

# EIR

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How London plots to dismantle Italy  
Colombian asylum affair ends in victory  
Boutros-Ghali coup d'état hits Bosnia

Gulliver travels to  
Stanford University



# Classics banned by 'political correctness' fanatics



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## From the Editor

**T**he *Feature* is unusually full this week, and it is unusual in another sense: It is being mass-reproduced for distribution on selected university campuses to launch a counter-attack against the dismantling of western civilization under the name of “deconstructionism.”

At Lyndon LaRouche’s genial suggestion, we started by dispatching our good friend Jonathan Swift (who continues to be inventive despite his status as a dead “white” European male) to Stanford University, which became notorious in 1988 for abolishing its western civilization curriculum, as the haven of political correctness—PC.

Our report is divided into three major parts. First we expose what most of PC’s opponents have been afraid to say: that “anti-racist” political correctness, witness its figurehead, the Nobel savage Rigoberta Menchú, is the vilest form of racism and chauvinism, designed to condemn indigenous people, women, and others, to backwardness and early death. Second, we offer a survey of those dead white European males of the past 500 years, whose contributions are banned on politically correct campuses, but without whom few of us would even be alive. Third, we put *deconstructionism*, the intellectual disease creeping over our most prestigious institutions, on the dissecting table by tracing the “work” of its chief ideologue, literary critic Jacques Derrida (pronounced with accents on the first and last syllables, as in “derriere”).

The graphic wit of a few other friends, such as the Netherlandish artist of the Renaissance, Bruegel, accompanies our journey.

Does this have anything to do with the rapes in Bosnia, the economic collapse of the United States, the disintegration of Russia, or the terrorist bombing in New York? You bet it does. One lesson to be drawn from our study is that the attack on literate language is possibly the worst political assault that can be made against a nation; just as vice versa, the great nation-builders, from Dante to Cervantes to Shakespeare to Schiller, were actively engaged in constructing and defending literate language as the vehicle of meaning.

I hope that we will hear from readers about your responses to this package: not only your criticisms, comments, and questions, but also new information to sharpen our weapons for the battle now engaged.

*Nora Hamerman*

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## G-7 ministers try to ignore Anglo-American wreckers

by Marcia Merry

On Feb. 27 in London, finance ministers and central bankers gathered to meet on economic policy from the Group of Seven nations—the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, and Italy—in proceedings characterized by yawns and apparent complacency. Yet outside, in the real world, terror reigns on the financial exchanges and in the streets, as national economies disintegrate.

The G-7 meeting lasted one day at Lancaster House, and closed with press conferences, but no joint communiqué. The nominal topic was how to restore “growth.” “Each member country took the stand of placing top priority on self-responsibility,” said Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno. “This is what the G-7 finance meeting should be.”

The dramatic exception to the official G-7 ho-hum attitude toward economic catastrophe occurred in Italy this month. On March 3, political leader Bettino Craxi, recently ousted head of the Italian Socialist Party, warned reporters that “big Anglo-American finance” is wreaking havoc on the Italian economy. The second-largest national Italian daily *La Stampa* reported on March 4 that Craxi has been referring associates to an *EIR* memorandum (for a summary, see *EIR*, Feb. 12, 1993, pp. 11-12) which gives background details on the British and American networks that are conducting financial subversion in Italy. This welcome turn of events points in the direction of publicizing truth that could thwart the Anglo-American geopolitical games.

Ever since last Sept. 15, when Britain unilaterally yanked the pound sterling out of the European Monetary System, in coordination with Anglo-American speculation against the German mark, French franc, Scandinavian and other currencies, hit-and-run speculation and other monetary manipulations have been waged by mostly Anglo-American-serving entities and individuals. Operators include George Soros, the New York-based speculator who made \$1 billion on currenc-

ies last September and October, as well as the currency divisions of Citibank and others.

As a result of this monetary warfare, entire national economies have been plunged into crisis. Apart from huge profit taking by these financial terrorists and agencies, the focus of their financial warfare has been to obstruct any strengthening of continental European economies—France, Germany, Italy, etc.—that may pose a political and economic threat to the geopolitical designs of London and Washington. In particular, Anglo-American funding, agency, and all manner of dirty tricks have been behind the recent ousting of dozens of big-city Italian mayors and other officeholders on charges of corruption, throwing the country into political chaos (see article, p. 6).

### Craxi uses *EIR* exposé

But now comes a move in Italy to turn the spotlight on the culprits. On March 3, only four days after the G-7 charade, Bettino Craxi warned, “Behind all this [destabilization], the ‘invisible hand’ is moving—something as powerful as big Anglo-American finance.” Craxi was at Parliament to meet with the committee which is supposed to decide whether or not to lift his immunity, to be charged and punished for “corruption” allegations which are hitting every Italian party across the political spectrum.

According to the coverage of Craxi’s remarks in *La Stampa*, in order “to be more convincing, the former secretary gave his interlocutor a study with the significant headline, ‘The Anglo-American Strategy behind the Italian Privatization: the Looting of a National Economy.’” This *EIR* dossier gives the who, what, where, when, and why of British- and American-based financial interests’ intervention to coerce Italy to sell off its public industry and infrastructure at distress sale prices to Anglo-American-approved purchasers. In par-

particular, the *EIR* memorandum reported on a meeting held June 2, 1992, on Queen Elizabeth's yacht, *Britannia*, off the Italian coast, between City of London financiers and Italian public officials, to discuss privatizations. On board were individuals from Barclay's brokerage house BZW, Baring's, S.G. Warburg, the Italian energy conglomerate ENI, the Italian state-owned oil company AGIP, Mario Draghi from the Italian Treasury Ministry, Riccardo Gallo from the Institute for Industrial Reconstruction, high-level officials from Banca Commerciale and Assicurazioni Generali (Venice-based insurance), and many others.

News of the meeting has resulted in a big stir. On March 4, deputy Valentino Parlato raised a formal parliamentary question, asking the government to confirm the Queen's yacht confab. One of the participants, Treasury director Mario Draghi, told the press that he had been aboard the yacht, but had left early, right after reading his speech.

Regarding attendance at the meeting, *La Stampa* further reported, with unsuccessful irony, that "needless to say, [Umberto] Bossi's [Northern] League is the insidious instrument of big international finance, which is linked to the whole evil world, starting with the CIA." *La Stampa* thus singled out for reference the separatist Northern League, the rising northern Italian political party which has played such a key role in fracturing Italian politics (see *EIR*, Jan. 29, 1993, pp. 46-47).

In Rome, the same day as Craxi was pointing the finger at Anglo-American financiers, an Anglo-American delegation was meeting with Italian government officials, bankers, and business leaders to demand that Italian firms be privatized. Representatives of Lehman Brothers and Lazard Frères were at the meetings. Lehman Brothers was represented by Mario D'Urso, Jim Schlesinger, and Robert Barbera, while Lazard was represented by Felix Rohatyn and Mario Garraffo, manager of the new Lazard office in Milan.

### **Killing for geopolitics**

In the Anglo-American drive for privatization, the question of murder is now raised. At the end of February, Sergio Castellari, former director general of the Italian Public Industry Ministry, died mysteriously. Castellari was involved in German-Italian collaboration on investment in the Middle East and Eastern Europe—activities opposed in principle by London and Washington (story, page 6).

In response to all the dramatic evidence of this murderous Anglo-American intervention against Europe, denials are issuing forth from London and Washington. One such demur was titled "The Pound-Dollar Plot," a ridicule-piece penned in Brussels by Lionel Barber, European Community correspondent for the London *Financial Times*. Barber began by acknowledging that there are "charges that the United States and United Kingdom are manipulating the world's currency markets," especially since last September's Black Wednesday. This is followed by almost 1,000 words to refute the

"notion of an Anglo-Saxon plot."

The gentleman doth protest too much. Look at his ending paragraph: "The prospect for Europe is blood, sweat and more tears. The message for the Clinton administration is simple: Keep a dry handkerchief and brace yourselves for a good deal more anti-American conspiracy theories on this side of the Atlantic."

### **Economic crisis in G-7**

Even while the lisping voice of the *Financial Times* denies financial warfare, evidence of economic collapse in the Group of Seven is plain for all to see. Yet the next scheduled G-7 heads-of-state meeting is not until July, in Japan, although European Community head Jacques Delors has called for a special session in April.

On March 4, a London economist at the bank-rating agency, IBCA, provided this news service a more accurate view of the state of affairs of some of the G-7 nations: "It is amazing to me how complacent the governments of the G-7 are. Look at each of the G-7 economies. Italy is up against the wall, already deep into the so-called 'debt trap.' Payment of debt service by the government on state debt already takes more than the total of private savings, meaning nothing is available to invest in industry. It will be a slump lasting years, as it looks now.

"Canada is in some respects even worse off than Italy, because Canada has far less savings ratio to draw on. It has for some time been forced to issue state debt in foreign currencies. Now, as the Canada dollar falls lower, because of weak domestic economic and political conditions, Bronfman, O&Y [the Olympia and York real estate empire], etc., this is severely increasing the cost to the government of servicing its debt in foreign currencies. One-half of Canada's current account deficit is to pay interest on this foreign debt. The credit situation in the provinces is such, that they also must go to foreign currencies to finance deficits.

As for Japan, "although it has huge, untapped reserves and an extraordinary central structure—unlike anything in Europe or North America—to fall back on, [its] corporate debt as a share of GNP is disastrously high—some three times more, even, than U.S. corporate debt to GNP. Now, with the industrial slowdown worldwide in the past two years or so, Japanese corporations face this huge debt burden at the same time sales have plunged. The result has been corporate profits at a 35-year low. But even more alarming is the situation with Japanese unused industrial capacity. Japan today has a total of unused industrial capacity equal to that of entire Western Europe[']s unused capacity. Sooner or later they will be forced to flood the world with their products at dumping prices merely to avoid snowballing bankruptcies."

And as for the bankrupt United States, he noted that "Clinton's new tax plan, while it is pleasing financial markets for the moment, will raise taxes and depress the economy further, which will *worsen* the U.S. deficit."

# Italy's credit rating lowered as part of a plan to dismember the nation

by Claudio Celani

On Feb. 26, the U.S. rating agency Moody's announced that it had begun a new examination of the foreign currency-denominated Italian debt, in order to establish whether Italy's current credit rating should be maintained. While the Moody's investigation was still ongoing, another rating agency, Standard & Poor's, announced the downgrading of the Italian long-term debt from "AA+" to "AA," thus equating the creditworthiness of the Italian economy, the sixth largest industrial power in the world, to that of Singapore. It is expected that the Moody's final decision will be the same. "Rarely," one reads in the Moody's release, "has the subject of an investigation not had its rating lowered."

The Moody's and Standard & Poor's decisions amount to a declaration of war from the international financial circles which these two agencies represent. Last year, Italy still had a "AAA" rating from Moody's; at the beginning of last summer, Moody's decided to lower the country's rating, which was the signal for the speculation wave that brought down the lira, and with it, the European Monetary System.

This time, the two rating agencies cite political reasons for their decision: "the wave of investigations of instances of corruption over the past months [which] has involved high-level persons in the political leadership of the country and has seriously undermined confidence in the parties of the government coalition."

## 'Milanogate' spreads like a virus

Thus, the Anglo-American financial establishment officially supports the Milan-based criminal investigation which by now has hit one-third of the members of the Italian Parliament for "crimes" that are prosecuted nowhere else in the world. They mostly consist of private financing for political parties, a practice which became illegal at the end of the 1970s through a law which specified that all party money must come from the state, proportional to the party's electoral strength. In practice, the law made it impossible for any party to finance itself without breaking the law. Violations, even if minimal, of such a law are punished as a crime, with

immediate arrest of the party responsables.

Members of Parliament cannot be arrested, but a climate has been created whereby they are pressured to resign as soon as a suspicion is raised. The latest victim in this earthquake was Christian Democratic leader Ciriaco De Mita, who was forced to resign from his post as chairman of the joint committee on constitutional reform, when his brother, a businessman in Avellino near Naples, was arrested.

Only the week before the Moody's announcement, an unprecedented propaganda campaign, sponsored directly by City of London circles, expressed satisfaction with the destabilizing effects of the "anti-corruption" investigation. The campaign was launched on Feb. 19, by the London *Economist* and the *Wall Street Journal*, followed the next day by *Business Week* and other international media. The line was the same throughout: A Jacobin revolution is under way in Italy, and the country will soon undergo a historical change of regime, by getting rid of its ruling class *in toto*. The *Economist*, with its typical racist touch, came out with a cover picture of a spaghetti dish, tri-color like the Italian flag, under the headline "The Italian Tangle." *Economist* editor Rupert Pennant-Rea—who has now gone to rejoin the Bank of England after a long period of being "leased" to the news magazine—announced: "The Italian parliament as a whole is discredited. . . . The politicians cannot be trusted to put Italy's house in order," and concluded that Italy has to change its "wretched" electoral system, adopt a British one, and hold a constitutional assembly in order to frame a new Constitution.

Matt Frei, the BBC correspondent for southern Europe, wrote a similar piece in the *Wall Street Journal*. Frei announced that the Milan "anti-corruption" investigation, which spurred a "cashmere revolution," is soon going to sweep away all parties, among them the Christian Democratic Party (DC), the main arbiter of politics in Italy's postwar history. The *Wall Street Journal*, as well as *Business Week*, predicted that "corruption scandals" are going to bring down not only the Italian establishment, but also that of France, Spain, and Germany soon thereafter.



## Fingers point to Anglo-Americans

As triumphal as such announcements may be, and as critical as the situation may also appear, nevertheless the destabilization of Italy has to reckon with the resistance of national forces, and especially with the role of the LaRouche movement in giving them assistance.

For instance, this time the Italian political leadership reacted as one against the Moody's declaration of war. A joint statement from the Treasury Ministry and the Bank of Italy was immediately issued, accusing Moody's of trying to "disorient the market." Even tougher was President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who stated, "I have no consideration for agencies from other parts of the world which suddenly rise to issue notes and sentences, and provoke imbalances which criminals exploit to do what they want." Egged on by their President, a whole army of ministers and politicians accused both Moody's and Standard & Poor's of destabilization. If they put their money where their mouth is, the Italians are going to defend their currency against speculation, and may even reintroduce exchange controls.

In a statement on Feb. 25, American physical economist and political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche issued a policy memorandum on the Italian crisis, which he defined as characterized by an "attempt by Anglo-American-centered forces to orchestrate, through assets which they have long held in Italy, a general destruction of the nation of Italy, an action which is strategically coordinated with the Anglo-American unleashing and orchestration of the genocidal horror perpetrated by the Milosevic fascist forces within Yugoslavia and threatened destruction of the Balkans as a whole."

LaRouche traced the recent origin of the present destabilization "to about 1976, around the crises which occurred then, a period of crisis which came to a point of inflection with the Anglo-American orchestration, with other assistance, of the assassination of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro. But most recently, the emphasis is on the effort to establish a new presidential system, and to destroy the existing political system as a way of creating the pathway for the establishment of a new system, more to the liking of the Anglo-Americans.

"Italy and the Balkans," said LaRouche, "have the common geopolitical feature, at least from the eyes of the Anglo-American relevant forces, of being the southern flank of Central Europe, and therefore the southern flank of a potential Eurasian heartland force." LaRouche identified "those sections of Scottish Rite Freemasonry and related Freemasonry, which are more or less under the direction of England's Duke of Kent and related people," as the forces which are running the destabilization.

LaRouche suggested to the Italians that, "instead of avoiding a provocation of the enemy, one must move for the earliest possible success of the very kind of policies which the enemy fears the most. . . . The greatest fear



*Former Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi.*

of the Anglo-Americans, and particularly of the British geopoliticians, is that a network of cooperation might be established from Paris through Berlin to Moscow and on to Tokyo and China, and that this, based on railroad and related development, might bring about a wave of technologically driven progress throughout continental Eurasia, which would render impotent the British determination, as Cecil Rhodes put it, to reconquer the United States as a part of the British Empire."

The "new presidential system" LaRouche refers to, is a constitutional change, advocated by the Anglo-Americans, which would eliminate the presence of mass-based political parties in favor of a "left-wing" and a "right-wing" side of the same coin—i.e., oligarchical lobbies. Especially the Anglo-Americans are concerned that a strong Catholic, or a Catholic-influenced party, disappear from the scene. They believe that like former Yugoslavia, Italy must be balkanized, except starting from a different situation. Unlike Yugoslavia, Italy is a real nation-state, defined by a common culture and a common language; but the Anglo-Americans plan to split it into three or more small states based on an ethnic-regional identity. That is the significance of the rise of the Northern League, a racist anti-Christian party (LaRouche describes it as "neo-Nietzschean") which in Northern Italy has been winning 30-40% of the vote recently.

## Moves to break Italian-German connection

As part of the economic and political warfare against Italy, the Anglo-Americans are hitting a key strategic connection, which in the past years has represented the convergence of national economic interests of Italy and Germany.

On Feb. 18, a high-level official in the Italian public industrial sector, Sergio Castellari, suddenly disappeared. One week later, his corpse was found not far from his house; it had been damaged by animals to the point of making it difficult to perceive that he had "shot himself" in the head. His pistol was back in its holster. At the same time, the press started to spread news that documents had been found in his studio, involving a "German bank" and an Italian state company in an illegal contract for selling nuclear material to Iran. The news, in a crescendo which has not yet stopped, soon specified that the German bank was Deutsche Bank, the Italian company was Ansaldo, and that the deal had been arranged back in 1987 by the secret services of both countries.

Castellari allegedly committed suicide because he had received a cautionary warrant in the context of the Milanogate investigation. For ten years he had been director general of the Ministry for Public Industry, number two after the minister himself but, in reality, more important, because ministers came and went. When in 1992 the present government led by Giuliano Amato decided, under international pressures, to start privatizing public industries, and to dissolve that ministry and put all state industries (one-third of the Italian economy) under the Treasury, Castellari left and became an adviser to Deutsche Bank.

Castellari's connection to Deutsche Bank must have in fact been older, going back at least to the time when the German bank was led by Alfred Herrhausen, who wanted to industrially develop eastern Europe but was killed by "terrorists" in late 1989. The facts involving Castellari in the alleged Iran deal go back to that period.

Castellari was also very close to the Socialist Party, whose leader Bettino Craxi has been the first top-level target of the Milanogate investigation. Craxi has accused his "old American friends" and "financial circles" operating on "global markets" of running the attack against him, his party, the Italian political system, and Italian public industry.

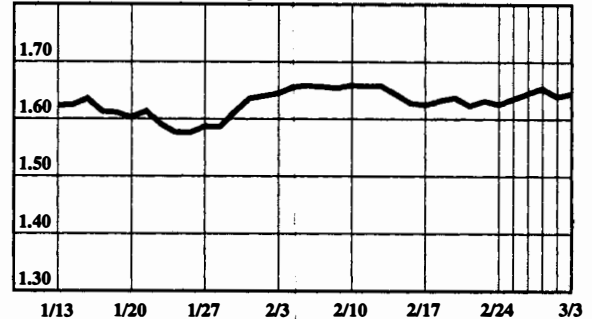
"It seems to me to be a murder, rather than a suicide," said Sebastiano Montali, a former undersecretary of state in Castellari's ministry, to the Milan daily *Corriere della Sera*.

The target of the operation around Castellari's mysterious death seems to be Italian and German political and economic factions which share a common, dirigistic, pro-industrial policy. And the *modus operandi* of such a targeting corresponds exactly to the new guidelines of American intelligence according to the "Webster doctrine." Suspicions are raised in Italian political circles, that the only agency that could have done the job is Kroll Associates, or the Milan-based Bishop International.

## Currency Rates

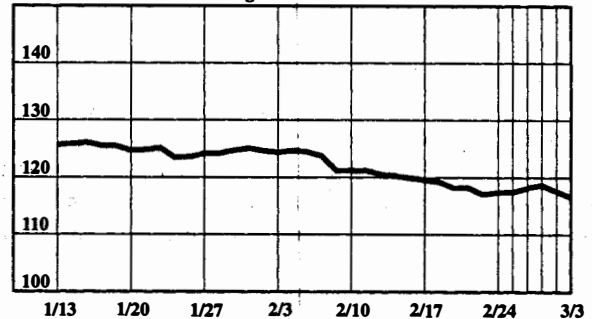
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



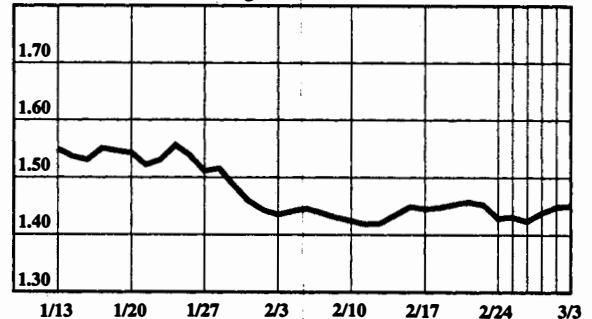
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



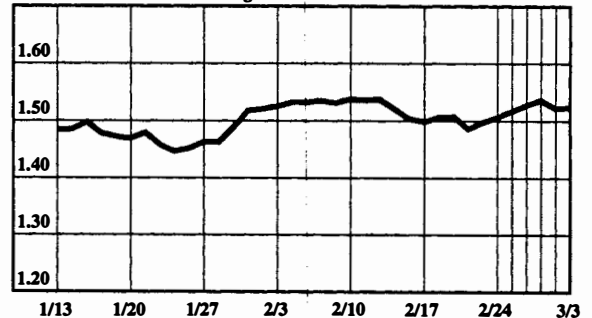
### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



# Clinton energy tax comes under attack

by Anthony K. Wikrent

President Clinton's proposed tax on the British thermal unit (BTU) content of energy sources was subjected to some revealing examination by the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Feb. 24. Senators and witnesses made clear that there were serious problems with a BTU tax, including pronounced inequities between different regions of the country, different earnings groups, different industries, and even different types of fuel. It was also noted that the collection of the tax is likely to be an administrative nightmare.

Committee chairman Sen. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) began the hearings by noting that while everyone agrees that the federal budget deficit must be reduced, it was open to question whether the BTU tax was the best, or even an acceptable, solution. Senator Johnston made clear that he personally favored the adoption of a value added tax.

Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.) addressed the question of just who will bear the heaviest burden of the BTU tax. "Who lives in America's oldest houses with the least amount of insulation, with the oldest appliances, the least efficient furnaces?" he asked. "Who lives farthest from work? Who drives America's oldest and least efficient transportation? It's America's working people and working poor. And this tax comes crashing down right smack dab in the middle of them."

Wallop also noted that the BTU tax would cost "the people of my state five times more per capita, as a producing state, than it does the people of Rhode Island; about 50 bucks a head in Rhode Island, about 300 bucks a head in Wyoming. The equity of that is hard to explain."

In one of the sharpest exchanges of the day, Senator Wallop castigated Dr. Robert C. Repetto, vice president and senior economist of the World Resources Institute, for making "a statement of the comfortable, of the coddled, of the wealthy, and of people who, like you, live close to your work, who, like you, whose work is not related to energy consumption, and your compensation is not related to energy consumption, and whom like you, will be able to absorb any difference, and who will be able to buy new equipment, new furnaces, and new washing machines, and new automobiles. But this is not most of working America. And I really think that when people say, this is going to be very good for you to have high energy prices, it is people like Felix Rohatyn, and others, who live right upstairs over their damn subway."

## Impact on hydropower, industry

That the BTU tax would disproportionately affect hydropower was explained by Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), who noted that the tax on hydropower would be computed from the average fossil fuel BTU equivalent required to generate the equivalent amount of electrical energy. But, he argued, generating 1 kilowatt-hour of electricity requires 10,300 BTUs of coal, but only 3,400 BTUs of falling water. Moreover, 10,300 BTUs of coal is converted to electricity at an efficiency of only 36%, while the efficiency of hydropower is 95%. The result is that the BTU tax hits hydropower three times harder than it hits fossil fuels. Hatfield declared that by adding that burden to the effects of a drought and environmental regulations that are already threatening to increase the cost of electricity up to 40% in the area served by the Bonneville Power Administration, "the economy of the Northwest would collapse."

In a startling allusion to the financial interests of the family of Vice President (and former senator) Al Gore, among others, Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) noted that crude oil will be taxed at more than twice the rate of coal. "Now, frankly, I don't understand that, excepting, it is said that we're too dependent on foreign oil. . . . [The BTU tax] makes the tax on domestic production of oil twice as high as coal. And the end product, believe it or not, is we are going to produce less oil at home. Coal is the major producer of the greenhouse gases. Now, why would we tax coal lower than products that have a less effect of greenhouse gases? I mean, I think, maybe, it's just intentionally a desire to tax coal less. You might know why, some of you around the table—I have some ideas, but I believe if we gave you a pad and pencil, you could figure that out—and the pad wouldn't have numbers on it either, would it? It'd have senators' names on it."

Sen. Don Nickles (R-Okla.) backed up Domenici's allusion by noting that because of a difference in heat content between coal from western and eastern states, "this tax would roughly double the price of the Wyoming coal, and increase the cost of Illinois coal by 25%."

The great inequities in the burden imposed on different states was discussed by Jerry Jasinowski, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, who showed that Louisiana, Wyoming, North Dakota, Texas, West Virginia, Alaska, Montana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Alabama will face BTU tax burdens two or three times greater than other states.

Jasinowski also noted that one-third of the BTU tax will fall on manufacturing industries. "For all manufacturing," he noted, "the average number is about 12,000 BTUs. If you were to pick just the chemical industry, not a particularly energy-intensive one, it's twice as great. If you go to something like the aluminum industry, it's three times as great. If you move up to something like steel mills, it's then four times as great."

# Say goodbye to the recovery that never was

by H. Graham Lowry

A self-feeding process of collapsing sales, mounting layoffs, declining revenues, and deeper budget cuts is accelerating throughout the U.S. economy, burying all traces of the recovery that never was.

Nationally, the touted recovery in the housing industry disappeared on March 2, when the Commerce Department announced that January sales of new homes plummeted 13.8%, the largest one-month drop in 11 years. The nose-dive occurred despite the fact that mortgage rates have reached their lowest level since April 1979. In the battered remains of the industrial Northeast, the decline was a staggering 39.4%.

Despite forecasts of "moderate" growth, announcements of mass layoffs continue to churn forth from the headquarters of the nation's major corporations. General Motors, which announced 23 plant closings during 1992, reported on Feb. 25 that it was reducing its work force by another 20,000, including the immediate layoff of at least 11,000 workers during the week of March 1. Those layoffs will occur almost entirely at GM plants in Michigan and Ohio, and come on top of 23,000 GM layoffs in Michigan alone announced last year. The company expects to cut roughly 9,000 more positions through an early retirement offer, or make up the difference in further firings.

Layoffs are also expected to top earlier projections at International Business Machines, which announced plans earlier this year to cut its work force by as much as 25,000. IBM reported on Feb. 25 that 6,000 workers at their plants in New York's Hudson Valley will be let go—double the figure they announced just last month. At least 2,000 of the jobs to be eliminated will come from IBM's mainframe operations in Poughkeepsie and Kingston. The 6,000-job cutback represents 28% of IBM's Hudson Valley work force. Industry analysts now expect IBM's overall layoffs for 1993 to top 30,000.

The nation's aerospace sector, devastated by layoffs and plant closings the past three years, is ordering more mass reductions in its work force. Boeing Co. recently announced major cutbacks in aircraft production and 28,000 layoffs, most of them in the Puget Sound area around Seattle, Washington. In January, the Connecticut-based jet engine producer Pratt and Whitney declared it planned to cut its remaining work force by nearly 11,000, or 25%, by the end of 1994. General Electric's Aircraft Engine Division, which an-

nounced 12,000 layoffs last year, reported on Feb. 26 that another 3,900 workers would be let go, including about 2,500 in Ohio.

President Clinton paid the Boeing workers in Washington State a personal visit, to offer them a pep talk and promises of new job creation and retraining, but even his minimalist plans for stimulating the economy are tied to new taxes which would flatten it further. The Clinton administration's proposed new energy taxes would eliminate 700,000 jobs, according to the American Petroleum Institute, and reduce the U.S. gross domestic product by \$35 billion a year. The proposed BTU tax on all significant energy sources has also drawn the fire of the National Association of Manufacturers, whose president, Jerry Jasinowski, told Congress recently that the measure would mean "a simultaneous shock to both prices and production costs," resulting in the the loss of 600,000 jobs.

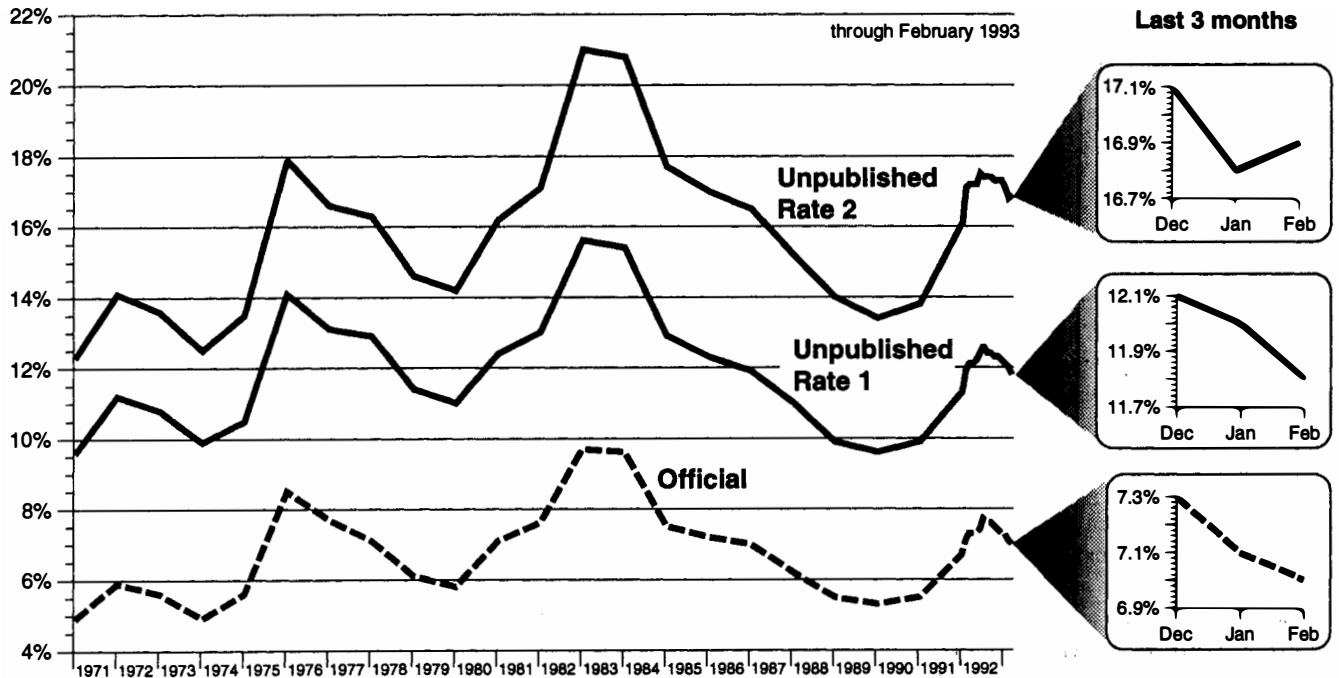
## Urban unemployment on the rise

Despite the statistical legerdemain in Washington suggesting a minuscule economic upturn, even the official figures show that employment levels in the nation's cities are collapsing at a disastrous rate. The New York State Labor Department announced on Feb. 26 that the unemployment rate in New York City had jumped to 13.4%, nearly 2.5 points over January, to its highest level since the mid-1970s. In Texas, the employment commission reported on Feb. 23 that statewide unemployment jumped a full point in January to 8.4%, and had reached the range of 10-13% in the metropolitan areas of Beaumont-Port Arthur, Brownsville-Harlingen, El Paso, Laredo, Odessa, and Longview-Marshall.

The recent vogue of writing off mass corporate layoffs as the inevitable course of "structural change" in the economy, usually includes the claim that recovery lies in the expansion of "small businesses." The absurdity of that notion is documented by their own figures. A recent survey of 46,000 small California businesses by the National Federation of Independent Business showed that more than half of them laid off workers last year, and are pessimistic about this year's prospects as well.

All of this translates into a collapse of the revenue base and further budget cutbacks. In Illinois, the collapse of industry and agriculture has gutted revenues to the point that the state and the cities are at each others' throats battling over the shrinking pie. Gov. Jim Edgar plans to extend a 20% income tax surcharge beyond its June 30 expiration, but has warned municipalities not to expect to retain their share of that revenue. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and 19 other mayors in Illinois held a press conference on March 1 to denounce Edgar's plan, where Daley announced that "local governments can't carry the state anymore." Chicago would be forced to cut another \$65 million from its budget if it loses its share of the surcharge, which Edgar wants to keep to avoid further state cutbacks.

# U.S. Unemployment Coverup



**Data used for unpublished unemployment rates**  
(thousands)

Year	Civilian labor force (a)	Official unemployed (b)	Want a job now (c)	Part-time, economic reasons (d)	Total unemployed and underemployed (b+c+d)	Official U-5b rate (b/a)	Unpublished Rate 1 (b+c)/a	Unpublished Rate 2 (b+c+d)/a
1971	84,382	5,016	4,423	2,452	11,891	5.9%	11.2%	14.1%
1972	87,034	4,882	4,493	2,430	11,805	5.8%	10.8%	13.6%
1973	89,429	4,365	4,510	2,343	11,218	4.9%	9.9%	12.5%
1974	91,949	5,156	4,514	2,751	12,421	5.6%	10.5%	13.5%
1975	93,775	7,929	5,271	3,541	16,741	8.5%	14.1%	17.9%
1976	96,158	7,406	5,233	3,334	15,973	7.7%	13.1%	16.6%
1977	99,009	6,991	5,775	3,368	16,134	7.1%	12.9%	16.3%
1978	102,251	6,202	5,446	3,298	14,946	6.1%	11.4%	14.6%
1979	104,962	6,137	5,427	3,372	14,936	5.8%	11.0%	14.2%
1980	106,940	7,637	5,675	4,064	17,376	7.1%	12.4%	16.2%
1981	108,870	8,273	5,835	4,499	18,607	7.6%	13.0%	17.1%
1982	110,204	10,678	6,559	5,852	23,089	9.7%	15.6%	21.0%
1983	111,550	10,717	6,503	5,997	23,217	9.6%	15.4%	20.8%
1984	113,544	8,539	6,070	5,512	20,121	7.5%	12.9%	17.7%
1985	115,461	8,312	5,933	5,334	19,579	7.2%	12.3%	17.0%
1986	117,834	8,237	5,825	5,345	19,407	7.0%	11.9%	16.5%
1987	119,885	7,425	5,714	5,122	18,261	6.2%	11.0%	15.2%
1988	121,869	6,701	5,373	4,965	17,039	5.5%	9.9%	14.0%
1989	123,869	6,528	5,395	4,656	16,579	5.3%	9.6%	13.4%
1990	124,787	6,874	5,473	4,860	17,207	5.5%	9.9%	13.8%
1991	125,303	8,426	5,736	6,046	20,206	6.7%	11.3%	16.1%
1992	126,982	9,384	6,181	6,385	21,950	7.4%	12.3%	17.3%
<b>Monthly data (seasonally adjusted)</b>								
<b>1992</b>								
February	126,185	9,223	6,068 <sup>1</sup>	6,442	21,733	7.3%	12.1%	17.2%
March	126,548	9,284	6,068 <sup>1</sup>	6,436	21,788	7.3%	12.1%	17.2%
April	126,743	9,225	6,291 <sup>1</sup>	6,343	21,859	7.3%	12.2%	17.2%
May	127,039	9,459	6,291 <sup>1</sup>	6,486	22,236	7.4%	12.4%	17.5%
June	127,298	9,788	6,291 <sup>1</sup>	6,100	22,179	7.7%	12.6%	17.4%
July	127,350	9,828	8,147 <sup>1</sup>	6,342	22,117	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
August	127,404	9,824	6,147 <sup>1</sup>	6,352	22,123	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
September	127,274	9,550	6,147 <sup>1</sup>	6,362	22,059	7.5%	12.3%	17.3%
October	127,066	9,379	6,209 <sup>1</sup>	6,434	22,022	7.4%	12.3%	17.3%
November	127,365	9,301	6,209 <sup>1</sup>	6,493	22,003	7.3%	12.2%	17.3%
December	127,591	9,280	6,209 <sup>1</sup>	6,349	21,836	7.3%	12.1%	17.1%
<b>1993</b>								
January	127,083	9,013	6,209 <sup>1</sup>	6,113	21,335	7.1%	12.0%	16.8%
February	127,327	8,876	6,209 <sup>1</sup>	6,461	21,546	7.0%	11.8%	16.9%

<sup>1</sup>The want a job now figure is compiled quarterly. The figure used for monthly calculation of the Unpublished Rate 1 is that from the most recent available quarter.

## Explanatory Note

In February, over 6.2 million jobless and 6.5 million more semi-employed people were ignored by the U.S. government's Bureau of Labor Statistics in its calculation of the official (U-5b) unemployment rate. To bring out the truth, EIR is publishing the rates you would see if the government didn't cover up.

The widely publicized official unemployment rate is based on a monthly statistical sampling of approximately 57,000 households. But in order for someone to be counted as *unemployed*, the respondent member of the household (often not the person who is out of work) must be able to state what specific effort that person made in the last four weeks to find a job. If no specific effort can be cited, the jobless person is classified as "not in the labor force" and ignored in the official unemployment count.

But nearly 6 million of these discarded people are also reported on the monthly survey indicating that they "want a regular job now." EIR's *Unpublished Rate 1* is calculated by adding these discarded jobless to the officially "unemployed." The *Unpublished Rate 2* includes, in addition, over 6 million more people forced into part-time work for economic reasons such as slack work or inability to find a full-time job. These people show up as *employed* in the official statistics even if they worked only *one hour* during the survey week.

For comparability with the official rate, the EIR rates are calculated on the same base figure, the BLS defined *civilian labor force*. This figure comprises all civilians classified as either *employed* or *unemployed*. For a number of reasons the *civilian labor force* can be considered as a bloated figure. Its use as the divisor in unemployment rate calculations thus further masks the depth of the unemployment problem. Large segments of the population, who might not under healthy economic conditions be forced to seek work, have become a part of the *civilian labor force* over the past 25 years of "post-industrial society" economy. This includes young mothers, the elderly, and many college students.



# Chinese labor gets even cheaper with devaluation of renminbi yuan

by Cho Wen-pin

For the past three months, the official swap rate of the Chinese renminbi yuan (the yuan being the unit of account of the RMB or "people's currency") has dropped by about 20% to a historic low against the skyrocketing value of the U.S. dollar on the local exchange centers where currency trade between regions and companies is arranged. In the last few weeks, the U.S. dollar rose more than 10%, reaching 8.5 yuan on official exchange markets at the end of February, while the official rate remained at 5.75 yuan to the dollar. Black market rates have soared even higher, hitting a high of more than 10 to the dollar. Speculators from the financial sector predict that the official rate will rise from the present 5.75 yuan down to as low as 10 to the dollar (see **Figure 1**).

This situation has alarmed some economic experts, yet nothing has been done to curb the decline of the renminbi yuan, which raises the costs of imported machinery and technology desperately needed to industrialize the backward country. A cheaper Chinese currency encourages cheap labor and labor-intensive and export-driven industries within the coastal Special Economic Zones, increases costs of both China's industrial and agricultural production across the nation, reduces economic returns, and discourages investment in infrastructure to develop the interior. It also encourages Chinese workers to convert their savings from renminbi account into foreign currency accounts, or into gold and other valuable articles.

## Beijing drives down the currency

Recently, western papers have been full of reports on the Chinese economic miracle, but the currency devaluation indicates just the opposite. As one Japanese diplomat put it: "We think it very strange that the Chinese currency should be depreciating. It should be stronger."

These circumstances are very much associated with government efforts to sell Chinese labor cheap and build up its foreign reserves to save the communist power by adopting the free market economy and becoming a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Officials at London's Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA) explain that Beijing is being forced to crawl to GATT by the Clinton administration's threat of trade sanctions. At the same time, the United States is also using the threat of trade sanctions, such as the 301 trade clause, to push Taiwan into GATT. But the striking truth is that a united

front of western financial interest groups and bankers, not only the United States, have pushed efforts to link Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status with improvements in human rights and other issues in order to push China into GATT, and consequently to totally open up the country to the world "free market."

"In our progress to build a market economy, we will not resort to administrative measures to set an exchange rate on the open market, which can only mean a regression from ongoing economic reform," said Yang Gonglin, a spokesman for the State Administration of Exchange Control, in early February. While Yang told the truth on Chinese progress toward a market economy, he lied in denying that China will not resort to administrative measures to regulate the exchange rate.

Beijing is deliberately pushing its currency lower to boost cheap-labor exports.

"China must try to get into GATT, because if they could, it would be impossible for the U.S. then to use political arguments to remove China's Most Favored Nation trade status," said RIIA Asia-Pacific Director Peter Ferdinand. But GATT demands that the renminbi be convertible into U.S. dollars.

## Renminbi devaluation spells turmoil

An imminent steep devaluation of the renminbi is in preparation for full convertibility to bolster China's application to rejoin GATT, which will cost 20 million jobs over and above the huge unemployment rate today resulting from the bankrupting of major backbone industries in China. Although it is not Washington's policy to urge China to devalue the renminbi yuan because of the rising U.S. trade deficit with China, it is nevertheless being urged by western bankers who are part of the century-old colonial condominium. The name of the game is "chop therapy" for both countries.

First, it is the Chinese government's intention to lower the renminbi as its only effective means to control foreign consumer goods from flooding into China, to protect the so-called "national industry," if there is any, since GATT will cut up to half of the average tariffs that have been imposed up till now.

The outcome of this foolish policy will be that China's economy will head toward export of cheap goods, and the "national industry" will be turned into sweatshops, supplying goods to stores such as K-Mart in the United States. Meanwhile, it devalues domestic wages and the return on invest-

ment in the industries with foreign investments targeted for export. Those joint ventures, which need to import raw or semi-raw materials, will face a high risk of bankruptcy.

Furthermore, it drives these industries to look outward for consumers and to sell cheap since the rest of the world economy is undergoing a depression, too.

Second, while the renminbi continues to lose value, foreign investors are holding on to their hard currencies, which are needed to upgrade old technologies in the manufacturing sector by importing newer and better hardware from the industrialized countries. Without advanced technology and new forms of energy, like nuclear power, for instance, there is no chance for industry to catch up to foreign competitors in 3-5 years. The idea behind the U.S. policy to push China into GATT reflects demands from western bankers to allow organized capital flight.

Third, like these companies, Chinese consumers are also inclined to change their savings into foreign currencies or to buy gold and other valuable items which keep their value. In Shanghai in mid-February, Chinese private investors rushed to open foreign currency accounts.

"Citizens are opening more than 500 foreign currency deposit accounts with the Bank of China's Shanghai branch every day . . . but before they were opening only 150 new accounts a day," reported China News Service. "The recent craze of foreign currency savings was mainly triggered by the gradual downturn adjustment of renminbi, thus making the U.S. dollar a hot currency to keep," as rumors that a sharp official devaluation is imminent encouraged Chinese to dump yuan banknotes on the black market for U.S. and Hong Kong dollars.

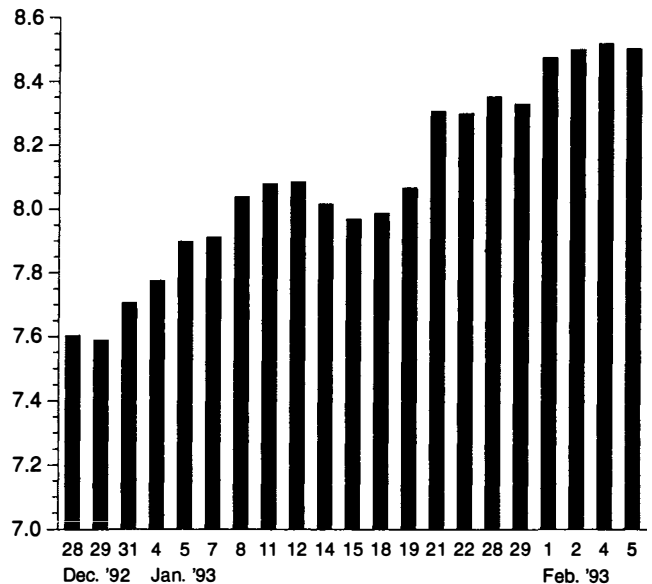
In Beijing, residents have been snapping up gold as a hedge, and the price of gold jumped 20% from the beginning of the year to mid-February, and sales were double during that period compared to last year, as reported by the *China Youth Daily*. In Guangzhou and other coastal cities, the Hong Kong dollar has gradually ousted the renminbi yuan as the booming region's preferred medium of exchange, which is accepted virtually everywhere.

