban and industrial use, and cannot yet hope to meet the expense of desalinating the large volumes of water needed for agricultural expansion.

Libya's territory is larger than the combined land area of France, Germany, the Low Countries, and Switzerland. However, it has no natural rivers; over 90% of the land is desert.

Water from under the desert

Underneath the desert sands, however, are vast quantities of water—part of the pattern of aquifers in the various sedimentary rock basins located across northern Africa. Geologists identify at least 11 sizable basins containing deep aquifers in the 3,000-mile span from the Atlantic coast of Africa to the Red Sea.

In planning the GMR, geologists have focused on two hydraulically distinct basins in central and southeastern Libya: the Sarir—or Sirt—Basin, and the Kufra Basin. Both are believed to have huge amounts of underground water. The Kufra Basin extends under the adjoining lands of Chad, Sudan, and Egypt.

The Kufra Basin has been the least geologically mapped, but there is no denying its immense value as a resource. Discussions in the past among Libya, Sudan, and Egypt for joint development of water for this desert region, in order to create oases of vegetation and human habitation, have not reached fruition as Egypt withdrew under pressure from the Reagan and Bush administrations. Throughout the 1980s, London and Washington intervened, in collaboration with

the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, to deter GMR-style development. Typical of this anti-development approach is the "Arab World Survey" of May 1990 by the London *Economist*, which stated, "Libya is another offender" planning water projects. "It is building a spectacular system of pipelines, known as the 'Great Man-Made River,' to move water pumped from under the Sahara Desert northwards to the coastal region for use in agriculture." The *Economist* said it is wrongheaded to plan water for farming, and that it costs too much—an estimated \$25 billion for the entire plan.

Water project moves ahead

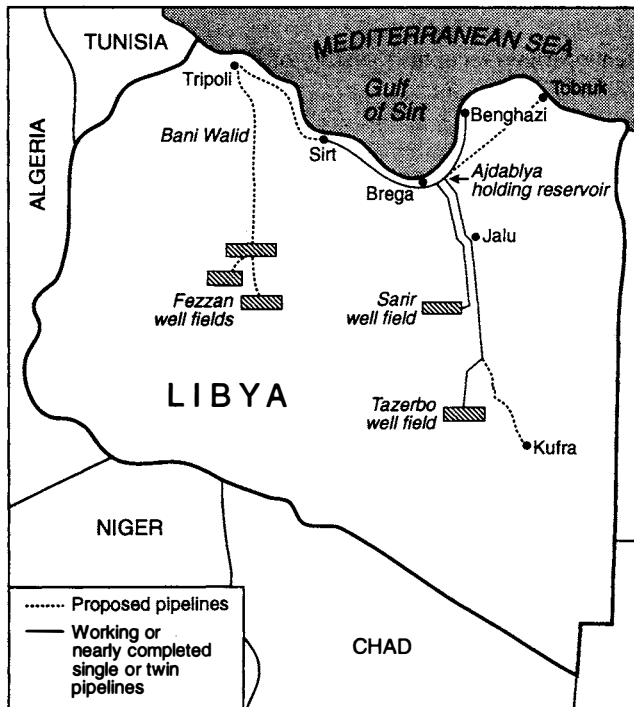
Despite London's scorn, planning and work has proceeded, and the accomplishments of the GMR project to date give a preview of how water projects of all types could make the Sahara Desert bloom.

The map shows the outlines of the scheme. The solid lines in eastern Libya indicate the pipelines completed or targeted for completion in the first phase of the project. Water is pumped up in the Tazerbo Well Field (on the border zone between the Sirt and the Kufra basins), and piped northward, joined by water pumped from the Sarir Well Field (Sirt Basin). Twin pipes course north via the town of Jalu to a holding tank at the Ajdablya Holding Reservoir, and thence via pipeline to Benghazi and Brega, and thence to the town of Sirt.

Future phases of the GMR are shown by the dotted lines. The western branch of the "river" calls for pumping in the Fezzan Well Fields in west-central Libya, with a pipeline to run northward to Tripoli. The main twin pipeline is 1900 kilometers, and is designed for carrying an eventual water flow of 2 million cubic meters per day to the north. Submersible pumps will lift the water to the highest level in the system—about 300 meters above sea level—from which it can flow by gravity to all points. Extensions of the first phase of the eastern part of the GMR are shown in dotted lines. A link is planned from the Ajdablya Holding Reservoir to the coastal town of Tobruk. Another link is planned to extend to Kufra.

Construction began in September 1984. The manager for the project has been the engineering firm Brown and Root from the United States, with the building work done by the South Korean Dong Ah Industrial and Construction Co.

Design of Libya's 'Great Man-made River' brings underground water to coast



Two mammoth pipe-manufacturing plants were built at Sarir and Brega. They were designed to be the biggest concrete pipe factories in the world. The pipe for the man-made river is four meters in diameter, made of pre-stressed concrete. The fabricating process starts with casting concrete in molds around welded steel pipe cylinders. Then the pipe is wrapped with carbon steel pre-stressing wire and coated with mortar.

The question marks over GMR plans have not been about river routes or construction techniques, but rather, about the fundamental scientific issues of hydrology. What are the characteristics and expected behavior of the aquifers? Mathematical simulation models have been run, but the answers are still uncertain.

All agree that the amount of water in the southeastern Libya aquifers is huge, on the order of several thousand cubic kilometers. The Sirt and Kufra aquifers are an estimated 1,000 meters deep. And it is agreed that much of the water is "fossil" water, that is, ancient. However, among the unanswered questions: Is there a hydraulic connection between the Sirt and the Kufra basins? What are the rates of recharge, discharge, and flow-through of the aquifers? How old is the water?

Taking a negative position on all points that bear on the development potential of the water resources is Dr. Edmund Wright of the British Geological Survey. Wright argues that the aquifer systems are not in equilibrium, that is, they are

not being "recharged," or replenished. He contends that there is a demonstrably slow response to change in the water.

Wright points to carbon dating tests that place the age of the water in the central Kufra and Sirt basins as between 24-34,000 years old. Water in the northern parts of the Sirt Basin is younger, in the 14-24,000-year range or even 5-8,000 years old. Wright theorizes that there is recharging, but only by younger fossil water, and argues that the two basins have only restricted flow between them. Wright has advanced pessimistic calculations about the availability of water that imply relatively high pumping costs and a drawdown of fossil water.

Opponents of large-scale water development plans—based mostly in official policy circles in Britain and the United States—have cited Wright's viewpoint as justification of their own policy of preventing economic development in northern Africa and the Middle East.

Aquifers are recharging

In opposition to this, Dr. Moid Ahmad, consultant to the GMR project and professor at Ohio University's Department of Geological Sciences in Athens, Ohio, has conducted numerous studies and tests showing how the aquifers can be beneficially put to use. Agreeing that much of the vast fossil water in the Libyan aquifers is ancient, Ahmad nevertheless dismisses the significance of the carbon test to prove or disprove the movements of water because, he points out, the tests relate to dissolved carbon, not necessarily to the water itself.

Ahmad also stresses that there are indications of some recharge of the Sirt-Kufra system coming from the Tibesti Mountains, on the Chad-Libya border, and from the Ennedi Mountains on the border with Sudan. His studies estimate that a rate of 120 cubic meters per second could be pumped from the various projected well fields of the GMR in eastern Libya, and that sufficient drawdown is available to last at least 50 years.

Dr. Ahmad advises that large-scale water development from aquifers, combined with advanced agro-forestry, would have a measurable ameliorating effect on regional environments. In an article entitled "An Hydrologist's Plan to Combat the Greenhouse Effect," (*Water International*, June 1990), Ahmad surveyed the hydraulic basins on several continents where the potential exists for major reforestation and rehabilitation.

Dr. Ahmad wrote in 1981 that "Libya can be an exporter of food." He said that many basins in the Sahara have underground water potential for agricultural projects, in some cases capable of irrigating 100,000 hectares of desert land. "It is estimated that the Sahara can produce 5 million tons of wheat per year. A summer crop can also be raised to meet the particular demands of each country. The need for these types of developments to increase the food for world consumption is now critical and people throughout Africa cry out to be fed daily."

Book Reviews

Old questions raised about Spanish flu

by Christina N. Huth

America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918

by Alfred W. Crosby

Cambridge University Press, New York, 1989
337 pages, hardbound, \$39.50

During the spring and summer of 1918, a new strain of influenza, more deadly than any seen before or since, swept across the United States. By autumn of 1918, an epidemic of this new malady, dubbed Spanish influenza by the press and medical profession, had reached the status of a national calamity, striking down up to 40% of the population in cities, towns, and rural areas alike, and killing more than half a million people. Philadelphia, with 1.7 million inhabitants, was one of the hardest-hit metropolitan areas. Some 2,600 died of influenza or pneumonia in the second week of October, nearly 4,600 in the third week, and more than 55,000 in all. The city was overwhelmed; in some cases the dead were left in their homes for days. Meanwhile, Spanish influenza had become a global pandemic, ravishing Africa, Asia, Russia, and Western Europe, where millions of troops were arrayed on the battlefields of World War I. By the time that its third and final, less virulent wave, had passed over North America in the spring of 1919, the Spanish influenza had killed "nearly as many American servicemen as died in battle, ten times and over that number of American civilians, and twice as many people in the world as died in combat on all fronts in the entire four years of the war."

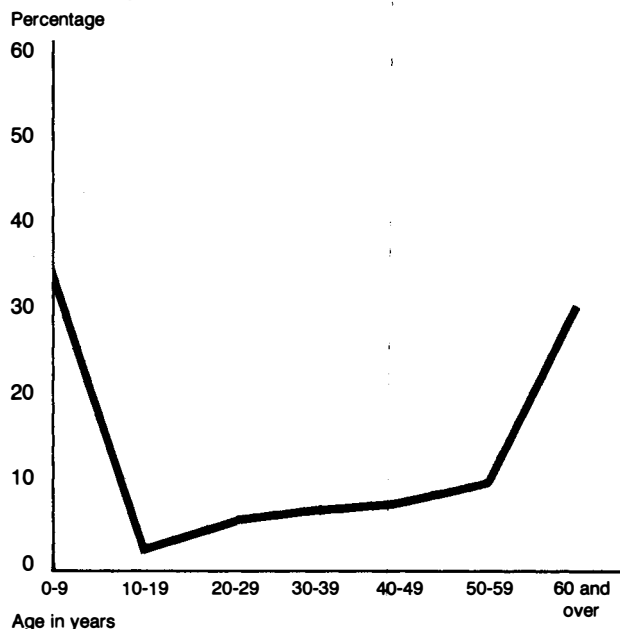
The Forgotten Pandemic is an excellent and highly readable account of the Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918-19, by University of Texas American Studies professor Alfred Crosby. With one notable shortfall—a lack of systematic attention to the link between poverty, poor nutrition, and lack of health infrastructure, and the spread of epidemic disease—Crosby's account of the flu disaster would make a valuable addition to the syllabus of an American history course dealing with the period of World War I. It is also recommended reading for anyone whose family history includes the ravages of Spanish influenza, a likely half or more of adults living

today. My siblings and I, for example, were well-acquainted with the story of our great-grandmother Angelina Romano's death from complications of the flu, along with two of our great-aunts, who left their infant children in the care of our grandfather, at the time an unemployed teenager. A high school friend recounts the story of his grandfather, a young Swedish immigrant making his way as a carpenter in Massachusetts, who emptied his savings account in a failed effort to provide life-saving medical care for his flu-stricken wife.

Crosby's narrative makes clear that medical science today knows little more of essence about the virus which causes influenza than it did in 1918. Influenza remains incurable; the virus's ability to rapidly mutate is still a mystery; its relationship to other diseases, such as the bacillus-borne pneumonia, is murky.

Several characteristics of Spanish influenza, however, set it apart from all other known strains of the virus, and render the course of this epidemic a prime candidate for the investigations of epidemiologists and others—even though it occurred more than half a century ago. One of these is that no other flu before or since Spanish influenza has had such a propensity for pneumonic complications. Another is that *nearly half* of all the recorded casualties in the United States were in the age group of 20 to 45 years. And an unusual cluster of deaths occurred in the range of 20-29 years of age, meaning that individuals in the prime of their lives were

Influenza and pneumonia deaths: percentage in each ten-year age group, Louisville, Kentucky, April 1918



(Derived from the Death Certificate files of the Board of Health of Louisville, Ky.)
Source: *America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918*.

dying in higher numbers than either the very young or very old—the usual targets of epidemic disease. As Crosby reports, “when a curve is plotted for the incidence of flu and pneumonia deaths according to age . . . the resulting curve is not a U, but a crude W, with its highest point in the middle, where both science and common sense declare it should not be” (see Figure). This is true for every major metropolitan area studied. Why did this flu prefer young, robust victims?

Finally, where did it come from? Crosby reports on several indicated origins of the pandemic, thoroughly documenting the movement of hundreds of thousands of men in World War I, who carried the virus with them across the Atlantic and back. The flu wreaked havoc in the U.S. military divisions preparing to dispatch men to the European front: As of September 1918, almost 30% of the 13th Army Battalion was sick; 17.3% of the 42nd Infantry, and 24.6% of the Trains and Military Police. And the conditions to spread the disease were present: The nation’s military barracks were filled to overflowing. At Camp Devens, 30 miles east of Boston, 45,000 men were jammed into a camp constructed for 35,000, and 8,000 of them were sick, being treated by a hospital facility and staff planned for 2,000.

The war itself could have been the major factor in turning Spanish influenza into the killer it became. Crosby writes: “Other medical men associated Spanish influenza directly with the war. Wherever his armies met in Europe, man was creating chemical and biological cesspools in which any kind of disease might spawn. Never before had such quantities of explosives been expended, never before had so many men lived in such filth for so long, never before had so many corpses been left to rot above ground.” Crosby also accurately reports the disease-producing effects of the British naval blockade of all goods—including food and medicine—to embattled Germany, which lowered the resistance to disease of the entire German civilian population to disastrous levels.

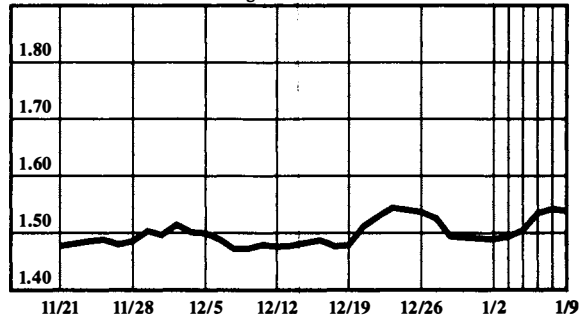
Noted only in passing, however, is the probability that poverty and poor living conditions in the United States itself could also have opened the door to the flu epidemic. Clues are scattered throughout the text: documentation that the pandemic struck particularly hard in the immigrant slums of Philadelphia; 1,500 more of Philadelphia’s flu victims were children of immigrant mothers than of mothers born in the United States. In Chicago, which was in the throes of a tuberculosis epidemic among its poorer residents, deaths from flu were three times those in Grand Rapids, Michigan, only 200 miles away. The rich suburban Connecticut towns of Milford and Darien were spared any deaths at all, while New York City, with a well-funded public health system, suffered fewer deaths per capita than either Chicago or San Francisco.

This line of inquiry is particularly important at present, as evidence grows showing the link between the spread of the incurable and 100% deadly epidemic virus which causes AIDS, and spreading conditions of poverty in economic recession.

Currency Rates

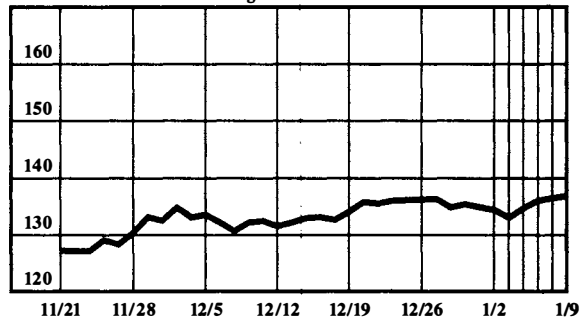
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



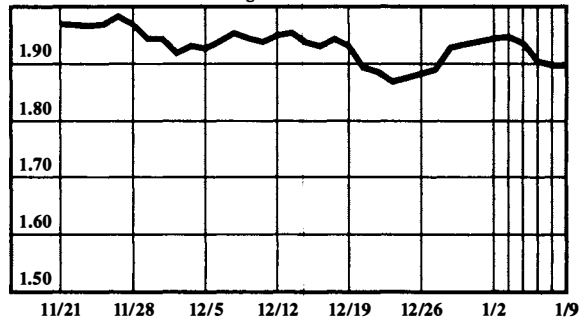
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



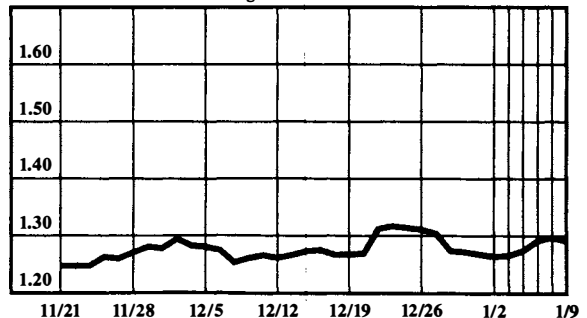
The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



'Alternative agriculture' guru ousted

The USDA backed him, but some at the National Research Council found Dr. Benbrook a little too kooky.

With little to cheer about as the old year ended and 1991 began, we are glad for one piece of news: In late 1990, Dr. Charles M. Benbrook, the executive director of the Board on Agriculture of the National Research Council (NRC) was removed from office. This is a happy development for anyone serious about farming and eating.

There are a few other, similar signs that agricultural science is not hopelessly beaten down by kookery and superstition.

Benbrook presided over the issuance in September 1989, of an NRC publication called *Alternative Agriculture*, which was devoid of science, but was endorsed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and intended to be the Ten Commandments of "low-input" agriculture for the 1990s. It was released at a press conference with much fanfare, and sent to agriculture ministers all around the world. The book was the signal for a wave of propaganda against the use of any and all chemicals, mechanized farming, and infrastructure for food production (irrigation, water project development, expanded electrical power, etc.).

The book in fact was an apologia for the policy of the cartel companies that are underpaying farmers and controlling food distribution. *Alternative Agriculture* provided rationalizations for how farmers should live with low incomes, primitive technology, and like it. The message for consumers was to fixate on food "purity," and never mind the fact that people are starving.

But the book was such a laughing stock that Benbrook has finally been ousted. The press releases on his departure do not state that outright; the reason offered is that there were "differences of opinion" between Benbrook and other scientists at the cooperating institutions. But the meaning of his exit is clear: The NRC has some reputation to preserve, since it is a branch of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine.

Alternative Agriculture included 180 pages of case study descriptions of farms in the United States that used low-cost, low-input "alternative" farm techniques. There were no proper measurement techniques employed, which would have shown that the soils and infrastructure were being cheated of maintenance, the productivity potentials lowered, and the farm families exploited.

In July 1990, the Iowa-based Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) published a "scientists' review" of *Alternative Agriculture*. This was undertaken at the request of Rep. Lee H. Hamilton (D-Ind.), chairman of the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress, who had been feeling the heat of public ridicule. Critiques of *Alternative Agriculture* were solicited from 44 scientists and specialists, and 41 of them were published in the CAST booklet. Within six months, Benbrook was fired.

The CAST summary states, "*Alternative Agriculture* recommends agricultural practices that may sig-

nificantly reduce food supplies, thus placing a severe financial burden upon low income consumers and intensifying world food shortages. Also, higher food prices have nutritional ramifications that are especially acute among the poor."

There are other encouraging signs of fight against farm and food kookery and chicanery. On Nov. 28, 1990 Washington state apple growers filed a multimillion-dollar lawsuit against CBS television, the "60 Minutes" show, and a Washington, D.C.-based Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), for creating the scare over the use of the chemical Alar in treatment of apples.

The growers filed a class action suit on behalf of the 4,700 growers of red apples in Washington, charging that they lost more than \$100 million following the orchestrated news release, Feb. 26, 1989, of a report by the NRDC called "Intolerable Risk: Pesticides In Our Children's Food."

Though the report had no scientific standing, the news of its assertions was broadcast so widely that apple sales plummeted, some school districts removed apples from lunchrooms, etc.

Washington state applegrowers account for 60% of the nation's super-market fruit, and were devastated.

Also named in the suit is the Washington, D.C. advertising firm that planned the NRDC campaign, Fenton Communications, Inc. Steven Berzon, an attorney representing the NRDC, complained that the applegrowers' lawsuit is having a "chilling" effect on public "activism."

On the contrary, more such suits would create such a chill that we wouldn't have to worry about the Earth heating up because of the "greenhouse effect" and similar kook scare stories.

Salinas's 'foreign shock psychosis'

Even the President's sychophants realize that the Persian Gulf crisis will bring down his house of cards.

Luis E. Mercado, the editor of the daily *El Economista* and known as the main press outlet for the views of Mexico's ultra-monetarist central bank head Miguel Mancera, correctly noted in one of his first columns of 1991 that the government of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari is experiencing a "foreign shock psychosis."

Others, however, believe that the disease afflicting the government could best be described as "Eco-HIV."

Mercado was identifying a phenomenon that has arisen along with the expectation that the conflict in the Persian Gulf is about to break out into war. If war were to break out, demand would grow sharply for certain strategic raw materials that are necessary for that conflict. This would be beneficial for the marketing of Mexican oil, but its main purchaser, the United States, would undergo a worsening economic crisis (George Bush calls it a "recession"), which would in turn bring with it serious problems for Mexico's export sector.

According to Mercado, the Salinas administration is expecting a string of additional adverse phenomena for 1991, even though its policy is to "keep its mouth shut."

First, they anticipate a collapse of world trade, which would end up annihilating Mexico's export-oriented economic strategy, as well as putting a brake on the expected flow of foreign investment.

In this regard, people around the Salinas camp are already discussing that, for 1991, Mexico needs a new foreign investment law, whose pur-

pose would be to provide incentives for a flow of new capital which is needed to finance at least part of the current account balance of payments deficit, which is expected to exceed \$6 billion.

Another phenomenon which is being discussed in Mexico City is that, in the event of a Gulf war, financial and stock markets around the world would be paralyzed. The negative effects of this on the Mexican government's economic strategy would be manifold.

For starters, the stock of *Teléfonos de México* (the formerly government-owned telephone company, which was recently privatized), which is supposed to be sold "on the world's most important stock markets," would be unsaleable, which would mean the collapse of the speculative bonanza hoped for by the company's new owner, Carlos Slim, and his partners in the Mexican government.

With regard to the banking situation, Deputy Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz admits in private that the nationalized Mexican banks would not be able to be reprivatized, as is now planned. "We would have to convince buyers that the Mexican banks are better than Citibank or Chase, or any other bank now having serious problems," he says. Similarly, the much-touted credits for the national oil company Pemex, from the U.S. commercial banks, to be issued with Eximbank guarantees, would not come about.

If the Persian Gulf conflict aborts the giant deal of 1990 (the privatization of *Teléfonos de México*) and the

deal they were hoping to put together in 1991 (the privatization of the banks), the Salinas government will not be able to put its hands on the resources it was counting on to handle the "economic variables": payment of the internal debt, reduction of internal interest rates, freezing the parity of the peso, and so on.

If the Persian Gulf war turns out to be a prolonged one (as everything now indicates it will be), and if it is not limited territorially to the Middle East, the Salinas government would collapse over the relatively short term. According to commentator Mercado, what would be best for the Mexican government would be for the current state of world tensions to continue, with an oil price of between \$20 and \$25 per barrel.

With this reality staring him in the face, President Salinas's response has been curiously dissociated. The concept that Salinas is experiencing a "foreign shock psychosis" emerged after his New Year's Message, in which the President told the Mexican people things that were totally out of touch with reality, such as: "We have restarted economic growth," and "Mexico is preparing itself to be a great exporting nation." With regard to the Persian Gulf conflict, he said, "We expect there to be a solution achieved via diplomacy."

"No, it is not psychosis," a highly placed observer commented in private, "but rather a variant of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Just as the HIV virus attacks the immunological system until it finally destroys the person, so too does the current Mexican government have zero response capability in the face of the immense crisis facing it. The Mexican government was infected by 'Eco-HIV' back in 1983, and now it is starting to show the symptoms. It's not too hard to figure out how it got infected."

Productive industry is hardest hit

The sharp increase in employment at the end of 1990 is the bellwether of the "post-industrial society."

A detailed analysis by EIR's economics staff of the U.S. government's own unemployment statistics over the past two years, gives the lie to the standard reasons being put forward for the current "recession," phony reasons such as hanky-panky by savings and loan managers.

Our review shows that the fundamental problem, as economist Lyndon LaRouche has long argued, is the shift to a "post-industrial" economy. The loss in manufacturing jobs, and particularly in operatives and in durable goods, has been *accelerating* for the past two years. This has rendered the United States less and less able to produce real physical wealth. This destruction of the nation's industrial capability has become a self-feeding, self-accelerating process.

The latest sharp rise in unemployment serves to underline the fact that this is no "recession" rudely interrupting seven years of Reagan-Bush "recovery," but rather a deepening depression which began with the deliberate "controlled disintegration" policies of Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul Adolph Volcker in 1979.

The figure that grabbed headlines in the first week of January was the 515,000 new applications for state jobless benefits in the week preceding Christmas, up 16.78% from the 441,000 new applications of the week before. This was the greatest number of jobless claims filed since Feb. 19, 1983, when 518,000 jobless claims were filed.

After peaking at 388,000 in the second week of January, new jobless

claims had hovered in the range of 340,000-370,000 every week, until Aug. 18, when 382,000 applications for state unemployment benefits were made. By Sept. 15, the number of new claimants had increased to 403,000, and by Oct. 13, the number had increased to 421,000. The week of Nov. 10, the number reached 488,000. Clearly, the "downturn" is picking up speed.

According to the monthly report for November 1990 circulated by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, 282,000 people lost their jobs that month, raising total unemployment by 3.99% to 7.355 million. That yields a U-5b total unemployment rate of 5.9% (U-5b is defined as total unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force, excluding resident military population).

But these total figures mask a far more ominous reality: The most rapid collapse is occurring in what were the most productive sectors of the economy.

In November 1988, there were 19.654 million manufacturing jobs in the United States, 13.460 million of which were held by production workers. There were 11.601 million people employed producing durable goods, of which 7.773 million were production workers.

By November 1989, there were 263,000 fewer manufacturing jobs, a decline of 1.34%. However, the number of production workers had declined even faster, by 1.98%, for a loss of 239,000. The number of jobs in durable goods declined faster yet, being 237,000 less in November

1989, for a rate of change of -2.04%. But the fastest decline took place in the number of production workers in durable goods, where 210,000 jobs were shed, for a decline of 2.70%.

This pattern continued in 1990, with the rate of change almost doubling in all categories. From November 1989 to November 1990, 556,000 manufacturing jobs were lost, a decline of 2.87%. The number of production workers declined even faster, by 3.40%, as 450,000 jobs were lost.

In the same period, the number of jobs in durable goods dropped by 447,000—a decline of 3.93%. The number of production workers turning out durable goods dropped by 336,000, a 4.44% rate of decline. The hardest hit area was motor vehicle production, which suffered a collapse of 9.33%, as 77,700 jobs were lost in the 12 months since November 1989.

Contrary to all the noise being made about the collapse of the real estate markets, and the suffering on Wall Street, the number of jobs in real estate increased from 1.322 million to 1.331 million, while those in finance increased from 3.320 million to 3.334 million, from November 1989 to November 1990.

By comparison, the number of unemployed in precision production, craft, and repair jumped by 35.93%, from 693,000 in November 1989 to 942,000 a year later. The number of unemployed machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors increased by 9.86% in the same period, from 690,000 to 758,000.

This "post-industrial" shift was deliberately caused by the Anglo-American Establishment, which claims such as Paul Volcker and George Bush as their own. There can be no solution to the economic holocaust hitting the United States, until that Establishment is driven from power.

Business Briefs

Space

India to get satellite technology from Soviets

Indian space authorities are on the verge of obtaining the crucial cryogenic engine technology from the Soviet Union. The high-powered engine, embargoed by the Western nations, is required for launching the heavier class of Insat-II satellites slated to be the backbone of the Indian satellite network in the decades to come.

There is a possibility that the first geo-stationary satellite launch vehicle (GSLV) being developed to launch the Insat-II satellites, will be assembled with the purchased Soviet rocket stages. Sources said that the package being offered includes, apart from know-how and the rocket stages, assistance for setting up facilities to manufacture the engines in India. The final agreement may be for licensed production of the cryogenic engines.

Energy

Leader of Argentina's nuclear industry dies

Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero (ret.), former director of Argentina's National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), passed away on Dec. 22, at the age of 63.

A doctor in physics, Castro Madero was committed to the principle that Argentina had the right to build a nuclear energy industry as a means of guaranteeing its industrial development. As he stated repeatedly, including in an interview with *EIR* in the early 1980s, Argentina knew that it had to quickly build the scientific infrastructure to master this technology, before foreign powers intervened to prevent it from doing so.

Prior to joining the CNEA in 1976, Castro Madero served as the director of the Naval Research and Development Service and held several posts at the International Atomic Energy Agency. As head of the CNEA, he oversaw the implementation of several projects which

significantly advanced the country's nuclear capacity, including the building of a heavy-water plant, the completion of the Embalse nuclear plant, expanding the potential of the Atucha I plant, and beginning of construction on the Atucha II plant.

His greatest achievement came in November 1983, just prior to leaving his post: He announced that Argentina had joined the ranks of nations which possessed the complete nuclear fuel cycle, and was capable of producing enriched uranium. Although that announcement caused hysteria among international malthusian cliques, with accusations from abroad that the country would shortly be building an atomic bomb, it was an achievement of which the admiral was extremely proud. He saw it as a crucial step toward achieving energy independence.

Economic Integration

Big Swiss bank asks for big European projects

Switzerland's second largest bank is pushing for major infrastructure projects in Europe, East and West.

The latest monthly review of the Swiss Bank Corp., in an extended analysis entitled "New Dimensions in European Transportation," outlines the requirements of a European economy of some 430 million, rising to more than 700 million if the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, and the Balkans are included. In order to ensure unhindered development of this economic region, with its expected explosion of trade demands on present rail, highway, port, water, and air infrastructure, "the economic integration of this larger Europe requires efficient infrastructure as its necessary basis."

The article goes into the estimated ten-fold increase in goods transport volumes between Eastern and Western Europe by the end of this decade, and the urgent necessity in this light, "for an immense investment in rails and their organization. The main burden of this will reside with the German Federal Railway, [to accommodate] the enormous transit loads through Germany."

Water

Resource crisis growing in U.S. Southeast

The growing water needs of the city of Atlanta, Georgia, are causing a "water war" in the Southeast, the *Washington Post* reported Jan. 2. Atlanta currently uses 377 million gallons per day (mgpd), and faces year-round water restrictions if the supply is not increased, according to the Atlanta Regional Commission. Under a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers water reallocation proposal, Atlanta's water flow would be increased to 662 mgpd.

However, much of the additional water would come from rivers which flow into Alabama and Florida, both of which object to the plan. Alabama has filed a federal suit to block the plan, and Florida has threatened to join it. The 662 mgpd proposed for Atlanta would be 106% more than the current water usage for the entire state of Alabama.

"It is no longer a controversy. This water thing has reached a boiling point. We are in a water war," said Rep. Glen Browder (D-Ala.)

Science

Big Bang theorists admit disarray

Some of Britain's custodians of cosmological truth admit, in the Jan. 3 British journal *Nature*, that essential features of the Big Bang theory of the universe don't square with the evidence.

The two failed features of the theory are, first, the assumed existence of a large proportion of "cold dark matter" in the universe—that is, matter exerting gravitational force but not detectable with available technologies, because it radiates energy too weakly; and second, the "inflation" fix—that is, the supposition that the universe underwent, for no known reason, a sudden expansion in the first fraction of a second after it "began" before settling down to the rate of expansion astronomers think they observe today. The inflation fix was

Briefly

invented to cure a host of earlier weaknesses in the theory.

The admission of failure arises from a new, highly accurate analysis of the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS) survey, which shows that clusters of galaxies are more widely distributed in the universe and are more dense than previously thought. Moreover, large-scale structures composed of galaxies are too large to have been formed by any known "forces" in the time since the Big Bang.

The universe is supposed to have "begun" with a smooth distribution of matter in which galaxies later condensed. If this were true, another satellite observatory, the Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE), now in orbit, should be detecting the inhomogeneities in the background radiation left behind by this clumping process. So far it has not, contributing to the despair of the cosmologists. By the summer of 1992, the data from COBE should show variations as small as one part in a million. If no blips have been found by then, according to Michael Turner at the University of Chicago, "we have to commit ritual suicide," the Jan. 2 *Wall Street Journal* reported.

Development

Frenchman demands Mideast Marshall Plan

French political influential Michel Noir has declared that "Europe has no other choice than to launch a true Marshall Plan to help the countries of the East and the Maghreb . . . in order to bring to these people the indispensable formation of trained cadres and economic development." Noir made these comments in an interview with the weekly *Paris-Match* Jan. 5.

Noir's proposal—which he does not elaborate—complements the call by French Socialist Party deputy Michel Vauzelle, who recently went to Baghdad, for a Euro-Mediterranean zone of peace and development.

Noir recently created a sensation in France by resigning from the Gaullist RPR, and forming his own political organization. At that time, he warned that France itself was in danger of being destroyed by petty political and

party intrigues. Now, he is in discussions with certain Socialists toward forming a new political coalition.

Defense

U.S. industrial base shrinking and vulnerable

The problem in U.S. industrial defense capability is not that it is dependent upon foreign suppliers, but that it sometimes can't be, according to the current issue of *Aerospace and Defense Science* magazine. Cases such as the shutdown of the Avtex Fibers plant in Virginia and the explosion at the solid rocket fuel factory in Nevada two years ago showed the vulnerability of key defense and space systems dependent upon a single source of supply for a key component. Unfortunately, there were no othersuppliers, foreign or domestic, that could fill in the gap when production was halted.

Author James Miskel points out that the single source supplier often is still in business, not because it does the best job, but because the company was unsuccessful in diversifying out of defense production. As defense spending is cut back, the number of key single-source supplies will only increase.

Infrastructure

Soviet progress depends on transport

There will be no economic progress in Russia without basic investments in the transport sector, Friedrich Wilhelm Christians, chief executive of Deutsche Bank, has told Germany's *Der Spiegel* weekly.

"There is a lack of fundamental logistical structures, which the Russian themselves are to blame for," he said. "There is no functioning transportation system, and this has been the case from the era of the czars on. . . ."

"The Soviet Union needs a different economic system. But this won't work without a functioning system of transportation and communication."

● **MALARIA VACCINE** inventor Manuel Elkin Patarroyo has left Colombia, because the government eliminated financial backing for his research. His vaccine is currently being used in Venezuela, Brazil, and Ecuador. He will continue his research in Spain or Sweden, he said on an interview on RCN radio in Bogotá.

● **AN AIDS** conference in Bangkok Dec. 17-21 was boycotted by the World Health Organization because of Thailand's regulations prohibiting entry to persons with AIDS. Thailand has the most serious AIDS epidemic in Asia, with infection ranging up to 50% among male and female prostitutes. Thousands of Japanese, American, and European "sex tourists" visit these prostitutes every year.

● **FLORIDA'S** planned high-speed rail link connecting Miami, Orlando, and Tampa, is on hold. It was to have been built by a consortium of 35 companies, which hoped to privately raise the \$3.5 billion for the 150 mile-per-hour train.

● **INDIA AND BHUTAN** have signed a memorandum of understanding on the second and third phase of the Chukha Hydroelectric project. The first phase of the project, which has received about \$140 million in Indian assistance, involved construction of a dam to divert the waters of Bhutan's Wangchu River for electricity generation. Surplus power is to be sold to India.

● **'HOMELESSNESS** is a fixture of New York life," declared a front page article in the *New York Times* Dec. 30. According to Nancy Wackstein, director of the Mayor's Office of Homelessness and Single-Room Occupancy, there simply is not enough money in the budget to fulfill her mandate to provide shelter for everyone in need.

The moral issue at stake in 'animal rights'

by Nora Hamerman and Gabriele Liebig

The interview we present below, on page 22, is a world exclusive. Conducted in December by *EIR* correspondent Antonio Gaspari in Rome, it marks the first time that a priest of the Franciscan Order, who is professor emeritus at a leading Roman Catholic institution, has supplied clear answers on many scorching questions, regarding the soul of animals, evolutionism, pantheistic religions, and the anti-human offensive of the animal-rights extremists.

The interview intersects a heated debate within organized religion. In Italy, animal-rights extremism has spread dangerously within the Catholic laity and among parish priests. A spokesman for this trend, which some sources warn is the "heresy of the 1990s," Monsignor Canciani, has published two books in the last six months, one of which asserts that Christ and the Apostles were vegetarians.

Under the wings of the World Wildlife Fund (now the World Wide Fund for Nature) of Prince Philip, the consort of the British Queen, and other supranational organizations, animal rights organizations sprang up in 1989-90 like mushrooms: the "International Society for Animal Rights, Inc.," "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals" (PETA in the U.S.), the "Association Opposing Animal Research," the "Chicken Liberation Front," and countless more.

This has mighty little to do with protecting animals. The goal of the movement—whether the individual fellow traveler and contributor is aware of this or not—is to undermine and and destroy the material and philosophical basis for the survival of mankind. At the head of the target list of the animal rights movement are biomedical research and agricultural husbandry of large animals. Firebombings against laboratories have become frequent in England and Germany. As we document below, the impact of the terror has been to slow down, and in some cases to halt, research that should be saving lives. Ominously, biology texts are now being reviewed in the United States with a view to "cleansing" them of references to animal research!

The spring 1990 edition of the magazine *Animal Defender* ran a "Declaration



Saint Francis Preaching to the Birds, a painting by Giotto dating from around 1300. While the celebrated founder of the Franciscan Order loved animals as a manifestation of God's creation, he was no vegetarian, and did not confuse the souls of animals with those of human beings.

of Animal Rights," which proclaimed for animals a "right to life," indeed, "animals are like people in the capacity to suffer, to feel pain, interest and satisfaction. . . . Differences of intelligence and of levels of abstraction of speech and consciousness can be no reason to disregard the substantial similarity in the vital basic functions."

The "Declaration of Animal Rights" makes no secret of their animosity to house pets. "The differentiation of animals according to human preferences into pets, wild animals and work animals with the consequent three classes of rights is rejected," it declares. The term "pets" is contemptuously rejected. "The keeping of animals is on principle restricted, since it offers animals no suitable environment, or rather it is tied to animal torture." Other "friends of animals" even condemn feeding birds in winter as inadmissible intervention into the cycle of nature. And Arne Naess, the guru of the radical ecology group "Earth First!" gave the order in 1987, "in case of a conflict between the interests of dogs, cats and other housepets on the one hand and wild species of animals on the other, protect the latter."

The proclaimed animal right-to-life has far-reaching consequences: "Animals may not be killed for food. . . . They must only be killed in self-defense, in no case as the object of sport (hunting) or for economic use. . . . Animal research . . . is forbidden in all cases, whether its purpose be scientific, medical, commercial or other nature."

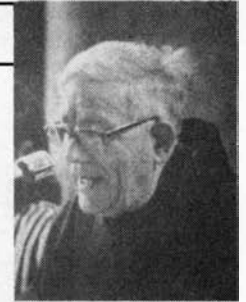
Given the moral pretensions of the animalists, nothing less than a counterattack on the deepest philosophical level

will suffice to halt this truly satanic movement. "The animal rights movement is degrading the concept of human beings. . . . We believe inherently that there is something sacred about human beings. . . . Our legal system and Judaic-Christian religious traditions are based on human sanctity," says Dr. Frederick K. Goodwin, head of the U.S. Alcohol, Drug Abuse, Mental Health Administration.

In November, the top U.S. health official traveled to Rome to urge Church leaders to defend the use of animals in biological testing. Dr. Louis Sullivan, Secretary of Health and Human Services, said at a Vatican-sponsored conference on mental health, "Any assertion of moral equivalence between humans and animals is an issue that organized religion must refute vigorously and unambiguously."

According to a CNS story filed from Vatican City, Sullivan asked that world religious leaders "affirm the necessity of appropriate and human uses of animals in biomedical research." On Nov. 16 Sullivan met with the Pope, but no details of that meeting were made public.

In an *EIR* series authored by Kathleen Klenetsky and Marcia Merry in 1990, we charged that today's animal rights fanatics are the new Nazis. In fact, some ideologues of the movement cynically equate the human victims of the Nazi Holocaust with animals killed to nourish human beings. "Six million people died in concentration camps, but six billion broiler chickens will die this year in slaughterhouses." Ingrid Newkirk, Director of PETA, was quoted in the *Washington Post*.



Do animals have souls, too?

by Antonio Gaspari

For over a year Rome has been under siege by groups of animal-rights fanatics, who, presenting themselves under various labels, have been demanding to meet with the Pope to convince him to sanction the concept of the existence of immortal souls in animals. Among those besieging the Vatican have been Prince Philip of Britain, head of the World Wildlife Fund; U.S. media magnate Ted Turner; and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan—all proponents of the anti-human malthusian doctrines which the Catholic Church has repeatedly condemned. Dozens of essays have been written on this topic. The latest book, which has just arrived in the Italian bookstores, is by the French writer Jean Prieur and is entitled, Animals Have a Soul.

To clarify and deepen the discussion, we interviewed Franciscan priest Prof. Luigi Iammarrone, who teaches Metaphysics and Dogmatic Theology at the Pontifical Theology Faculty of St. Bonaventure. Professor Iammarrone knows the problem in depth, as he has already published a series of 11 articles related to the theory of evolution.

EIR: The animal rights groups and their philosophers maintain that animals have souls like those of human beings. Do you think this is true?

Iammarrone: There is an abyss between the soul of animals and the soul of man. The soul of animals is a material reality, which comes into being by the transformation of matter and ceases to exist insofar as it returns into the potentiality of matter, whereas the human soul is spiritual, immaterial, and subsistent, and hence incorruptible and immortal, and comes into being by creation, by the direct, immediate intervention of God. Being created in the image and likeness of God, who is infinitely perfect Spirit, it is made to live forever, it is immortal; such immortality is connected with the existence of God. The animals have a soul which is simply a vital principle, which renders formally alive a portion of matter, within whose bosom or environment it originates and ceases to exist.

The soul of animals is a vital principle intrinsically dependent on the matter which it informs. All the operations of animals are countersigned by the stigma of essential depen-

dence on the material subject, for which reason, it ceases to exist with the death of the being so composed. Subject essentially to time, the soul of animals is destined to cease with all that which passes with time.

EIR: What is the role of man in creation. What relationship exists between man and the sensible Universe?

Iammarrone: There is a cause and effect relation, albeit only partial, between man and the sensible universe. Man depends on the plants, the animals, and the universe, because he lives in the universe and he is subject in particular, with regard to his body, to the phenomena which take place in it. Without the influence of the external world, man could not live at all. Everyone knows the phenomenon of photosynthesis by chlorophyll, which makes life possible in animals and human beings. If there were no chlorophyll photosynthesis, there would be no possibility for either men or animals to breathe.

EIR: The environmentalists assert that man has arrogated the right to impose his own dominion over other species. They say that man is equal to the animals by 99%.

Iammarrone: Man is not equal to the animals. If he were equal to them, he would not be able to use the flora and fauna to improve his own conditions of life. Man is essentially superior to all animals, because of being endowed with intelligence and free will with which he can orient himself toward the the Highest Truth and Highest Good, to which he is endlessly called to share his own eternal life of knowledge and love. Man is the lieutenant of God in Creation, to whom all the beings of the sensible universe are subject. Only man, because he is a person, is the subject of rights and duties. All other beings of the universe, including animals, are subjected to man as their king. The Bible says that God, after having created man, saw that all was very good. Hence man is the ultimate end of all the realities which preceded him. It is man who is placed in creation so that he will operate, work, and transform creation, not ordering it for himself as the ultimate end, but fulfilling the task which God gave him to transform the universe in the praise and glory of the Creator.

EIR: One of the “saints” of the animal rights movement, Peter Singer, author of the book *Animal Liberation*, has written: “If we compare a handicapped child to an animal, a dog or a pig for example, we often find that the animals have greater capacity, both realized and potential, for rationality, self-consciousness, communication, and every other quality which can be considered morally significant.” What do you think?

Iammarrone: That’s absurd. The handicapped child is still a rational being, a person who transcends incommensurably all animals, all plants, the entire material universe. Keep in mind the considerations of Blaise Pascal when he speaks of three kingdoms: those of Nature, Spirit, and Grace. “The infinite distance of bodies from the Spirit is a symbol of the infinite distance of spirits from Christian love, because this is supernatural. All bodies together and all spirits together and all their productions do not outweigh the slightest movement of charity. This belongs to an infinitely higher order. All the bodies together could not unleash even a tiny thought. And this cannot be done, because thought belongs to a higher order.” (Pascal, Fragment 793). There is no leap from the first degree, that of bodies, to the second degree, that of spirits, just as there is no leap from the second degree, that of spirits, to that of the Grace of God. The handicapped child occupies a degree incommensurably higher than that of bodies. With his intelligence and his will, the handicapped child is in fact ordered by the infinite being which is God, and finds only in Him his full realization.

EIR: According to the animal rights movement, between man and the animals there only exists a natural evolution, and hence they accuse the Catholic Church of preaching an overly anthropocentric conception of the world.

Iammarrone: For philosophical and scientific reasons, I am personally against evolutionism. Still, you know that even some Catholic scientists maintain this at least in part, that is with certain conditions. First of all, it is admitted that God the Creator, who has infused laws into matter itself, in virtue of which it can develop by passing from one form to another, down to the production of the human body. Naturally, as far as this last statement is concerned, we have to be more specific. Some say that, while granting that the human body may be derived from the body of a primate, nonetheless the passage which allows the body of the primate to become a human body, is not a natural passage, but requires the intervention of God, who creates the spiritual soul which is absolutely not derivable from matter and infuses it in a portion of matter capable of being informed by it. Pius XII in his encyclical *Humani Generis* of Aug. 12, 1950 touched upon this question. He said: “With regard to the origin of the human body from a preexisting primate, the children of the Church are free to maintain that the human body was directly created by the Creator or that the Creator utilized the body of a primate. Yet the children

of the Church must be disposed to accept that which the teachings of the Church may decide tomorrow, for one or another of these hypotheses, on the basis of the teachings of the Holy Scripture and of Tradition.”

EIR: The animal rights people assert that St. Francis considered that men are similar to animals.

Iammarrone: That is an exaggeration. St. Francis did not only love animals, but all creatures, Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Wind, Brother Fire. For St. Francis, all creatures are related to one another as brothers and sisters, because they all derive from the same source: the goodness of God. It is not true that he presupposed equality between man and animals; indeed, exactly the opposite is true. On consuming meat, for example, he told his friars that if Christmas came on a Friday, they could eat a double ration of meat, and the animals could have a double ration of hay distributed to them, to honor the birth of Our Lord Jesus. St. Francis was not only no vegetarian, but also he was in favor of a moderate consumption of meat. St. Francis was very human, because he was a Saint; sanctity renders man truly man, and does not prohibit him from eating what God has created for his use. He had no problems to deal with concerning the use of lower creatures, but he had a limpid, luminous, lucid mind, about the difference that exists between man and the creatures which are inferior to him, and at the same time he had a heart full of love toward all God’s creatures.

EIR: The animalists are carrying out a ferocious campaign against animal experimentation conducted in medical laboratories at research centers. One rock singer, Grace Slick, has proposed that criminals condemned to death should replace the animals. What do you think of that?

Iammarrone: That proposal is absurd. The individual condemned to death is still a human person, who must always be respected as such. He cannot be treated like a beast, or otherwise we would have the degradation of the dignity of the human person. Personally, I am against the death penalty, since there are so many other methods available to man to punish and redeem the guilty.

EIR: They say that man is the cancer of society, an error of evolution.

Iammarrone: That man sometimes commits errors and damages nature, cannot be denied nor should it be approved of, but that he is a freak of nature, this is very false. Man is the only being of this visible universe who is directly and immediately intended by God, because he is the only being who is made in the image and likeness of God, with whom God can speak and have a dialogue. God cannot have a dialogue with any being that lacks reason and free will, because no being of that sort is capable of knowing and loving him. Hence the universe was created precisely in

relation to man, given that God cannot have a direct relationship with the universe in the sense explained above. The existence of the universe makes no sense without man, because man is the being capable of worshiping and thanking God in the name of all the beings which lack reason. We can understand how the three Jewish children in the fiery furnace of Babylon could express themselves in that wonderful hymn of benediction to God, to which they invited all creatures. St. Francis expressed in his Canticle of Brother Sun the same invitation to the creatures that all should praise God. It is man who is capable of speaking with God and thanking him, also in the name of the other creatures, who are incapable of knowing him, praising him, and loving him. So man is not some freak, he is rather the proximate end of visible nature, through whom nature is brought back to God. Man therefore does not ultimately live for himself. He participates in the absoluteness of God, and this is his real grandeur and dignity, which sets him above all creatures who lack reason and free will.

EIR: The evolutionists assert that the natural world is determined by the law of natural selection, realized, according to the malthusian theorem, by the geometric growth of population and the arithmetic growth of production. In their view, the strongest resist and the weakest succumb. For this reason they are in favor of abortion, euthanasia, and even eugenics laws.

Iammarrone: If man surpasses in grandeur and dignity all the creatures of the sensible material universe, his existence can never be subordinated to the activities and the existence of beings which are lower than him. Man is a being who exists in himself and for himself, who is capable of directing himself by divine grace, through the mediation of his conscious and free activity to the achievement of the ultimate goal which is God himself, seen and loved directly in his essence. It follows that his dignity must be respected in every case, without any exception. Laws cannot be permitted that may violate his freedom and dignity and his fundamental right to life.

EIR: Radical ecologists say that they are going back to religious phenomena similar to pre-Christian pantheistic worship; they say they worship Mother Earth.

Iammarrone: I maintain that in some pre-Christian religions, even if the worship of Mother Earth existed, they never went as far as the statements made by the modern ecologists. Because in antiquity, the adoration of nature and certain natural forces was in many cases a means by which certain primitive communities were trying to represent the Creator to themselves. In other words, even if certain men believed in polytheism, if you study the phenomenon more in depth, not all of them denied the existence of the divinity.

They worshiped the natural forces as representative of

a transcendent divinity. In various primitive peoples, the symbols used were taken from their observation of the phenomena of the universe, such as the sun, moon, night, day. But they did not identify the natural phenomenon with God; rather they considered it as an expression of God.

Differently from the modern animal rights types, like Gaia's followers who worship nature and its phenomena, using them to replace the real divinity. Pagan polytheism is surely a degraded expression of the divinity, but it did not interpret natural forces by identifying them with true divinity. In truth, man is made of soul and body, which are reconciled with the mystery of the incarnation: According to the Christian dogma, the Son of God became man and made himself available to man to share his true divine nature. The aberrations of the animalists find no justification after 20 centuries of Christianity. I believe that the negation of man by certain fringes of the environmentalists is purely an instrument with an anti-Christian function.

There can be no divinization of matter. The absolute cannot be matter, because the absolute is infinitely perfect reality, independent of any other reality whatsoever. The absolute is infinite, conscious, free reality, which knows that it exists, and is the beginning and end of everything. Matter does not know that it exists, and therefore it is impossible to identify it with a maximally personal reality. It is a contradiction.

How can matter be the absolute if it has no self-consciousness, and is in no way free and the master of its activity? Being in all its parts or elements and totally in itself, matter cannot rise to the role of Absolute reality.

EIR: Hence this negation of man is an instrument of the negation of God?

Iammarrone: It is evident, that by denying God, one denies also man in his value and dignity. Denying the existence of man as a free and rational being, it is then easy to reduce everything to matter. If we scrutinize the structure of matter, the structure of the laws of animated beings, we observe an order which is so wise, so efficient, so wonderful, that it surely cannot derive from pure matter, because that is unconscious. Also the evolutionist theory, by setting God aside, cannot subsist. Matter does not develop by itself, it has no metaphysical justification in itself. Matter is the lowest degree of reality; it cannot be the highest.

If we grant evolution within certain limits, it presupposes the existence of the Creator anyway. A reality which evolves, which changes, cannot exist by itself. On the other hand, man's existence is important to transform the material world. If he had not existed, the earth would be thrown into a wild and disordered state. It was man who transformed the inhospitable forests, desert zones, swampy lands into habitable lands. Man humanized nature, and he must continue in his work of transformation of matter initiated by the Creator.

Research on animals helps man *and* animals

Dr. John Strandberg, Ph.D., is a veterinarian and a veterinary pathologist at Johns Hopkins Medical Center where he directs the division of comparative medicine, which is responsible for the laboratory animal program. He is on the School of Medicine's faculty in the Departments of Pathology and Comparative Medicine. He first came to Johns Hopkins in 1967. He received his training in veterinary medicine and pathology at Cornell Veterinary School, and is participating in several research projects which involve animals. He spoke with EIR's Katherine Notley on Jan. 9.