Fourth, any Chinese investors from the mainland and overseas as well as western entrepreneurs who are attempting to produce tangible goods for both domestic and foreign markets, obviously now prefer getting loans from the government and private banks in China rather than using their own capital and risking a fall in future value, which aggravates inflation. Due to the fact that the government is also decentralizing the national banking system, loans from the privatized banks are to be issued under higher interest rates in order to collect money by installments, reviving old practices of usury.

Since the end of last year, foreign investors have had a hard time obtaining foreign currency from the Chinese Central Bank. Without dollars, China's influx of foreign investors is finding it difficult to import machinery and raw materials.

Finally, the fact is that the surging dollar is a symptom of

FIGURE 1  
**Dollar rises against yuan**  
(Yuan per U.S. \$)



Source: *EIR*.

an overheated economy and one danger sign pointing to higher inflation, as renminbi devaluation proceeds. The problem is that when inflation rises, the government has to encourage private investment, i.e., to issue government bonds and to sell bankrupt state-run industries. China is furthermore privatized; the central government concedes power to the regional or provincial governments, losing its capability to collect taxes from individuals and local authorities when the country requires money, not only to cut its huge deficit, but to invest in infrastructure, medical care for the elderly, and education for the young, especially in a period when the immature and backward national industry has yet to be jump-started.

So far, the response from the Chinese government seems to be to let "free market forces" set the level of its renminbi currency unit, based on the idea that Adam Smith's "invisible hand" will set prices of consumer goods and appraise bankrupted manufacturers. Consequently, some of the potential manufacturers could be underestimated, and labor costs therefore are undersold.

While the country stresses tertiary industries and market speculation—a "third wave," as termed by Alvin Toffler—new established enterprises do not have an incentive to buy obsolete "second wave" and energy-consuming equipment, which were built in the past 40 years.

### Chinese 'maquiladoras' won't help

This idea of *maquiladora*-style sweatshops along the Chinese coastal areas has been experienced for a decade. Last

year, the country had a burgeoning trade surplus, but the question is, where are the dollars it earned? If the 12.8% growth rate for 1992 is true, then why, as reported recently by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, is there increasing social unrest?

According to the latest statistics published by the International Labor Organization, China ranked 49th in world textile production in terms of labor cost in 1991, at \$0.34 per hour, much lower than developing industrial regions in Asia, such as in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries (except Indonesia). The question is, if these manufacturers laid off some of the employees and paid the wages to the rest, giving them an average salary of \$0.42 per hour, an increase of 20% to every worker's income, do we call that an economic miracle?

As reported by Xinhua on Feb. 24, an investigation has shown that China's textile industry will shed 2.5 million jobs out of 7.5 million workers and staff in the industry. According to the study, "China is losing its advantage of cheap labor." It further suggested that old textile factories should be "closed to real estate, commercial, monetary and information business sectors."

But Hungary, former Yugoslavia, Poland, and Russia have demonstrated that China can't survive if the Chinese government simply makes a 180-degree turnaround, heading for the equally disastrous "let the world market decide all" ideology.

The only solution for Chinese economic development is the issuance of Hamiltonian-style credit from the central bank, specifically to encourage new enterprises to produce tangible goods and to expand the work force, which would expand the tax base, and to use both its credit and foreign reserves to upgrade technology, unleashing the productivity of old industries. Concurrently, the government must establish an effective system to collect tax revenue from private individuals and enterprises, reversing the current situation where the government does not collect taxes from owners of privatized companies due to lack of efficient taxation enforcement.

The Chinese economy also requires an extensive investment in infrastructure, and a balanced development of agriculture and industry, or a division of labor designed primarily for the domestic market, which has 1.2 billion people, who need food, clothing, housing, transport, energy, communications, hospitals, and education.

Also, the government must cool speculation against the renminbi yuan, and stop its slide against the dollar on the currency swap markets for businessmen.

Chinese economic experts and other social institutions have to advise the government to adopt economic, legal, and administrative measures to combat the rise of foreign currencies and fall in value of Chinese labor, and to set the rate at the amount of renminbi it takes to earn \$1 accounted on both domestic and foreign markets, with the provision

that industry and agriculture which produce tangible goods are given first priority.

### **Freedom to choose the good**

Beijing now holds students and workers, who expressed even their limited demand for freedom, as political hostages to bargain with the world. These prisoners are selectively released when Beijing needs to dicker with foreign forces or to repair its own image. For instance, Wang Dan, a student leader of the Tiananmen Square protests who had been number-one on the most-wanted list, was paroled a few weeks ago. His release is widely viewed as a gesture to President Clinton, Governor Patten in Hong Kong, and even President Lee Tenghui in Taiwan as an attempt to demonstrate that China is improving its human rights record. But it happened for two major reasons.

First, there is a yearly renewal of MFN status that has to be passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President. The MFN issue has been attached with human rights conditions for the past three years after the Tiananmen Square massacre, although President Bush vetoed it again and again. Clinton vowed during the campaign that he would be tough on China's humanitarian record, and he has gotten a few people released. One interesting point of this MFN controversy, is that when human rights conditions are applied, only Chinese private businesses can enjoy this trade benefit, not the state-run industries. This is obviously leverage to privatize China.

Second, a protection bill, initiated by Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and others was passed last year by the Congress, and signed by Bush during the campaign when his China policy was under an attack from Clinton. Regulation from the bill states that if the President can't prove to the Congress that China's human rights record has been improved, some 80,000 Chinese nationals who entered America before April 1990 would possibly be granted permanent residency (green card status) on a case-by-case basis.

### **Confucian economic principles**

A sound economic theory can only be constructed on the basis of a profound philosophical understanding of universal truth. China has 5,000 years of history marked by fights between the Confucian economy on the one hand, and legalism-Taoism's effort to demolish Confucius's principles as they were defended by Mencius in Ancient China, Chu Hsi during the A.D. 1120-1200 period, and also in this century by Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

Beijing has to adopt Sun Yat-sen's three principles of true republican statecraft, which is coherent with physical economy. To build a better economy, China has to give up the illusion of free trade, and to free its political prisoners.

But the Chinese communists, it appears, would rather choose Adam Smith's "free market economy" than employ the principles of Confucian humanism and of Sun Yat-sen.

## **No perspectives in the East?**

*Germany must begin to act according to its own interests, exporting to the markets in Russia and its neighbors.*

**T**here is an ill-conceived notion among politicians in Bonn that it doesn't matter which western country is engaged in Russia—the only thing that counts, they say, is that it is a western country," said Hermann Behrendt, one of the very few high-level German economic consultants employed by the Russian government, at the beginning of March. Behrendt considers such a view a big mistake, because "it does make a big difference whether we Germans are present here, or whether the field is left entirely to people like Jeffrey Sachs," Harvard's promoter of the disastrous policy of "shock therapy."

Behrendt pointed out that the German central bank does not have a single expert in Moscow to advise Russian policymakers on monetary policies and banking methods. Instead, the Germans prefer to sail in the all-western convoy which is pursuing a dangerous "wait and see" line.

A few days earlier, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, who was visiting Ukraine, gave a striking example of how the Germans are acting against their own economic interests, out of an ill-advised "solidarity" with the other western nations.

When telling the Ukrainian government that it should sign the START II and non-proliferation treaties or risk continued western refusal of economic assistance to their economy, Kinkel dashed the German nuclear power industry's hopes for a contract for the repair and modernization of Ukraine's atomic energy sector.

As long as Germany ties its for-

eign economic policy to criteria set by the non-proliferation and CoCom technology ban documents, it cannot sell urgently needed nuclear safety technology to the Ukrainians. For a capital-intensive sector like the German nuclear power industry, which hasn't sold a single plant or part of a plant abroad since U.S. President Jimmy Carter blocked the German-Brazilian nuclear cooperation deal in the late 1970s, the loss of profitable export perspectives in Ukraine is a dramatic setback.

It is in Germany's interest to support the restoration of an efficient power-generating sector in Ukraine. This would favor the western alignment of Ukraine, a relatively well-developed industrialized nation with a population of 52 million.

But while Bonn officials repeat the Anglo-American line that a Ukraine under Russia's nuclear umbrella (and therefore, Russia's control) is better than a sovereign Ukraine, they are not even endorsing better industry standards for the Russians.

It was nice to hear Chancellor Helmut Kohl warn early in February that more western assistance was needed for Russia, to prevent an anti-western backlash there, but Kohl's economics minister is carrying out the same type of policy that the chancellor criticized.

Economics Minister Günter Rexroth's talks in Berlin Feb. 6-7 with Russian Foreign Trade Minister Aleksei Nechayev, about a concrete agreement on east German exports to Russia, failed. They did so despite the fact that Hilmar Kopper, the chairman of

Deutsche Bank, which runs the Frankfurt Group of private creditors to Moscow, had just announced that a long-term debt-rescheduling deal was basically prepared. This meant that the pressure to pay the old foreign debt was taken off the shoulders of the Russian economy.

Rexroth's "no" to Nechayev's calls for extended German export credit guarantees (the Hermes facility) was said to be related to "uncertainties" about the Russian capability to repay the old debt. In reality, the "no" had to do with the new Bonn policy, which took effect at the end of 1992, to phase out the traditional orientation of industrial exporters in eastern Germany to markets in the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

The next German-Russian talks about the issue will not take place before late April or early May.

In this light, new Bonn government guidelines for subsidies and loans to eastern German firms, in the framework of the "Recovery East" program, have to be looked at more closely: They state a clear preference for firms that make "convincing" steps in the direction of decoupling from former eastern markets, and of reorientation toward the West. If Germany wants to have a cooperative relationship with the Russians, this is definitely not the right policy.

One wonders whether the German chancellor, who believes it would be "one of the biggest mistakes to give Russia up," is still in control of policymaking in Bonn.

Rumors here have it, though, that Kohl is planning a series of interventions to revitalize relations with the states of the former Soviet Union. The first such was a surprise one-hour meeting with President Boris Yeltsin at Moscow Airport on March 3, en route back to Germany from South Korea.

## Forty million hungry in Russia

*The U.S. "Food for Progress" program feeds the banks and the grain cartel, not the hungry.*

In late February, Elmira Pogorelova of the Russian Ministry of Public Health warned, in an interview with the journal *Argumenti i Fakty*, that approximately 40 million Russians are suffering hunger and malnutrition from a government-sanctioned "minimum diet," and that if there is no change, then millions could die within the next 2-3 years.

It has now been two years since the initiation of the U.S. Food for Progress program, originally identified as the vehicle for assuring needed food supplies to Russia and other new republics during the difficult transition from communism to independence. But instead of aid and succor, U.S. agricultural policies have visited usury and impoverishment on the former Soviet peoples.

Pogorelova reports that the present Russian government's promotion of the so-called "minimum diet," in the context of pre-existing malnutrition and bad medical supplies, amounts to a "hunger diet" for 40 million people. Proteins and vitamins are largely eliminated from that diet, and the elderly and children are the most threatened.

Pogorelova warned that rising food prices will expose millions of Russians to death by starvation within the next 2-3 years. The minimum income, set officially at 4,500 rubles, will not support a healthy person. Her charges were corroborated by an independent study of medical doctors published in Moscow recently, which forecast that "by the year 2000, Russia will be turned into a sick society with

a small layer of people that can be considered really healthy."

Under the Food for Progress perspective, one rotten policy followed another, which fattened western banks and deprived western farmers and Russian people alike.

Look at grain shipments: In January 1991, the United States instituted a program giving select U.S. and foreign banks federal loan guarantees to finance sales of U.S. grain to Russia and other new republics. Since that time, up to \$5.75 billion in credit for grain purchases by former Soviet republics has been authorized, with the U.S. loan guarantees pledged to a cartel of banks monopolizing the financing of Russian purchases. Under these arrangements, 10-20 million tons of U.S. grain each year were exported to Russia, handled under sweetheart contracts by the grain cartel companies, including Cargill, Continental, Bunge, and Louis-Dreyfus.

In the meantime, no agriculture infrastructure aid for the former Soviet sphere was forthcoming. Therefore, economic decline accelerated in Russia and other nations, as International Monetary Fund austerity demands were imposed, and farm output and food processing and distribution deteriorated. At the same time, the means to pay for imports dried up.

As of November 1992, Russia began defaulting on its payments to the banks financing its grain imports. Now the United States is preparing to pay six banks that have petitioned the U.S. Department of Agriculture to get portions of \$49.2 million in U.S.-guaranteed

loans that have gone into default.

As of year-end 1992, the U.S. Department of Agriculture suspended issuing more credit to Russia, pending resolution of the situation. On Feb. 1, the USDA proceeded to release \$130 million in credit guarantees to Ukraine to purchase food, and announced that Food for Progress would donate 200,000 metric tons of corn for the Ukraine government to sell on the private market. Traditionally, this is the means used by the U.S. Department of State and the USDA to undercut local farmers.

Who gains from this mode of so-called "aid"? Both the grain cartel companies who monopolize all export contracts, and the cartel of banks who finance the trade. Noteworthy among them is the Rabo Bank, based in the Netherlands. Rabo stands to make millions from U.S. grain aid. Rabo is also getting millions from federal loan guarantees on farmers inside the United States, who are being forced into default and foreclosure.

One of the consequences of the lack of adequate grain supplies and farm infrastructure in the former Soviet regions is the mass kill-off of livestock and obliteration of domestic meat supplies. The World Bank praised this as realistic, and called for reducing Russia's animal herd by half.

The U.S. Federal Reserve is all in favor of profiteering from undercutting the Russian food supply. The Kansas City Federal Reserve, in an article in fourth quarter 1992 *Economic Review* titled "Agriculture in the Former Soviet Union: The Long Road Ahead," forecast that "In the next few years, demand for imported grain will drop due to a major prospective adjustment in the livestock industry. Consumers in the former Soviet Union consume First World quantities of meat on Third World incomes. That cannot continue."



## Fed calls for bank deregulation

*Slipping back into the Bush-era mode, Greenspan wants freedom for banks to dream up more profit scams.*

**T**he Clinton administration signalled its intention to keep the banking system and the derivatives market afloat, with the mid-February approval by Deputy Treasury Secretary Roger Altman of a plan to ease some of the so-called regulatory burdens on banks. By siding with the parasitic financial speculators rather than shutting them down, the administration is foreclosing its one hope of raising the country out of the depression.

The policy of the Clinton administration toward the banks thus far, would seem essentially to be a continuation of the Bush policy of doing everything possible to pump up the speculative bubble.

Under the administration's plan, new procedures will be put into place which would allow banks to more easily challenge the conclusions of federal bank examiners, would loosen the standards for "character loans"—loans based upon the applicant's character instead of just his financial statement—and would write new guidelines reducing the liabilities faced by bank officers and directors.

The claim, made repeatedly by bankers and federal bank regulators, that Congress and "overzealous" federal bank examiners have imposed an unjustified "regulatory burden" on the banks, is ludicrous. It is also a deliberate lie, designed to cover up a massive covert bailout of the banking system, through looting the taxpayers.

"The regulatory burden on banks is large and growing," Federal Reserve Board Governor John LaWare, speaking in his capacity as chairman of the Federal Financial Institutions

Examination Council (FFIEC), told the House Banking Committee's financial institutions subcommittee Feb. 18. "Banking institutions serve a vital role in the U.S. economy," LaWare said. "The regulatory burden which we have imposed, however, may now threaten their role. . . . We must be careful not to constrain our banking system."

The FFIEC, a joint venture of the Federal Reserve, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., and the Office of Thrift Supervision, has compiled a list of some 60 administrative measures which comprise an "important first step" in reducing regulatory burden; but "legislative changes are required . . . to reduce regulatory burden further," LaWare said.

The regulatory burden line is also being pushed by Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, who told the House Banking Committee's subcommittee on economic growth and credit formation Feb. 23, that "regulatory costs" were "inhibiting" banks for making business loans. Greenspan said he hoped "we will see this psychological problem unwinding."

But characterizing a depression as a psychological problem won't make it go away, and neither will blaming the messenger, which is what the attack on bank examiners represents. By opening up the examination appeals process, the Clinton administration is continuing the Bush policy of forcing bank examiners to cover up the bankruptcy of the U.S. banking system by filing fraudulent reports.

The result of such a policy is that the examination process has become a sham, in which the government essentially rubber-stamps the banks' phony balance sheets. Most people would call this collusion. If there is a regulatory burden being placed, it is a burden on the backs of the taxpayers who will ultimately pay the price for this fraud.

The General Accounting Office (GAO), in a study on the bank examination process released Feb. 16, determined that "the examinations were too limited to fully identify and determine the deficiencies affecting [bank] safety and soundness."

"The examinations process for banks and thrifts has fundamental flaws which impede the achievement of the basic examination objective—to determine the safety and soundness of depository institutions and to identify and follow up on areas requiring corrective action," Comptroller General Charles Bowsher, head of the GAO, told the House Banking Committee Feb. 16.

"The federal banking regulators have no reliable evidence as to what is happening in the nation's banks and thrifts," responded House Banking Committee Chairman Henry B. Gonzalez (D-Tex.).

So if the regulatory agencies are already doing everything they can to prop up the insolvent banking system, then why this hue and cry about a non-existent regulatory burden?

The answer is that, under the guise of relieving this alleged burden, federal regulators are planning to massively deregulate the banking sector. With their reduced liabilities, bankers will be free to speculate in ways which the S&L bandits never dreamed of—and with the new character loans, you can bet that a whole host of the same old characters will suddenly qualify for new loans.

# Business Briefs

## Australia

### Loss of industries, unemployment are up

Australia has lost 1,762 factories that used to employ 10 or more people, in the last three-and-a-half years, according to statistics published by *The Age* on Feb. 24. The state of Victoria accounted for 40% of the losses. The greatest devastation was suffered by the clothing and footwear industry. Between 1988 and 1991, the number of clothing and footwear factories declined by 30%, from 1,400 to 974, as the government removed quotas, and manufacturers shifted offshore before their tariff protection was stripped away.

At the same time, the number of Australians who want to work has broken the 2 million barrier for the first time on record (which would double the official unemployment rate to over 20%) the annual Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey of Australians not in the labor force found. The daily *The Australian* reported on Feb. 22 that just over 1 million (51.4%) of those who wanted work were not actively seeking it, and were not counted by the ABS as officially unemployed. The number of discouraged job-seekers rose by 5% to 145,600 over a 12-month period, which means that they are 4% of all those not in the labor force.

## 'Technological Apartheid'

### Iran being cut off from high technology

A cutoff of all high-technology exports to Iran is being orchestrated on the basis that Iran is using dual-use technologies to build up its weapons industry for the manufacture of missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

According to Kenneth Timmerman, the German government, unlike with Iraq, is moving quickly against Iran and is expected to stop several contracts. Germany has already cut off any new credits to Iran, as has France and Italy.

Timmerman, a top Zionist lobby scribbler linked to Kroll Associates pushed the cutoff of

technology in a commentary in the Feb. 25 European edition of the *Wall Street Journal* entitled "Iran's Weapons Build-Up: Iraq Redux." As in his book *The Death Lobby*, he targets Iran's main trade partners, especially Germany, for attack.

## Economic Policy

### Ukraine must boost output, says economist

"Our central task is to increase the production of industrial and agricultural goods" and "upgrade productivity" as production is increased, Ukrainian economist Volodimir Kovalenko stated in the Feb. 11 edition of the weekly *Literaturnaya Ukraina*, in an article entitled "Proposals for Coming Out of the Economic Crisis in Ukraine."

Several dirigist steps are necessary, he said, including: a central bank credit policy for credits through state and private banks for construction projects; stringent, "iron-clad" government price controls for all basic goods; state regulation to prevent monopolies, to thus create a climate where medium-sized enterprises can flourish; state exchange controls where foreign exchange is only allocated "for the things we ourselves can't produce," like oil, natural gas, "some metals," and tropical and subtropical foods such as citrus fruits, coffee, tea, cacao, etc.

Given the conduct of the West and the Russian policies of blockade and economic sabotage, Kovalenko stressed that Ukraine has no choice but to move toward "maximal autarky," through state protection of industry, and utilize its abundant resources and plants to "provide the necessities of life," from basic foods to most types of consumer goods. When George Bush was in Kiev in summer 1991, he said "don't rush into independence," and "London today" is "quick to reach agreements with Moscow, and not Kiev," because London views Ukraine vis-à-vis Moscow as it views Scotland vis-à-vis London.

Kovalenko urged that Ukraine create a gold-based currency like the gold chervonets of 1922.

Kovalenko attacked former acting Russian

Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar for having "followed the tune of the IMF" and "destroying the whole country" for \$24 billion in aid, which never materialized. "In Ukraine and Russia, monetarism leads to the development of economies of the Latin American type, where a group of millionaires are parasitizing on the bodies of the rest of the population. . . . Such a transitional approach will not satisfy the population of the former Soviet republics. It will lead instead to people calling for the former Communists, as was the case in Lithuania."

Ukraine should not follow "the American economist Milton Friedman, whose ideas Gaidar has taken on . . . but to renew Ukraine we should follow the German economic reforms carried out in 1948, which led to the Economic Miracle. . . . Ukraine today can be compared to bombed out Germany then."

## Medicine

### Gene therapy with vaccine reduces cancer metastases

A combination of gene therapy and immunotherapy has been used in animal experiments to sharply reduce the development of cancer metastases, following surgical removal of a large, rapidly disseminating lung carcinoma in mice, the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel reported on Feb. 10.

This is the first demonstration that this form of therapy can be applied in animals at late stages when tumor spread has already occurred. Without this novel vaccination treatment, all of the mice would have succumbed to metastasized lung cancer within 1-2 months.

In a report that will be published in the *Journal of Immunology*, Weizmann Institute researchers, and scientists of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York and Kyoto University in Japan, describe a vaccine approach to prevent the metastatic growth of a previously established tumor using the tumor cells themselves, which were genetically modified by gene insertion to secrete interferon-gamma (a stimulant of various immune system elements), and subsequently irradiated to halt their ability to proliferate. The therapeutic protocol reduces the development of metastatic lung tumors in mice by more than 95%.

The study raises the possibility that genetic manipulation of human tumor tissue removed during a biopsy or surgery to enable it to produce interferon-gamma or other natural immune system regulatory agents (known as cytokines) might similarly provide an immunotherapy to prevent metastatic growth of that tumor in the patient.

### **Malthusianism**

## **World Bank plans to cut energy to Third World**

The World Bank has developed a supposedly new energy policy which is more explicitly geared toward cutting back energy production and consumption in Third World nations.

The World Bank "has put developing countries on alert that it will curtail future lending to badly run state-owned monopoly power utilities," Reuters reported on Feb. 21. Policy papers released the following day, say that the World Bank will also discourage power suppliers from continuing to subsidize energy prices and will move aggressively to encourage private investment in the utilities.

"We have a new motto. . . . No more business as usual," Robert Saunders, principal author of the reports, said. "It's a new world out there. We don't feel like a sector like energy should be subsidized."

### **Energy**

## **China opens oil basins to foreign companies**

China has opened what is believed to be potentially the largest unexplored oil basins in the world to foreign companies, Wang Tao, president of the China National Petroleum Corp., said on Feb. 17. The basins are about three times as large as France in area and contain more oil than Saudi Arabia. Total potential reserves are estimated at 8.2 billion tons of oil and 2.5 trillion cubic meters of gas.

The biggest basin, Tarim, is in Xinjiang province, the world's second largest desert,

1,400 miles from eastern China, where most of the energy-consuming industries are located. Oil would have to be moved across a pipeline, costing billions of dollars to build.

News from London reveals that the Royal Dutch Shell Group and British Petroleum both expressed interest after China announced that it was opening 12 onshore areas to foreign companies.

Despite the pressing need for energy for industrial development, China is not able to explore the oil fields on its own. Official statistics predict that by the year 1995, China will be an oil-importing country. Energy consumption is very low per capita compared to the world standard; nevertheless, the giant country ranks number three in total energy consumed each year.

### **Poland**

## **Strikes begin against IMF-imposed budget**

Protests against Poland's official budget for fiscal year 1993 began with a surprise one-hour warning strike of the upper Silesian miners late on the weekend of Feb. 20-21. The austerity budget was imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and had been welcomed by IMF chief envoy Mark Allan.

The strike protested the government's plan to cut insurance guarantees for the wives of the mining workers, and received the support of President Lech Walesa, who insisted that the plan be changed, or he would not sign it. The miners' cause was then taken up by the Senate, the lower house of the national parliament, which voted against the budget plan which had just been passed by the other chamber, the Sejm.

Not willing to risk a defeat on the budget, which is crucial for the ongoing talks with the IMF, the government of Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka backed off from the original plan, promising a modification of the insurance policy. Walesa then signed the budget plan, which leaves the government the task of looking for funds to meet the promises made to the miners. It is certain to put the guidelines that have just been agreed to with the IMF into jeopardy once again.

## **Briefly**

● **CHINA** will build two 300-megawatt nuclear power stations for Iran, according to an agreement signed on Feb. 21 in Teheran by China National Nuclear Industry General Corp. and Iran's Atomic Energy Organization. Both plants will be in the southern province of Khuzestan, near Iran's border with Iraq.

● **AIDS CASES** in New York City exploded 60.6% from 1989 to 1991, according to a confidential report done for the city and the state which was obtained by the *New York Post*. The lowest rate of increase was among homosexual men (47.0%), while the greatest increase was among women, which the paper on Feb. 22 called "an astonishing 80% rise in AIDS."

● **RUSSIA'S** biggest engineering firm, Yuri Osintsev, sees a bleak future, Reuters reported on Feb. 22. The firm's acting director, Janet Guttsman, said, "Our production fell by 30% last year. . . . Looking at the government's 1993 plans, we realize it will not be possible to stabilize things. In 1993, the fall in output will continue."

● **THE DEPRESSION** is leading many Britons to consider leaving the country for good, according to a Gallup poll published in the European press on Feb. 23. Some 49% would rather live in another country, as they see nothing that would keep them on the bankrupt island.

● **GERMAN** Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel pledged on Feb. 24 to help the former Yugoslav republic of Slovenia join the European Community. "Already good economic cooperation between the two countries should be developed further," Kinkel said.

● **GENERAL MOTORS** announced on Feb. 25 that as many as 11,000 workers would be laid off in early March as part of a work force reduction of 20,200 resulting from the exhaustion of the company's \$1.7 billion Jobs Bank program, established in 1990 to cover workers idled for more than 36 weeks.

## Gulliver travels to 'politically correct' Stanford University

by the Editors

If Mr. Lemuel Gulliver's travels were somehow to take him to Stanford University or any other top campus in America today, he would doubtless be struck by a familiar high-pitched whinnying sound echoing across the commons—the curious language of the Houyhnhnms, a species which one might mistake for our own *Equus caballus*, were it not for their ability to lend a certain degree of intelligibility to their utterings. Yet the sounds would have filled him with a sense of ghastly foreboding, the tone of these once-companionable creatures sounding somehow more clipped, more shrill. Upon listening more carefully, he would have been able to distinguish certain disjointed phrases, such as *hnym-houyhnhnee* (“anti-racism”), *hyahoomn-liuhnee* (“multi-culturalism”), and *hee-hawee* (“deconstruction”), this last phrase being uttered with particular distinctness.

And his queasiness would have turned to outright dismay, had he followed the sounds to discover their source. Upon entering a classroom, he would have witnessed a most curious scene: a member of the Houyhnhnm species, entirely without clothing save for a shiny jackboot neatly fitted onto each hoof; and, following him about on all fours as he marched around the classroom, a bevy of creatures which one might mistake for human college students, were it not for their no less curious behavior: Namely, whenever a member of the scruffy, ill-behaved assemblage would bump into any of their fellows, they would scratch and claw at each other wildly, shouting in a barely discernible Yahoo parody of the Houyhnhnm tongue, “My personal needs! My feelings!”

The scene witnessed by Mr. Gulliver is not far from the truth, as the fascist philosophy of political correctness infects college classrooms across the country, its guru-professors peddling the anti-human idea that a person's race, sex, and ethnic origin determine *who they are*. It is a philosophy which denies young people access to the greatest classics of western civilization—the works so-called dead white European males—which are the foundation of the intellectual and moral advancement of *any* human individual, regardless of origin.



"Political correctness" in the era of Jonathan Swift: The fat Puritan knight Hudibras consults an astrologer while on a quest to make the world conform to his bigoted views. The stuffed crocodile is an age-old symbol of hypocrisy. (Drawing by Hogarth, c. 1725.)

Indeed, these new-age thought-police have repudiated the very notion of the "individual," described by a University of Pennsylvania official as "a red flag phrase today considered by many to be racist." What is important about you, they insist, is not your mind, your potential for creativity, but the *group* into which you were born.

Early this year, two of Gulliver's modern-day descendants undertook an expedition to the home of political correctness, Stanford University, to more closely assess the effects of this policy. Of the six students whom they were able to engage in discourse (*language*, you see, has been banned—see box on page 40), three were foreigners, not yet infected by the virus of political correctness. The other three were white, angry, and ignorant. One answered the Gulliverians' advocacy of "cold fusion," with the scientifically absurd idea, "Don't you know this will mean a nuclear bomb in everyone's back yard?"

### **Irrationalism, the new religion**

At Stanford, the student body in 1988 successfully overturned the university's long-time requirement for a wide range of readings in important works of western civilization. Under the influence of the new literary theory known as deconstructionism, the students claimed that they would only be liberated if the reading of dead white European male authors (DWEMs) were replaced by allegedly more-relevant women, homosexual, and Third World authors. With the Rev. Jesse Jackson at their head, one student demonstration

chanted, "Hey, Hey, Ho, Ho, Western Culture's Got to Go!"

Stanford's combination of brainwashing and intimidation is now touted as the example for universities around the country; on Jan. 25, for instance, Hunter College in New York City proudly announced a new curriculum requirement based on race, women's issues, and sexual orientation "more stringent than those adopted in recent years by Stanford University."

Political correctness has been an issue of growing national debate since about 1988, with the publication of the late Prof. Allan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind*. The free-trade moguls at the *Wall Street Journal* subjected it to an editorial attack on Nov. 26, 1990; the following year saw the well-publicized neo-conservative attack, *Illiberal Education*, by Dinesh D'Souza. But, Bloom and all the conservative critics who have followed him, have underestimated the problem, while posing no real solution to it. These are not leftist "campus antics" that will eventually pass, and they cannot be combatted by hoisting the flag of eighteenth-century British liberalism.

Indeed, many of the neo-conservative critics of political correctness share the racist assumptions of its supporters.

It must be emphasized that political correctness is the most fashionable new cloak for a very old, racist evil. As LaRouche develops the point most recently in "On the Subject of God," just published in the Schiller Institute quarterly *Fidelio* (Spring 1993), the history of philosophy can effectively be divided into two schools: the Socratic tradition which seeks universal truths and accepts as primary the sov-



ereign "divine spark of reason" in every individual; and the opposing, Aristotelian ideology which claims that scientific knowledge is, fundamentally, unknowable, and that nature somehow differentiates humanity into higher and lower orders, with some destined to be masters and others slaves. Over the last two millennia, as LaRouche demonstrates, the ruling oligarchies have heavily sponsored the Aristotelian method, both as a theoretical justification for their racist rule, and as a means of ensuring that the educated among the ruled never obtain the intellectual tools to free themselves.

The critics of political correctness have either not understood this fundamental conflict, or they have cast their vote deliberately on the side of Aristotelianism.

Most of Bloom's book, for instance, is devoted to a single thesis: American education is ultimately based on eighteenth-century British liberalism; however, this liberalism has allowed

## LaRouche: a matter of human survival

As opposed to the neo-conservative critics who confine themselves to impotent finger-pointing at the campus lunacies, Lyndon LaRouche emphasizes the strategic and philosophical importance of the problem. "What I object to in Stanford," said LaRouche, "is highlighted by the resolution supported by students who ought to know better, but don't, under the name of 'sensitivity,' for banning the requirement that students study the words of 'dead, white European males.' Now, it happens that most of what we know on this planet, at least most of that upon which we *depend* to maintain a population of more than five and a half-billion people on this planet, certainly depends upon the contributions (admittedly there are other contributions from other sources) of dead, white European males.

"If people don't know these things, they don't know much about civilization, and therefore can't make much of a decision about matters either in terms of domestic or foreign policy. . . . These people who are now going to premium colleges like Stanford . . . 20 years from now, these are the people who will be coming into the dominant, ruling positions in our government and in our institutions. With people like that, whose brains have been destroyed, is there any chance of the nation surviving? You're paying \$10-20,000 per year for the destruction not only of your children's minds and your own mind, but also the destruction of our society, by turning people from human beings into baboons."

itself to be subverted over the last 100 years by what Bloom called "the German invasion." Specifically, American philosophy has become dominated by ideas from three sources: the nineteenth-century philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, his twentieth-century follower Martin Heidegger, and the Critical Theory of the so-called Frankfurt School, including Georg Lukacs, Herbert Marcuse, and Theodor Adorno.

Bloom is wrong in thinking that British liberalism is the positive basis of American education. At its best, American education was based on the German system of classical education, the same system subverted in Germany by Nietzsche, Heidegger, and the Institute for Social Research (Frankfurt School). Bloom's criticism of the latter as the source of political correctness is on the mark. However, he is ultimately unable to effectively combat it, because he has no rigorous basis for criticizing British liberalism.

## The insanity of 'post-modernism'

"Political correctness" was a phrase originally used in Communist Party intellectual circles in the 1930s and 1940s. It was revived by neo-conservative authors around 1990 as an insulting characterization of a general school of thought that might be more scientifically called post-modernism.

All the lunacies being taught on campus are post-modernism. The post-modernists spend much of their time polemicizing with each other over who, exactly, has possession of the true grail of post-modernism; thus, there are structuralists, post-structuralists, feminist deconstructionists, Third World lesbian feminist deconstructionists, and so on. However, all post-modernist thought has its proximate origins, as Bloom implies, in the three sources of Nietzsche, Heidegger, and the Frankfurt School. What, then, is post-modernism?

In 1936, Nazi Culture Minister Josef Goebbels, on orders from Adolf Hitler, formed a committee of academics to edit the complete works of Friedrich Nietzsche. Martin Heidegger was placed on that committee; in preparation, Heidegger prepared a series of lectures on Nietzsche's work. Heidegger concluded that the most important thing that he shared with Nietzsche was the commitment to extinguish the last traces in western civilization of what he called "metaphysical humanism." This commitment was also shared by the Frankfurt School.

Nietzsche, Heidegger, the Frankfurt School, and every single advocate of political correctness today shares this hatred of "metaphysical humanism," the idea that the individual, through the exercise of his or her reason, can discern the Divine Will in an unmediated relationship; that the individual can change the physical universe in the pursuit of the Good; that mankind can have dominion over nature as commanded by the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis. This hatred of the divine spark of reason led Lukacs, in 1914, to write his great complaint, "Who will save us from western civilization?"

When the students of Stanford University chanted, "Western Culture's Got to Go," they were giving their own answer to that famous question.

## Political correctness leads to genocide

by Gretchen Small

One of the mandatory textbooks on the reading list for “politically correct” U.S. colleges today is the autobiography of the Guatemalan “Indian activist” Rigoberta Menchú, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992. First published in Spanish in 1983 and since translated into 12 languages, *I, Rigoberta Menchú: An Indian Woman in Guatemala* is presented to students as the life story of a woman “whose life vividly reflects the experiences common to many Indian communities in Latin America.” Menchú “speaks for all the Indians of the American continent” who have suffered 500 years of “cultural oppression,” the Venezuelan anthropologist who edited *I, Rigoberta*, Elisabeth Burgos-Debray, asserts in her introduction.

By reading this book, students are told, they will come to understand “Indian” life, what Indians want out of life, and how “Indian culture” is to be saved. Not only that, but here they will find a *better* culture than “oppressive” western civilization, which has brought only “genocide” to the Americas since 1492. Editor Burgos-Debray instructs the reader as to this alleged superiority from the outset: “Within that culture [described by Menchú] everything is determined in advance; everything that occurs in the present can be explained in terms of the past and has to be ritualized so as to be integrated into everyday life, which is itself a ritual. As we listen to her voice, we have to look deep into our own souls for it awakens sensations and feelings which we, caught up as we are in an inhuman and artificial world, thought were lost for ever.”

The book is a fraud almost as great as the fact that Menchú was granted a Nobel Prize as a *peace* activist! *I, Rigoberta* is not an honest story told to defend Indian culture, but a tract scripted by slave-masters, to perpetuate slavery. The politically correct “indigenism” which it promotes is not an academic matter, but a piece of propaganda for a decades-long project, run by foreign anthropologists such as Burgos-Debray, to induce ethnic warfare in Guatemala *where there is none now*, and, that accomplished, to spread it throughout the Americas. The terrorist forces with which Menchú has worked since her teens—by her own admission—carry out

acts of war as bestial as those associated with their ideological allies in Peru, the satanic Shining Path.

Forget the media tales of an “Indian guerrilla resistance movement” seeking justice in Guatemala. This is a terrorist movement which, except for its international support, *has failed inside Guatemala*, precisely because the vast majority of the Guatemalan population, Indian and *mestizo* alike, rejected the terrorist project. Yet that has not deterred the foreign sponsors of Menchú, who, through economic and political warfare against Guatemala, insist on bringing her and her terrorist friends to power. Should they be allowed to succeed, the Menchú project will bring to the Americas the same kind of unimaginable barbarism which the Serbian students of deconstructionism have unleashed in the Balkans, their rape and death camps included.

Who will be the first to die in the holocaust that will result? The very human beings of Indian heritage in whose name Menchú’s politically correct indigenism purports to speak. For the advocates of this view of man, Indians are merely destined to serve as cannon-fodder in the war to wipe out western civilization, an assigned role Menchú, for all the international stardom she now enjoys, is merely playing out.

### How is slavery to be overturned?

The majority of Guatemalans, whether *mestizo* or Indian, live in conditions of abject misery. Guatemala is a country rich in natural resources, both agricultural and mineral, but the failure to develop basic infrastructure has left the country by and large in backwardness. The lack of transport, sanitation, and water systems is one of the worst on the continent, rivaling conditions in Peru or Honduras.

The stories told by Menchú of her childhood describe conditions intolerable for any human being to have to suffer. Unable to scratch even a minimum subsistence out of their miserable small plots of land in the highlands, each year Menchú’s family, along with millions of others, was forced to go down from the mountains to work part of each year on the coastal plantations, harvesting cotton and coffee. Here they lived under conditions of quasi-slavery as bad or worse than those prevailing on Southern plantations in the United States after the Civil War. Seasonal laborers are herded together like beasts of burden, but are given less to eat than the animals. Uneducated, illiterate, denied medical facilities or even housing, without recourse to legal protections, the men, women and children who worked the plantations, Indians and *mestizo* alike, were, and to a large part still are, treated as mindless animals to be exploited for their labor, often to the point of death.

Compared to these slave camps, life in the Altiplano, as miserable as it was, appeared as freedom.

But what does *I, Rigoberta* identify as the causes of Guatemala’s backwardness, despite its potential? What are the solutions proposed by Menchú and her promoters as the path



A Mayan family in Guatemala's highlands. Menchú and the anthropologists want to keep the Mayans living in a miserable, backward state, a "culture" which is nothing but the shards of a collapsed civilization.

to freedom? Here is where the vicious fraud of *I, Rigoberta* begins to emerge.

Most striking is what is *not* mentioned. No history is offered, nor any basic facts of economics. Where is a discussion of the foreign debt, collapsing terms of trade, or the International Monetary Fund? Why have Guatemala's largely undeveloped resources not been invested in national development, but instead looted to pay foreign usurers? Where is a mention of the historic battle between Guatemalan nation-builders, who viewed the population, no matter of what ethnic heritage, as the country's richest resource, and the local representatives of the international Scottish Rite Freemasons seeking to spread slavery throughout the Caribbean and Central America?

Nor is any reference made to the soaring drug trade which began in Guatemala in the late 1970s, as the country became transformed into a major cocaine transshipment center, and a producer of heroin and marijuana. By 1982, not only an increasing number of plantation owners were now profiting from the drug trade, but Menchú's terrorist allies, too, were

up to their eyeballs in it, using drugs to finance arms purchases.

Instead, Menchú's book offers only the imbecilic slogans concocted to justify "people's revolutionary war" as the causes of all Guatemala's problems: The "rich," the Army, and Spanish colonizers of 500 years ago are the Enemy, simply because they are rich, in the Army, and not-Indian. As for solutions, *I, Rigoberta* is a call to arms against any and all attempts to *alter* the backwardness in which the majority of Guatemalans live, because it is "their" culture, and her proposed method to defend that backwardness is a terrorist war *a là* Shining Path.

### Hailing Menchú's 'Shining Path North'

It is not incidental to this program of action that *I, Rigoberta* was put together by Burgos-Debray, the wife of that French theoretician of Ibero-American guerrilla warfare, Régis Debray, who in the 1960s left his base in Havana to accompany Cuba's Che Guevara in the mountains of Bolivia. While Debray soon retired to expound his theories from the

greater safety of the cafés of Paris and the offices of French President François Mitterrand, thousands of misled Ibero-American youth died uselessly in insane guerrilla movements following Debray's "revolutionary" theories.

Menchú arrived in Paris in 1982, brought there by various European groups which were providing the Guatemalan terrorist movement financial and propagandistic support. A Canadian woman involved in these operations suggested to Burgos-Debray that she turn Menchú's life story into a book. For one week, the two ladies holed up in Burgos-Debray's Paris apartment, developing an "intense" relationship, as Burgos-Debray taped Menchú's reminiscences, which the Venezuelan anthropologist then edited into a novelistic form for consumption by university students.

The result is a propaganda tract for the Guatemalan narco-terrorist forces for which Menchú has worked since her teens, and in which her entire family was involved.

Funny how this glaring fact has been suppressed. When Menchú was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in October 1992, the Guatemalan government and military were attacked by the international media for "lying" that Menchú, her family, and the "popular organizations" she was involved with had anything to do with the avowedly Marxist terrorists in Guatemala. It was argued that such *statements of fact* by Guatemalan officials, as that Menchú and her popular organizations are connected to the terrorists, constitute *proof* that the military is genocidal, and just wants to repress Indians, since no connection exists between these "popular organizations" and the guerrillas.

Could it really be that among all those journalists and the Nobel Prize Committee, none had read Menchú's book, available in 12 languages and by now a virtual bible for the "politically correct" movement?

Back in 1982, Menchú spoke freely about how she and her entire family worked with the guerrillas; her father, her mother, and all her sisters and brothers joined their ranks, her youngest sister doing so at the age of eight. This was not some mythical "Indian" guerrilla resistance movement either, but a Cuban-allied and financed narco-terrorist organization.

"The people have four politico-military armed organizations," she explains in *I, Rigoberta*. "The Guerrilla Army of the Poor (EGP), the Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA), the Fuerzas Armadas Rebeldes (FAR), and the Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT). This is the nucleus of the national leadership. Our idea is to put into practice the methods initiated by the masses when they evolved their 'people's weapons': to be able to make Molotov cocktails to fight their army. . . . We wanted to weaken the government economically, politically and militarily."

Those four terrorist groups were founded in the 1960s and 1970s by Cuban-allied theoreticians and built up by the combined forces of so-called action anthropology and libera-

tion theology, reaching their peak size in 1982-83. In 1979, Fidel Castro, whose government had kept the four groups supplied in the early years, began pressuring them to unite, and by January 1982, they announced the formation of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG).

What, then, does Menchú report on the role of "popular organizations," such as the Committee of Peasant Unity (CUC) and 31st of January Popular Front in which she plays a leading role, in the overall strategy of those terrorist groups? "Our actions weaken the regime militarily too. We try to split up the armed forces so that not only do they have to attack our politico-military organizations, but they have to spread themselves to attack us as well. . . . The important thing was that we were using all our resources."