EIR: You give lectures countering the animal rights arguments against using animals for medical research, especially to high school students.

Dr. Strandberg: I can give another side to the issue, I guess. I'm probably doing less than I'd like to, or less than I think is necessary. It's an important thing to do, because, certainly the anti-vivisectionists have been very active in getting their materials out to both the primary and secondary school levels, and we see it in what's going on, as far as kids' behavior and attitudes, when things come up on television, or at science fairs. . . .

EIR: You mentioned that you are involved in medical research using animals. Can you discuss the benefits of this research? What you're looking for?

Dr. Strandberg: Yes. One of the biggest ones that's been going on for a long time involves BPH, which is benign prostatic hyperplasia, and we're looking at this disease in dogs—which is a naturally occurring disease in dogs. It's very common; it occurs in almost all old, male dogs, and it occurs also in almost all old, male humans, and causes a fairly significant degree of discomfort and clinical disease. A lot of older men have a variety of types of surgery because of this condition, because it obstructs the urinary flow.

The dog is the only animal that naturally develops this disease. We've been studying both the naturally occurring disease in dogs and induced conditions in dogs, in trying to better understand how this disease develops; and once we know how that takes place, then we can know better how to come up with appropriate treatments—both in people and in dogs.

Another major group that I've been working with is a group in interventional radiology. These are the people who

go around using x-rays: Through the use of x-rays, they are able to insert catheters and different sorts of devices into the vascular system, and thus, to obstruct vessels that are leading to tumors, for instance, and cut off a blood flow to a tumor to make it operable, so it doesn't bleed when the surgeon tries to take it out. Or to fill in some of the areas where you may have a cerebral hemorrhage or an aneurysm, where a vessel abnormally dilates; and to put something into this to stop the bleeding, or to stop this dilated vessel which can be in inoperable sites, such as in the brain.

They can also cut off the blood supply to certain portions of organs, so that, if there's an abnormal process going on in there, that part of the tissue will have its blood supply cut off, and thus, will die. And they can either leave it there and it can be resorbed, or they can take it out with much less clinical problem. So it's using non-surgical techniques to do things that, before, could only be done surgically—or couldn't be done at all.

And that's being done using a variety of types of animals—most of them have been pigs, actually—and then very shortly thereafter, those same techniques are often employed in people, and there have been some really resounding clinical successes from that.

EIR: In the college programs where you're discussing why animal research is necessary: First of all, what kind of response do you get before you go in; and secondly, how do you turn a situation around, to the extent you do find hostility toward animal research?

Dr. Strandberg: It's extremely variable. Most of the people that we encounter, are people in science courses. People in science courses, for the most part, tend to be somewhat knowledgeable about scientific method and are fairly receptive to the idea that animals play a vital role in biomedical research. I think we don't run into so much problem in the classroom, because the students who aren't there are the people who study humanities and have little idea how the scientific process operates, and react on a much more emotional basis to the thought that somebody might be using a pet, which they envision as being their own dog or cat, because that's what the anti-vivisectionists tend to portray when they talk about animals in research.

So I think just explaining to people several things: one is, what types of animals are used in research—the fact that it's mostly rodents; and second, what sorts of controls there are, and what sorts of guidelines govern the conduct of biomedical research. Just education is very important in overcoming the concerns that people have. A lot of people have no idea that there are institutional review committees, and both laws and regulations which very strictly govern the use of animals in research. And once they are aware that these things are there, and that they're really quite rigid and strenuous, their objections tend to get much more restricted. They often will still say, "Of course, I wouldn't want my pet used

in research.” And in fact, most people don’t want their pets used in research. They view their pets as members of the family. It’s a great distortion of the truth to say that pets are used in animal research.

EIR: Can you discuss what benefits or research are now ongoing with respect to AIDS, in which animal research has played a part?

Dr. Strandberg: Of course, the AIDS virus does not cause disease in any animal other than man. Chimpanzees can be infected with the virus, but they don’t apparently get the disease; and researchers have introduced the specific AIDS virus into mice, through transgenic techniques. But there are other types of very closely related viruses that occur in animals: There are the simian viruses, which are very much like AIDS but are not the same virus. There are some viruses of sheep and goats which have been studied, and in fact, are being studied here—have been for a long time. There are also similar diseases in cats and in horses. These diseases are of interest in that the cells that seem to be attacked by the virus, seem to be similar—certainly in the sheep and goat diseases—as they are in people. These are the macrophages, a specific category of white blood cells. What is interesting, and what people are trying to understand better, I think, is, first of all, how these viruses replicate; and many of the ways to recognize these viruses were developed using some of these earlier animal agents, so they were able to build on the basic virology that was already there for the sheep and goat viruses. I think that allowed them a leg up on the whole situation. They could learn, from those advances, the different culture techniques that were useful.

Insofar as vaccine development goes, there has not been a good vaccine for most of these animal diseases, but I think some of the experiences there may be helpful too. I would say, probably the most that has helped, we could say right now, were the basic virology advances that were made, using these animal agents first. Vaccine testing is probably going to be the next step where animal use will be playing an important role.

EIR: Would you like to say anything else to the general public?

Dr. Strandberg: The general public, I think, doesn’t really appreciate how important animal research is, not only for human diseases, but for animal diseases. The people who are concerned about their pets are dependent in very, very many ways on animal-based research for development of vaccines, development of antibiotics, determination of proper nutrition, all these things that people rely on to keep their pets and their farm animals healthy. There’s very little money to support work for diseases on animals—especially pet animals—so it is, sort of, parasitic on the work that is done for people. I think the folks that are out there campaigning, don’t realize that they’re hurting some of the same animals they’re trying to help.

Documentation

Who will die from animal rights crusade?

Frederick K. Goodwin, M.D., administrator of the U.S. Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) since July 1988, has become an outspoken proponent of the importance of animals in biomedical research. In an interview published by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) in its monthly journal Public Affairs (November and December 1989), he argued that the time has come for a more aggressive approach by scientists, to combat the irrational animal rights movement. Here is an excerpt from his interview:

Our genuine concern for animal welfare has prompted the scientific community to take a reactive posture at times. We offer concessions and emphasize a willingness to go beyond what we as scientists feel we should go (that is, regarding regulations or alternatives to animals) to show good faith. This may seem to make short-term tactical sense, but it’s a loser in the long run. We shouldn’t confuse appropriate tactical concessions or adjustments with the fact that we are pitted against people who do not want any animals used in research, period, regardless of the importance of the research to human life and health.

We’ve made as much progress as I think can be made in placating so-called moderates: people who are concerned with animal welfare. Unless we recognize the fundamental orientation of the “stop research” component of what is essentially an anti-intellectual, anti-scientific movement, we are deceiving ourselves and confusing the public.

Benefits of animal research

Dr. Goodwin points out that animal rights activists have targeted the research that comes under the rubric of the ADAMHA more than general health research; in doing so, they are cynically exploiting the stigmatization of people who are mentally ill or suffering addictive disorders.

In a fact sheet which we excerpt here, the ADAMHA documents the indispensable role of animals in its research to save human lives and alleviate suffering.

. . . ADAMHA staff and grantee scientists undertake research using animals on health problems that are not yet fully understood, such as schizophrenia, severe depression, Alzheimer’s disease, alcohol and drug addiction.

Significant contributions from animal research can be seen in the progress made against many of these disorders. . . .

- **Depression:** Almost everything known about the neu-

robiology of depressive illnesses has been derived from animal studies. For example, insights on the neurobiological processes involved in bereavement, seasonal, and pharmacological responses have been gained from animal research. As a result of this research in animals and in humans, more than 80% of the individuals with severe and devastating depression can now be successfully treated.

- **Schizophrenia:** Many advances in understanding of how chemicals known as neurotransmitters work in the brain have resulted from animal studies. This progress has made possible, for instance, the development of new anti-psychotic drugs for treatment of schizophrenia, which has resulted in a fivefold decrease in patients with this disease who need chronic hospitalization. In addition to the human suffering involved, schizophrenia costs society between \$20 and \$48 billion each year. New understanding of the mechanisms of action of these drugs through animal research has led to improved drugs which have increased anti-psychotic actions with less side effects than earlier medications. . . .

- Animal research has also provided new hope for progress against **Alzheimer's disease**. Animal studies have shown that memory is not destroyed in this disorder; rather, access to memory becomes impaired. Researchers are now studying animal models of Alzheimer's disease further: to understand more about cognitive impairments; to identify areas of the brain involved; and to develop effective treatments for reversing or preventing this debilitating and degenerative illness. . . .

- **Development of PET brain scanning techniques:** One of the most exciting developments in neuroscience today is development of Positron Emission Tomography (PET), a diagnostic tool of immense value which allows direct visualization of metabolic activity inside the brain. The basic re-

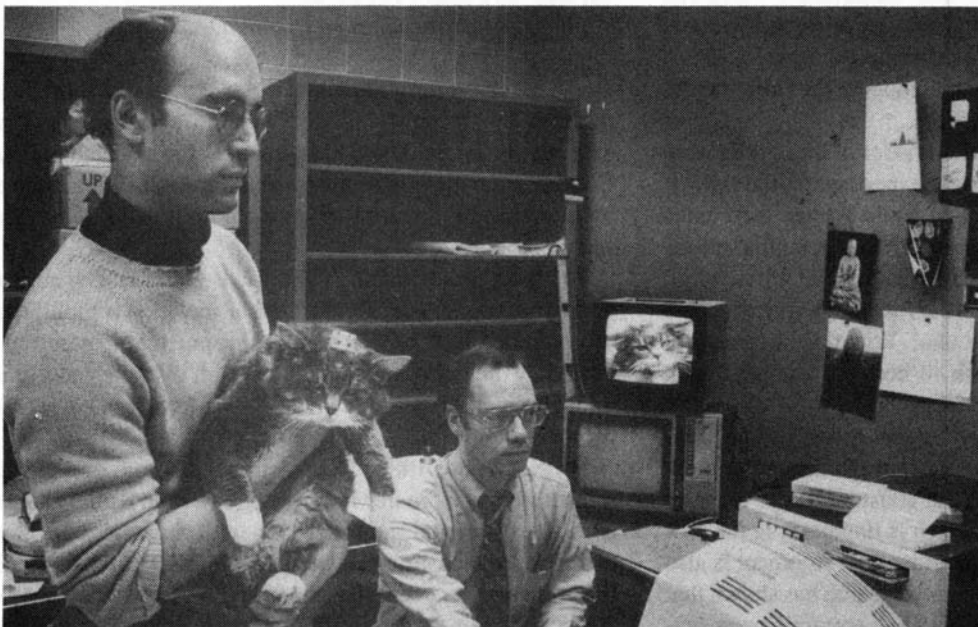
search which made PET possible came from a long series of animal studies directed at perfecting another method of studying brain metabolism, the "2-deoxyglucose method." Once the "metabolic maps" were worked out in animals, it became possible to pursue development of this technique for use in human PET studies. . . .

- **Psychoimmunology:** Animal researchers are examining the effects of stress on antibody and white blood cell production, and how the immune system may minimize these effects. Other experiments are to identify and locate those chemicals in the body that appear to influence the immune response. Such research, which cannot be conducted without using an animal model, may have important consequences for AIDS, the fatal disease that is America's foremost health problem.

Drug abuse

- Animal research has . . . helped elucidate what happens in **cocaine addiction**. Studies in rats identified the region of the brain where the rewarding or pleasurable effects of cocaine occur. This led to understanding that repeated use of some drugs is due to their reward-producing effects, rather than the avoidance of painful withdrawal symptoms. A decade ago, cocaine was not considered dangerous because it was not thought to be addictive—it did not produce withdrawal symptoms like those of heroin or barbiturates. The apparently non-addictive nature of cocaine helped make it socially acceptable and its use became widespread, with terrible consequences both to individuals and for the nation. . . .

- Before certain classes of drugs can be marketed, they must be tested for their potential to be abused or cause addiction. . . . Animals are required for determining the potential for addiction to a drug. Thus, animals help protect people from unwitting exposure to potentially addictive drugs, sav-



A New York biomedical research laboratory studies the feline brain's visual mapping, one of the vital medical research efforts using animals that the animal rights crazies are out to destroy.

Carlos de Hoyos

ing countless lives and avoiding needless misery. . . .

Alcohol abuse and alcoholism

● **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome:** Perhaps the most heart-breaking damage inflicted by alcohol consumption is on the fetus, which is at the mercy of a mother's alcohol intake. Although the possible connection between a mother's alcohol use and damage to the fetus had long been suspected, it was unclear whether alcohol or confounding factors, such as nutrition, overall health, other drug use, or life style was responsible until animal research showed convincingly that alcohol was a teratogen, a substance capable of causing birth defects. Establishing in animal studies that alcohol intake causes fetal damage led to acceptance by the medical community and the public at large of the risks involved in drinking during pregnancy. Currently, further animal research is seeking to understand how alcohol exerts its damaging effects, so that FAS can be prevented in infants.

● **Organ damage:** The liver is responsible for metabolism of alcohol and is a prime target for alcohol-induced tissue damage. Alcoholic cirrhosis is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States. For many years it was believed that liver damage was the result of malnutrition in alcoholics and not due to alcohol itself; this theory was disproved in animal experiments, using baboons, which were fed adequate diets that were also high in alcohol content. The demonstrations of the liver damage in these animals under the controlled condition of the laboratory provided clear evidence that alcohol was responsible. This animal model is now being used to test new therapies to prevent alcoholic liver damage. . . .

● **Alcohol's effect on the brain:** Much of what we know about the acute effects of alcohol on the brain has been learned from animal research. Molecular studies show that ethanol disrupts the integrity of cell membranes, which can disrupt their ordered functioning. Studies of alcohol's direct effect on brain cells show that it decreased neuronal activity. Ethanol is particularly effective in reducing the firing rate of the Purkinje cells on the cerebellum.

Because the functional characteristics of these cells were well known from previous animal experiments, the knowledge needed to develop drugs that could protect these cells from ethanol damage can be developed. Other, similar observations from animal studies are now laying the groundwork for developing therapies to block the rewarding sensation and the depression brought on by alcohol. With this information, difficult and expensive research in humans is made much more productive.

Recently, an important discovery related to alcohol's action on the brain was demonstrated through research on experimental animals. This research illustrated that a major brain neurotransmitter system which is important in the process of learning, memory, and neuronal development is also involved in alcohol toxicity. Animal research has shown that a special receptor system called NMDA receptor is very sen-

Augustine on the difference between man and beast

During his lifetime (354-430 A.D.), St. Augustine battled fiercely against the pagan beliefs and cultural outlook which had utterly destroyed Roman civilization, and sought to establish the Christian concept of man as the living image of God, by virtue of man's creative reason. While no outright animal rights movement existed in his time, Augustine struck at the core belief structure of today's movement: the belief that everything created by God is divine, and the resulting irrational insistence that there exists no higher principle according to which the separate parts of God's creation are ordered. Augustine further points out that those who deny such a divine ordering, necessarily substitute some other, inferior ordering principle to guide their sinful practice.

From City of God, Book IV, Chapter 12:

. . . let us note carefully that if God is the Soul of the World, and the world is to him as the body of the soul, if

sitive to alcohol effects. The sensitivity of NMDA receptors to alcohol could be the basis for explaining blackouts due to alcohol as well as alcohol withdrawal seizures.

Effects of 'animal rights' agenda on biomedical research

From a fact sheet issued by the ADAMHA:

. . . A common tactic of animal rights groups is to discourage research by "critiques" of the work in progress, claiming expertise in the field, and then claiming the research useless. Congress, funding institutions, and the media are inundated by monumental amounts of letters asking them that the research be stopped.

● A recent example is the 1990 Defense Department appropriations bill (H.R. 3072) that included a prohibition on continued funding of a bone replacement graft study conducted by the Letterman Army Research Institute and a brain injury project at Louisiana State University after such activist campaigns.

● November 1988, Dr. Michiko Okamoto and the administrators at Cornell Medical College were harassed unrelentingly by animal rights activists until she returned a grant to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) which would have allowed her to continue her important research on barbiturate addiction in cats—after 14 years of federal funding.

this God is, as it were, in the bosom of nature and contains all things in himself, so that from his soul, which gives life to the whole of that mass, the life and soul of all living things is derived . . . then nothing at all remains which is not a part of God. Can anyone fail to see the blasphemous and irreligious consequences? Anything which anyone treads underfoot would be a part of God! In the killing of any living creature, a part of God would be slaughtered! I shrink from uttering all the possibilities which come to mind; it would be impossible to mention them without shame.

From City of God, Book XI, Chapter 16:

Now among those things which exist in any mode of being, and are distinct from God who made them, living things are ranked above inanimate objects; those which have the power of reproduction, or even the urge towards it, are superior to those who lack that impulse. Among living things, the sentient rank above the insensitive, and animals above trees. Among the sentient, the intelligent take precedence over the unthinking—men over cattle. Among the intelligent, immortal beings are higher than mortals, angels being higher than men.

This is the scale according to the order of nature; but there is another gradation which employs utility as the criterion of value. On this other scale we would put some inanimate things above some creatures of sense—so much so that if we had the power, we should be ready to remove these creatures from the world of nature, whether in ignorance of the place they occupy in it, or, through knowing that, still subordinating them to our own convenience. For instance, would not anyone prefer to have food in his house, rather than mice, or money rather than fleas? There is nothing surprising in this; for we find the same criterion operating in the value we place on human beings, for all the undoubted worth of a human creature. A higher price is often paid for a horse than for a slave, for a jewel than for a maidservant.

Thus there is a very wide difference between a rational consideration, in its free judgment, and the constraint of need, or the attraction of desire. Rational consideration decides on the position of each thing in the scale of importance, on its own merits, whereas need only things of its own interests. Reason looks for the truth as it is revealed to enlightened intelligence; desire has an eye for what allures by the promise of sensual enjoyment.

The loss of this study is all the more critical given our nation's tremendous drug problem. Research on addiction is one of the chief priorities of NIDA and Dr. William J. Bennett, [then] director of the National Office of Drug Control Policy, has called research involving animals an "indispensable part" of the nation's campaign to combat drug addiction.

- At a head injury lab in Cincinnati, a researcher under extreme pressure from animal rights activists decided to discontinue her work studying traumatic head injury in feline models. (Approximately 80,000 Americans are permanently disabled by head injury every year; thousands more die.) The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), which launched the campaign against the researcher, claimed credit for her decision not to apply for a renewal of her grant.

- Dr. William Dement, director of the Stanford Sleep Disorder Research Center, recently presented a chilling example of what has been lost, in time and in progress, due directly to the animal rights agenda. Hit by a car, Dement's daughter experienced damage to her brain, causing coma. The Dements were told that it was unlikely that their daughter would survive. However, the controversies in use of animals in the study of brain and head trauma have made research of condition, similar to his daughter's, extremely difficult. In his presentation, as reported in the *Stanford Daily*, Dement describes one current study that aims to develop a safe and effective medication that will block lipid peroxidation and

stop progressive damage to the nervous system after injury. There once were many animal models being studied, but according to Dement, since 1984 head injury research using large animals such as primates has ceased to exist in the United States. "Maybe three years were lost in the course of all this," Dement said. . . .

- Break-ins, vandalism, arson and theft not only affect the researcher and important studies, much of it federally funded, but also pose a significant public health risk. In August 1987, the USDA Animal Parasitology Institute in Beltsville [Maryland] was raided by a group calling itself the Band of Mercy. Seven pigs and 27 cats were stolen and resulted in halted research. Each of the cats was infected with the deadly parasitic disease toxoplasmosis, which, when pregnant mothers are exposed, causes birth defects such as blindness and mental retardation in the unborn infants. . . .

- Animal activists have targeted the "next generation of biomedical scientists" through anti-science literature, inflammatory statements, and misleading information directed at schoolchildren, college students, and health professions majors, that include the message that animals are not needed for research and that all animal research is cruel. The possibility is very real that through the misguided efforts of animal rights activists, we will see a whole generation unwilling to engage in the critical health research that depends upon the use of animals.

Gulf war buildup feeds Stalinist turn in Moscow

by Konstantin George

Should President Bush cross the point of no return and launch war in the Persian Gulf after Jan. 15, much more than blood in the Middle East will be on his hands. The Bush administration's total fixation on the Gulf has caused it to ignore the fatal consequences of its policy on developments in the Soviet Union. Our recent issues have documented the coming to power in the U.S.S.R. of a new "post-Bolshevik presidential dictatorship" run by a power triad of the Army, KGB, and Russian political, ecclesiastical, and cultural elite. This triad is now on a confrontation course against the independence-seeking non-Russian republics. This offensive will continue and expand, regardless of what happens in the Gulf.

However, for the very reason that the Russian Empire is struggling to break out of its internal crisis, for Moscow the outcome of the Gulf crisis has assumed an extraordinary dual importance, not only internationally, but domestically as well. A war in the Gulf would remove whatever constraints remain in Moscow against using bloody repression on a large scale against the republics. Moscow would prefer to contain the empire's dissolution process through a phased escalation of intimidation, confrontation, and divide-and-conquer games against the republics, but to avoid crossing the line to mass bloodshed, which would have incalculable and uncontrollable consequences. The very "quick suppression" that might "work" in one place, say in Latvia, could trigger a lengthy armed insurrection in, say, the Transcaucasus or Central Asia.

In short, bloody repression may unleash the very chaos and civil war conditions that the Kremlin wishes to avoid

at all costs. These life-and-death internal considerations are dictating Moscow's stand against a war in the Gulf, which is becoming more and more adamant as the Jan. 15 deadline approaches.

EIR has insisted, contrary to the foolish delusions in Washington, that this would happen: that the Soviet Union would not accept the Anglo-American plan for a Gulf war, and that war would accelerate the neo-Stalinist turn which was under way. Quite possibly, this would lead to World War III. In our Sept. 14, 1990 issue, for example, we wrote that "the arrogant U.S. deployment, staged under the pretense that 'we are the only power,' threatens Soviet strategic interests. Whether the Establishment realizes it or not, the first casualty of their 'flight forward' in the Gulf has been the Anglo-American-Soviet condominium." In our Sept. 21, 1990 issue, we published an analysis by Lyndon LaRouche, who underlined that the Sept. 9 Bush-Gorbachov summit in Helsinki had utterly failed to yield Soviet backing for the U.S. Gulf deployment. "Therefore," LaRouche said, "the condominium, for which Bush and his predecessor Reagan had worked so hard, under Henry Kissinger's direction, fell apart at George's feet, during that televised/radio broadcast press conference in Helsinki."

Baltic republics under the gun

We now turn our attention to the confrontation against the Baltic and other republics.

EIR has been the journal of record, calling the shots, in advance, of Moscow's offensive against the republics. In our issue of Dec. 21, 1990, for example, we wrote: "The

Soviet leadership, in an agreement worked out between President Gorbachov, the Army, and KGB, is preparing a potentially bloody confrontation against the three Baltic republics and Ukraine. The confrontation is expected to peak in January, timed with the Gulf crisis coming to a head." January has now arrived.

On Jan. 7, Moscow made two singular moves which marked the ignition of the confrontation.

First, Moscow began a large redeployment of elite airborne forces into the Baltic republics, Moldavia, western Ukraine, and the Transcaucasian republics of Georgia and Armenia, in tandem with the dispatch of elite units of the U.S.S.R. Interior Troops into the Baltic republics and the Georgian region of South Ossetia, along Georgia's border with the Russian Federation. The redeployment, involving up to three airborne divisions, was ordered in a decree signed by Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov.

The pretext given publicly for this move—to round up the many thousands of draft evaders in these republics—was for the most part a cover story for the much larger motives behind the redeployment. Moscow indeed intends to round up and make examples of the draft evaders. But beyond that, the true purpose of the redeployment is to have enough elite units in place for armed suppression of the independence forces and governments in the Baltic states, Ukraine, Georgia, and Armenia, while simultaneously, with a very nervous eye on the fast approaching Gulf showdown, effecting an additional buildup of elite troops in the strategically crucial Transcaucasian region, bordering on Turkey and the Middle East.

Within hours of this redeployment decree, the Soviet military's second move occurred. Its military delivered an ultimatum to the three Baltic republics to submit to the command of the Baltic Military District a detailed list of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian draft evaders by Jan. 13 in Latvia, and Jan. 15 in Estonia and Lithuania, or else the Red Army would begin using force to seize and arrest draft evaders and "deserters." The ultimatum was issued by Gen. Col. Fyodor Kuzmin, commander of the Baltic Military District, from his headquarters in the Latvian capital of Riga, by telephone to the leaders of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania. According to Baltic leaders, Kuzmin stressed that his orders had come directly from President Gorbachov.

Immediately afterward, the situation in the Baltic republics began exploding, as Moscow activated both the forces it controls among the Russian and other non-Baltic ethnic minorities in the Baltic republics, and the Muscovite "Trojan Horse" component of the Baltic governments, to launch political destabilizations.

On Jan. 8, a well-organized mob of 5,000 ethnic Russians and Poles, mostly brought in by bus to the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, stormed the parliament building of independent Lithuania. The pretext for the assault had been pro-

vided by the government of Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene, herself a former Communist Party member and head of a government filled with Moscow agents. The government—behind the backs of President Vytautas Landsbergis and the pro-Landsbergis majority in the parliament—had declared an unlimited price hike on all basic necessities, a move which drove the price of food and other consumer basics up by a staggering 500% overnight, in a replica of the radical free market policy which is destroying neighboring Poland.

The Moscow-staged protest and storming of the parliament was perfectly timed with the arrival of fresh Soviet troops in Lithuania. Soon before the crowd arrived at the parliament building, a convoy of over 100 Soviet Army vehicles had passed through the center of Vilnius, en route to a nearby military camp. On the same day, from eyewitness Lithuanian accounts, 20 Soviet tanks and 15 vehicles carrying troops crossed from Belorussia into Lithuania.

The immediate political destabilization was defused when Prime Minister Prunskiene resigned, and then President Landsbergis appeared at a window of the parliament and announced to the crowd that the price increases had been revoked.

More trouble, and much worse, can be expected in the Baltic well before January ends.

'Restoring order' in Georgia

Only one main thrust of Moscow's offensive against the republics is directed against the Baltic. The other thrust is against the strategically located republic of Georgia, whose importance becomes greater in light of the Gulf showdown. Timed with the Defense Ministry decree on the redeployment of airborne forces, President Gorbachov issued a decree on Jan. 7 to "restore order" in the Georgian region of South Ossetia. The region gets its name from the Ossetians, a Muslim mountain tribe that resides in the Georgian "autonomous republic" of South Ossetia (with an Ossetian population of 98,000), and in neighboring North Ossetia, an "autonomous republic" of the Russian Federation.