"I love the CUC," she continues. "I love it because that's where I realized the importance of the people's revolutionary war."

Early on in her participation with the guerrillas, Menchú assumed the task of training villages in "self-defense" against the Army. Methods included using stones, traps, lime, and Molotov cocktails. "We've often used lime. Lime is very fine and you have to aim it in a certain way for it to go into someone's eyes. . . . You can blind a policeman by throwing lime in his face. . . . We'd invented a sort of Molotov cocktail . . . this cocktail could burn two or three soldiers," the future Nobel Peace Prize activist expounded.

At another point, she calmly recounts how the terrorists had a policy of executing anyone—Indian or not—suspected of collaborating with the Army, because "we were very clear about what we had to do." Although her book does not elaborate this policy further, the URNG groups were notorious for the Shining Path-like scorched-earth strategies employed against villages which refused to join the terrorists.

The story of her father's death in January 1981, highlighted by the international media as yet more proof that Guatemala's military wantonly murders non-violent Indian activists without provocation, is another example of how international promoters of the terrorists have implemented a Big Lie campaign against the military. Menchú reports in her book that by 1979, her father, Vicente, had taken up arms with the guerrilla forces. Then, in late January 1981, he led an occupation, by *compañeros* [guerrillas] and leaders of "popular organizations," of the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala City. The seizure of the embassy, she explained, was one of several actions taken because "the people wanted arms to defend themselves. . . . We thought that they [the government] would give all the ones who occupied the embassy permission to leave the country as political refugees, and they would be able to spread the news of our struggle abroad."

Foreign financing was critical to the Guatemalan terrorist movement's efforts to arm itself, before self-financing through the drug trade was achieved later.

When the Guatemalan government attempted to retake

the embassy, a fight broke out, and the embassy burned to the ground in the resulting firestorm in which all those in the embassy, guerrillas and officials alike, died. The Guatemalan government reported that the fire was caused by explosions from weapons held by the terrorists who had seized the embassy. Discreetly forgetting her own dissertations on the power of Molotov cocktails and her father's role among the guerrillas, Menchú protests that the government's version could not be correct, because

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*"We've often used lime. Lime is very fine and you have to aim it in a certain way for it to go into someone's eyes. . . . You can blind a policeman by throwing lime in his face. . . . We'd invented a sort of Molotov cocktail . . . this cocktail could burn two or three soldiers"—Rigoberta Menchú*

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everyone knows that "peasants" don't have firearms. But unlike the international press accounts of the incident, even Menchú must admit that the government's version could be true, since neither she "nor any of our *compañeros* can say what the real truth is."

### Creating a 'Culture of Rage'

In September 1992, "Indian activists" based in San Francisco, California distributed flyers announcing a forum to be given by a representative of the terrorist URNG with which Menchú works. Accompanying the forum, the flyer reported, would be a musical group performing an act entitled "Culture of Rage." The title encapsulates the ideology and thought processes promoted in *I, Rigoberta*. Her cause "wasn't born out of something good, it was born out of wretchedness and bitterness," Rigoberta Menchú twice tells Burgos-Debray. Repeatedly, throughout the book, Menchú speaks of the "hated" which drives her sought-for "revolution."

The central role played by rage and hatred in the "indigenous movement" of political correctness provides a key to how this induced "indigenous struggle" has been organized, and what it seeks to create.

Guatemala's so-called indigenous people's movement is no native upsurge, but was systematically built up over more than two decades by foreign forces. Guatemala was used as a kind of experimental petri dish for the creation of an "Indian" liberation movement by foreign forces, in a similar fashion to that used to create Shining Path in Peru. While we cannot

here review the documentation of this shocking story, in 1985 *EIR* published a Special Report, *Soviet Unconventional Warfare: the Case of Guatemala*, which showed that the following forces worked together—and, at the highest levels, wittingly so—to train, finance, and build up the terrorist movement in which a relatively small number of Indians, such as Menchú and her family became caught up:

- the Soviet and Cuban governments (the Cuban communists today continue the policy today);
- the U.S. government, particularly the Agency for International Development (AID knowingly financed "peasant leadership" courses which were recruiting to the terrorist movements);
- the supranational "indigenous" apparatus operating out of the United Nations;
- the Marxist liberation theology networks operating under cover of the Catholic Church.

What was the purpose of this operation? To ensure that rebellion against miserable conditions and inhuman treatment was turned *against* the nation-state and national institutions, and not into a movement for the development of all Guatemalans. Enraged students and Indians were channelled instead into a terrorist movement fighting for the maintenance of that backwardness!

Herein enters the fraud of what is passed off as "Indian" culture by the advocates of political correctness. The message delivered in *I, Rigoberta* is that Indian "culture" rejects schools, modern agricultural methods, medicines, "all things modern." "My children, don't aspire to go to school, because schools take our customs away from us," Vicente Menchú told his children. Rejecting schooling is presented as even a "revolutionary" act, because "when teachers come into the villages, they bring with them the ideas of capitalism and getting on in life." The guerrillas *compañeros* who came to the mountains were trusted, because they "adapted to the conditions we live in. We can only love a person who eats what we eat," Rigoberta proclaims; the *mestizos* "want to destroy us with medicines and other things," such as food "made from machines."

### Who really killed the Mayans?

Burgos-Debray is fascinated with Menchú's repeated statements that Indians believe that they are one with animals, and that Mother Earth is sacred. These, after all, are the basic premises adopted by the fascist New Age movement in the formerly industrialized nations.

But was it even always so, that the Mayans were locked in a culture in which, in the words of Menchú's ghostwriter, "everything is determined in advance," as one spends one's life growing maize on small plots of land? The answer is "no." Between approximately 200 B.C. and 800 A.D., the Mayan civilization flourished in southern Mexico and Guatemala, changing steadily over that time as large urban centers

were built, a system of writing elaborated, and sophisticated astronomical calculations carried out. Like all human beings who act like human beings anywhere on the earth, the Mayans studied their universe, in order to master it and improve their lives. In the process, the Mayans willfully changed the traditional “ways” of their ancestors.

Archaeological work has shown, however, that that civilization collapsed in upon itself by sometime around 900 A.D.—long before the Spanish arrived in the early 1500s. No one knows exactly what happened, but from the limited evidence available to archaeologists, it appears that around the 800s, the limited ritualized warfare among competing urban centers which had prevailed until then shifted into full-scale wars for conquest, with the winners sacrificing large numbers of their captives “to the gods.” Construction in the cities stopped, as did the recording of activities which had prevailed until then, as people fled the dying cities into the countryside. *The Mayan culture, as it had developed up until then, had failed, and the Mayan people paid the consequences*, long before the Spanish arrived.

What is today promoted as “Mayan culture,” is nothing but the shards of a collapsed civilization, based on primitive methods of corn cultivation insufficient even to sustain the population following those methods at their current miserable state of existence. Yet that miserable existence is what politically correct anthropologists insist Indians “are,” and what they must remain! They would deny to human beings of Indian heritage their inalienable right to be *human*: to willfully change and better “their ways,” in accord with an ever-increasing ability to understand the universe.

The truth that the politically correct movement hysterically seeks to bury from human history, is that the arrival of the Spanish in the Americas beginning in 1492, by introducing western civilization, *saved the Indians*. The Indian population *increased*, new urban centers were built at an increasingly rapid rate, and the Spanish and Indian populations intermixed and built a new civilization in the Americas, one of whose most important contributions to human history being its demonstration of the power of a *non-racist* concept of man. The misery suffered by Menchú’s family and others in the Americas is a result not of Spanish colonization—life was much more miserable in the Americas before the Spanish arrived, to which the 20,000 victims a year of Aztec mass sacrifices could attest—but of the failure to ensure that the benefits of that project were extended to all inhabitants of the Americas, of whatever ethnic heritage.

### **A contrasting view**

New Age worshippers of indigenism aside, it would be a mistake to believe that all that Menchú dictated to her would-be revolutionary anthropologist interviewer reflects “authentic” Indian beliefs. Such remarks as “everything in our life is like a film. Constant suffering,” for

example, would appear to be a rather “modern” thought produced by the effects of too much Hollywood. But then it should be remembered that even if Menchú states umpteen times that Indians must always do only what their ancestors did, or else they lose their identity, she did dictate her life-story in a Paris apartment at which she had arrived through a means of transportation never known to her ancestors: the airplane.

At other times, the voice of the Marxist liberation theology revolutionary is unmistakable. In the midst of a discussion of Indian sexual habits and family life (a subject into which no anthropologist could fail to delve), Menchú suddenly criticizes Indian parents for not providing sex education to their children, the first time the concept of a necessity for change is mentioned! Technology may be forbidden to Indians, but when it comes to sex, “it can be a problem being ignorant of so many things about life.”

Perhaps the most telling line in the entire book, occurs during one of Menchú’s descriptions of how she trained villagers to fight guerrilla warfare. “We broke with many of our cultural procedures by doing this but we know it was the way to save ourselves,” she explained.

Ah! So change *is* admitted when necessary for survival. We then come back to the central question which must be asked: What is the most effective path to changes which will ensure survival? Political correctness would have that answered only the way Menchú presents it, by spreading hate-ridden indigenist warfare on behalf of backwardness.

Students forced to read *I, Rigoberta* would do well to contrast it with the autobiography of another woman, U.S. civil rights leader Amelia Boynton Robinson. *Bridge Across Jordan* (revised edition, Schiller Institute, 1991) records Robinson’s life-long battle, still continuing today, to bring freedom to all men, beginning with her and her husband’s efforts to eradicate the bestial conditions in which many African-Americans were forced to live in the plantation system still reigning in much of the South. The parallels with what Menchú suffered on the plantations of Guatemala are unmistakable; the contrast in conception of man, outlook, and method of fighting oppression could not be greater.

Robinson dedicated her energies to trying to better those abandoned in poverty, to enable them to have access to the most advanced means possible, so that they, too, could make contributions to the development of the human race as a whole. Her efforts, like those of Dr. Martin Luther King, with whom she worked, were founded on the simple doctrine of “Love thy neighbor.” The critical turning point in her life came, she explains in her book, when she rejected hatred as the emotion with which to combat the evil indignities she was committed to eradicating. Her constant theme is that the hater, by hating, destroys himself. Robinson is often heard to say that the race which she is proud to represent, is the human race.



# Without 'dead white European males' there would be no civilization

by Melvin Klenetsky

The proponents of "political correctness" tell us that the writings and thought of the great minds of European civilization are irrelevant today, especially if you happen to be female or African-American. After all, one can hear the arguments in university classroom after classroom, that the world is oppressive, filled with seemingly unsolvable problems and undeniable brutality, and these "dead white European males," or DWEMs, as they are called, are the architects of the very repression which has gripped our world and holds it in its current stanglehold.

So the doomsayers, fully funded by the Ford and Rockefeller foundations, in contemporary literature, plastic art, and music, under the name of modern and chic, backed up by the university professor (undoubtedly a Maoist rebel from the 1960s counterculture), mesmerize the youth in song and print, and lead them into rebellion against the entirety of western civilization. The doomsayers are part of the most destructive faction in western civilization, and these political correctness warriors are the contemporary "Red Guard" of that faction, no better than the book burners of old, or than Cambodia's Khmer Rouge or Mao Zedong's Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution. Should they succeed, as will be demonstrated here, then the very basis for sustaining civilization will be destroyed, and a new dark age will ensue—if the human race survives at all.

Throughout its history, the western world has always had two warring factions within it. Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), the German poet of freedom, who commemorated the great achievements of the American Revolution, described these two forces within society. On the one side, there is the oligarchical force, which has sought to establish master-slave colonial and imperialistic relationships within society. On the other is a republican force, exemplified by the thinkers of Leonardo da Vinci's (1452-1519) and Raphael's (1483-1520) great Renaissance, and by the leaders of the American Revolution.

The republican forces believe in universal principles: that man is made in the image of God, and that this manifests itself in each individual human being through his individual potentiality for creativity. Thus the great European Renaissance, in its art and literature, celebrates the God-given spark of reason that differentiates man from the beast. Man can exercise this creative spark through culture in general, which

includes music, literature, pictorial art, and the sciences, and more specifically through technology, which allows man to master nature and thereby ensure the continued survival of civilization at ever higher levels.

We shall demonstrate, by sampling a key number of critical thinkers, that their efforts have allowed for the tremendous developments that we see in the world today. In doing so, we do not in any way mean to underestimate the numerous problems that have befallen modern civilization. The point is that these problems are the result of an oligarchical faction, against which the republican faction has been in a continuous state of war; and it is that oligarchical faction which wants to rob us of the republican heritage that has allowed for the positive developments over the past 550 years.

## Population potential

Mankind would not be here today, 5.3 billion strong, with higher living standards, on the average, and longer life expectancies, than any other period in history, but for the efforts of this republican faction. Should the oligarchical faction prevail, however, with their political correctness red guard and their malthusian proclivities, then these positive developments will disappear within generations, if not sooner.

If we examine the growth of world population for the past 2,500 years, there is a direct correlation between population growth and periods of renaissance. Tremendous increases in population growth occurred during the periods of the Golden Age of Greece, the Islamic Renaissance, and the European Renaissance. These are periods where man's belief in the sacredness of his fellow man is realized and enhanced through a process of mutual development amongst men in society that involves an increase in knowledge, education, and scientific and technological know-how, all of which contribute toward greater productive capacities in society capable of sustaining increasing populations.

The Golden Renaissance in Europe, however, marks a far greater and entirely new level of sustaining ever larger populations. From A.D. 1 to 1650, the population grew two and a half times, from 200 to 500 million people. Thereafter, the time span for doubling the population dropped dramatically, showing the tremendous developments within society that allowed for this unsurpassed capability for population growth.

At this juncture, we hear a negative note from our politi-

cal correctness guru. He is jumping up and down, saying that we have proved his point, because the growth of the world population is one of the major causes of the world's problems. Our guru argues that all these people, whose numbers grew because of the breakthroughs of the Industrial Revolution and the Golden Renaissance, are gobbling up the scarce, finite resources of the planet, thereby destroying opportunities for future generations.

Fortunately, his argument is erroneous. The idea that society is locked into finite and fixed resources is absurd. We constantly develop new technologies that define and use new resources. The potential of fusion power, for example—a technology close to being developed should we invest in its development—where energy, in first-generation applications, would be derived from hydrogen isotopes found in seawater, could give us millions and perhaps even billions of times the energy we now get from fossil fuels.

The history of mankind has been one of using up scarce resources, but in so doing, of developing the capacity to invent new technologies that define and utilize different resources. During the 200-year period from 1650-1850, the world population doubled from 500 million to 1 billion. The next doubling, from 1 to 2 billion, only took 80 years, occurring by 1930. By 1975, thirty-five years later, there is another doubling of the population to 4 billion worldwide. In 1990, the world's population was estimated at 5.3 billion.

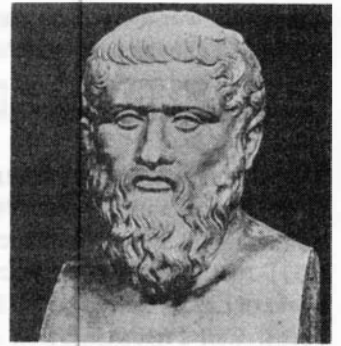
The Industrial Revolution, in the latter part of the nineteenth century, played a significant role in allowing for this spectacular population growth. But these developments—a direct result of the development of European civilization and the Industrial Revolution, coming out of the Golden Renaissance of Leonardo da Vinci—took place in the midst of a battle between two opposing forces, oligarchical and republican. The American Revolution, for example, came out of the Golden Renaissance, Christian-Platonic tradition that all men are made in the image of God. Thus the American Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution rest on this foundation, and declare that all men have an inalienable right, endowed by the Creator, entitling all of the citizenry to the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness.

### The viewpoint of Plato

Just as the Ionian city-state republics were pitted against the evil of Mesopotamia and Canaan, and Athens of Solon's constitutional reforms was pitted against the oligarchical evil of slave-holding Sparta, so the American colonies were pitted against the British Empire. The people throughout history who have fought for the inalienable rights of man, for making science and education the property of all mankind, for demonstrating man's God-given potential for the spark of reason through great art and music, are the individuals who are responsible for the breakthroughs that civilization rests upon.

Their breakthroughs are universal, transcending space and time—a gift for all people and all time, that can contrib-

ute to future development. This is the viewpoint of Plato's *Republic*, where Plato calls for a society that develops and enhances man's creative potentials; in contrast to Aristotle's *Politics*, where he defends the master-slave relationship, thereby demonstrating his oligarchical proclivities. We proudly stand on the shoulders



Plato

of Plato and his followers, and not of Aristotle, whose minions have defended the interests of the oligarchy.

In the areas of science, philosophy, technology, and the arts, the republican faction, associated with Plato, proved to have made the most important and greatest number of discoveries. The important developments in mathematical physics, which paved the way for the technological breakthroughs in thermodynamics, hydrodynamics, electromagnetism, nuclear energy, aerodynamics, and supersonic flight, comes from a steady output of work from this political faction, whose method of investigation has proven to be more conducive to the generation of creative discoveries.

### An imperial policy

To keep the fruits of the thinking of these DWEMs from our young people, is to perpetrate a state of ignorance and perpetuate a level of backwardness that will inevitably result in the destruction, through disease, famine, poverty, and war, of whole areas of the globe. The same people who underwrite political correctness, argue that it is legitimate to withhold technology from the developing sector. Under the catch-phrases "technological apartheid," "appropriate technology," and "cultural relevancy," the modern-day purveyors of British colonialism create the conditions to keep nations of the Third World in a perpetual state of underdevelopment.

Political correctness is the ideological cover for justifying modern day neo-colonial and imperialistic policies. We extract raw materials from Third World nations and refuse them the modern technology that will allow these countries to develop a broad base of economic development; we treat the populations of the Third World as mere beasts of burden, dehumanizing our fellow man, denying him his God-given right to knowledge and scientific progress, all the time claiming that we are "respecting the feelings" of the black-, brown-, and yellow-complexioned peoples of the world.

We claim that these nations are poor and that they have too many people; but we deny them the scientific and technological knowledge that can transform their economies, enabling them to sustain higher rates of population growth at higher living standards, whose feasibility has been demonstrated by the periods of growth in western Europe and the

rest of the world over the past 2,500 years. That history thoroughly debunks their malthusian arguments, and demonstrates, beyond any shadow of a doubt, the malicious, hidden agenda and evil behind the political correctness movement.

### The development of science

Beginning with Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa (1401-64) and continuing on through Leonardo da Vinci, Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), Gottfried Leibniz (1646-1716), up through the works of Lazare Carnot (1753-1823), Gaspard Monge (1746-1818), Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855), Bernhard Riemann (1826-66), and Georg Cantor (1845-1918), the foundations of mathematical physics were developed by a Christian-Platonic tradition in European culture which laid the basis for the Industrial Revolution. They proceeded to investigate the physical universe based on their conception of man, which includes man's relationship to God, his fellow man, and the physical universe. They investigated the underlying causes of physical processes from a hylozoic, universal standpoint.

From the German philosopher Leibniz's principle of sufficient reason, for example, which states that God did not put anything into the world without a reason for doing so, comes the important scientific principle of least action. This enables scientists to investigate the underlying causes of physical process, knowing that the organization of the physical universe cannot be arbitrary. At the same time, the physical universe has a simplicity and complexity built into it that allows for the greatest potential for development, a concept that resonates with the principles of creativity found in man and the Leibnizian conception that God's world is the best of all possible worlds.

Just as reason prevails over logic or sense-certainty, so the processes of nature have to be understood as non-linear and only approximated by algebraic, mechanistic, or linear processes. Thus, the linear, sense-certainty approach of an Isaac Newton (1642-1727), who postulates point masses and action-at-a-distance, leads us to the famous "three-body problem," a problem which is insoluble from the Newtonian viewpoint, but which never appears in Kepler's approach, as exemplified by his analysis of planetary interactions. The answer to that difference lies in the methodological approach of this Platonic faction, and underscores the superior success of these thinkers.

Joseph Fourier's (1768-1830) investigation of heat transfer problems, with multiple sources of heat, is another example, like the three-body problem, which demonstrates the flawed nature of the Newtonian mechanistic approach, of pair-wise interactions. Bringing the areas of hydrodynamics, mechanics, and such radiational phenomena as heat transfer under one coherent theory, stretches the limits of the Newtonian approach to the breaking point. Fourier's investigations in the early nineteenth century, along with other investigations into electrodynamics, electromagnetism, astronomy,

and geodetics from the standpoint of mathematical physics, forced an investigation into the relationship between the arithmetic and geometric continuum, which in turn led to development of a new theory of irrational numbers and the Cantorian notion of a non-linear continuum.

The work of nineteenth-century mathematical physics was spearheaded by the tremendous discoveries of men such as Monge, Carnot, Gauss, Karl Weierstrass (1815-97), Gustav Lejeune Dirichlet (1805-59), Riemann, and Cantor. These thinkers understood the relationship between the self-developing qualities of human self-consciousness, and the self-ordering qualities found in physical processes.

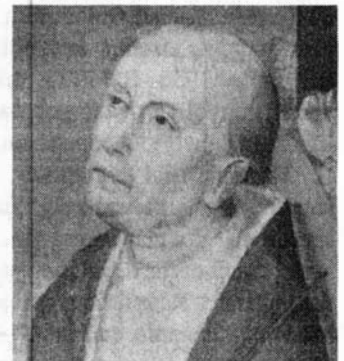
Let us highlight the accomplishments of a few of these thinkers, in order to give you a sense of their accomplishments and thinking. The work of Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa is a useful starting point, because it lays the foundation for modern mathematical physics.

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### Nicolaus of Cusa (1401-64)

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A German clergyman and natural philosopher, Cusa studied law at Padua and became a cardinal in 1448. His *Concordantia Catholica* laid the basis for ecumenical relationships amongst the great religions of the world. He also wrote on calendar reform, improvement of the Alphon-



sine Tables of celestial motions, the theory of numbers, and many other areas. During his investigation on the quadrature of the circle ("the squaring of the circle"), where Cusa reworks Archimedes' treatment of that subject, Cusa announced that he had found a superior approach. Cusa defined the circle as that curve which encloses the greatest area or accomplishes the greatest work, with the minimum circumference (the minimum action). Cusa thus defined the circle as not in any sense a mere limit of inscribed and circumscribed polygons with an ever greater number of sides, but rather as a relatively more perfect existence or action, than that of the inscribed and circumscribed polygons—an existence which is transcendental to them. This discovery, the outcome of Cusa's "minimum-maximum" method, was later elaborated as the isoperimetric theorem of topology, and was to become an essential feature of any investigation of mathematical physics into physical processes.