The Ossetian story is a case study in how Moscow has manipulated tribal minorities as against independence-seeking non-Russian republics, in the classical imperial mode of "divide and conquer." In South Ossetia, an Ossetian movement has been active, spawned by Moscow with the demand that South Ossetia leave Georgia and join the Russian Federation. Leaders of this movement were guests of honor at a mid-December Moscow officers' club event, which was addressed by Colonels Viktor Alksnis and Nikolai Petrushenko, the two military leaders of the powerful "save the empire, law and order" Armed Forces lobbying group, the Soyuz group of deputies in the U.S.S.R. Congress of People's Deputies, and by Dmitri Vasilyev, leader of the Russian fascist movement, Pamyat.

The Gorbachov decree, ordering "all armed groups" out

of South Ossetia, except for U.S.S.R. Interior Troops and Army, and establishing the region as a military "special zone" under Soviet military rule, is a precedent-setting step short of annexing to Russia a piece of another republic's territory, as blackmail and punishment for that republic striving for independence. What is today being employed against Georgia in South Ossetia can tomorrow be employed against any of the Baltic republics, Moldavia, or Ukraine. Beyond that, the main "armed group" which now has an ultimatum to leave South Ossetia are the 3,000-4,000 Georgian Interior Ministry forces sent in to prevent secession. Should they refuse to leave, and especially if war erupts in the Gulf, a very bloody battle between the Red Army and Georgian forces is all but definite before January has ended.

Tougher stance to forestall war

As the mid-January deadline nears for the combined explosion in the Gulf and in the decisive internal Soviet crisis, a much tougher Soviet public stance against the U.S. Gulf policy has emerged, as Moscow, acting in its own strategic interest, pulls out all the stops to halt the Gulf conflagration. As rumblings from Soviet military spokesmen suggest, it is by no means assured that, if war breaks out, the U.S.S.R. will fight on the side of the Anglo-Americans—more likely the opposite.

The first sign of a stiffening in the Soviet public stance was signaled in an article published in the Jan. 3 issue of *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, the daily of the Russian Communist Party, the paper that on Dec. 22 had printed the "Letter of the 53," signed by leading figures from the Army, Russian Orthodox Church, and Russian political and cultural elites, calling for Gorbachov to declare a "state of emergency" and crack down on the republics.

The article was titled "Hiroshima in Mesopotamia," the first of its kind in the Soviet media, warning of the "possible use by the U.S.A. of nuclear weapons" against Iraq. The article stressed that the "possibility of using nuclear weapons" is being "openly discussed" in the United States, as well as trying out "other types of super-modern weapons." The article concluded by saying that "it is the duty of the Soviet public to protest" such American plans to use nuclear weapons. Leading Soviet experts have pointed to this article as the first key sign of a much tougher position in Moscow.

That did not take long in coming. On Jan. 8, the Soviet Union broke its condominium "pact of silence" with Washington and made public in a strong governmental protest the U.S. Navy boarding and search of two Soviet merchant ships in the Red Sea, where the latest of the incidents, involving the ship *Dmitri Furmanov*, had occurred on Jan. 4. The protest was issued by the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and was distributed by the Foreign Ministry.

The statement stressed that the boarding party had found

"no undeclared cargo" on board the ship, which was carrying "106 tons of military spare parts and components for delivery to the Kingdom of Jordan under an inter-governmental agreement between the Soviet Union and Jordan." The Soviet statement pointed out that this was the second such incident to occur in the Red Sea. "During the search," it said, "the crew were held for 10 hours in the officers' mess under the guard of Spanish sailors. The inspection was conducted without the participation of the ship's officers. . . . Even though the American side recently acknowledged that its action in relation to the Soviet ship *Nikolai Savitsky* [the first, previously secret, incident] was unjustified, it has made another attempt to cast aspersions on Soviet compliance with U.N. Resolution Number 661. The Soviet side is authorized to state again that neither the cargo on board nor the ship's route violate the resolution, and it regards this incident as action directed against the commercial activities of the Soviet merchant navy."

The next day, *Sovetskaya Rossiya* published an article warning that a Gulf war will create "an explosion that will shake the world." "Hopes for peace are fading," it said, adding that one of the war's most serious consequences would be the destruction of the Kuwaiti oil fields, producing "fires lasting up to one year," and regional environmental damage in which "Iraq will suffer the most."

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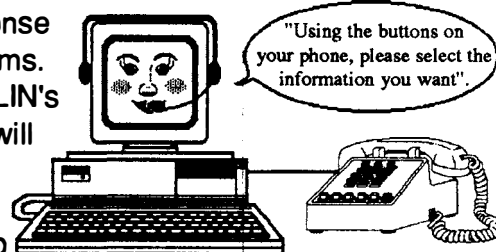
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Can the Pope stop World War III?

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

Following the Baker-Aziz talks in Geneva on Jan. 9, the mood among Europeans, who have lived through two world wars on their territory, rapidly shifted from apprehension to outright fear. The question most frequently asked in the corridors of power, as well as on the streets, is, can war still be avoided? And, if so, by whom? Who, or what institution, has the ability to mobilize public opinion effectively to halt the race toward war?

In the face of attempts on the part of Bonn and Paris to make gestures toward peace, while publicly upholding the war policy of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the Catholic Church seems to have taken up the challenge, and is launching an eleventh-hour mobilization, both on the diplomatic plane and among the broad masses.

The Church's effort is not new. Back in November, the authoritative journal *Civiltà Cattolica* of the Jesuits, aired a peace proposal, and on Christmas Day, the Pontiff spoke out on the Gulf crisis, warning, in his "Urbi et Orbi" message, that "war is an adventure, without any turning back." And, immediately thereafter, outgoing Vatican Secretary of State Agostino Casaroli proposed a diplomatic initiative, for an "international authority (institution or person or group of persons)" to mediate an honorable settlement between Bush and Saddam Hussein. Finally, John Paul II intervened a second time, sending a personal message to the European Community (EC) foreign ministers meeting in Luxembourg on Jan. 4, throwing his support behind any European move for negotiations, because "an armed conflict would surely be disastrous."

None of these moves produced any tangible result, largely due to overwhelming American pressures brought to bear on the press and on those European politicians who might have been the vehicles for a Vatican initiative. James Baker's crude arm-twisting lined up the EC's political leadership behind Washington's war drive, rendering a mooted EC-Iraqi meeting meaningless.

Now, in the wake of Baker's Geneva performance, the Vatican has redoubled its efforts, not only reissuing diplomatic proposals, but identifying the root causes and ultimate responsibility behind the push for war.

The Catholic weekly *Il Sabato* issued a scathing attack in its Jan. 12 editorial against the U.S. administration, holding it responsible for creating an international emergency, in order to establish a permanent presence in the region, to control oil supplies. The journal writes that "even the U.S. observers interpret" the Baker-Aziz talks as a farce, "more as a necessary

prelude to justify an American act of war than a real moment of dialogue." It attributes the failure of Casaroli's diplomacy to the fact that it "did not coincide completely with the line of U.S. foreign policy." Most important, the editorial points out that it is not the "rights of peoples" which have been violated in the crisis, but rather "what Pope Pius XI defined as the 'international imperialism of money.'"

Among the authoritative Church representatives interviewed by the magazine are Giuseppe De Rosa, author of the Jesuit peace proposal; Cardinal Silvio Oddi, a seasoned Vatican diplomat with extensive experience in the Mideast; Archbishop Cardinal Martini of Milan; and Roberto Formigoni, vice president of the European Parliament, and the Christian Democratic politician who led the Italian mission to Baghdad in December. The message which emanates clearly from them all is that a solution does exist, but the United States and Great Britain want war.

De Rosa points up the hypocrisy of the Anglo-American position: "If it had been a question of upholding—as it is said—norms of international ethics and law, there would not have been such a general mobilization." Other invasions, into Tibet, Afghanistan, Panama, Lebanon, as well as Transjordan and Gaza, did not provoke such a mobilization, "and when the U.N. intervened with formal condemnation and demands for withdrawal, its decisions were not respected." Going further back, De Rosa stresses the importance of the historical background, "from the fall of the Ottoman Empire after World War I up to the tormented process of national independence. It can be seen, for example, that among the geopolitical motivations which led Great Britain to grant independence to Kuwait in 1961, was the desire to prevent Iraq's access to the sea."

Cardinal Oddi polemically asks if the "gentlemen" of the war party know anything about the region. "Did they ever think about the creation of Kuwait? What region did Kuwait belong to when the British administered Mesopotamia? What region was it detached from? And why? To what states' advantage? Has Iraq never presented any claims? Have they been examined? Has there been a desire to negotiate to see if something might be changed?"

As for what should be changed, both De Rosa and Formigoni conclude that an equitable settlement must include conceding to Iraq access to the sea and the leasing of the two islands of Bubiyan and Warba.

Can the Vatican effect such a settlement? The Church has ordered a total mobilization, with cardinals calling for mass action, Pax Christi organizing prayer vigils, and priests urging their parishes to petition for peace. Whether the Pontiff himself will attempt a dramatic gesture is an open question, but one further item in *Il Sabato* implies he may. A curious background piece draws on documents from the Vatican's secret archives to show how Pope Pius XII in late August 1939 attempted desperately to prevent Germany's invasion of Poland.

Turkish opposition leaders speak out against war in the Gulf

by Joseph Brewda

Little attention has been paid in the U.S. press to the growing opposition to the Anglo-American brinkmanship in the Persian Gulf, within other nations in the Mideast region, including those nations whose governments officially support that war policy. Turkey, a Muslim but non-Arab nation bordering Iraq, and a member of NATO, has been thrown into crisis as a result of its government's support of the U.S. policy.

EIR interviewed two Turkish leaders who differ with their government's Gulf policy—former Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel, the leader of the True Path party, and Erdal Inonu, the leader of the Social Democratic Populist party, Turkey's largest opposition party. They advocate patience and a continuing effort to find a diplomatic solution to the crisis.

Both Demirel and Inonu are involved in efforts to bring down the current government of Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, leader of the Motherland party. (Former Prime Minister Turgut Özal, now President of Turkey, is the leader of Turkey, many experts say, despite the Constitution's provisions.) Inonu's party holds 82 seats in the 450-member Parliament, while Demirel's party holds 60 seats. Although the ruling Motherland party dominates the Parliament with its 276 seats, the party only won 20% of the seats in nationwide municipal elections held in 1989. Some sources view the party as having become quite weak since the current Parliament was voted into office in 1987. This decline in popularity has dramatically worsened since the war crisis began, these sources say.

According to public opinion polls, most Turks oppose Turkey's participating in the war. Moreover, the government's participation in the embargo against Iraq has ravaged the Turkish economy, since Iraq had been one of Turkey's largest trading partners. Even government spokesmen estimate that the six-month-old embargo has already increased the rate of inflation from 45% to 54%. The embargo has also increased unemployment. On Jan. 3, the Turkish labor federation led a nationwide one-day general strike, the first in 10 years and the largest in its history, triggered in part by the economic effects of the embargo, but also expressing anti-war sentiment within the population.

There is also evidence that many military leaders are opposed to any Gulf adventure. In recent weeks, both the defense minister and military chief of staff resigned, apparently in protest against the war policy, as did the foreign

minister. Part of the reason for the opposition of such leaders, some observers say, is that the Anglo-Americans have been aiding Kurdish separatists in northern Iraq. These separatists have repeatedly been involved in assassinations of Turkish military and civilian personnel across the border in Turkey.

Interview: Suleyman Demirel

'War will not bring good to any country'

Suleyman Demirel is the leader of Turkey's True Path party and has held the post of prime minister of Turkey on three occasions, the latest during 1978-80. The interview was conducted by telephone by Joseph Brewda on Jan. 5.

EIR: Mr. Demirel, over the recent weeks, you have made numerous statements before the Turkish Parliament and to the Turkish press criticizing the policy of the Turkish government in respect to a possible Gulf war. Could you explain your views to an American audience?

Demirel: The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq is an open violation of international law. No one will approve it. But what we want is to find a solution, a peaceful solution, without war. And I think that all political efforts, all diplomatic efforts, should be directed in that direction. You can start war, all right; but what will be the result? No one knows. Many people will be killed and many wrong things will happen. Therefore, we do not want war.

We do not approve of Saddam. He is wrong. He should withdraw from Kuwait, and he should withdraw without conditions. Maybe he will do it—we don't know. But, the crisis was not inevitable, because the people did not think such a thing would happen. The whole world, including Turkey, the United States, the Soviet Union, France, the United Kingdom, did not expect such a thing to develop. But it developed. Now, while the crisis was not inevitable, war should also not

be inevitable. And that's what we are trying to do. Some patience is needed. That's what we are advocating. And I don't think war will bring any good to any country, including the U.S., including Turkey. Saddam will definitely be beaten all right. But how much life will it cost, and what will be the other costs? That's why we oppose the war.

EIR: The Turkish government recently requested that a 5,000-man NATO rapid deployment force be sent to one of its airbases.

Demirel: It wasn't a 5,000-man force; it was a force of 576 men and 42 planes. According to my mind, this is nonsense. There is no threat from Iraq to Turkey. There couldn't be a threat. Maybe they wanted to involve NATO in this Gulf situation. You know, everyone is criticizing this in Turkey right now. You could not eliminate an Iraqi threat, if there were a threat, simply by 42 planes—18 from Italy, 18 from Germany, and 6 from Belgium. For Turkey, this is a shame.

EIR: When U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was in Turkey last September, he requested, or demanded, that a second front be opened up against Iraq. The militarization of the border has now led some people to think that the Turkish government has given in to this pressure.

Demirel: I don't think such a thing will happen, because the Turkish government ignores such rumors. I don't think there will be a second front. The distance from the Turkish border to Kuwait is about 1,000 kilometers, about 700 miles. The struggle is in Kuwait, not around Turkey, or around the Turkish border. It would not help any. For the time being, this is a rumor.

EIR: Shortly after the crisis broke, various British and American think tanks suggested that the United States and Britain support Kurdish separatists in northern Iraq. Around that time, one of the Kurdish separatist leaders, Jalal Talbani, met with various U.S. government officials. Some say that various Western intelligence services have been trying to fan the flames of Kurdish separatism. What does this mean for Turkey, given the large number of Kurdish separatists within Turkey's borders?

Demirel: This policy will irritate Turkey. It will irritate Iran. It will irritate Syria. I don't think that such a policy will help any, and the U.S. would have trouble to keep the coalition going as a result. I don't think it is wise.

EIR: There have been suggestions in the British and American press that Iraq be split up after a war, and that the northern Mosul province revert back to Turkish control, as it had been under the Ottoman Empire. Is this a serious proposal?

Demirel: It's not serious. The United Nations Security Council decision is based on one member of the United Nations being taken over by another member. So while you are pushing the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, I don't think you

could split up Iraq and get a portion of it. Then here again, Iran will oppose it, Syria will oppose it, Saudi Arabia will oppose it, Egypt will oppose it. Even the Soviet Union will oppose it. It won't work.

EIR: It is said that a high percentage of the Turkish population is opposed to the current Gulf policy of the Turkish government. There is a great deal of unrest within the Turkish working population, which resulted in a one-day general strike on Jan. 3. It is reported that you and Mr. Inonu have suggested coming together to try to force new elections and bring down the government. What do you hope to see happen?

Demirel: I hope we will be able to have new elections in 1991, maybe sometime this fall. I don't think it will happen before the fall.

EIR: Over the recent weeks, Turkish Defense Minister Safa Giray and Chief of Staff Gen. Necip Torumtay resigned.

Demirel: They were not happy with the policy being carried out in the Gulf.

EIR: Even within professional military layers, is there opposition to the policy, as not being in the interest of Turkey?

Demirel: Yes.

Interview: Erdal Inonu

'Turkey should take no part in Gulf war'

Erdal Inonu is the leader of the Social Democratic Populist party, the main opposition party in the Turkish Parliament. The interview was conducted by telephone on Jan. 9.

EIR: What is your view of the Turkish government's decision to ally itself with the United States and Britain in a possible war with Iraq? It seems that Turkey's recent request of NATO headquarters to deploy troops and planes to Turkish airbases near Iraq, makes it much more likely that Turkey will be drawn into the war.

Inonu: In our view, Turkey should not take part in a possibly forthcoming war between Iraq and the U.S.A. and Great Britain. Such participation is not compatible with Turkish national interests. We have constantly warned the government to be careful about any move which may draw us into such a confrontation.

EIR: The U.S. government is reportedly considering the dismemberment of Iraq following a war. According to one plan, the Iraqi province of Mosul would be handed over to Turkey, as its reward for working with the Anglo-Americans. Others say that even the talk of dismembering Iraq may gravely threaten Turkey by promoting Kurdish separatism in Turkey and not just Iraq. What is your view?

Inonu: Turkey has no interest in any dismembering of Iraq. We have no claims on any territory outside our present national borders. The only way to achieve permanent peace in the Middle East is to forget all historical border disputes and to declare complete respect for national borders of other countries.

EIR: U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said in September that the Bush administration is considering forming a "new security arrangement" in the region modeled on NATO or on the old CENTO pact. Some Pentagon circles have called for stationing U.S. ground troops, formerly deployed in Western Europe, in Turkey. What do you think of these proposals?

Inonu: For the Middle East, the example to follow is not a new NATO or CENTO, but the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This should be the way for the future of the Middle East as well as of all other regions of our globe.

EIR: You have recently made a trip to Iraq and other states in the Gulf, as well as Syria. What is your assessment of the best way to avoid war in the region?

Inonu: The way to avoid a new war is to push steadfastly for the implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, first for Kuwait and then for the other problem areas; to use diplomatic and economic pressure and to make it clear that the United Nations is interested in establishing a rule of international law valid for all states. There should be no impatience in this endeavor. A rule of law will be accepted in the end by all the states, provided that the U.N. maintains its present unity.

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Israel

Dotan scandal linked to Pollard spy ring

by Jeffrey Steinberg

An American attorney now living in Israel who was a central figure in the Jonathan Jay Pollard affair and other Israeli scientific espionage operations against the United States, has been indicted in Israel for his role in a multimillion-dollar skimming operation led by the Israeli Air Force's chief procurement officer. The attorney, Harold Katz, is one of 12 people indicted along with Brig. Gen. Rami Dotan last November, in what has been described as the biggest corruption scandal in the history of Israel. Former Air Force chief Ezer Weitzman labeled Dotan a "traitor" and described the scandal as more damaging to Israel's Air Force than any attack inflicted by an Arab enemy.

The involvement of Katz in the Dotan affair lends further credence to reports published by *EIR* in December 1990 that General Dotan, now incarcerated, was part of Ariel Sharon and "Dirty Rafi" Eytan's Israeli mafia; and that the Dotan procurement-theft ring was merely one component of a multi-billion-dollar crime scheme to finance a Sharon drive to take control of the Israeli government and launch a new Arab-Israeli war.

Probe of Dotan scandal widens

According to the Dec. 29, 1990 international edition of the *Jerusalem Post*, both American and Israeli authorities are widening the probe into the Dotan scandal. A week later, the *Jerusalem Post* reported that a Montreal, Canada scrap-metal dealer named Willy Rostoker, a longtime associate of Katz, had been recruited into the money-laundering scheme in 1988 and had facilitated the washing of stolen funds through major Canadian banks. Former Mossad officer Victor Ostrovsky, who holds Canadian-Israeli dual citizenship, in his 1990 book *By Way of Deception*, emphasized the importance of Canadian banks and business fronts in Israeli espionage. (See *EIR*, Oct. 19, 1990, "Some ugly truths about the ADL revealed" for a review of Ostrovsky's book.)

If the United States and Israel do proceed with a broader investigation, a useful starting point would be Katz, who represents a critical bridge between the Dotan ring and the broader Israeli espionage and crime structure. *EIR*'s June 3,

1988 issue included an article by Joseph Brewda entitled "The network left behind after Jonathan Jay Pollard's arrest," which provided a detailed profile of Katz and the spy ring which he helped establish within the Pentagon and the American scientific community.

Not surprisingly, the Katz file leads directly back to former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who today sits on the board of the Anglo-American Hollinger Corp., the publishing conglomerate that owns the *Jerusalem Post*, the London *Daily Telegraph*, and other newspapers that have been hawking a Gulf war. Since Hollinger bought the *Jerusalem Post* in 1989, the once-moderate publication has been transformed into a mouthpiece for Israel's would-be Hitler, Ariel Sharon.

Kissinger set up bilateral fronts

In the mid-1970s, Kissinger sponsored the establishment of a string of U.S.-Israeli bilateral research and development fronts, the largest of which, the Binational Science Foundation—set up by treaty in 1973—emerged prominently in the Pollard spy scandal. In 1977, the Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD) and the Binational Agricultural Research and Development Foundation (BARD) were established. The basis for their creation had been laid in 1975 in talks sponsored by Kissinger.

BIRD was ostensibly established to foster joint research and development projects, especially in areas of advanced technology with military applications. As the Pollard affair later proved, BIRD provided a perfect cover for Israeli espionage inside the United States.

The attorney of record for BIRD, according to official documents, is Harold Katz, who became a lawyer for the Israeli Defense Ministry following his departure from the Boston area in the 1970s.

Other BIRD directors include:

- Meir Amit, the former chief of the Mossad;
- Yuval Ne'eman, minister of science and technology in a succession of Likud governments and a key figure in Israeli technical spying;
- Dan Tolkowsky, the former chief of Israel's Air Force and the head of Israel's largest arms exporting firm, Elron-Elbit;
- Rafi Eytan, the former chief of LEKEM (the Foreign Ministry section handling scientific espionage), and controller of the Pollard spy operation;
- Itzhak Ya'akov, the New York City-based alleged head of LEKEM in the United States.

Katz had a hand in the finances for the Pollard spy operation. The Washington, D.C. apartment where Israeli embassy officials copied thousands of pages of classified Pentagon papers pilfered by Pollard was rented in Katz's name. Katz's bank account at the Bank of Boston was the LEKEM slush fund through which Pollard received his payoffs. In 1984, at

the height of the Pollard perfidy, the current governor of Massachusetts, William Weld—then the U.S. Attorney in Boston—intervened to cover up a \$1.6 billion money-laundering operation between the Bank of Boston, *Crédit Suisse*, and other banks. While the majority of the laundered funds was reportedly illegal drug profits, sources told *EIR* at the time that some of the money was being laundered by American and Israeli intelligence networks.

Corrupt U.S. officials

One of the reasons that the probes of the Bank of Boston scandal and the Pollard affair have not yet gone very far, is that a number of top officials of the U.S. Department of Justice are deeply implicated in the corruption. Weld wound up in September 1986 in the powerful post of Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division. In January 1986, shortly after the arrest of Pollard, Arnold Burns was made Deputy Assistant Attorney General. By the summer of 1986, he was Attorney General Edwin Meese's number-two man in the department.

Burns was personally involved in the BIRD operation in collusion with LEKEM paymaster Katz. Just prior to assuming his post in the Meese Department of Justice, Burns had set up 15 illegal offshore tax shelters, all of which purported to be R&D investment portfolios in Israeli research firms. According to a probe by the Department of Justice tax division, the money never went to the alleged research programs, but, rather, remained in Caribbean banks. A total of more than \$40 million in untaxed funds was washed by Burns and his Israel-based law partner Israel Rosen, according to reports issued by then Department of Justice tax division chief Roger Olson.

Burns's offshore tax shelters were set up as part of the treaty agreements which established BIRD. Burns dispensed with the scandal by having Olson bounced from the DoJ. Weld declined to prosecute Burns and Rosen for their roles in the scheme.

Burns's appointment virtually shut down any serious probe of the broader Israeli espionage and money-laundering operations in America. Prior to his move to Washington, Burns had been a director of the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Sterling National Bank, a notorious organized crime and Mossad front.

A serious probe at this time would focus on Katz, Burns, the other BIRD officials, and would search for common threads in such American-Israeli arms procurement scandals as Col. Yair Klein's arming and training of the Colombian Medellín Cartel in collusion with the U.S. State Department and CIA.

While prospects for a serious probe in either Washington or Tel Aviv are remote, such an effort would deliver a potentially fatal blow to Ariel Sharon's mafia and its ADL allies, and might also prove essential in preventing a new Mideast war.

What is controlling the unstable President George Bush?

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

There are certain features of President George Bush's increasingly frantic behavior which must be looked at a second time—a double-take, so to speak. At the beginning, George Bush's administration repeatedly invited or lured Saddam Hussein of Iraq to do his pleasure, more or less, with Kuwait, assuring the President of Iraq that the United States had no interest in Kuwait in this matter.

The most publicized version of several assurances to this effect from the U.S. government to the government of Iraq, is the case of U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie's assurances to Saddam Hussein a few days before the Aug. 2 occupation of Kuwait by Iraqi forces.

The immediate reaction of President Bush to the events of Aug. 2 was a very tempered one—at least in public—and continued to be so until the President met with the now-former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at their Colorado session. The appearance is that Mrs. Thatcher brainwashed President Bush, turned him around, and put him on the course which he has apparently been on, in the main at least, ever since.

But then, there are other peculiarities. As we know, the Iraqis and the Arabs about Aug. 6 were attempting to put together what is called an Arab solution. And, if the United States had followed its traditional pattern of dealing with these matters in concert with the Europeans, it would have allowed what I had suggested occur, the Arab solution: that is, an Arab negotiation with Iraq as a partner, coming up with a package which would then be referred to the attention of the United States and the relevant Europeans, with the idea that in this way a package suitable to all could be put together, a diplomatic package.

But the President, under pressure from Mrs. Thatcher in particular, rejected this, and by Aug. 10, the United States was essentially committed to launching a military assault upon Iraq. That was at least the posture: no compromise, no negotiations, no discussion—simply an ultimatum. And, the ultimatum became increasingly harsh as the United States said we are not satisfied with Saddam Hussein's withdrawal from Kuwait, we want a massive disarmament of Iraq.

Then, in December, following the passage of the U.N. ultimatum resolution, President Bush issued an offer for seri-

ous discussions between the government of Iraq and the government of the United States. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was invited to come to Washington to meet the President; and it was requested that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III be invited to Baghdad to meet with the President of Iraq. All fine. The dates for this proposed set of meetings given by the President were, of course, before the deadline of Jan. 15. Iraq complied, setting a date of Jan. 12 for the meeting with Baker.

Bush capitulates

But meanwhile, the President had received maximum pressure from both London and from the Israelis, and the Israeli lobby, so-called—the so-called Zionist Lobby—in-side the United States.

Under pressure from London and the Israeli or Zionist Lobby, and from the government of Israel itself at the time of the visit of Prime Minister Yitzak Shamir of Israel, Bush capitulated, and concocted pretexts for aborting a series of meetings with Iraqi representatives which he himself had set into motion.

That has been the pattern ever since.

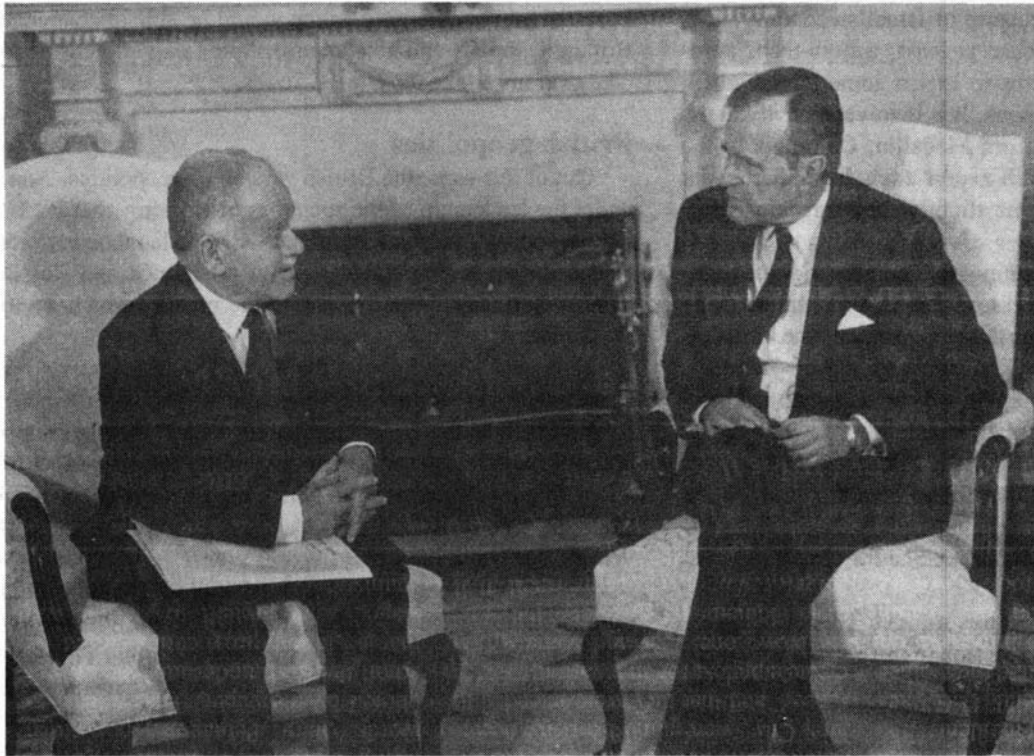
The question has been, repeatedly, whether George Bush is actually initiating the kinds of policies and measures which are radiating from him, or whether he is being pushed into policies associated with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, under pressure from London and Israel. Is George Bush a manipulated puppet of either London or Israel, or both?

In other words, is Israel leading London, or is London controlling Israel?

It's important for various reasons to have a clear picture on this. Otherwise, mistakes will be made, including the danger of an anti-Semitic upsurge in horrified reaction to the kind of war which might erupt if the present course of action continues.

Britain's Venetian Party

One view is that the Israelis are, in effect, controlling London and Washington. Now, it certainly appears that the so-called Zionist Lobby of Edgar Bronfman et al. is control-



Stuart Lewis

President Bush meets with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir at the White House. Is Bush a manipulated puppet of London or Israel, or both?

ling a lot of the Congress, and seems to be controlling the Republican Party—at least from the top, from the Bush administration—whether by reason of blackmail over Mr. Bush’s so-called peccadillos in dealing with the Contra and other related operations, or whatever reason. There may be an element of truth in that, but that certainly is not the deeper, longer historical truth.

Although the U.S. Middle East policy follows the line of a Zionist policy, I suggest an historical fact to back me up, that this policy does not originate with Israel or with Israeli circles as such. Rather, it is a long-standing policy of a faction in Britain long known as the Venetian Party of Britain.

From the end of the 13th century until the middle of the 17th century, the Jews were expelled from Britain, were unlawful in Britain. During the middle of this process—about the middle of the 16th century, a century before Jews were legalized in Britain—what is called a British Israeli faction erupted in such locations as Oxford and Cambridge Universities, where the practice of cabbalism, a Middle Eastern cult which is not Judaic in origin but is simply a heathen cult which was introduced into Judaism from the outside, became highly popular.

This cult of cabbalism, the so-called Oxbridge cabbalist movement, or the British Israelite movement, came to be at the center of the policy of people around Lord Cecil and the famous Francis Bacon and his evil brother. The British Israelite policy has nothing to do with biological or religious Jews as such, at least not in the tradition of Moses and Philo,

but is a cult, a part of a very special feature of British Freemasonry, or British pro-Freemasonic movements shading into outright satanic movements such as those of John Ruskin’s or Aleister Crowley’s circles—Anthroposophists, Theosophists, and so forth.

That is the center of the policy for this Middle East operation. My view is, first of all, on this point, that the utopian policy which the President has been suckered into supporting, the so-called “New World Order,” is a British-origin cult policy, and that the President is essentially a puppet of the Anglo-American circles associated with this British policy. The Jewish element in this is, by and large, particularly as it pertains to Israel, simply a controlled feature, a puppet of the British-centered Anglo-American faction behind these evil, utopian policies which are now controlling the White House.

Changes forced upon Israel

Let’s look at Israel.

With all the things you can say about Israel, which are not nice, prior to 1967, the fact is, about the 1967 war period—before, after, and during—a change occurred in Israel. Israel was put on the track of becoming a post-industrial society—much as the United States and Britain were put on a similar track—under the influence of a group called the Millionaires’ Club, which represents effectively the assets of this British Venetian Party faction to which I referred earlier.

Look at this a little more closely.

What is the present structure of Israel's economy? It is no longer, in a civilian sense at least, a high-tech, agro-industrial economy. It seems to export some things which are high-tech, such as weapons. It is involved heavily in the international drug traffic, from Medellín, Colombia to the Far East; and it may also still export a few legal diamonds, and who knows, maybe some slightly-used foreskins. But, Israel has been transformed.

The kind of transformation—this combination of high-tech in the military area, and low-tech in everything else—reminds one of the cult which developed among the Philadelphia Navy Yard circle of L. Ron Hubbard, Robert Heinlein, et al., during and following World War II. Israel has been transformed into a kooky Robert Heinlein, or L. Sprague de Camp, kind of military agency in the Middle East. And, that is the kind of policy which seems to be advocated by the backers of that faction of Israel, particularly the present government of the Ariel Sharon-Yitzak Shamir crowd in Israel today.

I think it's important to get this straight. There is a danger of a simplistic anti-Semitic reaction to the horrors which are probably about to erupt in the Middle East. It is important to recognize what the issues are.

Back away from the specific issue of the Israeli factor, or the Zionist factor, so-called, the apparent and real: What's the real cause for this deployment in the Middle East? What is the real meaning of the New World Order?

Hanotaux and the industrialization of Eurasia

What very few people are willing to face today—partly because they've been brainwashed into accepting a propagandistic as opposed to real version of history—is the fact that the British, in the main, started World War I, and since World War II is merely a continuation of World War I, are responsible for the world wars of this century.

People will react in a shocked way: "Oh, that's incredible. Who can believe such things?" they will say. But nonetheless, it's true.

The movement for peace and development in the world centered upon France in the early 1890s. It centered around a French diplomatic figure, a bit of a genius, and a courageous figure: Gabriel Hanotaux of France. Hanotaux was linked with people of influence around the world such as Sergei Count Witte, a very influential fellow in Russia; with circles in Japan, which were progressive, and so forth. And, what Hanotaux and his friends were doing, was attempting to liberate China from the horrors of the British domination it was suffering at that time, as part of a general industrialization of Eurasia—that is, the uplifting of the condition of the people of Eurasia. And there were friends of Hanotaux's in Germany, notably in Russia, in Japan, and among Chinese patriots, who shared that view.

The British saw this project of Hanotaux and others as a danger to the British Empire. The danger they defined as a

Eurasian power emerging which would be able to challenge Britain's empire, and challenge Britain's ongoing efforts to take over or re-take the United States.

British geopolitics

Out of this came the British version of geopolitics. And, under the leadership of the socialists of Britain—that is, the Fabian society, and similar circles—Britain launched efforts to destabilize the continent, and to pit France and Russia against Germany, in particular, in the manner which led to World War I.

Now, one should not let the Kaiser, nor particularly the Emperor of Austria, nor the French, or others, off the hook for their folly in these matters. But the fact is, that the culpability of these fellows was their culpability in being dupes of a British geopolitical plot, in which our own President—for example, Teddy Roosevelt—played a key part in causing World War I, and implicitly, World War II.

What has happened now is quite similar. The inevitable transformation in Russia, that is, the fact that the transformation is inevitable because of economic and other developments, coupled with the tendency to unify Eurasia around scientific and technological progress in economic development, was viewed in most circles in London, particularly those of Conor Cruise O'Brien and the Thatcher circles, as a horror; and, every effort was made to destroy that—and to destroy Japan at the same time.

We have in the United States idiots, maniacs, who wish to substitute for the enemy Russia, new enemies—our allies Japan and Germany, and the poor nations of the Third World we intend to exploit, to treat like slaves—to regulate their population with food control, famine, and disease. We make ourselves more evil than Adolf Hitler ever dreamed of becoming—at least, on the record—with these kinds of projects. And, it is noted, that if the Anglo-Americans, with the complicity of the terrified Europeans, conduct a war which leads to the virtual destruction of 60% of the world's petroleum supplies in the Gulf region, that this will be a weapon which would tend to destroy any possibility, at least in the immediate future, of a Eurasian economic development, of peace in Eurasia.

That's what's afoot.

It is a fact, that although the British are principally responsible for the causes of the war in the Gulf—they orchestrated the whole situation, they orchestrated Iraq, they orchestrated Kuwait, they orchestrated other circumstances—that the United States intelligence services were witting parts, together with the diplomatic services, in luring Saddam Hussein into Kuwait, for the purpose of sandbagging him, for setting up this operation to create the New World Order. And the kindest word for the New World Order, is that it is exactly, in Anglo-American terms of reference, what Hitler proposed 50 years ago. It's not worth dying for. It may be worth dying to prevent.

Argentine nationalists get harsh sentences

by Cynthia R. Rush

On Jan. 8, after a month of deliberations, the Supreme Council of the Argentine Armed Forces announced sentences for 15 nationalist Army officers who participated in the military rebellion taken last Dec. 3 against the policies of the Army high command. Malvinas War hero Col. Mohamed Ali Seineldín, who was charged with being the "instigator and promoter" of the uprising, along with six other officers, received the maximum sentence of an "indefinite" jail term. Under the military justice code, an indefinite jail term cannot be for life; however, prisoners can request parole only after serving 20 years. Six other officers received terms of between 12 and 20 years, and two were completely absolved. All of the officers were stripped of their rank.

The defendants have five days to appeal the sentences to the military courts, and their cases will automatically be appealed to the Buenos Aires civil federal court beginning in mid-March. This court can request further investigation of the case, expand interrogation of the defendants, and increase or reduce their sentences.

The Dec. 3 action, which lasted one day, came after months of provocations directed against Army nationalists by President Carlos Menem. Menem had repeatedly refused to address grievances or to respect previous agreements made with nationalist officers to resolve the Army's internal problems. Although the military court backed away from imposing the death sentence originally requested by Menem, its harsh sentences are intended as a message to anyone who might challenge the President's subservience to the Anglo-American political establishment, which demands the dismantling of the Armed Forces. Colonel Seineldín is an outspoken opponent of these policies.

According to one press evaluation, the outcome of the military trials was crafted in such a way as to constitute the maximum insult to the officers' military identities, and especially to put Colonel Seineldín "in his place." Known for his personal integrity and principled defense of the institution of the Armed Forces, the colonel is feared by Menem's Anglo-American allies, who would like to see him dead.

Originally, the court charged him with being the primary leader of the Dec. 3 action, but subsequently characterized him as only an "instigator and promoter," while accusing a lower-ranking officer, Capt. Breide Obeid, of being the key leader. The court determined that the 15 officers acted as a group, in which military hierarchy was not a factor, conclud-

ing, in effect, that they might as well have been a band of common, civilian criminals. The court's message was that there were no important military issues involved in the Dec. 3 action.

Menem shaky

The problems inside the Armed Forces and Menem's dealings with their leaders won't be resolved by punishing and purging nationalists. Right now, the Argentine President faces a very tricky situation, stemming from his Dec. 29 pardon of former members of the military junta which ruled from 1976-83, along with guerrilla leader Mario Firmenich, former junta Finance Minister José Martínez de Hoz, and a few other civilians. The former junta members were jailed on charges of human rights violations related to the 1970s "war against subversion." Their release was said to be the result of a deal with the Army high command, which is still extremely sensitive to charges that its leaders carried out a "dirty war" and committed terrible atrocities in the name of fighting subversion.

Menem described the pardons as a means to achieve the "reconciliation" of Argentines. Instead, his measure has provoked an uproar domestically and internationally. Human rights groups which have supported the government's assault on the institution of the Armed Forces, begun by former President Raúl Alfonsín, are enraged; and the crisis inside the Army has been exacerbated by statements made by former junta President Gen. Jorge Videla upon his release from prison. Apparently violating an implicit "pact of silence," Videla released a letter to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Martin Bonnet demanding vindication for the Army's role in the 1970s, adding that an apology to the military institution was still pending.

The high command considered Videla's letter an affront to its leadership; but it also fears that the former junta leader will rally disgruntled officers who think that the institution's current leaders haven't done enough to defend it.

The Anglo-American establishment is also worried. So far, Menem has obediently implemented their strategies to "restructure" the Armed Forces out of existence. But now, as a Jan. 1 UPI release revealed, they're worried that Menem won't even be able to stay in power. Videla's statements show that the Army wasn't mollified with the pardons, UPI reported, and that Menem "is gambling that the Army will give him a reward: his political survival."

The Bush administration is well aware that discontent inside the Argentine Army has not dissipated, following Dec. 3. According to the Dec. 28 issue of the daily *El Informador Público*, U.S. military advisers in Buenos Aires estimate that middle-level and non-commissioned officers will back any future movement to defend the Army. They also note that there is "massive opposition" among the high command itself to Menem's military restructuring program, which could reduce active duty troops by 40%.

GI was sacrificed to start war

One year after EIR broke the story, the Los Angeles Times confirms how the U.S. invasion was set up.

A report published by the *Los Angeles Times* on Dec. 22 suggests that the incident that triggered the U.S. invasion of Panama was the result of a deliberate U.S. provocation. The *Times* account confirms in most significant respects what EIR News Service reported within hours of the Dec. 16, 1989 shooting death of U.S. Marine Lt. Robert Paz in front of the headquarters of the Panamanian Defense Forces (PDF).

Just as the fake Gulf of Tonkin incident was used by President Lyndon Johnson, to create the pretext for the U.S. military escalation in Vietnam, the death of Lieutenant Paz was seized upon by George Bush to justify the attack against Panama. On Dec. 20, 1989, just four days after Paz died, the largest U.S. military force deployed since the Vietnam War, prior to the current Operation Desert Shield, invaded Panama. The reason? "Forces under [Noriega's] command shot and killed an unarmed American serviceman, wounded another, arrested and brutally beat a third serviceman, and then brutally interrogated his wife, threatening her with sexual abuse. That was enough," said Bush.

The woman who was purportedly sexually harassed was never identified, and it is unlikely that the incident really took place.

But there was the body of U.S. Lieutenant Paz for Bush to use to stage his own Gulf of Tonkin incident.

According to official U.S. accounts, Lieutenant Paz and three other American officers with him were on their way to a restaurant in Panama City, lost their way, took a wrong

turn, and ended up in front of the PDF headquarters, where the American officers, unarmed according to the Pentagon, were shot without cause by the Panamanian soldiers.

According to the Panamanians, Lieutenant Paz was shot when he and the other American officers refused to allow their car to be searched at a checkpoint in front of the the entrance to PDF headquarters. Immediately prior to the shooting, said the Panamanians, Lieutenant Paz and his heavily armed companions went through three roadblocks, shooting wildly and wounding three Panamanian civilians, one of them Heilin Betancourth, a one-year-old girl, before reaching the PDF headquarters. It was then that Lieutenant Paz and another American officer in the car were wounded.

Within 24 hours of the incident, *EIR* was able to determine that the Panamanian accounts were true and that Lieutenant Paz had been deliberately sacrificed by the U.S. government. In a fact sheet published a few days later, *EIR* News Service reported that Lieutenant Paz's "regrettable death was in fact the result of a series of deliberate provocations carried out by U.S. military men under direct orders of their superior officers over a period of months." We noted that "incidents involving heavily armed U.S. soldiers, traveling in civilian clothing and in private vehicles through the streets of Panama City, were almost a daily occurrence," and that they were intended to create a pretext for an invasion.

Now, one year and some 4,000 dead Panamanians later, the *Los Angeles Times* has confirmed that

Paz's death, "was not the unprovoked act of 'aggression' " by Noriega forces claimed by the White House. "Instead," they say, "it was a step in a pattern of aggressive behavior by a small group of U.S. troops who called themselves the 'Hard Chargers' and who frequently tested the patience and reaction of Panamanian forces, especially at roadblocks."

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, "the four U.S. officers were not lost on the day of the incident. 'They knew the area very well and had been to the Comandancia many times,' one source said, referring to the PDF headquarters. According to another source, the men were also armed and had frequently 'dared' roadblocks by driving up to them and then refusing to stop or suddenly pulling away. 'What they did this time,' a source said, 'was pull up to the Comandancia roadblock, knowing it was one of the most important and the guards very nervous. When the PDF came up to them and ordered them out of the car, [the Americans] all gave them the finger,' shouted an obscenity and drove off." It was then that the Panamanians opened fire.

Although Lieutenant Paz "was badly wounded and one of his companions was also hurt, the Americans 'dumped their weapons,' " probably in the Panama Canal, reported the *Los Angeles Times*, before seeking medical assistance. By the time the wounded Marine was finally taken to a hospital, it was too late to save his life.

The U.S. government still denies that Lieutenant Paz and his companions were part of "a vigilante group trying to provoke an incident," in the words of a Pentagon spokesman quoted by the paper. That refusal to admit the truth underlines the danger that a similar provocation could be staged as a pretext to start a war against Iraq.

India faces double-digit inflation

Poor performance of infrastructure, populism, neglect, and the Gulf crisis conspire to institutionalize spiraling prices.

Despite brave claims by mandarins in India's Finance Ministry, that irrespective of fiscal problems the country's basic economy—agriculture and industry—is in good shape, the steep rise in prices of many mass consumption items indicates that this is not so.

India is expected to harvest a record 175 million tons of foodgrains this year, enabling foodgrain reserves to surpass the record 20-plus million ton mark of the mid-1980s. The industrial sector has clocked a vigorous growth rate of 9% or more, according to official statistics. But none of this "growth" has succeeded in keeping prices in check.

According to one estimate, the 1990-91 fiscal year (April 1990-March 1991) may end with a whopping 13% increase in wholesale prices over the previous year. Such items of mass consumption as foodgrains and petroleum products have led the price hikes. Since December 1989, foodgrain prices have gone up by 10%, edible oils by 20%, tea by 23%, processed food products by 12%, and mineral oils by 31%. All these hikes have boosted the wholesale index.

In the meantime, Finance Ministry officials' attention in the Shekhar government has been riveted to the unfolding fiscal crisis. First and foremost is the problem of depleted foreign exchange reserves, and accumulated foreign debt to the tune of \$62 billion. Foreign debt servicing now eats up 28% of export earnings. Then there is a significant growth in domestic debt, which is close to \$135 billion and about 34% of Gross Domestic Product. And there is the seemingly

unbridgeable trade deficit, which in the first half of this fiscal year grew to \$3.04 billion—an increase of 31.6% over the same period a year ago—despite a steady growth of exports.

There is also the miserable performance of some of the nationalized banks, into which some \$450 million had been pumped last year to strengthen the capital base, and the inability to mobilize resources for the Eighth Five Year Plan (1990-94). Last but not least is the growing fear of a steep jump in future oil prices in the event of a Persian Gulf war.

Officials are now busy negotiating loan arrangements with the International Monetary Fund, while discussions on devaluing the Indian currency, measures to attract foreign investment, and a reduction of both imports and governmental spending are hogging the news media.

In the midst of such dramatic financial concerns, the inflationary price rises of essential commodities have been discussed only in whispers. Most economists admit that large governmental expenditures have given the inflationary tendency a firm boost. These economists' only "solution" to curb inflation is to advocate a tight money policy.

On the ground, there is ample evidence to suggest the real economy is in real trouble. The key to keeping prices stable is a smoothly functioning infrastructure. According to the *Economic Times*, India's premier economic daily, the key industries which constitute the infrastructural sector have performed poorly during this fiscal year. Production of electrical

power, saleable steel, and cement remain well below target. Coal, crude oil, and petroleum products have slackened production. Hence infrastructure growth, which accounts for 30% of the industrial sector, has fallen to less than 3.5%, well below target.

At the same time, populist policies, a hangover from earlier years, and disinterest in the economy by the previous V.P. Singh government during its 11-month tenure, have had their own inflationary effect. The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices pointed out in a recent report that hiking foodgrain procurement prices steeply may have made some farmers happy, but also raised food prices. A subsequent \$1.1 billion subsidy to enable the poor to buy food only partly offset the price rise. By Bureau calculations, food prices will come down only if both the procurement price and subsidy are abolished.

In its pursuit of political mileage, the V.P. Singh dispensation also fulfilled its electoral pledge to grant a \$4.5 billion selected farm loan waiver. The move not only destabilized some banks, but has made repayment a problem throughout the farm sector. The total farm loan exposure of the banking sector could be as high as \$12 billion.

The steep rise in crude oil and petroleum product prices reflects, beyond reduced Indian output, the impact of the Gulf crisis. And since transport and distribution of all products involves mineral oils, the effect of such price hikes is felt throughout the economy. Should the Gulf crisis—the only short-term variable in India's balance of payments equation—continue or worsen, India will have to cut back on importing goods directly related to industrial production. With factories idled for lack of raw materials, prices can be expected to continue to soar.

Can Germany help stop war?

Last-minute peace feelers from the federal parliament necessarily have centered on economic development.

On the eve of the Jan. 9 meeting in Geneva between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, there was already hectic activity by European diplomatic circles, mainly in Paris and Bonn, to try to control the damage and launch an emergency Euro-Arab effort to prevent the outbreak of war at the last minute. As we go to press just after that failed meeting, diplomatic efforts are continuing.

The Germans were concerned that a failure of diplomatic talks not only meant war in the Gulf, but would be exploited by those in Moscow who wanted to return the Soviet Union to Stalinist-authoritarian rule.

The German and French initiatives called for Western concessions which could be met by concessions from Iraq and start to defuse the immediate war danger. More than even France, Germany—having no past as a colonial power in the Mideast—can contribute to peace in that region.

On Jan. 8, Hans Stercken, chairman of the foreign affairs commission of the German parliament and a senior member of the German-Arab Society, proposed a verifiable timetable for an Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait in stages. Once the withdrawal process was begun, one could then talk, he said, about an agreement on objectives of Baghdad policy, such as a “division of the [Rumaila] oil field that is disputed between Iraq and Kuwait . . . but can definitely not be maintained in its present condition” or “the two disputed islands [Bubiyan and Warbah] that Iraq claims, not without

justification.”

The Stercken proposal, resembling the one made before by Michel Vauzelle, the chairman of the foreign affairs commission of the French Parliament, had the merit of addressing the need for economic assistance to the Mideast: “We should examine whether the European Community couldn’t give structural aid to the entire Gulf region,” Stercken recommended.

“The war may be prevented now, but this alone won’t bring peace, neither in the Gulf, nor anywhere else in the Mideast,” said an Arabist who is on the board of advisers to the German government, in a discussion with *EIR* before Baker and Aziz met.

“War,” he warned, “could break out over at least a hundred other reasons in the course of the next years. The entire region is still very far from being stable.” Without Europe offering something else than military threats, the Arabs, even the most moderate, would not feel attracted by a European peace initiative, the Arabist said.

Peace and stability basically mean development of industry and agriculture in tandem with social stability—the perspective of mutual progress on the Arab and the Israeli side in a reliable framework of economic cooperation.

It is in this domain, economic development, that the Europeans should play a role. Especially Germany with its industrial weight can do a lot. Any attempt to act like the French, who deployed troops next to the Americans, though separate from them, in

the Gulf, was doomed to failure from the outset of troop deployments in August.

Without a single shot being fired in the Gulf, the international embargo had hurt badly not only Iraq, but also the other Arab countries that joined the embargo. The stream of several million refugees—mostly guest workers employed on jobs in the Kuwaiti economy—calls for an input of several billion dollars to stabilize that aspect of the Gulf crisis.

The lack of Western aid for the refugees, except certain German-funded relief programs, brought the Egyptian and Jordanian economies close to collapse. In Turkey, the absence of foreign aid added to the economic recession and provoked a wave of protest among workers in the streets, against the austerity and pro-Bush policy of the government.

Germany, France, and other European nations must place something attractive on the negotiation tables to convince the hostile powers in that region that a perspective of peace and mutual progress is feasible—in the domain of water management, for example. The shortage of clean water will pose a big problem for Israel in the near future. Without water, the Mideastern deserts will produce neither food nor comfort for human beings—no matter whether they are Arabs or Israelis.

With 1 million immigrants to Israel from the Soviet Union expected in the next two years, the problem will get much worse. There may be “water wars” in the region then over the control of the Jordan River or the Euphrates.

The Third World ministries of Germany and Italy have small water development projects already in the planning stages or under construction in Jordan and Egypt. More of that can, and should be done.

Morocco: Who are the King's enemies?

If the Anglo-Americans are out to wreck Franco-Moroccan friendship, France's best bet is to help "green the desert."

The riots which have broken out in Fez and several other Moroccan cities did not occur by accident; they are part of a vast campaign aimed at destabilizing the regime. The same confluence of interests which, a decade ago, brought down the Shah of Iran, is today trying to cause the fall of King Hassan II, and for very similar reasons.

Morocco is a country where the royal power has undertaken structural reforms which have allowed, under difficult conditions, a certain economic development and especially the formation of a class of engineers, technicians, and skilled workers who form the surest basis for coming prosperity. It is this success, relative but real, that has Morocco and its king a target—not the violation of human rights or the lack of democracy, which are far less shocking than in most African lands.