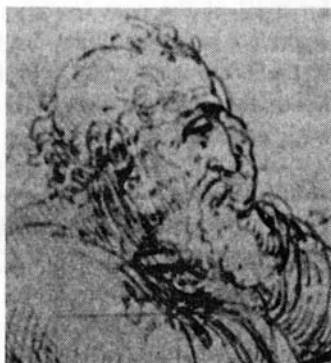
Cusa's "isoperimetric theorem" was also crucial in the development of number systems of increasing power, which was important in Cantor's transfinite number theory in the late nineteenth century.

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## Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

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Leonardo is the next important figure in this faction. Artist, sculptor, architect, engineer, inventor, and scientist, more than any other figure in history he embodies the principles of the Renaissance. Under the patronage of Lorenzo de' Medici, Leonardo studied anatomy, astronomy, botany, mathematics, engineering, and music. He was court painter, chief engineer, director of public works, pageant-master, and may also have been the director of the academy of arts and sciences founded by the Duke of Milan, Ludovico Sforza, under whom he served. Under Cesare Borgia, Duke of Valentinois, Leonardo was chief military engineer during the 1502-03 Romagna military campaigns.



Leonardo's inventions and accomplishments are too numerous to list here. Among them is his discovery that energy (such as light and sound) is radiated at a definite speed of propagation, and that the radiation is in the form of transverse wave motion. He insisted that all wave motion is transverse, including sound waves. On the question of sound waves, Leonardo was assumed by many to have been in error, until he was thoroughly vindicated by Riemann's 1859 treatise on the propagation of acoustical shock waves.

Leonardo's examination of fluid dynamics, which can be seen in his scientific sketches of water flows, demonstrates a method of investigation which looks beneath the surface of phenomena, examining the underlying causes. The vortical nature underneath the wave-like surface of flowing liquid, demonstrates the presence of a negative and positive curvature within the motion of water, which may prove to be important in understanding the weak and strong forces that appear in the examination of plasma processes and other such phenomena. For Leonardo, man made in the image of God was at the center of the universe, as specified by Judeo-Christian and Platonic beliefs.

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## Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)

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The world's greatest astronomer gave us his three laws of planetary motion based on a conception of harmony. Kepler's second law of planetary motion—which states that between any planet and the Sun, equal vectorial areas are swept out in equal times, as the planet revolves in its elliptical orbit—is at the center of Gauss's perturbation theory of the nineteenth century. Kepler's third law, that the constancy

of the relationship between the square of the period of a planet's revolution around the Sun, divided by the cube of the mean radius of that planet, is the basis for Newton's universal law of gravitation.

Kepler demonstrated the extraordinarily important discovery, that although the Solar System, and the physical universe as a whole, are not "living" systems, nonetheless the laws of action and construction of the physical universe "in the large" (of the macrocosm) and in the small are coherent with the same ratios and harmonics of the Golden Section, as are living processes. Thus, the structure of the universe, like that of life, is negentropic—evolving toward greater ordering and beauty, and toward greater coherence with principles of Golden Section harmonics.

The germ of this Keplerian outlook on physics is contained in his early work, *Mysterium Cosmographicum* (*The Secret of the Universe*) (1596), his *Harmonices Mundi* (*Harmonies of the Universe*), and many other works, such as his short paper on the six-cornered snowflake.



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## Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716)

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This dead white German male mathematician, physicist, and philosopher not only invented the calculus, but developed the theoretical foundations for the concepts of work and energy, crucial for the areas of hydro- and thermodynamics. Leibniz's principle of sufficient reason was described by twentieth-century



scientist Max Planck (1858-1947) as the foundation for the principle of least action, the only absolute invariant in the physical sciences. Planck argued that the principle of least action stands above other invariants in nature, such as the so-called Second Law of Thermodynamics (the conservation of energy), or the invariance of the speed of light, all of which were relative, holding true only in delimited boundaries.

Leibniz developed the theory of envelopes and *analysis situs*, or analysis of situation, which became the foundation for Riemann's complex analysis and modern topology. Leib-



niz collaborated with Christiaan Huygens (1629-95), the Dutch astronomer, mathematician, and experimental physicist, who invented the pendulum clock in the winter of 1656-57. Huygens's construction used the isochronic principle of the cycloid—the remarkable property that a weight released along the path of a cycloidal arc will reach the low-point of the arc in the same amount of time, regardless of the point along the arc at which the weight is released. Using this principle, Huygens fashioned for his pendulum a guideway which forced the pendulum to wind up along a sleeve in the shape of the arc of a cycloid.

Leibniz, Huygens, and their circle, which included Jakob Bernoulli (1654-1705) and his brother Johann Bernoulli (1667-1748), investigated the important relationship of the involute and evolute of curves, which was soon to play a crucial role in the development of the calculus. These relationships of cycloids and involutes and evolutes are at the heart of machine designs using gearing mechanisms. They also studied the cycloids and other non-algebraic curves (catenary, tractrix, logarithmic spiral, etc.), which likewise became crucial to the further development of the calculus and pointed toward the solution to a wide range of physical problems by this circle of collaborators.

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## Gaspard Monge (1746-1818)

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This French mathematician was an important figure among the republican forces in France. He was the inventor of descriptive geometry; he began study of perspective and polarity; he was the discoverer of the method of topographical mapping; and undertook important researches in differential geometry, especially in the theory of curvature. Monge also provided solutions to partial differential equations by means of his theory of surfaces. Monge was the teacher of Lazare Carnot. Lazare and his oldest son Sadi Carnot (1796-1832) are important for the development of thermodynamics.



Monge's chief work up to 1789, his descriptive geometry, was classified as a military secret, since its technique for representing any three-dimensional object by plan and elevation, unknown at the time, implied a revolution in military engineering and in mass production of war matériel. In 1794, as a leading member of the Commission of Public Works, he founded the famous Ecole Polytechnique, where he taught two courses: One, on descriptive geometry, included intensive study of the theory of surfaces, while the other was on the theory of machines. His lectures

on the application of algebra (analysis) to geometry, to which he contributed much original work, set a standard for most of the next century. Monge trained the military engineers of France in descriptive and projective geometry in the 1780s and 1790s, building on the original work of Leibniz in defining curves as a locus of their tangents—i.e., as envelopes.

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## Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)

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Based at Göttingen University in Germany, Gauss was an integral part of the cultural renaissance in Germany at the beginning of the nineteenth century. His friends included Wilhelm and Alexander von Humboldt and the poet Friedrich Schiller. Like all of the great figures of his day, Gauss was an ardent



supporter of the American Revolution. Gauss's work falls into three main periods, during which he worked on astronomy, geodetics, and electromagnetism. His work is so important that it fundamentally touches on practically every area of mathematical physics.

Gauss was professor of astronomy, and director of the astronomical observatory at Göttingen, was in charge of the government project for the triangulation of the Duchy of Hanover. Along with Wilhelm Weber (1804-91), he built one of the first observatories for magnetic studies at Göttingen. Gauss authored numerous works on number theory, analysis, geometry, the method of least squares, mathematical physics, astronomy, complex numbers, electromagnetism, elliptical functions, topology, electricity, and geodesics. Among the most significant of these, was his reworking of the leading accomplishments of Kepler, Leibniz, et al., superseding simply isoperimetric notions of least action with a notion of conic, self-similar-spiral action as the elementary form of least action in the universe.

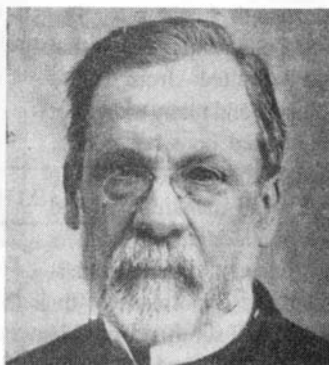
Building on the work of earlier French investigators, Gauss completely generalized the concept of number and its relation to geometry, in such a way as to subsume the real numbers within the complex or "Gaussian" plane. This made possible the treatment of problems not solvable in the earlier non-complex function theory. Subsequent developments in the nineteenth century established the uniqueness of another class of numbers, the transcendentals—of which  $\pi$  and the trigonometric functions (sine, cosine, etc.) are examples. Transcendental function theory refers especially to the work of Dirichlet, Riemann, Weierstrass, and finally Cantor.

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## Louis Pasteur (1822-95)

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Without the basic scientific contributions of the great Louis Pasteur, who created the modern conception of public health, founded the modern “germ theory” of disease, and combatted it through well-known discoveries such as the techniques of vaccination and pasteurization of milk, the current world’s



population of 5 billion people would be inconceivable. His central notion was that health is not the mere absence of disease, but is a condition which man can improve through raising nutrition, scientific discovery, the creation of a public health infrastructure and modern hospitals, and preventive measures such as large-scale immunization programs. The core of his belief was based upon his profound Christian commitment to fostering and advancing the quality of human life for all people. This idea took institutional form at the end of his life, when he and his followers established a network of Pasteur Institutes in Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Pasteur found means to prevent and cure a wide range of diseases, from silkworm disease to chicken cholera, from anthrax to rabies.

Pasteur’s work developed in several phases. During the decade 1844-54 he did groundbreaking theoretical work studying “molecular dissymmetry” or the non-linear geometric configurations of molecular chemical reactions in living and non-living systems. He was the first to notice the differences between “right-handed” and “left-handed” molecules—the basis of all modern stereochemistry and medication development.

From 1854 until the middle of the 1870s, he exhaustively investigated the process of fermentation, for which he derived a model of biologic interaction that stressed the coherence between processes occurring on the global ecological level; those directly under man’s control through industrial, agricultural, and technological development; and those occurring on the molecular level.

He developed the modern “germ theory” of disease between 1863-85, established the science of epidemiology, and discovered the procedures of antiseptics which drastically reduced the risks of infection in surgery.

During the 1860s, he did highly publicized experiments which shattered the myth that life came from “spontaneous generation.” The latter theory was first devised by Aristotle, who claimed that life would generate “spontaneously” from mud, dead maggots, and human wastes. Pasteur devastated Aristotle’s theory in simple and popularly accepted experiments.

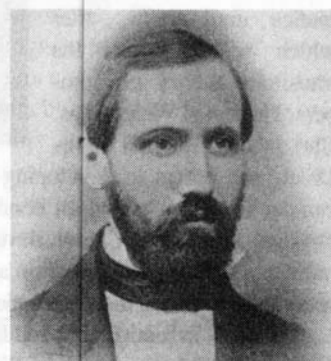
Aristotle’s conception was not merely a scientific hoax, but was an attempt to deny God’s role in creation. It was through his critiques on Aristotle’s theory, that Pasteur developed his modern germ theory and popularized man’s Christian responsibility to defend and improve the living standards of all mankind. To that end, Pasteur wrote several programs to encourage mass scientific education, as well as to feature scientific research and development in the national budget of modern nations.

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## Friedrich Bernhard Riemann (1826-66)

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Riemann is one of the greatest mathematicians of the nineteenth century. He first worked out his general ideas on functions of a complex variable in 1847, at the age of 21, and later set them down in his 1851 dissertation, “The Foundations of a General Theory of Functions of a Complex Variable.”



Riemann’s method was a unique synthesis of geometrical and physical intuition and philosophical insight with pure mathematics, and for this reason his work is often misunderstood, or poorly appreciated, by modern specialists. His concept of a Riemann surface derives from the possibility in a complex mapping that different paths to the same endpoint in the complex plane can yield multiple coverings of the image plane. Riemann is thus led to consider the topological qualities of space, and the concepts of *connectivity*, *sheets* or *branches*, and *winding points* arise in his work.

In other papers, Riemann applied these methods to physical situations, addressing such topics as electromagnetism, gravity, and the propagation of waves in a medium (from which he adduced the existence of transsonic shock waves), presenting his proof in a paper “On the Propagation of Plane Air Waves of Finite Magnitude.” Massive opposition to Riemann’s proof came from Aristotelian figures in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, led by John William Strutt Lord Rayleigh (1842-1919), Hermann Helmholtz (1821-94), and Theodore von Karman (1881-1963).

German hydrodynamicist and mathematician Ludwig Prandtl (1875-1953), working in Riemann’s tradition and understanding this shockwave concept, demonstrated the existence of effectively separate “boundary layers” around wings, and showed the way out of the limitations of the existing “gas-dynamic” wave equations championed by Rayleigh and Helmholtz. Prandtl’s work led to that of Adolf



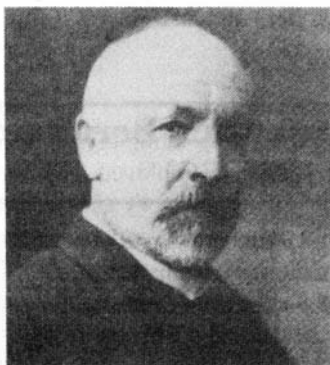
Busemann (1901-86) and others who were responsible for the advent of supersonic flight.

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## Georg Ferdinand Ludwig Philipp Cantor (1845-1918)

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Our listing of dead white European males concludes with this mathematician, whose work is still sparking a revolution in human knowledge. Cantor's first worked on classical mathematics until 1878, after which he developed his transfinite theory of numbers. He joined Weierstrass, Carl Jacobi (1804-51), Dirichlet, and others in developing a mathematical physics that can capture the interplay of continuities and discontinuities in physical processes. Cantor developed a theory of irrational numbers, and began to develop a theory to examine the correspondence between the arithmetic and geometric continuum.



Cantor's investigations led him to explore the non-linear continuum and the nature of the infinite. He developed his theory of point-sets or point-aggregates, and his transfinite theories of ordinal and cardinal numbers, in order to explore the nature of the infinite. In so doing, he developed a new theory of the continuum that provides crucial insights into theological issues (Cantor was in correspondence with a circle of theologians around Pope Leo XIII), the creative aspects of human consciousness, and the non-linear nature of physical processes.

### What would life have been without them?

In the twentieth century, looking at the full implications of what Kurt Gödel (1906-78) demonstrated, we see that no algebraic, mechanistic, logical process can substitute for or replace human creativity. From Cusa, who demonstrates the impossibility of "squaring the circle," to Cantor and Gödel, we come full circle to an understanding of the subjective creativity of mankind and the causal principles of physical processes from a standpoint that is both consistent with Judeo-Christian principles and with the philosophy of Plato and his followers. These principles gave us a great Renaissance and a view of man that led to the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, which, with all of its problems, gave society the capabilities of fighting for the emancipation of all mankind, a task that still calls for completion.

Much of the discussion of the development of nineteenth-century analysis and its importance for mathematical physics, can be seen in such histories of mathematics as that of Felix

Klein (1849-1925), the chairman of mathematics at Göttingen at the end of the nineteenth century. The knowledge and progress that has resulted from these thinkers and many more, not mentioned here because of space considerations, is a gift to all mankind. Should we abandon these thinkers as irrelevant, or fail to under-



*Klein*

stand the importance of their thinking for mankind, then the world will surely descend into a dark age.

In 1969, the U.S. Apollo mission successfully landed the first men on the Moon. The three-stage liquid fuel rocket reached speeds of almost 25,000 miles per hour. The first television broadcast from the Moon reached 100 million viewers worldwide by satellite feed. The gift of space travel and the future colonization of the Moon rests on the shoulders of such giants as Leonardo, who investigated the principles of fluid dynamics and flight; Kepler, who examined the nature of force-free orbits; Riemann, whose work on shock-waves led Busemann to understand supersonic flight; and all the others whose contributions went into making the miraculous technology of the Apollo mission possible.

In 1971 and 1972, the CAT scan (computerized axial tomography) and MRI (magnetic resonant imaging) were developed to help medical diagnosis. These breakthroughs were also made possible by the accomplishments of these dead white European males. They belong to everyone on the planet as well as future generations—unless the cult of political correctness seals up their work.

We now have the capability of space flight and CAT scan technologies; but we insist on keeping developing countries in an impoverished state of colonial backwardness and subservience. Today the International Monetary Fund forces Peru to pay its interest on its international debt, when a little more than a month's worth of those interest payments could have purchased the medical supplies that would have stopped the cholera epidemic from raging. The professors of political correctness want to keep these nations in a permanent cycle of impoverishment—by denying them the fruits of modern society, under the guise of "cultural relevance."

It is time that university students take off the blindfold. Political correctness is an albatross, the cement boots of university life, the backward pit of modern culture, setting the stage for a Red Guard, book-burning descent into hell. Look instead up at the stars, and see the world as Leonardo would have seen it. Leonardo certainly envisioned the Apollo mission and more. If we understand the great thinkers of our time, even if they are European, we can unshackle man and help him soar, for these gifts of past and current knowledge belong to all mankind, present and future, should we not foolishly turn our backs on them.

# Deconstructionism: the method in the madness

by Webster G. Tarpley

American college and university campuses are increasingly crippled by a form of mass irrationalism called political correctness. The purveyors of this doctrine proclaim that everything important in history can be summed up under the headings of race, gender, ethnicity, and choice of sexual perversion. They condemn western Judeo-Christian civilization, and inveigh against the dead white European males who predominate among the scientists of the last 600 years. True to the spirit of Herbert Marcuse's 1968 essay on "Repressive Tolerance," the politically correct demand the silencing of any speech that might be offensive to themselves and their radical feminist, homosexual, or ethnic-group clientele. Instead, they busy themselves with coining absurd new euphemisms for plain English, fashioning labyrinths of pedantic circumlocution.

The infantile irrationality of political correctness might suggest that all of these characteristics were purely arbitrary expressions of the prejudices of the politically correct thought policepersons themselves. What needs to be appreciated is that the politically correct creed is coherent with a kind of philosophical doctrine which has a name: deconstructionism. The leading expositor of deconstructionism is a French writer named Jacques Derrida, a professor at the School for Higher Studies in Social Sciences in Paris. Since his appearance at a celebrated conference at Johns Hopkins University in 1966, Derrida has been a frequent guest professor and lecturer at many American universities, especially Yale, but also Berkeley, Stanford, and many others. Although Derrida is not a household word, he is the dominant academic philosopher in the world today. Ironically, his support and readership is greater in the United States than in France or any other country. U.S. higher education is now decisively influenced by Derrida's deconstructionism, a patchwork of fragments scavenged from the twentieth-century ideological junkyard of totalitarian movements. For those who have been wondering about a possible new prime focus of philosophical and political evil after the discrediting of Marxism: This is it.

Deconstructionists are radical nominalists, which means they are virtual paranoid schizophrenics. Books are already filled with the humorless politically correct Newspeak of post-modernism: vertically challenged instead of short, differently hirsute instead of bald, and so forth. But changing

words does nothing to change real situations. If tens of millions are unemployed and starving in today's depression, then they need jobs and economic recovery, and not terms like "momentarily downsized" or other new ways euphemistically to express their plight. To say nothing of the fact that this jargon makes thinking impossible.

## Derrida the deconstructionist

Jacques Derrida was born to a Sephardic Jewish family in El Biar, Algeria in 1930. He began writing in the early 1960s, and his first important books, *Writing and Difference*, *Disseminations*, and *Of Grammatology*, came out in 1967-68. Derrida's existential matrix is the May 1968 destabilization of the great Gen. Charles de Gaulle's government—an operation fomented by Anglo-American intelligence. This intellectual milieu was dominated in the 1950s by the existentialism of Sartre and Merleau-Ponty, and in the 1960s by the structuralism of Levi-Strauss (whose networks spawned much of the terrorism plaguing Ibero-America) and the Freudianism of Jacques Lacan, spiced by the Hegelianism of Jean Hippolite. During the late 1960s, Derrida was built up by the group around the magazine *Tel Quel*, including one Felix Guattari, later an apologist for the Italian Red Brigades terrorists.

Derrida's immediate academic lineage at the elite Higher Normal School (ENS), makes for one hell of an intellectual pedigree. Start with Louis Althusser, the structuralist Marxist of *Reading Das Kapital*. Already in the late 1940s Althusser was suffering frequent mental breakdowns; in 1980, he murdered his wife by strangling her, and was committed to an asylum for the criminally insane. In the late 1940s, Althusser acquired a disciple: This was Michel Foucault, a young homosexual who periodically made abortive attempts at suicide, so that he was allowed to live in the ENS infirmary. Foucault was an enthusiastic reader of Friedrich Nietzsche and Martin Heidegger who, under Althusser's influence, also became a Marxist and a member of the French Communist Party, where he was rumored to work as a ghost-writer for Jean Kanapa, a Stalinist member of the Politburo. Later Foucault would discover themes like the glorification of insanity, liberation through masturbation, and the like. Foucault ended up at the University of California at Berkeley, where he

frequented the chains-leather-riding crop homosexual and sado-masochistic scene. Foucault died of AIDS in 1984.

### 'Giving bullshit a bad name'

But Foucault also had a disciple: Jacques Derrida, who took his course at the ENS: "I was struck, like many others, by his speaking ability. His eloquence, authority, and brilliance were impressive," said Derrida later of his mentor. Derrida was taken by Foucault to the psychiatric hospital of St. Anne to hear patients examined (*Michel Foucault* by Didier Eribon, p. 50). Derrida has been less of a political exhibitionist than Foucault. Derrida was arrested by the communist authorities in Prague in 1981 on charges of drug trafficking; he said that he had come to meet dissidents and was

released after protests. In the mid-1980s, Derrida authored a characteristically garbled essay in praise of Nelson Mandela. In general, Derrida claims always to have been a leftist.

Foucault and his pupil Derrida quarreled during the 1970s, and Foucault has provided some trenchant summations of Derrida's work, which he rightly called "terrorist obscurantism." Obscurantism because Derrida deliberately writes in an incomprehensible way. If one ventures to criticize Derrida, the latter says: "You misunderstood me you are an idiot" (*Limited Inc.*, p. 158). Foucault also said of Derrida: "He's the kind of philosopher who gives bullshit a bad name" (*Illiberal Education* by Dinesh D'Souza, p. 190). The main exception seems to be when Derrida has to argue for funding for his activities; in these cases he seems to

## Stanford: the home of 'political correctness'

In October 1983, the Stanford University faculty voted to uphold Ph.D. candidate Steven Mosher's right to free speech, while simultaneously expelling him from the university. The reason given for this Orwellian decision was an article written by Mosher and published in Taiwan in 1981, describing his one-year visit to a mainland Chinese village during 1979-80. In the article Mosher portrayed the barbarity of China's one-child-per-family law, and included photographs of Chinese women, some nine months pregnant, undergoing forced abortions. The Stanford faculty deemed the article "unethical" and kicked Mosher off the campus. This incident, which at the time seemed an isolated one, was an ominous sign of the coming transformation of the university.