In fact, the loudest voices against the King are coming from outside Morocco. One enemy is Paris-based: Gilles Perrault, the author of *Red Orchestra*, who has always faithfully served the communist cause and constantly tried to destroy French intelligence, and his communist and leftist friends. The other is the hostile reports of Amnesty International, an organization which pretends to defend civic freedoms everywhere except in Britain and the United States. This combination leaves familiar pawprints, for anyone who followed the Shah's demise up close, or the attacks, in his day, against General de Gaulle. It entails the tactical alliance of all those who cannot stomach a strong independent regime outside their direct control.

Could the anti-Hassan riots be a CIA operation to hurt Morocco and France, as was said of the kidnaping and disappearance of Moroccan nationalist leader Ben Barka in France in 1965? This may seem to stretch credulity. The Americans have long boosted the King's cause, and Henry Kissinger is even a member of the Moroccan Royal Academy! But it would not be the first time that Washington sacrificed a friend who had become too independent (remember the Shah). In tandem, from Moscow's "international department," another hand would appear—that of phony friendship.

The King of Morocco might play an independent role in the Persian Gulf crisis and become a factor for peace—a peace which is not desired by the Anglo-Americans, if it means their departure. What they want, war or no war, is to stay in the Persian Gulf for a long time, to control oil and petrodollars. Hence it is natural to lend a helping hand to the "Parisian" operation of Gilles Perrault to overthrow Hassan II, with the included result of provoking a French-Moroccan brouhaha, between two troublesome "allies."

French President François Mitterrand recently dismissed this scenario as "drugstore fiction." But then, how would one explain the fact that Morocco's current problems stem from Anglo-American financial policy? If running amok is popular in Fez right now, it is because of the International Monetary Fund's decisions, which are remote-controlled from London and Washington. It was the IMF-demanded "adjustments," involving ending

subsidies on basic consumer needs, which set off the discontent. The economic gloom was worsened by the bad sales of Morocco's two biggest exports, phosphates and citrus fruits. In Fez, artisans were hit very hard by the crisis, while part of the rural population of Rif has circled the city with shantytowns.

Hassan II reacted promptly. He announced on Jan. 2 a 15% increase in the minimum wage, and the creation of jobs through the Council on Youth and the Future, composed of members of the government, business, and representatives of all the political and trade union tendencies. He also absolved the CDT and UGTM—the labor confederations, which had made the call for a general strike—of blame for the riots, and thus isolated the provocateurs who, witnesses say, were not Islamic fundamentalists. He accused, instead, drug traffickers and criminals, thus singling out the local part of the problem.

The only thing which can really restabilize Morocco is international economic recovery. The efforts of Michel Vauzelle, the chairman of the French National Assembly's foreign affairs commission, to shape a Mediterranean policy of mutual development are, in that sense, an important first step.

To go any further would mean to undertake a "grand design" capable of giving a horizon to what Hassan II began with his "green market." France, in its own interest and Morocco's, has an opportunity to seize here. What better basis for Franco-Moroccan reconciliation, beyond a joint, coordinated action for peace in the Gulf, than to start creating the "green band" once imagined by Hassan II to roll back the Sahara? France has the nuclear power, which could rapidly supply enough energy to extract the water that will "green the desert."

International Intelligence

Mexico won't send troops to Mideast

Mexico will not send troops to the Persian Gulf under any circumstances, said President Carlos Salinas del Gortari in his New Year's message to the Armed Forces.

Salinas was forced to give in to intense pressure from all factions, including from his own political party, for Mexico not to join Argentina's President Carlos Menem in sending troops, in exchange for a better economic deal from the United States. The Mexican Congress approved a resolution backing Salinas and exhorting the world's parliaments to strive to preserve peace.

U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte was miffed with the decision, saying that Iraq was a threat to "the entire international community," not just the United States.

Syria runs drugs, and the U.S. knows it

George Bush knows all about the Syrian role in Mideastern drug trafficking, but made Syrian President Hafez al-Assad his ally against Iraq anyway, charged the German Catholic newspaper *Deutsche Tagespost* on Dec. 27. Bush's meeting with Assad in Geneva on Nov. 23 occurred although "the Americans know that the Syrian regime has turned into one of the biggest sponsors and operators of the so-called narco-terrorism," the article said. All the information is in the hands of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), but "Washington is keeping its knowledge a top-secret issue" and "is treating the Syrians gracefully for political reasons."

Among the facts covered up, the *Tagespost* reports, is that the head of the Syrian anti-drug bureau, Col. Ali Al Darbuli, met with Mike Hurley, the head of the DEA's Mideast bureau in Nicosia (Cyprus), in March 1989. They agreed on increased U.S.-Syrian cooperation, but it is known that the Syrian military in Lebanon is pro-

tecting the growing of narcotics there, which is supplying markets in the United States.

The real estate in the 24 villages in Syrian-occupied northern Lebanon that are involved in production of hashish, and, more recently, heroin, is mostly owned by Syrians like Firass al-Assad (the nephew of the Syrian President), Lebanese puppet President Elias Hrawi, and Assem Kanso, the chairman of the Lebanese wing of the Syrian Ba'ath Party. From 1985 on, the Syrian regime has received an annual U.N. grant of \$95 million and destroyed some dope fields every year—after the harvest, naturally.

The only politician to ever seriously interfere with the Syrian operation was Gen. Michel Aoun, the *Tagespost* wrote. He imposed a several-months blockade upon northern Lebanon and shelled the Beirut international airport, causing considerable damage to the Syrian dope pushers. He was finally defeated by the Syrians and their Lebanese flunkies in October 1990.

Philippine defense chief sees coup threat

Philippines Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has warned that the outbreak of a Mideast war could trigger a right-wing military coup and a communist uprising in his country. He told business leaders early in January that rebel officers would take advantage of the economic chaos and social unrest that would follow a dramatic rise in oil prices caused by a Gulf war. He also said that communist hit squads had deployed into Manila just before Christmas, in anticipation of a fresh Army putsch against the Aquino government.

The government of President Corazon Aquino has asked Parliament for emergency powers for six months in order to deal with the anticipated unrest and economic chaos.

In a related development, Philippines Senate Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona, called on Third World countries to file a resolution with the International Court of

Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, concerning Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Senator Guingona urged President Bush to immediately recall his troops from the Gulf, while the case is being tried by the International Court.

Was Saudi oil refinery fire a case of sabotage?

The French magazine *Le Canard Enchaîné* reports in its first issue of the new year that a fire at a giant Saudi oil refinery in December may well have been sabotage, and that at least one American military officer has been assassinated. The article links these developments to growing disaffection within Saudi military circles against the American military presence.

According to the report:

"In Saudi Arabia, the permanent maintenance of an important American contingent is posing too many cultural and religious problems, according to U.S. diplomats and military men.

"There is evidence for this. Young Saudi officers, recently questioned by French journalists, have put forward, in close paraphrase, these words: 'We are not favorable to Saddam Hussein, but we are not hostile to the Iraqi people. It is an Arab people. And the Western presence in our country—400,000 troops today—is crushing—especially for our small army, and this can justify the partisans of a pure and uncompromising Islam.'

"Incidents have already broken out: a small anti-American demonstration which the local authorities tolerated, the sabotage of a part of the largest refinery in the world, Ras Tanura, and aggression, verbal or otherwise, against U.S. troops.

"The Palestinian daily *Al Quds* ('Jerusalem') even cites the case of a Lt. Col. John Cook (according to the translation from the Arabic), found dead from a bullet in the head, and affirms that it was an assassination and not, as the American Army let it be understood, a suicide."

The refinery had the capacity of refining

Briefly

450,000 barrels a day, making it one of the world's largest. According to a Norwegian shipping industry report, "The Saudi refinery probably suffered more damage than originally anticipated, in view of the secrecy surrounding the fire."

Shevardnadze describes threat of 'dictatorship'

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who announced his resignation on Dec. 20, warning that a "police state" is returning to the U.S.S.R., further outlined the threat in an interview published in Italy's *La Repubblica* newspaper and the *Moscow News* on Jan. 3. "If the destabilization goes on and the democratization process stops," he said, "it would become impossible to continue on the foreign policy line followed so far."

Shevardnadze, who is still serving as foreign minister for an interim period, warned the possibility of a violent crack-down, "the repetition of what already occurred in Tbilisi or Baku. . . . I think that if we do not succeed in getting the country out of the crisis, dictatorship will be inevitable. . . . Now everybody speaks about the necessity for discipline and order. This is truly necessary, and in a vital way. But unfortunately, in the minds of many, discipline and order are associated with the use of strength."

Referring to the decision by the Congress of People's Deputies in December to strengthen the powers of the presidency, Shevardnadze added, "I am not certain at all that direct presidential leadership and any other punitive sanction, whatever its aim, could really become instruments for solving the current problems."

Shevardnadze lamented that there are too much talk in the Soviet Union, too many congresses, and too little work: "We approve laws which nobody enacts."

Shevardnadze also called for rationing food, since food does exist, but is not properly distributed: "It is known that in our country the food has not diminished, but

it does not reach the population. If people continuously speak of sabotage and speculation, then this means that we shall take the route of rationing. . . . I think that people must unite . . . in the name of conservation of democracy," the foreign minister said.

Shevardnadze announced that he will create an association to study the problems of foreign policy.

Starvation and disease hit Cambodian refugees

About 150,000 Cambodians have been driven from their homes in the past year due to the civil war, and 20-30,000 of them have arrived at refugee camps just inside the Thai border, according to a report in the British newspaper the *Guardian* on Jan. 2. Due to starvation and disease, they "are just one step better" than victims of the World War II concentration camps, one Western aid official said.

There are now about 300,000 Cambodians in six overcrowded camps on the Thai border, which are controlled by the guerrilla groups fighting the Phnom Penh government. There may be many thousands of more refugees in the months to come: Fighting will worsen as the dry season begins, and there will be severe food shortages this year. Many rice fields could not be planted last year due to the war, floods, and drought. There are at least 130,000 displaced people still inside Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, under a total aid ban from the West, has been resisting the Khmer Rouge guerrillas alone since Vietnamese troops withdrew from Cambodia. David Colvin, the British envoy to the Dec. 22 failed Paris peace talks, said that if the Cambodian government failed to approve the draft U.N. peace plan, it could no longer count on help from the international community. French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas delivered a similar message to the members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, saying that the world had other issues to deal with besides Cambodia.

● **IN BOLOGNA**, three members of the Carabinieri, Italy's paramilitary police force, were killed by unknown persons the night of Jan. 4, for reasons also unknown. Analysts speculate that the assassinations are the beginning of a new "strategy of tension" which the Anglo-American forces are planning to keep Italy in line in their Gulf policy.

● **SOVIET TV** on Jan. 5 accused U.S. and U.K. intelligence services of interfering in Soviet internal affairs, echoing recent statements by KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov. The broadcast charged that the intelligence services have been funneling money and agents into the Baltic republics, to fan the flames of separatism and unrest there, and that in Armenia and Azerbaïdzhán, operations fanning the unrest have their "roots in 70 years of British ethnic manipulation."

● **WAR IN THE BALKANS** is imminent, according to an article in the *Jerusalem Post* on Dec. 28. Among the possibilities cited by author Gwynne Dyer are a conflict in Yugoslavia between the Serbians on the one side, and the Bosnians, Croats, and Slovenes on the other; a war between Albania and Yugoslavia over the Kosovo region; and a Bulgarian grab at the Macedonian republic of Yugoslavia, with possible involvement by Greece.

● **THE RUSSIAN** Orthodox Christmas midnight mass was broadcast on Soviet television Jan. 6-7 for the first time, in a milestone in the recreation of "Holy Russia." Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin was the guest of honor, alongside various high-ranking political, scientific, and military personalities.

● **EL SALVADOR'S** military would be reduced by 70%, according to a plan put forward by Alvaro de Soto, a top aide to U.N. Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

War-avoidance efforts escalate as time runs out

by Marianna Wertz

Domestic opposition to war in the Persian Gulf has intensified in the week remaining before the Jan. 15 deadline for Iraq to leave Kuwait set by George Bush.

With the collapse of the last American cosmetic show of a "dialogue" with the Iraqis on Jan. 9, when Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz insisted on Iraq's justified demand for a comprehensive diplomatic solution to the Middle East crisis, preparations are intensifying to bring millions of Americans into the streets in a series of mass demonstrations, planned to coincide with the opening of a probable hot war in the Gulf after Jan. 15.

The addition of new forces from both traditional right and left in the equation against war, as well as a powerful statement from American Catholic leaders denouncing Bush's plan as "unjust," make clear that the growing reality of war is moving Americans to more serious action.

The congressional debate, which began Jan. 10, is expected to endorse President Bush's war effort, but will nevertheless undoubtedly reflect reported "overwhelming" opposition to war flooding into congressional offices from their constituents. The discrepancy between the official polls, which show public opinion favoring war, and the report of more than "12 to 1" opposition to war in congressional mail, has left even seasoned members of Congress stunned.

Press called 'bellicose, jingoistic'

On Jan. 4, the leadership of a coalition of forces opposing the war gathered for a press conference at the National Press Club, to focus attention on the planned Jan. 19 mass demonstration. Representing the National Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East were former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, comedian Dick Gregory, civil rights leader Rev. James Bevel, Washington, D.C. City Coun-

cilwoman Hilda Mason, and other religious, minority, and trade union representatives.

Clark told the press that the need for the Jan. 19 rally, expected to draw over 15,000 people to the capital, as simultaneous demonstrations in dozens of other cities worldwide are held, was motivated by two crises: the threat of catastrophic war in the Gulf and a crisis in democratic government. "A war in the Gulf would involve primarily U.S. minorities pitted against dark-skinned peoples, in order to gain control over oil," said Clark. In relation to the crisis in democratic government, Clark said the United States is faced with an "imperial presidency, which even Bush himself admits, a paralyzed Congress, and a bellicose, jingoistic press."

A 23-year-old Navy enlisted man, Donald Ray Alexander, startled reporters by announcing that he was refusing to deploy to the Gulf because he could not support any "military move to re-establish a regime which engages in chattel slavery" (see interview, p. 50).

Also speaking at the press conference was Barbara Davidson, president of Local 476 of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO), who denounced the notion that workers should support a war drive engineered by the same people who are busting unions and destroying workers' standard of living.

The so-called right wing's opposition to war was given voice on Jan. 8 at a forum of the Cato Institute, a free enterprise-oriented think tank in Washington, D.C. The day-long conference on "Oil, War and the Economy" included a luncheon address by Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wa.), one of the leading opponents of the Gulf deployment in the U.S. Senate.

Adams told the crowd of more than 200 that Congress, through its inaction, "has been complicit in the erosion of its rights." Adams also noted that "President Bush appears to con-

sider thwarting aggression in the Gulf more important than upholding the Constitution at home." Under the U.S. Constitution, only Congress can declare war. Adams is co-sponsor with Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Ia.) of a resolution demanding that the President seek approval of Congress before committing U.S. troops into offensive action in the Persian Gulf.

'Those I fight I do not hate'

Conservative columnist and former White House Press Secretary Patrick Buchanan intensified his opposition to the war drive with a scathing indictment of the Bush administration's policy, in a syndicated column appearing Jan. 2. Buchanan reported that a senior official from a Persian Gulf nation recently said, "Do you think I want to send my son to die for Kuwait? We have our white slaves from America to do that." Buchanan comments, "This crack is revelatory, about whom we are defending with the best and bravest of America's young. . . . If U.S. fighter-bombers soon blacken the skies over Baghdad, the American pilots may well echo William Yeats' Irish airman of World War I who saw death coming: 'I know that I shall meet my fate somewhere among the clouds above/Those that I fight I do not hate/Those that I guard I do not love.' . . .

"When the Emir of Kuwait is returned to his ruined capital and the people he abandoned, will those who lived through the hell of the occupation welcome back the white-robed rulers who spent the war sipping coffee in Taif? . . . No matter how decisive our victory, we delude ourselves if we think war will make the Gulf safe again for monarchy and polygamy."

Pope galvanizes Catholic opposition

The Catholic Church in America was galvanized into action as well, spurred on by extraordinary intervention by Pope John Paul II. The Pope bypassed all normal diplomatic channels and sent a personal message directly to the European Community foreign ministers meeting in Luxembourg on Jan. 4. While recognizing that international law has been violated by the Iraqi intervention into Kuwait, the Pope reiterated his strong appeal for dialogue and negotiations because "an armed conflict would surely be disastrous."

The message was intended to break the deadlock in Europe and push continental Europe in particular to undertake a peace initiative totally independent from the United States. It is generally thought in Vatican City that the United Nations has lost all credibility for a possible last-minute mediation effort.

Concurrent with the Vatican effort, Pax Christi, U.S.A., the Catholic peace organization, took out a four-page advertisement in the Jan. 7 issue of the weekly *National Catholic Report*, opposing President Bush's Gulf war on the grounds that it is immoral. The advertisement is signed by over 1,700 prominent Catholics, including 11 bishops. Pax Christi has also issued a statement, signed by 31 bishops, calling on

Catholics serving in the military to consider refusing orders to participate in Gulf hostilities.

In the event that Bush does trigger war, Pax Christi is considering plans for demonstrations and civil disobedience.

Pax Christi, U.S.A., President-elect Bishop Walter F. Sullivan of Richmond, Virginia was interviewed by the *Virginia Pilot*, the major daily which covers the Norfolk-Hampton Roads area, where the leading industry is the huge naval base. The Jan. 7 issue quotes Bishop Sullivan: "A Catholic who is a member of the [military] service has to make a conscientious decision whether to engage in this war, which the Catholic Church considers unjustified and immoral." The Richmond Diocese includes Hampton Roads, home of one of the largest naval bases in the free world. It is the main departure point for the U.S. forces stationed in the Gulf.

According to the *Virginian Pilot*, other representatives of Pax Christi have made statements encouraging Catholics in the military to become "selective conscientious objectors," or objectors opposed to fighting in this specific conflict. In such a situation, Bishop Sullivan said, "you can't say, 'Well, I am under orders.' You can't participate if you feel a war is unjust and immoral."

Accompanying its dramatic interview, the *Virginia Pilot* reports the Catholic criteria for a "just war." The criteria include: "Military action cannot indiscriminately harm civilians as well as combatants. The war must be legitimately authorized. The harm must be in proportion to the good expected. The action must be either for self-defense or to protect the innocent."

Teach-ins and town meetings

Teach-ins and town meetings are beginning to proliferate across the country, as citizens realize that the nation is indeed headed for a bloody war:

- On Jan. 5, over 300 concerned citizens attended a teach-in on the Persian Gulf crisis, sponsored by the Pasadena Area Peace Coordinating Council, held at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California. The speakers included Jews, Muslims, Christians, historians, actors, and political activists.

- On Jan. 9, the Madison, Wisconsin city council sponsored the first official open public hearing on the Gulf crisis.

- On Jan. 10, the Schiller Institute sponsored a national day of lobbying on Capitol Hill, to coincide with the opening of congressional debate.

- On Saturday, Jan. 12, a National Day of Prayer has been called by evangelical Christians, and is officially endorsed by Pat Robertson, Jerry Rose of National Religious Broadcasting, Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, and G. Raymond Carlson of Assemblies of God. Some participants, including those in foreign countries, are planning to link via phone and videophone with a prayer convocation sponsored by Redeem America, a group based in Southern California.

Sailor refuses to fight for slavery

Donald Alexander, 23, who holds the rank of E-3 Interior Communications in the U.S. Navy, issued a statement on Jan. 4 at the National Press Club in Washington that he was refusing to serve to defend regimes in the Persian Gulf which practice black chattel slavery (see EIR, Jan. 11, p. 64). Alexander was interviewed by Marianna Wertz on Jan. 5.

EIR: You gave a statement yesterday in which you declared that you would not serve your nation in a war in which the purpose was to defend a nation which practices black chattel slavery. Can you say why you made that decision?

Alexander: While I was in San Diego, information was presented to me that led me to believe strongly that slavery does exist in these countries. As an African-American and a black soldier and a descendant of African slaves, there is no way that I can stand behind the United States government and the military to support such operations to uphold this kind of stuff.

I urge strongly that all black soldiers, people in the military, and people not in the military get behind me and support all the rest of the soldiers who refuse to take part in this type of action.

EIR: Can you tell us something about your background? How long have you been in the Navy? What did you do before you joined?

Alexander: I became active in the Navy on March 28, 1990. I had just finished interior communications apprentice school in San Diego, California. Before that I was a student. I was studying electronics engineering in Birmingham, Alabama.

EIR: This is a very important thing you're doing. You've called on others to follow you, from the standpoint of defense of their country. Do you have any sense from talking with other servicemen that there are others who will wish to join you in this action?

Alexander: There are *plenty* of black soldiers in all parts of the military who want to voice their opinions, but they're simply scared. I think my coming forth in making this type of statement will encourage others to do the same.

EIR: What are the consequences of your having made this decision?

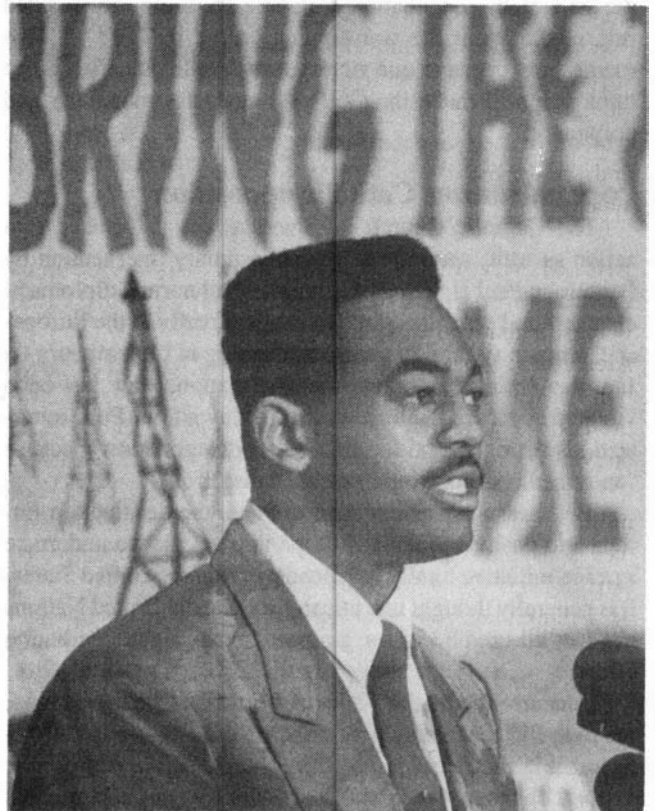
Alexander: It's still in negotiation between my attorneys and the United States Navy.

EIR: It's likely that war will break out less than two weeks from now, at which point this question will become very, very real to a lot of people in the U.S., in the way that the Vietnam War did when the body bags started coming home. What do you plan to be doing between now and then to build more support for your position?

Alexander: I plan to be speaking at rallies, doing interviews, encouraging soldiers to spread what I'm saying, educate people about the facts of this war, and why they simply should not participate in it.

EIR: Your decision to assume this kind of leadership reminds me of Dr. Martin Luther King and Rev. James Bevel, and their decision to oppose the Vietnam War. Despite the fact that it would be unpopular, they decided to break from the government's position and rally citizens of all colors against it.

Did you have that in your mind as you made this decision?



Navy fireman Donald R. Alexander, Jr. told his reasons for refusing to serve in the Persian Gulf deployment to a press conference in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 4.

Alexander: I have in no way compared myself to the likes of Dr. Martin Luther King or Reverend Bevel. I'm just doing what I think is right as a black man, and I want to encourage others; I'd like to lead other people into making the right decision. Just because you're under contract with the United States government, you don't have to think that you have to go over there and support this thing, because you don't. And you have constitutional rights not to.

EIR: I understand you are not a conscientious objector.

Alexander: Yes. I want to clarify that. I'm not a conscientious objector. I'm opposing this war because of my belief that slavery does exist in these countries and that is the whole motivation for what I'm doing. I've never had a history of being opposed to war; but then I've never been confronted with this situation. As I said in my statement, if our borders or our citizens were endangered, yes, I'd be willing to fight to the death. But I feel if there were not oil over there in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, we, in fact, would not be there. And that is not our fight.

EIR: Where did you find out about the evidence of slavery in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia?

Alexander: Articles were sent to me from the *New Federalist*, which first got my attention, and then, as I inquired more about it, I was presented with more documented proof, some eyewitness accounts, that this type of stuff does indeed exist, still today, within the royal family of Kuwait. I just don't think any Afro-American should support this, as a descendant of slaves. Our ancestors knew what it was to be a slave, and we should be fighting for freedom, not to reinstate slavery.

EIR: Many young people are joining the service because they can't find work and they can get training in the Armed Forces. Is that your situation?

Alexander: That is exactly why I joined. I joined for education and experience in my field. I think it's fraudulent of the U.S. government to offer these programs and then not deliver.

A lot of the jobs they train you for while you're in the military you cannot use when you get out. Once you get in, they don't really intend for you to get out, they want you to stay in. That's how the system's designed.

I think unemployment has a lot to do with why people join the military. They join, realizing that they can't get a job, and they want training, they want to go to school, they want the better things in life, and they think, by joining the military, that when they get out, these things will be offered to them; but I don't think that's the case.

EIR: By opposing this war, do you feel you are helping your country?

Alexander: Yes I am. I am helping us to be a better nation.

Child abuse expert warns Nebraskans

by Alan R. Ogden

One of the world's leading experts on ritual child abuse, Judianne Densen-Gerber, M.D., founder of Protect American Children Today and member of the New York Bar, warned Nebraskans on Dec. 30 that the child abuse ring brought to light by the State Senate's Franklin Credit Union Investigating Committee constitutes a "menace to the entire community."

In a press conference at Omaha's Eppley Field, she said she was warned by a law enforcement officer before coming to the state that she should not go to Nebraska because the situation in the state is "death-laced." Dr. Densen-Gerber, who wrote the federal law on child abuse, had conducted interviews in the state including an interview with Paul Bonacci, a victim-witness who has been in jail since he came forward to name who had abused him as a child, over many years, and how child pornography and child prostitution function in Nebraska.

She was invited to the state as a consultant to the Franklin Committee, chaired by Sen. Loran Schmit. Dr. Densen-Gerber argued forcibly that the investigating committee must be continued in the new legislative session.

Dr. Densen-Gerber told the press that there are three areas of danger to the Nebraska community as a whole from this child abuse network:

1) The transmission of AIDS into the state via the transportation of juvenile male prostitutes to cities like New York, where the incidence of AIDS among juvenile homosexual hustlers is already over 50%. "It is impossible to believe that kids are coming back to Nebraska and not bringing AIDS back," she said. "The danger of an AIDS explosion here is very real."

2) The growth of satanic and Antichrist cults which practice widespread ritual murder and cannibalism of children. "Mr. Bonacci told me he witnessed five homicides. . . . The three in Nebraska were satanic."

3) The abuse and possible sale for prostitution of children.