A leading American university, known as the "Harvard of the West," Stanford has now become an Orwellian thought-police state, dominated by the ideology of "political correctness." Recently, associates of Lyndon LaRouche attempted to organize on the Stanford campus. They were stopped by campus authorities in less than an hour, and were told that they could organize only in a designated "free speech zone." The problem is that in that zone, one may not set up a table, display signs, or sell literature. (The other problem is that the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights apply all over this country, not just in "constitutional zones.")

### Culture without values

In 1988, the Stanford University administration voted to junk the traditional Western Civilization curriculum

and institute instead the CIV (Cultures, Ideas, Values) program, in which students are drilled in a value-free comparison of all cultures. Thus, today, while freshmen might still read Shakespeare, they must also read pro-terrorists like Franz Fanon, for a different perspective on European culture.

A visit to Stanford today is eerie, as the world's real problems are utterly ignored. There are no demonstrations, no mass meetings, no posters or signs, no forums on issues like the economic crisis or the threat of World War III in the Balkans. A recent Stanford Black Liberation Month made *no mention* of the genocide against Africa; instead, there were lectures on Women and Gender in Malawi, Angolan Literature, Black Styles Through the Ages, and Diaspora Get Down II.

CIV undergraduate courses now include: Gender and Representation in Africa, African and Caribbean Roots of American Jazz Dance, Population Perspectives in the Third World, Mayan Mythology, Critical Perspectives on Feminist Theory, and American Indian Ways of Knowing.

There are hundreds of such courses spread throughout every branch of the Liberal Arts curriculum. If a student attempts to focus his studies on the primary classes in history, literature, or philosophy, he will find that even the "basic" courses are taught from a "multicultural," "feminist" perspective. No student is allowed to graduate without completing a mandatory course in "Gender Studies."

In his book *Local Knowledge*, anthropologist Clifford Geertz states that the world's population has been enslaved by a Judeo-Christian European culture that came into being during the fifteenth-century Italian Renaissance. To liberate mankind, says Geertz, this Renaissance culture must be overthrown. That is indeed the aim of the CIV curriculum.—Robert Ingraham

be able to speak quite clearly (see *Tenured Radicals*).

### The destruction of language

Those who try to read Derrida find a smokescreen of infuriating jargon, thoroughly pedantic but in a modish way. What is Derrida up to behind the smokescreen? One thinks of Molière's pedant Vadius in *Les Femmes Savantes*. His task at one level is simply to destroy the literate languages of western Europe and their developed capacity to transmit advanced scientific, artistic, and epistemological conceptions. Derrida wants to wreck everything that has been accomplished since *De Vulgari Eloquentia* (*On the Eloquence of the Vernacular*) by Dante, Petrarch, and their heirs in many countries. Derrida also knows that in order to destroy the efficacy of these languages, he must also destroy the heritage of Plato. Derrida wants to show that all written and spoken discourse is unreadable, undecipherable, incapable of meaning anything. Reading a written text, above all, is for Derrida always a misreading.

For this operation Derrida proceeds in the spirit of an ultra-Aristotelian radical nominalism which abolishes any relation between language on the one hand, and concepts and reality on the other. Such an outlook is always closely linked with paranoid schizophrenic mental pathologies. The operation is far from new, but has been attempted many times during the centuries, in recent times especially by the Anglo-Venetian or continental oligarchical schools of philosophy. Derrida is like David Hume, who began with the usual "Nihil in intellectu quod non prius in sensu" ("Nothing is in the intellect that was not first in the senses") of Paolo Sarpi's disciples among the British empiricists, and soon ended up denying the possible existence of truth, the world, causality, knowledge, and the self. Derrida uses "texts" as the primary sense impressions and arrives at the same kind of radical skepticism.

### Signs without reality

Much of modern philosophy is an attempt to dissolve epistemology into language and then to cripple epistemology by dissolving language. This is typical of Ludwig Wittgenstein, who has had immense influence in the Anglo-American world. Ernst Cassirer wrote in his *Philosophy of Symbolic Forms* about language becoming the principal weapon of skepticism rather than the vehicle for philosophical knowledge. Stuart Chase and the semanticists tried to show that most important political and historical concepts were meaningless verbiage. The modern hermeneutic school is not far behind. Derrida's late comrade in arms, Paul de Man, the leading "boa deconstructor" at Yale University until his death in 1984, talked about the predicament of modern thought as being linguistic rather than ontological or hermeneutic—meaning once again that language is a self-contained world of signs without links to reality. Concepts about the real world are degraded to rhetorical figures and tropes.

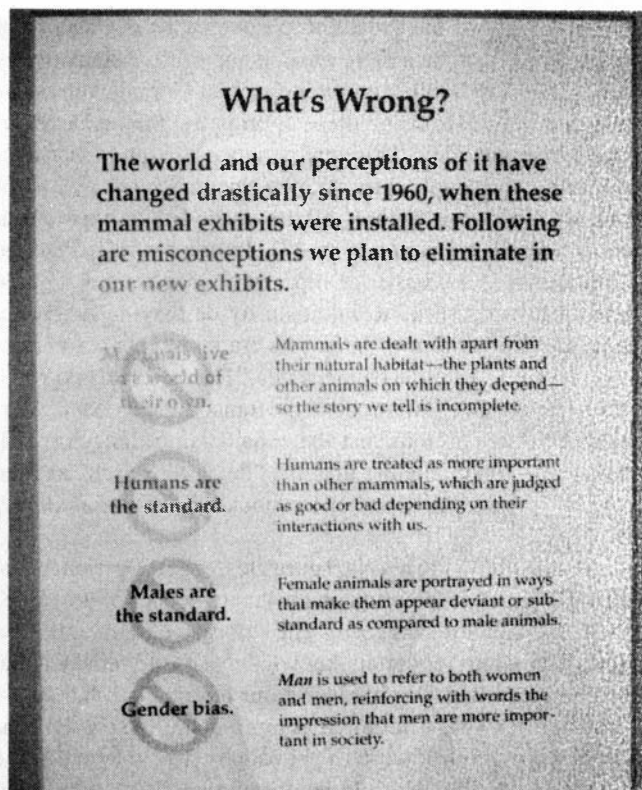


Derrida: "The axial proposition of this essay is that there is nothing outside the text." As the Spanish artist Goya captioned this etching from his *Caprichos* series: "Might not the pupil know more?"

Derrida's trick is to veil his extreme subjectivist denial of reality with an apparent negation of both subject and object: ". . . not only [does] meaning . . . not essentially imply the intuition of the object but . . . it essentially excludes it. . . . The total absence of the subject and object of a statement—the death of the writer and/or the disappearance of the object he was able to describe—does not prevent a text from 'meaning' something. On the contrary, this possibility gives birth to meaning as such, gives it out to be heard and read" (*Speech and Phenomena*, pp. 92-93).

Derrida's irrationalism has more flair than that of his plodding factional adversaries in the older Anglo-American linguistic analysis schools. When Derrida was a young boy, he was locked by his sister in a cedar chest in the family home and kept there by her for what seemed to him to be an eternity. During this time the child Derrida thought that he had died and gone to another world. After he had been rescued from the cedar chest, he somehow conceived the idea





*This sign in the Mammal Hall of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, pledges to spend taxpayers' money to make the exhibitions politically correct.*

that he had been castrated. He came to see himself as the Egyptian pagan god Osiris, who had died and been dismembered, but then reassembled and brought back from the dead (minus his male organ) by Isis. Derrida told his Paris students of the early 1970s that this decisive experience in his life had led him to write the book *Dissemination* (Paris, 1972), which includes much elaboration of the theme of seed that is scattered, etc. Derrida felt compelled to narrate the Isis-Osiris-Horus myth in detail in the chapter of *Dissemination* entitled "Plato's Pharmacy," which is otherwise a document of his hatred for both Socrates and Plato.

### The Kabbala and mysticism

Derrida is the bearer of another form of irrationalism of a specifically Venetian stamp: He has been pervasively influenced by the mystical writings of the Kabbala, a school cultivated over centuries by the Luzzato patrician family of the Venetian ghetto. Derrida cites a certain "Rabbi Eliezer": "If all the seas were of ink, and all ponds planted with reeds, if the sky and the earth were parchments and if all human beings practiced the art of writing, they would not exhaust the Torah I have learned, just as the Torah itself would not be diminished any more than is the sea by the water removed by a paint brush dipped in it." Can this be Eleazar Ben Judah of Worms, the Hasidic Kabbalist who lived from 1160 to

1238? An ancient text with each single word surrounded by endless pages of exegetical commentary, with each note pointing to a another, older text—this is one of Derrida's dominating visions. Derrida's essay on the *Livre des Questions* (*Book of Questions*) and *Je Batis Ma Demeure* (*I Build My House*) by the contemporary French author Edmond Jabès yields a singular quotation on "the difficulty of being a Jew, which coincides with the difficulty of writing: for Judaism and writing are but the same waiting, the same hope, the same depletion." "The art of the writer consists in little by little making words interest themselves in his books" (*Writing and Difference*, p. 65). Derrida sometimes assumes the persona of a Kabbalist and signs his essays as "Reb Rida" or "Reb Derissa."

Derrida was much influenced by the French writer Emmanuel Levinas, who popularized the phenomenology of Edmund Husserl and the pro-Nazi existentialism of Martin Heidegger in France. Husserl and Heidegger had appeared as co-thinkers until Hitler's seizure of power in 1933, when Heidegger came out openly as a raving Nazi, while Husserl declined to do so. At this point, Levinas gravitated to Heidegger's, that is to say, to the open Nazi side. Levinas helped to direct Derrida's attention to Heidegger, who was also profoundly influencing French thought via Sartre, who was also a convinced Heideggerian. Just as Heidegger is a commentator of the protofascist Nietzsche, so Derrida can be seen as a commentator of the Nazi Heidegger. Derrida's endorsement of Heidegger is indeed very strong: "I maintain . . . that Heidegger's text is of extreme importance, that it constitutes an unprecedented, irreversible advance and that we are still very far from having exploited all its critical resources" (*Positions*, pp. 70, 73).

### Deconstruction is destruction

A typical theme of the irrationalists of the Weimar Republic was *Destruktion*. Karl Mannheim wrote in his *Ideology and Utopia* (1929) about the need to promote the *Destruktion* of self-deceiving ideologies. For the Heidegger of *Being and Time*, *Destruktion* meant something similar, approximately the clearing away of what deconstructionists call "western metaphysics" from life and the institutions of thought. Heidegger wrote after the war in his *Kant and the Problem of Metaphysics* (p. 221) of the need for a "destructive retrospect of the history of ontology" whose task would be to "lay bare the internal character or development" of its objects of study. This would involve a "loosening up" of the "hardened tradition" of "ontology" by a "positive destruction."

The Nazi Heidegger's notion of *Destruktion* is the immediate starting point for Derrida and his entire school. In the first published edition of *De la Grammatologie* (*Of Grammatology*) published in Paris in 1967, Derrida does not talk about "deconstruction" but rather about "destruction" throughout. Derrida says that in deconstruction, "the task is . . . to dis-

mantle [*déconstruire*] the metaphysical and rhetorical structures which are at work . . . not in order to reject or discard them, but to reinscribe them in another way" (*Margins of Philosophy*). Derrida is nervous to the point of paranoia lest this connection become too obvious: He deliberately lies that "deconstruction has nothing to do with destruction. I believe in the necessity of scientific work in the classical sense. I believe in the necessity of everything which is being done."

### The destruction of reason

With deconstruction thus revealed as a slyly disguised form of destruction, the next question is to determine what is to be destroyed. Derrida wants the destruction of reason, the deconstruction of the *logos*, which he identifies as the central point of the Judeo-Christian philosophical tradition. That tradition is what the deconstructionists are attacking when they rail against "western metaphysics." Derrida is anti-western because he regards the line of development from Socrates and Plato through Gottfried Leibniz as "ethnocentric" and racist. When he attacks "metaphysics," he means human reason itself. Derrida writes:

"The 'rationality'—but perhaps that word should be abandoned for reasons that will appear at the end of this sentence—which governs a writing is thus enlarged and radicalized, no longer issues from a *logos*. Further, it inaugurates the destruction, not the demolition but the de-sedimentation, the de-construction, of all the significations that have their source in that of the *logos*. Particularly the signification of *truth*. All the metaphysical determinations of truth, and even the one beyond metaphysical onto-theology that Heidegger reminds us of, are more or less immediately inseparable from the instance of the *logos*, or of a reason thought within the lineage of the *logos*, in whatever sense it is understood: in the pre-Socratic or the philosophical sense, in the sense of God's infinite understanding or in the anthropological sense, in the pre-Hegelian or the post-Hegelian sense" (*Of Grammatology*, pp. 10-11). And again: "This absolute *logos* was an infinite creative subjectivity in medieval theology: The intelligible face of the sign remains turned toward the word and the face of God" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 13).

How then can reason and the *logos* be destroyed? Heidegger had already given the example of attempt this by mystifying the concepts having to do with language: "Thinking collects language into simple speaking. Language is therefore the language of being, just as the clouds are the clouds of the heavens. In speaking, thinking plows simple furrows into language. These furrows are even simpler than those plowed with slow steps by the farmer."

### 'The death of civilization of the book'

For Derrida, using a terminology that is borrowed from the linguist Ferdinand de Saussure, language is at first the realm of "sign" and "signified." "The difference between sign and signifier belongs in a profound and implicit way

to the totality of the great epoch covered by the history of metaphysics, and in a more explicit and more systematically articulated way to the narrower epoch of Christian creationism and infinitism when these appropriate the resources of Greek conceptuality. This appurtenance is essential and irreducible; one cannot retain . . . the scientific truth . . . without also bringing with it all its metaphysico-theological roots" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 13). In other words, Platonic Christianity is the basis for modern science, and that is the enemy Derrida seeks to liquidate by destroying language. The scientific tradition "begins its era in the form of Platonism, it ends in infinitist metaphysics." (Here Derrida is probably targeting Georg Cantor and the transfinite numbers.) Derrida is fully conscious that the exhaustion of language will bring with it nothing less than the "death of speech" and the "death of the civilization of the book" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 8).

Again following his Nazi guru Heidegger, Derrida focuses his destructive attention on the "metaphysics of presence" as this relates to language. The "presence" amounts to a solid grounding for certain knowledge, for the certitude that something exists. Derrida is at pains to point out that "presence" of this kind is required as a pre-condition for the conceptual apparatus of western philosophy from the time of the Greeks on down: "It could be shown that all names related to fundamentals, to principles, or to the center have always designated an invariable presence—*eidōs* [action], *archē* [principle or first cause], *telos* [purpose], *energeia*, *ousia* (essence, existence, substance, subject), *aletheia*, [truth] transcendental, consciousness, God, man, and so forth" ("Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences," pp. 279-280). In language, "the metaphysics of presence" is equated with a "transcendental signified" or "ultimate referent," which would function as the ultimate guarantee of meaning. We see that for Derrida, all western languages are "metaphysical," since their key words and concepts are permeated by Christian Platonism. They are also metaphysical, he thinks, because the only way to be sure of the meaning of "Send over a pizza," presupposes the Christian Platonic foundations of the whole civilization. Derrida therefore sets out to destroy Platonism by destroying language, while hoping to destroy the civilization along with both.

### Reason and speech

Derrida asserts that the western languages are "logocentric," that they are based on reason in this way. *Logos* can mean reason, but also lawfulness or ordering principle, but also word, discourse, argument, and speech. "With this *logos*," says Derrida, "the original and essential link to the *phonē* [sound] has never been broken." In other words, human reason and human speech are inextricably bound up together. The connection of speech and reason is the organizing principle of Plato's dialogues and of all the literature



based on them, through St. Augustine to the Italian Renaissance. The theater of Marlowe, Shakespeare, and Schiller represents a continuation of this tradition in a slightly different form. We must also recall that the classical poetry of Homer, Dante, and Chaucer was meant to be spoken or sung aloud. If "the scar on the paper," were to replace all this, colossal cultural damage would of course be the result.

Western language is therefore not only logocentric, but also *phonocentric*: that is to say, western language recognizes the primacy of the spoken language over the written language. "The system of language associated with phonetic-alphabetic writing is that within which logocentric metaphysics, determining the sense of being as presence, has been produced" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 43).

Derrida obviously cannot deny that spoken language "came first." He also cannot escape the fact that while the spoken word (*parole*) is a sign, the written word (*mot*) is the sign of a sign. He tries to go back to a mythical form of writing in general that might have existed before Socrates and Plato came on the scene, calling this *arche-écriture*, (*arch-writing*) but this is plainly nothing but a crude *deus ex machina* hauled in to substantiate a thesis that has nothing going for it. In the Book of Genesis, Adam creates language under the direct tutelage of God by giving names to animals and other objects. But Derrida is hell-bent on reducing everything to writing and texts as the only sense data the individual gets from the world.

### Black marks on white paper

In order to attack the *logos* and reason through the spoken word, Derrida sets against them his notion of writing: *l'écriture*. Derrida explains that what he means by writing is "a text already! written, black on white" (*Dissemination*, p. 203). That means a text already written, black on white. Black marks on white paper, plus excruciating attention to spaces, numbers, margins, paragraphs, typefaces, colophons, copyright notices, plus patterns, groups, repetitions of all of the above and so on in endless fetishism. Since it is probably clear by now that Derrida, posing as the destroyer of western metaphysics, is only spinning out very bad metaphysics in the process, we can feel free to say that Derrida attempts to establish the ontological priority of writing over language and speech. Nothing in the way of proof is offered in favor of this absurd idea: The argument proceeds through a "we say" and ends by lamely hinting that the computer revolution will also help reduce all spoken words to black marks on the page: "The entire field covered by the cybernetic program will be the field of writing" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 9).

This is Derrida's new pseudo-science called "grammatology," which studies the marks (*grammata*) on the paper. Each grammè or grapheme can be endlessly commented upon. The word comes from a nineteenth-century French dictionary by Littré and has been more recently used by

## Gulliver travels to Stanford University

*Judging from what has been coming out of the Stanford-based Modern Language Association recently, there is strong evidence that when Mr. Lemuel Gulliver took his third voyage to the Pacific in the year 1707, he entered some sort of time-warp, which landed him at the Stanford campus in 1993; obviously, Mr. Gulliver considered that the true story would be received by the public with such disbelief, that he decided to disguise the institution's name as the Grand Academy of Lagado, located on the isle of Balinbari. Nevertheless, we believe that the attentive reader will readily see through this crude ruse.*

*Below is part of Mr. Gulliver's account of his visit to that institution, as passed on to us by Mr. Jonathan Swift.*

The first professor I saw was in a very large room, with forty pupils about him. After salutation, observing me to look earnestly upon a frame, which took up the greatest part of both the length and breadth of the room, he said perhaps I might wonder to see him employed in a project for improving speculative knowledge by practical and mechanical operations. But the world would soon be sensible of its usefulness, and he flattered himself that a more noble, exalted thought never sprang from any other man's head. Every one knows how laborious the usual method is of attaining to arts and sciences; whereas by his contrivance, the most ignorant person at a reasonable charge, and with a little bodily labour, may write books in philosophy, poetry, politics, law, mathematics and theology, without

I.J. Gelb in the title of his book *A Study of Writing: The Foundations of Grammatology*.

For Derrida, the black marks on the white paper are the only reality, as he very radically asserts in *Of Grammatology*: "The axial proposition of this essay is that there is nothing outside the text." Since the notion of the "text" has already been expanded to include all language, and since real events are reduced by Derrida to "discourse" about those events, the deconstructors argue that this is not as fanatical as it sounds. But the fact remains that for Derrida, the sense data we have are the texts. There is no other perception. Better yet, as he says, "I don't believe that anything like perception exists" ("Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences" in *The Language of Criticism and the Sciences of Man* (Baltimore, 1970), pp. 272 ff., "Discussion").

the least assistance from genius or study. He then led me to the frame, about the sides whereof all; his pupils stood in ranks. It was twenty foot square, placed in the middle of the room. The superficies was composed of several bits of wood, about the bigness of a die, but some larger than others. They were all linked together by slender wires. These bits of wood were covered on every square with papers pasted on them; and on these papers were written all the words of their language in their several moods, tenses, and declensions, but without any order. The professor then desired me to observe, for he was going to set his engine at work. The pupils at his command took each of them hold of an iron handle, whereof there were forty fixed round the edges of the frame, and giving them a sudden turn, the whole disposition of the words was entirely changed. He then commanded six and thirty of the lads to read the several lines softly as they appeared upon the frame; and where they found three or four words together that might make part of a sentence, they dictated to the four remaining boys who were scribes. This work was repeated three or four times, and at every turn the engine was so contrived, that the words shifted into new places, as the square bits of wood moved upside down. . . .

We next went to the school of languages, where three professors sat in consultation upon improving that of their own country.

The first project was to shorten discourse by cutting polysyllables into one, and leaving out verbs and participles, because in reality all things imaginable are but nouns.

The other was a scheme for entirely abolishing all words whatsoever; and this was urged as a great advantage in point of health as well as brevity. For it is plain, that

every word we speak is in some degree a diminution of our lungs by corrosion, and consequently contributes to the shortening of our lives. An expedient was therefore offered, that since words are only names for *things*, it would be more convenient for all men to carry about them such *things* as were necessary to express the particular business they are to discourse on. And this invention would certainly have taken place, to the great ease as well as health of the subject, if the women in conjunction with the vulgar and illiterate had not threatened to raise a rebellion, unless they might be allowed the liberty to speak with their tongues, after the manner of their forefathers: such constant irreconcilable enemies to science are the common people. However, many of the most learned and wise adhere to the new scheme of expressing themselves by *things*, which hath only this inconvenience attending it, that if a man's business be very great, and of various kinds, he must be obliged in proportion to carry a bundle of *things* upon his back, unless he can afford one or two servants to attend him. I have often beheld two of those sages almost sinking under the weight of their packs, like peddlars among us; who when they met in the streets would lay down their loads, open their sacks and hold conversation for an hour together; then put up their implements, help each other to resume their burthens, and take their leave.