Dr. Densen-Gerber said of her videotaped four-hour conversation with Paul Bonacci, who is now under indictment

for perjury by the same Douglas County grand jury which cleared all the accused child abusers, "Every single thing Mr. Bonacci said to me is in line with what I already know about ritual abuse." She explained that those with neurotic Multiple Personality Disorder, which appears almost exclusively in persons sexually abused as young children, are known to be less likely to lie than other people. She explained that Multiple Personality Disorder is not a psychosis but rather a psychological defense mechanism against "unbelievable atrocity." She declared that Bonacci related details of satanic ritual which he could only have known if he witnessed them himself.

Victims should not be jailed!

She strongly denounced the jailing of the young people who have dared to come forward with testimony. Terming it "betrayal," she said, "This is the first time I ever saw the victims charged." She said that if a young victim were lying, then society should try to give him the help he needs. But when he is telling the truth, "You don't force someone to recant the truth." And Dr. Densen-Gerber made it quite clear that she believes Paul Bonacci, over the course of four hours of interview, was telling her the truth.

Dr. Densen-Gerber explained that ritually abused children are in an "emotional Auschwitz," and that satanic cults are an institution of "slavery." She denounced the "massive denial" by society that the community as a whole is in danger. Finally, she said that the transportation of children for prostitution from Nebraska to Washington, D.C., which Bonacci testified to, is of obvious concern to the nation as a whole.

It has been previously revealed in the Franklin Committee investigations that a principal figure in the child abuse ring is Omaha high-roller Larry King, formerly chairman of the failed Franklin Credit Union, who sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the 1984 and 1988 Republican National Conventions and hosted lavish parties for top Republicans. Franklin Investigating Committee Chairman Loran Schmit, who was at the press conference, also charged there that taps on the telephones of senators and investigators, and visits by the FBI to persons previously contacted by official investigators, are part of a pattern of pressure against the State Senate to force an end to the investigation.

Committee's work is unfinished

The Densen-Gerber press conference came as the tenure of the Franklin Committee was drawing to a close. Though the work of the committee is clearly unfinished, in the estimation of Senator Schmit and many other qualified observers, there are moves afoot in the state capital of Lincoln to politically punish those who have been the most forthright in their pursuit of the truth in the Franklin Credit Union case. According to sources in Lincoln, this effort to punish is being orchestrated by the "Omaha business establishment," several of whose members' names have surfaced in the Franklin

Committee's investigation.

For example, there is a move in the legislature to strip Omaha Senator Bernice Lebedz of her powerful post as chairman of the Executive Committee of the legislature, which sets the legislature's agenda while it is not in session. Lebedz is a key member of the Franklin Committee. Running against Lebedz for the Executive Committee chairmanship is Sen. Jerome Warner, who, although he is a member of the Franklin Committee, has publicly strongly opposed its continuation and boycotted the committee's meeting with Dr. Densen-Gerber.

Franklin Committee Chairman Schmit, who, along with another of its members, Sen. Dan Lynch, has spoken out in favor of the continuation of the committee, is himself under political attack. There is an effort to strip Schmit of his chairmanship of the legislature's Natural Resources Committee, supposedly for not being "strong enough on the environment," although it was Schmit himself who wrote the legislation originally establishing the Nebraska Department of Environmental Control in 1971. The word at the state capital is that Schmit and Lebedz are being "punished," in truth, for their persistence in getting to the bottom of the Franklin affair. As one source put it, the real reasons for their punishment are three: 1) their sticking with the Franklin investigation, 2) their opposition to abortion, and 3) their being too "unbending" on these moral issues.

Purge of pro-life activists

As the Franklin Committee is being threatened with a rout, broader Nebraska political layers representing a position of respect for life are also falling victim to a wholesale political purge. Anti-abortion activists within the Douglas County (Omaha) GOP have been hit, including County Republican Chairman John Sieler, who was recently thrown out of his party post, along with several others. In fact, in a lawsuit recently filed, the state GOP is accused of acting illegally in this purge, concealing its hostility to the stands of the pro-life activists behind other bogus issues.

In the fall of 1990, several weeks after Gary Caradori, the private investigator hired by the Franklin Committee, met a highly suspicious death when his private plane crashed over Illinois killing both him and his eight-year-old son, an independent, international Fact-Finding Commission went to Nebraska to investigate, as outsiders, reports of organized child abuse in Nebraska, and whether there were a coverup. A member of that commission, civil rights leader Rev. James Bevel, who was chief strategic lieutenant of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960s, had been in Nebraska only a few days when he called his staff in Washington, exclaiming that the situation in Nebraska is worse than in Birmingham and Selma in the 1960s. Bevel has argued for a direct action campaign in Nebraska to champion the human rights of children, and asked Americans to see Nebraska as a front line for a fight which cannot end until the children are safe.

LaRouche associates railroaded in Roanoke trial; sentences 'barbaric'

The jury in the Roanoke, Virginia trial of three associates of Lyndon LaRouche on concocted charges of "securities fraud," rushed in a verdict of guilty on all counts on Jan. 7. The jury recommended the barbaric sentences of 46 years for Anita Gallagher, 41 years for Paul Gallagher, and 40 years for Larry Hecht. All three were released after posting \$50,000 bail each. A sentencing hearing has been set for Feb. 22. The defendants intend to appeal the outrageous verdict.

The length of the sentences reveal the biased nature of the jury, which deliberated for approximately five hours after a trial which lasted more than two months and was presided over by the notoriously corrupt judge, Clifford R. Weckstein.

But the "Get LaRouche" strike force has failed to reach its objective with these Virginia prosecutions, which was to shut down the LaRouche political movement. Since the commencement of this trial two months ago, the LaRouche movement has increased in strength, catalyzing an anti-war movement and continuing to publish and distribute the literature which is the only voice for the policy alternatives to George Bush's insanity of war and depression.

LaRouche forecasts upheaval in U.S.

Upon hearing of the verdict, statesman and economist Lyndon LaRouche, the most significant political prisoner in the United States today, had the following comments:

"I have just heard a report of the jury conviction of the defendants, Gallagher, Gallagher, and Hecht in Roanoke, Virginia, and have heard of the jury awarding the customary—for Virginia—barbaric sentences.

"The barbarism of the sentences itself would suggest something wrong with the jury. The fact that the jury, during what passed for *voir dire*, showed itself to be so prejudiced that it should be discharged essentially as a whole, is relevant to the barbarism of the verdict, which speaks for itself.

"It would appear on the surface that there is no justice in the court system of the state of Virginia. But that will change; and that will change providing that we are persistent to bring about the necessary changes.

"The United States is about to go through an upheaval beyond anything in the memory of this century's events. It will be turned upside down; and those who are incumbent, in the sense of holding responsibility for the policies which

are *still* in force on the economic and other fronts, will bear the brunt of public rage. And the atrocities which judge, jury, and prosecutor have concocted in the Commonwealth of Virginia, will be part of those atrocities which will be greeted as the London mobs greeted the famous judge Lord Jeffreys of the Bloody Assizes, who the estimable Macaulay, writing in the *History of England Since the Accession of James II*, described as disappearing into history ahead of the mob in his nightshirt." (See box, page 54.)

Government misconduct spotlighted

In closing arguments, defense lawyers Gerald Zerkin, Jeffrey Hoffman, and Donald Randolph accused the government of running a political prosecution against the defendants. Zerkin illustrated this by asking the jury: In a normal case, does the FBI destroy documents after a federal judge has ordered him to return them to the defendants? Does the U.S. government make a habit of conducting illegal involuntary bankruptcies? When the government goes to arrest Michael Milken or some other Wall Street broker on securities fraud, do they normally take along 400 armed men, helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft, and bomb disposal units? Zerkin told the jury that the prosecution is cynical. They want you to think that people wouldn't risk their money to better their country, he said.

Defense attorney Hoffman attacked the fraud of prosecutor John Russell and the task force's case. He ripped apart their case, witness by witness, beginning with the eight imposters (relatives of lenders and not the lenders themselves were allowed to testify), through the perjured testimony of C.D. Bryant, Chris Curtis, and Wayne Hintz, the latter two ex-members of the LaRouche movement.

Defense attorney Randolph presented a review of the affirmative case. He told the jury to keep in mind the Book of Matthew about Peter denying Christ, when they consider the testimony of those supporters who had made political loans but now, under pressure, called them "investments." He challenged the jurors to consider the evidence and stand up to the peer pressure they are under not to acquit a "LaRouchie."

In his closing remarks, prosecutor Russell told the jury that the defense had exploited civil rights leader Amelia Boynton Robinson, a board member of the Schiller Institute

Jeffreys fled to prison to escape mob

The George Lord Jeffreys of the Bloody Assizes to which LaRouche refers was England's Chief Justice and then the Lord Chancellor during the period 1683 to 1689, best known for his bloody rulings following the defeat of Monmouth at the Battle of Sedgemoor in 1685. Of the peasants who supported Monmouth in his rebellion against King Charles II, somewhere between 300 and 350 were hung, 800 were deported, and many more whipped and imprisoned by the presiding Jeffreys. Drunken and debauched, Jeffreys meted out "justice" with yelling and swearing and packed juries.

Perhaps the most shocking rulings were those which condemned two women to death—Alice Lisle, the widow

of an anti-Crown conspirator, who was beheaded, and the elderly Elizabeth Taunton, who was burned alive. Both were accused of having aided fugitives following Monmouth's defeat. The populace was also disgusted with the fact that those sentenced to hang were left unburied, tarred, and hanging from gibbets all around the towns.

Jeffreys held sway for three more years, but the worm had begun to turn in late 1688, with the trial of seven bishops who were defying an order from King James II. At that point, although Jeffreys carried out his normal packing of the jury and the judges were fixed, the railroad was not carried out. The jury voted "not guilty," to the roar of applause of the citizenry, who had packed into the courthouse.

Sir George ultimately escaped the wrath of the mob, only by expressing his preference to be imprisoned in the Tower of London at the time of the takeover of William of Orange. After several months of the usual treatment, he died there—before he could be executed.

founded by Helga LaRouche, who testified for the defense. Upon hearing of Russell's comments, Mrs. Boynton Robinson said, "Is that so? I could tell him a thing or two. Nobody uses me."

The corrupt Weckstein

Throughout the trial, the corruption of Weckstein has been blatant. On various legal and evidentiary matters, he has consistently ruled with defiance to the Constitution and on the side of the prosecution. The extent to which outrageous political bias motivates his decisions was indicated by one little example at the close of trial.

In response to a defense request to keep out the memoranda of prosecution witness Wayne Hintz, or in the alternative to redact them, taking out prejudicial material, Weckstein made a gratuitous comment on the record, that during the Mike Billington trial, he had allowed the liberal redacting of the Hintz memos, and he later regretted it because, he claimed, the prosecution was unduly hampered. Billington, another LaRouche associate also charged on concocted "securities" violations, was sentenced a year ago to 77 years.

Nation of Islam condemns injustice

Among the many national and international observers to attend the trial, was a delegation from the Minister Louis Farrakhan-led Nation of Islam, which observed the judicial proceedings on Dec. 14. After viewing the proceedings, Dr. Alim Muhammad, national spokesman for Minister Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam, said, "It is clear that a vast miscarriage of justice is taking place in a remote corner in the state of Virginia and that pre-arranged legal chicanery to

prevent all the facts from being known is taking place, which prevents the possibility of justice."

Dr. Muhammad added, "The scene in the Salem [County] courtroom is that of a kangaroo court, very familiar to black victims of America's injustice system for a very long time, where the innocent are punished so that the guilty might go free."

Roanoke 'justice' like East German brand

by Anno Hellenbroich

The author was recently a candidate for the first all-German Parliament from Berlin, and is, among other things, an expert on the infamous secret police and "justice" system of the former communist dictatorship of East Germany. He wrote his impressions of the Weckstein court for a German newspaper, after returning from a visit to Roanoke in mid-December.

The trial in Roanoke, Virginia against three more associates of Lyndon LaRouche, who are accused of alleged financial crimes, is drawing to a close after 10 weeks. Despite the insane way in which the trial was conducted by Judge

Weckstein—in a free country with an independent judiciary Weckstein would have long been dismissed because of prejudice—the defendants Paul and Anita Gallagher, and Lawrence Hecht succeeded in presenting to the public the nature of their scientific and political work, thus entirely pulling the rug out from under the politically motivated accusation of “illegal sales of securities.”

Lyndon LaRouche’s own personal testimony as a witness for the defense already had made clear how through LaRouche’s influence in the fields of science, culture, and economics, he had made powerful enemies among the American establishment, enemies who had put him into prison by means of a special task force.

Paul Gallagher, in his testimony, was able to demonstrate how as director of the scientific institution Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) in the 1980s, he had played a leading role in spreading the conception developed by LaRouche of strategic beam defense (SDI).

Further witnesses, the important scientists Dr. Frazer and Dr. Soldano, gave impressive descriptions of seminars held in LaRouche’s house which, according to both scientists, reminded them of the fundamental research discussions of the Solvay conferences in the 1920s and 1930s, and which were probably the only place in today’s scientific life in America where one could participate in the development of ideas concerning fundamentals.

Typical of the way in which Weckstein ran the trial was his rejection of, and his grounds for rejecting, a motion by the defense to play for them a 30-second-long clip of an American talk show in which Gallagher had explained the SDI policy announced by President Reagan in 1983. The defense wanted thereby to document the prominent position of Gallagher, the FEF, and LaRouche in the debate going on in the United States at that time. Weckstein not only denied the motion, as he did with most of the defense’s efforts to provide substantial evidence of innocence, but also gave as his reason for doing so an unabashed and presumptuous warning not to unnecessarily lengthen the trial through making such motions!

Illegal government action decried

As a witness for the defense, attorney Dave Kuney, a specialist in bankruptcy proceedings and a professor at the American University, sketched the government’s illegal actions in the forced bankruptcy of the Fusion Energy Foundation, Caucus Distributors, Inc., and the firm Campaigner—institutions which overlap with the field of work of the defendants. Kuney had defended these three institutions against the involuntary bankruptcy proceeding which had been initiated by the U.S. Attorney’s office. Kuney demonstrated that in the normal course of business, firms reorganize themselves in order to ensure their continued existence. But the “involuntary bankruptcy” proceeding puts a firm out of existence. Kuney testified that the U.S. Attorney’s office had obtained

its court bankruptcy order through false representation of the facts. Thus, for example, the U.S. Attorney claimed that the firms had fewer than 12 creditors, whereas in fact there were over 3,000 creditors nationwide.

Kuney also described the later decision by Judge Bostetter of the Eastern District of Virginia, who reproached the U.S. Attorney for “constructive fraud” and “deceptive intent,” thus demolishing one of the main pillars of the accusations against LaRouche and his associates. For this destroyed one of the critical accusations, namely, that the defendants had solicited contributions for specific projects, books, or political campaigns “deceptively, i.e., without any intention of actually using the money for said goals,” and that they had taken political loans “without any intention of ever paying them back.” In reality, the preponderance of the loans could not be paid back, because, following the involuntary bankruptcy Paul Gallagher, as FEF’s business manager, could no longer fulfill his financial obligations toward the FEF’s supporters.

A political show trial

The observer at this trial is especially struck by the brazenly shameless manner in which Judge Weckstein played along with the arguments of the state prosecutor Russell in every instance. At the same time, important motions by the defense were ruthlessly struck down, especially those which could have documented the massive influencing of the jury, the initiation of the criminal proceedings, and the attempts to bribe the judge, by the Anti-Defamation League.

Coffee or tea was sipped at the judge’s bench during important testimony which could have contributed to exoneration; now and then Judge Weckstein would sneer at those present, and on motions by the defense would immediately call on the prosecutor to present a counter-argument “along the following lines,” etc.—all this in a trial in which, if the previous trials against LaRouche associates in Roanoke are any measure, the defendants are threatened with jail terms of up to 77 years.

On top of this comes the propaganda spewed out by the local newspaper, the *Roanoke Times and World News*. In the final days of the trial this newspaper published right below an editorial on a shameful Nazi graffiti desecration incident (“Jew Satan, Bush Jew dog”), another article, comparable to the Goebbels press, slandering the defendants in the ongoing trial. It turns out that a close relative of the judge is a co-owner of this paper—a circumstance which had been repeatedly brought forward by the defense, but which Judge Weckstein denied each time.

Following the revolution in Germany, some people have come forward describing the victims of earlier political trials in the German Democratic Republic, and in some cases even confronting the judges who presided over these trials. There are horrifying parallels between those show trials and the one going on in Roanoke, in the plantation state of Virginia.

New governors launch Schachtian austerity

by H. Graham Lowry

A year ago, Massachusetts and California were generally perceived to be as far apart economically as they are geographically—especially in their abilities to generate the revenues needed for the public services and functions of the state. In the New Year, both states are looking at record rates of financial collapse, under new governors proposing nothing more than savage austerity. Hjalmar Schacht, Adolf Hitler's minister of economics, must be smiling somewhere.

In Massachusetts, Gov. William Weld must have even caught Goebbels's attention, by invoking John Winthrop, John Adams, and John Kennedy in his Jan. 3 inaugural address, and calling his plan to wipe out up to \$2 billion in vital services over the next 18 months an "entrepreneurial government" that "understands that sometimes the most helpful thing you can do is get out of the way." Weld intends to see that you do, and stop asking "how many teachers we employ or how many streetcleaners we send out."

California: spiritual renewal in poverty

California's Gov. Pete Wilson was a little folksier at his inaugural Jan. 7, featuring the Kingston Trio singing "It Takes a Worried Man," and an appearance by the San Diego Chicken, who will soon be counting his feathers. The state now projects a deficit for the coming fiscal year of up to \$10 billion, 10 times the current year's shortfall! Citing "unprecedented fiscal constraint," Wilson asked, "How can new programs be undertaken when existing programs seem inescapably threatened by the budget crisis?" The answer, he said, is "new preventive programs at the expense of established remedial programs. . . . That is *exactly* what we must propose." California, Wilson said, will "shift from the remedial to the preventive, from income maintenance to enrichment of individual potential, so that we may set the human spirit soaring."

With nothing soaring but the deficit, the Wilson administration is already planning at least \$708 million in further cuts for the current fiscal year, on top of the \$2.7 billion slashed last July and a \$900 million tax hike. Another \$200 million in "fees" will be squeezed from the already cash-strapped cities. The public education system, from the kindergarten to college levels, will be gutted by \$500 million to \$1 billion during the remainder of this school year alone—if Wilson gets his way in demanding the repeal of Proposition

98, which guarantees the school system 40% of the state's general funds.

The Massachusetts debacle

Upon the ashes of the "Massachusetts Miracle" of the now-departed Gov. Michael Dukakis, William Weld has established an apparatus for police-state austerity. The collapse of the state's "post-industrial society" wiped out \$1.23 billion of anticipated revenues from July through October of last year. Massive cuts left a remaining deficit estimated by Dukakis at around \$125 million through this June, but Weld's first cabinet meeting Jan. 7 revised that figure to \$850 million, on top of a projected shortfall of up to \$1.6 billion for the 1991-92 fiscal year.

Said Weld, who trampled on the Constitution as former head of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, such huge additional cuts "would be very painful." But, he added, "there is a sense that if we don't do these things now, things could go even rougher for the human service community in the future." A cartoon in the *Boston Globe* on Jan. 3, done as a mock movie poster, portrayed Weld in a trenchcoat holding a smoking machine gun, with a maniacal expression on his face, under the headline "Starring Bill Weld as 'The Terminator.'"

In his inaugural, the heir to one of New England's oldest dope-trafficking fortunes called Massachusetts "a fiscal Beirut," with "its spirits lower than its bond rating." He also called for preventing social problems rather than waiting to seek cures. "Providing day care or home care for the elderly is less intrusive and less expensive than early institutionalization. The same principle applies, of course, to prenatal and perinatal care," he said. Weld told his cabinet members to be ready for "crisis management" and have "painful" budget-cutting targets ready within a week. He also announced a new "downsizing committee"—certainly a euphemism worthy of Goebbels—to ensure that the bloodletting objectives are reached, and named notorious union-buster Stephen Tocco to head it.

Tocco, the former executive vice president of the Associated Builders and Contractors, a non-union construction group, led an unsuccessful campaign in 1988 to repeal the state's longstanding prevailing wage law. In a letter to Weld, Leo Purcell, president of the Massachusetts Building Trades Council, denounced the appointment as "a slap in the face" to labor. "If there is one person in the state of Massachusetts who has come to represent everything that working people have fought against, it is him," Purcell added.

Just in case any opposition proves troublesome, Weld has also named his top enforcer to the "downsizing committee," his chief of staff Mark Robinson, who played the same role under Weld in the Justice Department's Criminal Division. Secretary of Administration and Finance Peter Nessen, a holdover from the Dukakis regime, was also assigned to this familiar role.

After Nancy Cruzan: 'societal consensus' or consensus for suicide

by Linda Everett

After 12 days of court-ordered starvation and dehydration, Nancy Beth Cruzan, the permanently handicapped 33-year-old whose family obtained a state court's permission to kill her, died on Dec. 26.

This was no crime in which Americans were innocent bystanders or simply observers—they were accomplices. People scrambled to give their opinion on when and how incompetent patients would or should be killed—no matter that their opinions were crafted by the ideological stalwarts and inheritors of the Euthanasia Council, the American Eugenics Society, and the Malthusian League—all verifiable supporters of the Nazi practice of eliminating illness by “state health control”—that is, extermination. For nearly five years, the media, the euthanasia lobby, the Cruzan family and their attorneys promoted lies about Nancy Cruzan to get the general population to rationalize her murder and that of thousands of other vulnerable individuals like her. Euthanasia advocates in judicial and medical layers whipped up enough fear of “ending up” like Cruzan to legalize murder through documents like the living will and durable powers of attorney, which federal Medicare officials have now clinched as their latest mandatory cost-containment tool.

Such “personal” opinions and premature death arrangements not only added a nail to Nancy Cruzan's coffin, but also “nailed” our Judeo-Christian culture, with its belief in the innate worthiness of each human life, no matter its enfeebled condition. Right-to-die enthusiasts see the paganism that's left in its place as the product of a “societal consensus.” However, once the lies of Cruzan's killing are exposed, should Americans refuse to act in the tradition of the United States—the only nation to bring to trial the Nazi doctors for the crime of euthanasia—then we might more honestly say that what we face is a “suicidal consensus.”

Sanctity of life, not quality of life

Nancy Cruzan sustained severe brain damage as the result of an auto accident in Carthage, Missouri in 1983. Although Missouri law clearly prohibited starving patients to death, Nancy's parents, Joe and Joyce Cruzan, requested her doctors at the Missouri Rehabilitation Center to stop all feeding.

The hospital, a state-run facility, refused.

In 1987 the Cruzans petitioned the Jasper County Probation Court, where Judge Charles Teel approved their request to kill their daughter. His decision was overruled the following year by Missouri's Supreme Court, which held that the state's interest in the preservation of life encompassed not only the life of an individual, but included an interest in the sanctity of life itself. The court said that the state's interest in the preservation of life was *not* qualified by an individual's quality of life, as other previous pro-euthanasia rulings had claimed nationally.

The Cruzans took their case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which, in its first ruling regarding euthanasia last June, decided that everyone has a constitutional right to die, and that states were not acting against those rights if, as in the case of Missouri, they asked for “clear and convincing evidence” of what patients who, like Nancy, are unable to speak for themselves, would have wanted, before allowing their families to kill them.

The Cruzans' attorney, William H. Colby, of the firm Shock, Hardy and Bacon, found new “evidence” that Nancy would rather starve to death than continue living as a “vegetable.” The Cruzans returned to Judge Teel's court last November, with a new petition to kill Nancy.

The only ones who could intervene and save Nancy refused. Missouri Attorney General William Webster, a former “pro-lifer” who sniffed a turn in the political wind and a future governorship, came out endorsing Missouri's new right-to-be-starved law. He had the state removed from the case. The state's interest in protecting the lives of patients in its care also evaporated when John Bagby took over as director of the Missouri Department of Health, which oversees the rehabilitation center where Nancy is cared for. Bagby's predecessor, Dr. Robert Harmon, had vigorously opposed patient starvation and eventually resigned from his post. But Bagby was ready to “just follow orders,” saying, “I can conceive of no basis upon which I as director of the Department of Health or anyone under my supervision in that capacity, would refuse to carry out a lawful order of a court regarding a ward of the court.”

During the hearing and after Judge Teel ruled that Nancy's tiny feeding tube be removed on Dec. 14. Thad McCause, Nancy's court-appointed guardian, refused to intervene or appeal Teel's decision. He said that Nancy "died that night in 1983."

For the next 12 days, while people from across the country gathered in prayer and protest outside the rehabilitation center, state and federal courts repeatedly denied petitions filed by several groups and coalitions including Operation Rescue, Lawyers for Life, and Missouri Right to Life for guardianship of Nancy or for court orders to stop her starvation. The courts and religious leaders of various denominations chided the petitioners for attempting to intervene. The media, not missing a beat in using Cruzan's life—and death—to generate a profusion of murderous lies, now hailed Nancy's "accomplishments" in procuring her right to a "dignified" death, at last, by barbaric starvation.

The media's lies

Lie: Nancy was a "vegetable," "a piece of broken flesh that really had no meaning," an "empty shell of a body." Pro-death neurologist Ronald Cranford said that she was in a "persistent vegetative state," didn't feel a thing and just "looked alive." Even if all that *were* true, it's not a reason to kill.

Fact: Nancy's nurses at the Missouri Rehabilitation Center and hospital administrator Donald Lamkin stated, "Nancy was clearly aware of who walked into her room. She was not in a coma."

Fact: Rev. Ralph J. Duffner wrote in an affidavit to the court that as the center's chaplain in 1987, he visited Nancy several times, and observed her increased agitation and disturbance whenever the TV in her room broadcast news of her parents' legal fight to have her feeding ended. Reverend Duffner stated that on three different occasions, at intervals of several weeks, he went into Nancy's room when she was awake. "I announced myself as a Catholic priest, and said, 'Nancy, if you don't start talking, they are going to kill you.' The breathing of Nancy went from a normal pattern to one which was very rapid. I know she heard me. . . . I believe that Nancy Cruzan, even though she is unable to speak on her own . . . is against the procedure [starvation] the court has decided."

Fact: Nancy's nurses testified that she cried several times after her family visited or when cards were read to her. Cranford called this "mere reflex." Nancy was dosed with nervous system depressants three times a day, yet a film shows that she still grimaced, moaned, and pulled away from painful stimuli. The family won't show a film, which was shown in court, of Nancy smacking her lips and turning her head toward her nurse as she prepared her lunch. Her parents and nurses present comment, "Yes, she always does that."

Lie: The family and their attorney pointed to Nancy's contorted body, and talked of its continual debilitation.

Fact: Cruzan's family demanded a halt to Nancy's daily

rehabilitation and physical therapy, which would have assured both comfort and range of motion of her limbs.

Lie: Treating Nancy is prolonging her death. Why not let God be God, and let Nature takes its course?

Fact: Nancy depended on basic care and daily nutrition, given lovingly by her nurses, for seven years. The Missouri Supreme Court rejected the Cruzans' rationale in 1988, saying, "This is not a case in which we are asked to *let* someone die. . . . This is a case in which we are asked to allow the medical profession to *make* Nancy die."

Lie: The euthanasia mob threatens the elderly that if they do not sign living wills, they will end up like Nancy—filled with tubes and force-fed.

Fact: Court records show that Nancy was originally fed orally, drinking a glass of juice, and chewing and swallowing "whatever was put in her mouth"—mashed potatoes, bananas, poached eggs, and link sausage. A stomach tube was implanted to make long-term care easier. The right-to-die lobby blames technology for "prolonging death"—but a stomach tube was first used to save the life of a five-year-old who swallowed lye in 1896!

Lie: The media claim that nurses supported starving Nancy.

Fact: When Webster pulled out of the case, the center and its staff had no legal standing to oppose killing Nancy. The nurses overwhelmingly opposed it, and fear that their state-run facility will become the state's official killing center—and with good reason. The father of another of the center's patients, Cristine Busalacchi, handicapped since 1987, wants to move her to Minneapolis to starve her with the help of the same expert who helped the Cruzans, Ronald Cranford. Nurses told reporters: "I refuse to have anything to do with it, it's murder." "We love Nancy . . . [and won't] do something that is against everything we stand for."

Lie: The family repeatedly told the court, "This [starvation] is what Nancy would have wanted."

Fact: When asked if he wouldn't let someone else who loved Nancy adopt her, Joe Cruzan told a pro-life leader, "I cannot go on with my life until she is dead and buried." A witness says Cruzan told a Head Injury Support Group five years ago that "he was tired of the hassle and everything connected with Nancy's condition. . . . He was going to seek a way to disconnect her feeding tube, and if this could not be accomplished in [Missouri], he would take her into Kansas and finish the job himself."

Fact: The starvation ruling turned on conversations from 10 and 12 years ago which Nancy's alleged "friends" (one knew her for a month) happened to remember last October! Even if these *were* Nancy's views, they are wrong. Western civilization does not kill people because they would rather not be alive. Besides, not only do people change the views they once held as teenagers; it is well documented that after a stroke or serious injury, people who previously "opposed" life-saving care start to demand it.

Who came down on the 'Catholic Register'?

by Robert L. Gallagher

The *National Catholic Register*, a private U.S. weekly newspaper known for its "conservatism," has declared war on *30 Giorni*, a rival, orthodox Catholic monthly edited in Rome and known to be close to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The *Register's* Dec. 30 issue includes two front-page articles which denounce the monthly—whose U.S. edition is named *30 Days*—for being too "European," having "a fixation" with Masonry, and even being "anti-Semitic." *30 Giorni* is "shocking, at least to the Anglo-Saxon reader," explains the *Register*.

You're right, if you think this tempest must have something to do with the Middle East crisis, and the strong Vatican criticisms of Bush. But the pretext is even more interesting.

A lead article in *30 Giorni* on the Polish presidential elections endorsed Solidarity leader Lech Walesa over outgoing Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. "The story painted a bleak picture of Mazowiecki and other Polish intellectuals opposed to Walesa," writes the *Register*, "in particular the circle associated with the Krakow publications *Tygodnik Powszechny*, and *Znak*."

30 Giorni wrote: "On the Polish question, this magazine openly declared its support for Walesa because it seemed to us that he could have guaranteed a ray of freedom. We particularly agree with him on two points: 1) freedom for Catholics from the factiousness of Catholic intellectuals . . . ; 2) his desire to deal directly with the real power without using 'experts' as filters or mediators."

In other words, *30 Giorni* denounces Mazowiecki's practice of hiring Harvard economists like Jeffrey Sachs to deal with the International Monetary Fund and the Great Powers of North America and Europe.

In addition, *30 Giorni's* November issue reported that the diaries of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński show that the liberal Catholic circles around *Tygodnik Powszechny*, and *Znak*, which the *Register* describes as "Mazowiecki's Krakow friends," had at the time of the Second Vatican Council launched a vicious attack on Cardinal Wyszyński for "exaggerating" the importance of Catholic devotion to the mother of Christ. The article also indicated that "the Catholic circles that govern the new post-Communist Poland of today" were

"understudies" of the secular left.

In Poland, and among the Polish, these are all big issues. When the publisher of the French edition of *30 Giorni* saw the November issue, he notified the Rome editorial offices that he would not distribute it. The explanation from the editor of the French edition Robert Masson: *30 Giorni* was violating Mazowiecki's "honor." *30 Giorni* responded by producing and distributing a French edition from Rome.

Now in the wake of Walesa's victory, the largest-circulation national Catholic newspaper in the United States is trying to punish *30 Giorni*, by trying to organize a readership boycott of its large U.S. edition edited by Rev. Joseph Fessio, S.J., a former student and personal friend of Ratzinger.

Explains Masson: *30 Giorni* "sees Masons and Jews everywhere. Its coverage of Israel is consistently very harsh on the Jews."

Through a glass darkly, this refers to exposés that have appeared in *30 Giorni* on two subjects: 1) the return to power of the Masons in eastern Europe; and 2) the policy of Israel to drive all non-Jews out of Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem issue

30 Giorni's July 1990 issue reported: "There is a systematic plan to turn Jerusalem into an entirely Jewish city by buying out Christian and Muslim properties. Behind the plan: ultra-Orthodox Zionists—supported by parts of the government . . . influential sectors of the government bureaucracy are supporting the hegemonic designs of more fanatical elements of religious and Zionist extremists in the Holy City . . . young zealots are systematically installing radical Zionist cells in the Muslim zone, bearing the Torah in one hand and a gun in the other, supported by the financial lobbies of American Jewry and government funds." Stories of Israel government harassment of poor Christians and Muslims who refused to move filled an entire article.

What objection could the *Register* possibly have to such coverage? The violent Israeli attack on the former Greek Orthodox Hospice of St. John of Jerusalem, during the week before Easter no less, is well known. Answer: The truth of what's going on in Israel makes Saddam Hussein look like a hero, to both Christians and Muslims.

And up until early December, the *Register* itself provided more or less objective coverage of the present Middle East conflict. It documented how Hussein was on excellent terms with the Vatican, how he has helped the Church more than any other Arab leader, and how Iraqi-American Catholics were criticizing Bush. Then the U.S. Bishops Conference issued its statement questioning whether Bush's Middle East adventure could be justified by St. Augustine's "just war" doctrine. Then somebody, or something, cracked down on the *Register*, and the newspaper came out for Bush—attacking the Bishops in its Dec. 9 issue. It's not clear where the pressure on the *Register* is coming from, but it's clearly not coming from Rome.

War debate flares up as Congress reconvenes

The Bush administration attempted to suppress congressional debate on the Persian Gulf crisis before the Jan. 15 deadline for military use of force, by agreeing to an eleventh-hour meeting between Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Secretary of State James Baker. But the move backfired when debate flared up as the 102nd Congress convened Jan. 3.

Many congressmen were outraged over the dirty deal arranged by House and Senate leaders to postpone debate on the Gulf crisis. But, reflecting the concern of constituents over the war danger, the leadership did not authorize the usual recess taken until after the President's State of the Union address on Jan. 28.

House and Senate leaders, meeting with President Bush on Jan. 3, went back to Capitol Hill announcing that they would not debate the Gulf crisis until after the Jan. 9 Baker-Aziz meeting in Geneva, which suddenly became feasible to an otherwise recalcitrant White House.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Me.) indicated that resolutions on the Gulf would not be taken up until Jan. 23, at which point the United States might already be at war. Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Ia.), among others, refused to be muzzled. He presented a resolution, co-sponsored by Sens. Brock Adams (D-Wash.) and Quentin Burdick (D-N.D.), demanding that Bush get authorization from Congress before initiating offensive action.

In a heated exchange with Mitchell, Harkin objected to the unanimous-consent resolution which Mitchell had introduced to postpone debate on any anti-war resolutions. "Now is the time and here is the place to debate the con-

stitutional prerogatives of the President of the United States, not on Jan. 23, but now, before Jan. 15," Harkin said. "This Senator does not, in any way, believe that debating the issue of the constitutional powers of the presidency in any way undermines the United States of America. Never, never, never does it undermine the United States of America to assert our democratic principles and to debate the full meaning of the Constitution, especially the War Powers Act."

Harkin was supported by Senator Adams, who added that there was a difference between "debating whether or not the President has the power to commit offensive actions after they have started and blood has been shed and now when we have an opportunity to say." He called the issue of constitutional authorization "fundamental to the life of the people in this country."

President Bush hopes to circumvent the Constitution and avoid going to Congress for authorization, since he fears that such a debate, with the wave of anti-war opinion now sweeping the country, would not give him what he wants.

Hollings warns of 'new world disorder'

Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) warned of a wave of terrorism in the wake of Mideast hostilities, in statements on the Senate floor on Jan. 3. "Such a wholesale slaughter of brother Arabs by infidels," Hollings said, referring to Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Gen. Colin Powell's indication of "a sudden, massive, violent strike," "would totally break up the hollow coalition of Western and Arab states arrayed against Saddam. . . . Arab public

opinion would be united in revulsion and outrage. Every Arab terrorist, every fundamentalist mullah, every anti-American zealot, would take heart. Instead of a new world order, we will create a new world disorder."

Hollings also referred to the assurances given to Saddam Hussein by then U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie, that the U.S. would not intervene in what it considered an Arab affair. Hollings said that "Saddam must have been surprised" by the reaction of President Bush following the invasion.

Hollings said he favors a surgical air strike if the sanctions do not force Iraq out of Kuwait, but warned against attempts to "impose a culture through the barrel of a gun." Hollings counseled the administration to "Arabize this conflict before we lose a single GI."

Kennedy attacks imperial 'King George'

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) warned that "the American people are far from united on the question of going to war against Iraq on the Jan. 15 timetable set by the President," in comments on the floor of the Senate on Jan. 3.

"President George Bush is not King George Bush," said Kennedy. "He does not have the unilateral authority to take this nation into war. By refusing to seek congressional authorization for offensive action, the President is acting unconstitutionally and irresponsibly. He may threaten Iraq with war in the Gulf, but he is also threatening America with our worst constitutional crisis since the Civil War."

"President Bush stubbornly insists that he needs no authorization from Congress to take the nation into war," he continued. "But saying so does not make it so. Perhaps the President can scrounge up a scholar or two to defend his indefensible position. But the overwhelming weight of the evidence is against him. And for good reason, because the President is wrong—dead wrong—and thousands of American soldiers may soon be dead because of him."

House rules change upsets Republicans

The budget austerity package agreed upon by the 101st Congress and the White House, was abruptly ruptured when House Democrats introduced a *pro forma* rules proposal giving the power of estimating the budget shortfall to the Congressional Budget Office and Congress's Joint Committee on Taxation. The estimates provide the basis to determine whether tax cuts or new spending programs will result in automatic spending reductions.

House Republicans and the White House considered the proposal a breach of the budget agreement, where, they claim, the estimates were to be provided by the Office of Management and Budget, an administrative organ under the direct control of the White House.

"It's insane," commented White House Chief of Staff John Sununu. "It's a clear violation of the agreement and of the bill Congress passed and the President signed into law." Bush lamented that the change was "neither fair nor right."

"The budget deal was supposed to last for five years," whined Minority Whip Rep. Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.).

"It's being broken on the first day Congress is sworn in."

Democrats, who distrust the OMB and have charged it with politicizing its fiscal estimates, defended the change, considering the CBO more "independent and objective." This move, and the release of the CBO's latest estimate that the budget deficit is \$50 billion more than the previous estimate, throws a monkey-wrench into the budget agreement of 1990.

Gonzalez says insurance system broke

Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez (D-Tex.), chairman of the House Banking Committee, noted in comments on the House floor on Jan. 3 that the federal insurance system is broke. "It is clear, as I have been saying," said Gonzalez, "that the two main insurance funds are broke. It is clear that that is dramatic evidence that the system has broken down, as some of us have been anticipating, predicting, and talking about for over 20 years."

Gonzalez said that "In the month of October, our country lost 173,000-plus jobs. In the month of November alone, we lost 287,000-plus jobs, so we may not be in a recession. We may be in what we would have always called a depression."

Gonzalez is calling for a complete overhaul of the system by which financial institutions are regulated. In a bill he has introduced, deposit insurance would be restricted to \$100,000 per account and would prohibit paying off multimillion-dollar accounts that are now insured for institutional investors.

The bill would also combine the several agencies responsible for insurance functions into a single Federal

Depository Institutions Regulatory Agency. Federally insured institutions would be restricted to the practices permitted to federally chartered institutions. Institutions that run lucrative offshore and other foreign operations would be required to pay premiums on deposits in those institutions. The function of chartering financial institutions would be made separate from the insurance function.

Adams warns of constitutional crisis

"Like it or not, the entire world has set its clocks to the administration's Jan. 15 deadline," said Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wash.), a guest speaker at the Cato Institute's seminar in Washington on the Persian Gulf crisis on Jan. 8. "For this reason, following introductory ceremonies, Senator [Tom] Harkin [D-Iowa] and I pressed the Senate to begin debate immediately on whether our nation should go to war in the Persian Gulf."

Pointing to the various occasions in the past 20 years when Presidents have taken the country to war without congressional approval, Adams noted that Congress, through its inaction, "has been complicit in the erosion of its rights. . . . Now in this new era, Congress has the opportunity to reassert those rights."

Adams noted that "President Bush appears to consider thwarting aggression in the Gulf more important than upholding the Constitution at home." With regard to Congress's power to declare war, Adams said, "If we fail to exercise our war-making powers now, we risk losing that right permanently."

Adams said he will oppose offensive U.S. military action.

National News

Indictment of Texas House Speaker a frame?

Gib Lewis, the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, was indicted by a Texas grand jury Dec. 27 on two misdemeanor charges of illegally accepting a gift and failing to report it. Lewis blasted the charge as politically motivated.

Lewis has denied any wrongdoing and chastised Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle for "literally campaigning—and running a dirty campaign in my estimation—to influence the Speaker's election." Earle notified Lewis he was under investigation only after Lewis filed a lawsuit against Earle charging that he was "spoonfeeding" evidence to a grand jury without notifying Lewis that he was the target.

Austin political sources say that Lewis is the victim of a political vendetta run by Gov.-elect Ann Richards. Earle, a close political ally of Richards, has been promised a judicial appointment, according to these sources, if he can get rid of Lewis.

Hayden backs racist education bill in Calif.

California Assemblyman Tom Hayden introduced a bill (AB 462), that would establish a two-track education system, the newsletter of the National Association of Scholars has reported. One track would be based on academic ability and the other on race, which is designed to increase the presence of "historically under-represented minorities." Those in the second track would be ensured graduation through a retention policy, and would mandate that race be a primary factor in hiring of staff.

The same bill attacks the present "Eurocentric" education in the name of advancing "multiculturalism." Under this sort of call for "diversity," the study of classics has been greatly reduced in numerous courses to study feminist, "gay," Afro, and other works.

This orientation, supported by advo-

cates of "political correctness," says that no qualitative judgment may be made about any work lest it injure "gender and race" sensitivities.

"Political correctness" grew out of Deconstructionist French comparative literature studies, according to *Newsweek* magazine. The studies are ultimately based upon Aristotelian method. The Deconstructionists are also seeking to revive Friedrich Nietzsche, a nihilist and forerunner of Nazism.

IAM union head backs colonization of Mars

George Kourpias, who heads the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers union, points out that "a strong civilian space program—including the human exploration and settlement of the Moon and Mars—offers one of the brightest chances for economic regeneration," writing in a recent issue of *Ad Astra* magazine.

Kourpias states that a \$15 billion National Aeronautic and Space Administration budget generates about \$31 billion in increased business in the economy, and directly and indirectly supports more than 390,000 jobs. The economic impact varies among industries, but he quotes a figure of \$42 in new business in iron and steel generated for \$1 invested in the space program.

Space exploration will also revitalize education, which is as shaky as our industrial base, Kourpias writes. "What better way to fill young people with a passion for math and science than to promise that, someday soon, they'll have a chance to fly into space, or help settle the Moon or Mars?" An even more compelling reason for a strong space program, he concludes, is that we are a species that explores and pioneers.

Also backing a strong space program, NASA official James McCulla writes that NASA remains committed to manned space operations because nothing replaces human "insight, leaps of inference and flexible response," in a commentary in the Jan. 4 *Washington Post*.

He writes that the scientific data from the recent Galileo spacecraft fly-by of Earth

showed that there might be life on Earth, but only a human being could "confirm it and guess whether it might be hospitable and determine whether we might harm it and understand the conditions that let it get a foothold and speculate about its future."

Pizzazz to replace news in tomorrow's papers

The *Boca Raton News*, a Florida newspaper owned by the Knight-Ridder chain, is restructuring news to fit into "bite size" statements, according to the Jan. 6 *Washington Post*. Knight-Ridder launched the project after a \$2 million research study looking at demographic trends, and is heralding the change as the newspaper type of the future.

The newspaper dices the news into even smaller portions than *USA Today*. Editor Wayne Ezell explained the approach, citing an article that blared "Champagne Prices to Explode." Ezell stated that "For baby boomers who go to a lot of champagne parties, that's more important than what Jack Kemp said today." The paper contains a lot of graphics and colored pictures, and Ezell has banned stories that "jump" from one page to another, because readers don't have the patience for long stories.

The Knight-Ridder research states that only half of the nation's adults read a newspaper every day, down from three-fourths in 1967. Many respondents said they prefer to get their news on the run, from television or the radio. Teenagers and young adults say they are not interested in what the older generation defines as "news." This approach, referred to as "bottom line" journalism, was pioneered by the success of *USA Today*, which was launched by the Gannett chain. The operative phrase has become "respect for the reader's time."

A not-so-extreme example of this trend is the *Orange County Register* in California, which has abandoned traditional beats in favor of covering shopping malls with a full-time reporter. Other "relevant" topics that it covers for its readers are "relationships, making money, houses, learning, hobbies, pets, aging and getting around." Teenagers write movie reviews elaborating on what

were the "coolest" or "dumbest" moments in a film. The paper conducts daily reader polls, for which its editor claims they receive 700-1,500 calls or faxes a day.

LaRouche candidate seeks debt moratorium

Sheila Anne Jones, a LaRouche Democrat running for mayor of Chicago, issued a call Dec. 31 for an emergency debt moratorium to save lives.

If elected, Jones said she would "begin organizing for legislation to establish the freezing of all debt contracted prior" to her being sworn into office, until she can determine how insolvent the city is. "I will not kill the citizens to keep up usurious debt payments to [Mayor] Richard Daley's banking friends on Wall Street."

Jones said such an action "is in no way a repudiation of the debt," but would "benefit bond-holders, because we will convert city bonds of today to long-term, low-interest security bonds."

"This is an emergency debt moratorium, which means a temporary halt in payments on the bonded debt of the city, in order to assess and effect an orderly and just system of delivering goods and services to our citizens. This is most important to me, because the present system of enslavement to Wall Street speculators is costing tens of thousands of lives in our city. . . .

"If I'm forced to choose between paying debt service to Wall Street or feeding and housing Chicago citizens, I assure Wall Street, I will choose cutting debt service payments!"

FEC steps up attack on LaRouche movement

On Dec. 27, Federal Election Commission (FEC) General Counsel Lawrence Noble, acting on behalf of a nationwide "Get LaRouche" strike force, reactivated a six-year-old action charging several campaign committees and other entities affiliated with

Lyndon LaRouche, with violations of FEC regulations.

The FEC's actions against The LaRouche Campaign, Independent Democrats for LaRouche, Citizens for Freeman, the Fusion Energy Foundation, Campaigner Publications, Caucus Distributors, Los Angeles Labor Committee, and Publication and General Management, come on the heels of LaRouche's announcement of his candidacy for 1992.

The initial action, called a Matter Under Review (MUR), was initiated on Christmas Eve 1984 by then FEC general counsel Charles Steele, shortly after the commencement of criminal investigations of LaRouche by Steele's buddy and U.S. Attorney for Boston, William Weld.

The brief, consolidating previous MURs from as far back as October 1983, is a combination of Anti-Defamation League and Department of Justice initiated allegations against LaRouche and associates.

Noble recommends the FEC find "probable cause" that the individuals violated FEC rules. If the FEC makes such a finding, they will file a suit against the individuals in federal court.

Eco-terrorists advocate new sabotage technique

Eco-terrorist tree spikers are advocating that a new sabotage technique, termed "foam-coring," be used against the paper industry. The technique involves stuffing a styrofoam cup into a two-centimeter hole drilled into a logger tree. Supposedly, one styrofoam cup in 6,000 gallons of pulp will upset the chemical reaction that allows the pulp to turn into paper. Most felled trees are used for lumber, while only wood waste is used to make paper, according to a lumber company spokesman.

The new technique is advocated by a Tofino, British Columbia-based Quaker activist, J.C. Hinke, a fundraiser for the Society to Protect Intact Kinetic Ecosystems (SPIKE). Although the B.C. government has passed a law against spiking, Hinke says he doubts anyone will ever be convicted of the crime, since "the woods are deep and dark."

Briefly

● **GEORGE BUSH** personally turned down a request by a black leader to work out a plea bargain deal for Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry after the latter's arrest, according to a new book by Jonathan Agronsky. He writes that Bush replied: "No, I'm not going to intervene. I want him to go to jail," the Jan. 3 *Washington Post* reported.

● **CLAYTON YEUTTER** will leave his post as Secretary of Agriculture to chair the national Republican Party. Four GOPers, William Bennett; Craig Fuller, then Vice President Bush's chief of staff; Sen. James McClure (R-Id.); and Cliff Daniels, former White House political director, had all refused White House offers for the post, the Jan. 3 *Washington Post* reported.

● **HOLLINGER CORP.**, on whose board of directors sits Henry Kissinger, bought up three newspapers in Harlan and Middlesboro, Kentucky, and Tazewell, Tennessee, through a subsidiary, the Dec. 19 *New York Times* reported.

● **LOUIS SULLIVAN**, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, wants to cut the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to \$468 million in FY 1992, down from \$2.1 billion in 1985, and restrict it to nine states, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported.

● **WOMAN'S DAY** magazine slandered Lyndon LaRouche associate Rochelle Ascher in its Jan. 15, 1991 issue. *Woman's Day* is owned by Hachette Magazines, Inc., whose Chairman is Daniel Filipacchi, publisher *Lui* magazine, the French equivalent of *Playboy*.

● **A TULARE COUNTY**, California, Superior Court judge has sentenced a convicted child abuser to be implanted with the Norplant birth control device for three years. Although the 27-year-old woman agreed to it, her lawyer was shocked by the sentence.

Editorial

At the root of the present crises

The enormous danger of the present world conjuncture comes from proliferation of crisis hotspots—the Middle East, the Soviet Union and throughout Eastern Europe, the Indian subcontinent, and also the United States, where the escalating collapse of major banks threatens to destabilize the international monetary system as well.

Taken together, these are the ingredients of a devastating world crisis, a new period of war and global economic collapse. The motor-force in the situation comes from the United States. Many people have seen a point of comparison with the conjuncture of the British, French, and Israeli seizure of the Suez Canal in 1956, and the Soviet invasion of Hungary; but Lithuania's President Landsbergis in a recent interview made an even more striking comparison—to the Hitler-Stalin pact, which opened the door to the Soviet takeover of his country.

Just as the Second World War was preceded by a global economic collapse, the U.S. economy is certifiably bankrupt today. This has been papered over by a looting operation, in which the United States and the equally bankrupt Great Britain have wantonly seized resources from Ibero-America.

This looting is now being extending into Eastern Europe and into the Mideast. The policies which the IMF and the Anglo-Americans have forced on Poland and are prescribing for the Soviet Union, are creating intolerable political conditions. Whatever chances existed for a genuine easing of repression, the combination of the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf and the physical economic breakdown of the Soviet Union is propelling Moscow's dictatorial turn.

Over the past 25 years, the post-industrial policy of gutting basic economic infrastructure, agriculture, and manufacturing, especially the machine tool sector, has sent the United States sliding toward last place among industrialized nations in competitiveness and quality of products, and has collapsed the tax revenue base. Comparing the United States with, say, continental Europe and Japan in 1963 and then again today, we see the outcome of two opposite policies. Obviously, the

continental Europeans, under the de Gaulle-Adenauer leadership, and Japan were right in following their dirigistic economic policies, and the British and the Americans were wrong.

At present, Lyndon LaRouche is the American figure who has consistently fought to implement such programs for development, for all of the world's people, not just in the United States and Western Europe or Japan, but also for Africa and Asia.

Emergency measures such as LaRouche has repeatedly proposed, to bring the banking system of the United States under control of the Treasury Department, and to embark upon major infrastructure development projects at home and abroad, are the only alternative to catastrophe. Their acceptance within the United States will depend upon widespread recognition that the debacle of the Bush administration is a consequence of the failure of Democratic and Republican administrations alike, over the 25 years since Kennedy's assassination, to act to stop the drift toward increasing deregulation and emphasis on short-term monetary considerations rather than medium to long-term economic considerations.

Such a shift in U.S. policy domestically would take the United States out of the orbit of the British who are trying to recolonize the world, by diplomacy, usury, and failing that, war. It would mean that the U.S. administration would support, rather than keep opposing, German efforts to offer an economic aid package for Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, centered on infrastructure development and high-technology investment. It would mean a reversal of the U.S. trade-war stance in the GATT talks.

It is therefore in every nation's interest that the United States move back quickly to traditional American methods of fostering medium-to-long-term investment in higher productivity and relative volumes of employment in high-technology basic economic infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing, and distribution. It is in their interest that Lyndon LaRouche be freed from jail and allowed to take his rightful place as a major world leader.

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A TOTAL WAR STRATEGY AGAINST PEKING

by Gen. Teng Chieh

"All we need do is to understand how to make the most of our strengths to attack the enemy's weaknesses. Then we can snatch victory out of the jaws of defeat. The Chinese Communist Party is extremely weak, just like a paper tiger—one poke and you could pierce it through. All the masses on the mainland are opposed to communism."

—Gen. Teng Chieh

This amazing little book by one of the top leaders of Taiwan's Kuomintang party, published by Chinese Flag Monthly in December 1988, charted the course for the Chinese students' revolution that erupted just a few months later. Preface by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

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