Another great advantage proposed by this invention was that it would serve as an universal language to be understood in all civilized nations, whose goods and utensils are generally of the same kind, or nearly resembling, so that their uses might easily be comprehended. And thus ambassadors would be qualified to treat with foreign princes or ministers of state, to whose tongues they were utter strangers.

## Deconstructing Plato

Derrida exalts writing over speech, but logocentric-phonocentric western thinking refuses to go along with him. Derrida directs his rage against Plato by "deconstructing" the dialogue *Phaedrus*. The result is the essay "Plato's Pharmacy" which appears in *Dissemination*. This is classical Derridean obfuscation, playing on the multiple meanings of the Greek word *pharmakon*, which can mean variously poison, remedy, magic potion, or medicine. But the fields of meaning are even more complicated: Socrates, at the beginning of the dialogue, recounts the story of the nymph Orithyia who was playing with the nymph Pharmakeia when Orithyia was blown over a cliff by Boreas, the north wind. Pharmakeia was herself associated with a healing fountain. *Phaedrus* has brought some written texts for Socrates to read, and these are compared to a drug (*pharmakon*) which has lured Socrates

to leave Athens in order to meet with him and see the texts. Are these texts a healing drug or a poison? Socrates narrates the fable of the Egyptian god Theuth, a Hermes-Mercury figure who had invented counting, geometry, astronomy, dice, and letters (*grammata*) for writing. Theuth wants to share all these arts with the people of Egypt, so he goes to Amon Ra (Thamus) and offers them to him. Amon Ra rejects the letters, explaining that these will weaken memory and make available only the appearance and presumption of knowledge, but not true knowledge. Derrida explodes with rage against Socrates and Plato: "One begins by repeating without knowing—through a myth—the definition of writing: repeating without knowing. . . . Once the myth has dealt the first blows, the *logos* of Socrates will crush the accused." (*Dissemination*, p. 84). He then proceeds to an obsessive recounting of the Isis-Osiris story. Derrida also makes much

of the fact that although Plato includes reference to Socrates as *pharmakeus* (poisoner, medicine man, sorcerer), he does not free-associate from *pharmakon/pharmakeus* to *pharmakos*, meaning scapegoat. The idea is that Socrates really became a scapegoat at his trial, while Plato is making a scapegoat of "writing." The conclusion is that "the *pharmakon* is neither the cure nor the poison, neither good nor evil, neither the inside nor the outside, neither speech nor writing" (*Positions*, p. 59). Through a hidden pattern of ambiguities, the text, in addition to saying what Plato might have meant, also says what Plato cannot have meant. The dialogue thus deconstructed is hopelessly contradictory and impossible to interpret or construe. Q.E.D.

Nietzsche had called himself Plato in reverse, and had railed against "Socrates, he who does not write." Derrida attacks Plato in another interminable book, *The Post Card: From Socrates to Freud and Beyond*. Half of this book is made up of a series of wildly dissociated, stream of consciousness letters that revolve around a postcard Derrida says he found at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University. The postcard depicts a miniature from an old manuscript showing Socrates seated at a desk writing, with a smaller Plato behind him, appearing to Derrida "dictating, authoritarian, masterly, imperious" (pp. 10-11). Upon seeing this, Derrida naturally went wild: "I always knew it, it had remained like the negative of a photograph to be developed for 25 centuries—in me of course." Hundreds of pages of babbling follow, always returning to Derrida's desire to rewrite the history of philosophy by securing the greatest possible attention for this postcard: "Don't forget that all of this took off from the wish to make this picture the cover of a book, all of it pushed back into its margins, the title, my name, the name of the publisher, and miniaturized (I mean in red) on *Socrates' phallus*" (p. 251). Other essays in this book evoke Freud and his comparison of the human psyche to a "mystic writing pad" as another way of undermining the *logos*.

### Slaying the 'tyranny of reason'

Derrida is always heavily larded with Freud (who was a Kabbalist mystic, homosexual, and morphine addict himself). This opens up new possibilities for deconstruction: in "Plato's Pharmacy" discussed above, Derrida exerts himself to show that Plato's notion of the *logos* had strong fatherly and paternal overtones. From here it is not far to Derrida's idiotic neologism of "phallogocentrism." Derrida seems to think that his confrère Lacan does not go far enough in liberating himself from phallogocentrism. Derrida comments: "Freud, like his followers, only described the necessity of phallogocentrism. . . . It is neither an ancient nor a speculative mistake. . . . It is an enormous and old root" (*Le Facteur de la Verité, (The Factor of Truth)* p. 145). Infinite variations on this psychotic revolt against the tyranny of reason, featuring the related need to slay the father and fight phallogocentrism are now playing, often at

taxpayers' expense, at your local campus.

One of Derrida's nervous tics is that texts have no authors. This is strictly in accordance with his deconstruction of the notion of the human self, which in his eyes is an invention of those hated western metaphysics. The late Paris "semiologist" Roland Barthes had proclaimed that "as institution, the author is dead: his civil status, his biographical person have disappeared." Derrida agrees, and writes: "The names of authors or of doctrines have here no substantial value. They indicate neither identities nor causes. It would be frivolous to think that 'Descartes,' 'Leibniz' 'Rousseau,' etc. are names of authors, of the authors of movements or displacements that we thus designate. The indicative value that I attribute to them is first the name of a problem" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 99).

In the 1970s Derrida engaged in a polemic with a certain John R. Searle, an academic specializing in so-called Anglo-American speech act theory. Derrida advances philosophical doubts about the existence of Searle, and then spends several pages clowning about the copyright notice (*Copyright © 1977 by John R. Searle*). Derrida fantasizes that there might exist a copyright trust with stocks and bonds, and that this might be the agency which produced Searle's essay. He then free-associates from the copyright trust to the French expression for a type of limited liability corporation, *société à responsabilité limitée*—abbreviated "SARL" (*Limited Inc*, pp. 29-36). From that point on, Derrida pretends that this SARL is the author of the adversary piece. It is all endlessly long-winded and not funny. But deconstructionists prefer expressions like "subject positions" to persons, since this expresses their belief in the fragmentation of the human self and ego in the post-age of post-modernism and post-structuralism.

### 'Provisional' reading

It will be useful to show in somewhat more detail how Derrida's deconstructive shredder goes after a piece of writing. Remember that this can be any kind of writing, be it advertising, law, economics, movie scripts, the telephone book, etc.—there is no such thing as a work of art. Derrida always acts with duplicity, or what he prefers to call the "double bind": His first or "provisional" reading often establishes what a text might be thought to mean according to the traditional academic standards of, let us say, the 1950s. Derrida concedes that texts are legible and at this level there is something to be gotten out of them. The fact that "Send over a pizza" will often produce a pizza at the door he ascribes to the "effects" of language, meaning that some of those who make up the same community of interpretation will get the idea. But this is a far cry from the ontological certainty of meaning which he says is indispensable. At this stage Derrida reaches into Heidegger's threadbare bag of tricks and pulls out the stratagem of crossing out certain "metaphysical" words that he wants to use but distance himself from at the

same time in a way that mere quotation marks will not accomplish. An example is Derrida's phrase "to think that the sign is that ill-named thing," with both "is" and "thing" crossed out but still legible (*Of Grammatology*, p. 19). In order to even pretend to say anything, Derrida needs to use the old "metaphysical" vocabulary, but he does it "under erasure" in this way.

Derrida needs a "provisional" reading which makes some sense in order to then knock it down with the cudgels of his trade. The most important of these is *la différance*. Note the "a"—in French, as in English, differEnce is normally spelled with an e. *La différance* in Derridean jargon is supposed to join together two separate ideas. One comes from Ferdinand de Saussure, who built up his school of linguistics in the nineteenth century as a means of undermining the great German school of historical philology associated with such figures as Wilhem von Humboldt, Franz Bopp, and the Grimms. Saussure mystified language by wholly removing the historical dimension. Saussure argued that no phoneme or other linguistic sign has any meaning by itself, but only by virtue of the way in which it is different from other signs. "Cat" can denote the feline critter not because of any intrinsic quality, but only because it is not the same as "bat," "rat," or "mat," which have been conventionally assigned to other objects. This is de Saussure's negative and relational approach to the function of words. The other idea which Derrida wants to mix in is that of delay or deferral. The written word comes forward with the promise of meaning, but the meaning of any "écriture" always sends us off to other written words and other texts to find out what the given word means. When we reach those other written words and texts, they do not deliver meaning, but rather send us off on an endless journey through a bad infinity of texts. We never get real meaning, and never reach the primordial "arche-writing" that never existed anyway. The promised meaning never materializes, but is always postponed.

### A counterfeit of real meaning

*Différance* can thus power Derrida's shredder forward in much the same way that absolute negativity was used to power the Hegelian dialectic.

Closely related to *différance* is something Derrida calls *la trace*, meaning trace, track or spoor. Trace is first of all a *simulacrum* or counterfeit of authentic presence, that is, of real meaning. Writing tries to harken back to the arche-writing, but cannot. But every time words are used, and every time they are re-examined in the endless workings of *différance*, they acquire new and elusive overtones of connotation. The "sedimentation" of traces which a word has acquired remains with it always, and makes up the infinite range of its possible present meanings.

In other words, every time a word is spoken or written, its meaning changes and evolves. The associations thus acquired are long-lasting. Who can hear the word "crook,"



*Any piece of writing can be made to scatter itself like seed in all directions, with an endless "freeplay" of possible meanings. One obvious way to do this is to get etymological dictionaries and trace back the varying meanings of words, going all the way back to the hypothetical proto-Indo-European if possible. If this does not work, go ahead and invent false etymologies, the stupider and more pedantic the better (like "his-story" as the opposite of "her-story"). This etching from Goya's Caprichos shows a donkey contemplating his-story.*

for example, without thinking of Nixon? Who can think of "malaise" without thinking of Carter? "Normalcy" still means Warren Harding for some, and so forth. So much sedimentation! In Derridean jargon this idea is summed up as follows: "A phoneme or grapheme is necessarily always to some extent different each time that it is presented in an operation or a perception. But it can function as a sign, and in general as language, only if a formal identity enables it to be issued again and to be recognized. This identity is necessarily ideal" (*Speech and Phenomena*, p. 50).

Derrida harps endlessly on this notion that words change each time they are used, and thus never possess the ideal purity they would need to be the bearers of guaranteed meaning. It is interesting to note that Derrida incessantly changes





The threat of being “politically incorrect” caused a town in Virginia to displace a Nativity display in 1992 from its traditional location on the courthouse lawn and move it to a vacant storefront.

his own jargon, dropping old terms and eliminating new ones. His cover story is that even his own jargon, once coined, is re-absorbed by the metaphysical language he is fighting against, so he has to invent new terms. Another term for what has just been discussed under the headings of trace and sedimentation is “iterability,” again meaning that words are used repeatedly. “Iterability . . . leaves us no choice but to mean (to say) something that is (already, always, also) other than what we mean (to say), to say something other than what we say *and* would have wanted to say, to understand something other than . . . etc.” (*Limited Inc a b c*, p. 62).

Yet another word for the same thing is *dissémination*. This is important for Derrida because of the Osiris-Isis experience related above. Any piece of writing can be made to scatter itself like seed in all directions, with an endless “freeplay” of possible meanings. One obvious way to do this is to get etymological dictionaries and trace back the varying meanings of words, going all the way back to the hypothetical proto-Indo-European if possible. If this does not work, go ahead and invent false etymologies, the stupider and more pedantic the better (like “his-story” as the opposite of “her-story”). Otherwise, Freud, Husserl, Nietzsche, Levi-Strauss, and many others can be plugged in to feed the process of free association.

In Derrida’s book *Glas (The Death-Knell)*, much attention is focused on Hegel. Derrida clowns with the French

pronunciation of “Hegel”: “His name is so strange. From the eagle (*aigle*) he draws his imperial or historical power. Those who still pronounce it as French, and there are those, are silly only to a certain point: the restitution . . . of the magisterial cold . . . of the eagle caught in ice and frost (*gel*). Let the emblemished philosopher be thus congealed.” Later in this endless doubletalk, Hegel’s absolute knowledge (*savoir absolu*) get identified as SA, which then becomes “a, it,” which then suggest the Freudian id—but also *Sturmabteilungen*, stormtroopers. And so on.

In *Of Grammatology*, the freeplay goes into action starting from a discussion of “supplement” in Rousseau’s *Essay on the Origin of Languages*. This leads to scores of pages on supplement as the part needed to complete the whole, versus supplement as a part added to a complete whole. Elsewhere, Derrida delves into Aristotle’s *Physics* to dissect the use of the term “*ama*.” As some may have already guessed, James Joyce is one of Derrida’s all-time favorite authors. From *Finnegan’s Wake* Derrida takes the phrase “HE WAR” and traces associations from military combat, to past time (German *er war*, he was), and notions of keeping and preserving (bewahren, aufbewahren) (see *Ulysse Gramophone*). For the boa deconstructor Hillis Miller of Yale, all these meanings send the reader into a *vibratory suspense* endlessly bouncing from one possible interpretation to another in a never-ending holding pattern.

## Paradoxes

The crowning moment of any deconstruction is the moment of aporia, of insoluble conflict discovered within the writing. Contradictions like these are very easy to find: As Gödel's proof shows, no formal system can ever be complete and avoid contradiction at the same time. Words have contradictory meanings, as poets have always known. The chologistic Zeno made aporia into his stock in trade, proving that time is and is not, etc. Zeno's paradoxes gave rise to an entire school of skepticism called the aporetics. Whenever a deconstructionist charlatan reads a book or article, he can always be sure to find aporia and then pronounce the text deconstructed. The solid ground of truth and meaning thus supposedly falls out from under Plato and his followers, and the western world suddenly finds itself suspended over the abyss of chaos and delirium. This is the plunge into the abyss with which Derrida's exercise in dishonesty and malevolence puts down the book.

## The politics of rage

Other than grabbing endowed chairs and foundation and government grants, what is the point? It is, once again, to destroy civilization. A society that submits its future leaders to education at the hands of deconstructionist con artists cannot survive. Rage is doubtless one of the ruling passions of Derrida and his cohorts, timid academics though they may seem. Derrida praises a "way of thinking that is faithful and attentive to the ineluctable world of the future which proclaims itself at present, beyond the closure of knowledge. The future can only be anticipated in the form of an absolute danger. It is that which breaks absolutely with constituted normality and can only be proclaimed, *presented*, as a sort of monstrosity" (*Of Grammatology*, p. 5). Derrida writes elsewhere of "the as yet unnamable which is proclaiming itself and which can do so, as is necessary whenever a birth is in the offing, only under the species of nonspecies, in the formless, mute, infant, and terrifying form of monstrosity" (*Writing and Difference*, p. 293). The old epoch is ending, and a new form of horror is arriving for which we do not even have a word. Maybe it will be called a new fascist era. Or maybe it will be called the living hell of deconstructionism.

But Derrida urges his cohorts forward, recommending that they not look back with nostalgia at the old world of western civilization they are determined to bury. Let us act, he says, like Nietzsche's superman whose "laughter will then break out toward a return which will no longer have the form of the metaphysical return of humanism any more than it will undoubtedly take the form 'beyond' metaphysics, of the memorial or of the guard of the sense of being, or the form of the house and the truth of Being. He will dance, outside of the house, that *aktive Vergesslichkeit*, that active forgetfulness (*oubliance*) and that cruel (*grausam*) feast [which] is spoken of in the *Genealogy of Morals*. No doubt Nietzsche called upon an active forgetfulness (*oubliance*) of Being which would not have had the metaphysical form which Hei-

## Modern Language Assn. junks 'language as such'

The Modern Language Association has been called the "mother lode of political correctness." Originally the professional group for college and university instructors in language and literature, the MLA has become little more than the enforcement arm of the deconstructionist movement.

In his 1986 presidential address before the MLA, J. Hillis Miller effectively made deconstructionism operant policy, and announced a universal shift away from "an orientation toward language as such," and its replacement by the study of "history, culture, society, politics, institutions, class and gender conditions, the social context, and the material base." One year later, Miller announced that the revolution was going well, in part because the ferment was "taking place in what has been called the 'hidden university'—study groups, symposia, conferences, and institutes that are outside of departments."

In that same year, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* reviewed the damage, noting that post-structuralism and deconstruction had begun to "profoundly affect research in the United States." One professor complained: "Many of the perspectives that seemed new in the 1970s, have taken hold so that people are saying things—about reading conflict of meaning in a text, or about the problems of intention in writing—that derived from the work of Derrida or Barthes, without even realizing where they came from."

Today, the MLA's annual conferences have dropped all pretense of scholarship, and are dominated by lectures on "Sodomy in the New World" and "Women's Responses to Shakespeare Today."

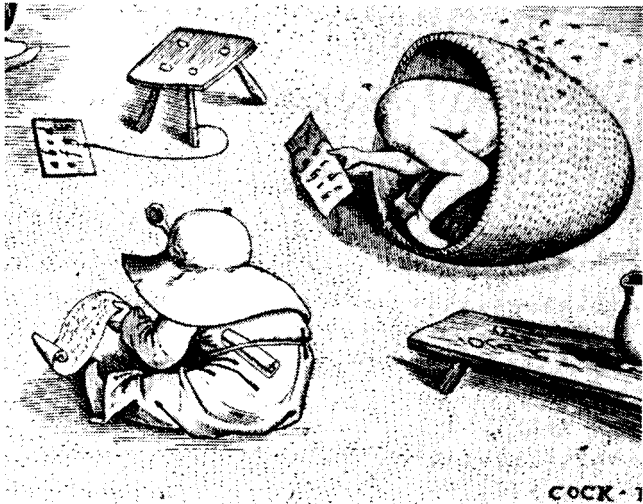
—Michael J. Minnicino

degger ascribed to it" (*Margins of Philosophy*, p. 163).

## An admirer of Artaud

How Derrida might be found celebrating is suggested by his abiding interest in the well-known French cultural degenerate Antonin Artaud, to whom Derrida has dedicated a great deal of admiring attention over the years. Artaud, we recall, was yet another profoundly disturbed personality who was repeatedly committed to mental institutions, where he spent the years from 1937 to 1946, approximately the last decade of his life, and who is known for his "theatre of cruelty." *Writing and Difference* contains not one but two





"Students," a detail of the 1557 engraving after Bruegel entitled "The Ass at School."

essays on Artaud, "La Parole Soufflée" ("The Whispered Word") and "The Theater of Cruelty and the Closure of Representation." Derrida is also a co-editor, with Paule Thévenin, of a collection of Artaud's sketches and portraits published with full-color plates by Gallimard-NRF in 1986. To this volume Derrida has contributed an essay. Artaud's drawings and paintings are pathetic and sick, but Derrida obviously takes them very seriously. Artaud must rank as an influence of the very first magnitude upon our philosopher. Let us sample "The Whispered Word" for satanic, pornographic, and coprophilic motifs. Weak stomachs should skip this paragraph. Derrida writes:

"Let us not be detained here by a possible resemblance to the essence of the mythic itself: the dream of a life without difference. Let us ask, rather, what difference within the flesh might mean for Artaud. My body has been stolen from me by effraction. The Other, the Thief, the Great Furtive One, has a proper name: God. His history has taken place. It has its own place. The place of effraction can be only the opening of an orifice. The orifice of birth, the orifice of defecation to which all other gaps refer, as if to their origin. . . . 'Now, the hideous history of the Demiurge/ is well known/ It is the history of the body/ which pursued (and did not follow) mine/ and which, in order to go first and be born,/ projected itself across my body/ and/ was born/ through the disemboweling of my body/ of which he kept a piece/ in order to/ pass himself off/ as me.' . . . God is thus the proper name of that which deprives us of our own nature, of our own birth; consequently he will always have spoken before us, on the sly. . . . In any event, God the Demiurge does not create, is not life, but is the subject of *oeuvres* and maneuvers, is the thief, the trickster, the counterfeiter, the pseudonymous, the usurper, the opposite of the creative artist, the artisanal being, the being of the artisan: Satan, I am God and God is Satan. . . . The history of God is thus the history of

excrement. Scato-logy itself. . . . 'For one must have a mind in order/ to shit,/ a pure body cannot/ shit./ What it shits/ is the glue of minds/ furiously determined to steal something from him/ for without a body one cannot exist' (84, p. 113). One can read in 'Nerve-Scales': 'Dear Friends, What you took to be my works were only my waste matter.' . . . Like excrement, like the turd, which is, as is also well known, a metaphor of the penis, the work *should stand upright*" (*Writing and Difference*, pp. 180-183).

### Imposed meaning

In the meantime, since nothing has any meaning anyway, the exterminating angels of deconstructionism are free to impose any meaning they want simply by an act of force. Nietzsche himself had claimed that the same text authorizes innumerable interpretations: there is no correct interpretation. *The Will to Power* documents Nietzsche's idea that there is no meaning to be discovered anywhere, but only a meaning that must be imposed from the outside by whoever has the stronger will to power: "Ultimately, man finds in things nothing but what he himself has imported into them." This is now standard campus exegetical practice.

Philosophical hucksters have always played games with dualisms, or with what deconstructionists call binary pairs. Many phenomena exhibit such apparent dualism, as in the cases of cause-effect, spirit-matter, speech-writing, and so forth. The secret of these apparent dualisms is that as they are better understood they reveal underlying coherence, since all of them must coexist in the same universe and are governed by the same lawfulness. Hucksters like Derrida have made a living for thousands of years by picking up one side of the dualism, and stressing that to the exclusion of all else. Derrida talks about "the coupled oppositions on which philosophy is constructed" (*Margins of Philosophy*, p. 18). He says that these always contain "a violent hierarchy. One of the two terms controls the other (axiologically, logically, etc.), holds the superior position. To deconstruct the opposition is first . . . to overthrow the hierarchy" (*Positions*, p. 57). The subordinated term is placed on top, then removed from the dualistic pair, and finally given a new jargon name to signify its new top banana status. Take, for example, the well-known dualism of men-women. To reverse sexism, exalt women over men, and then change their name to "womyn" to remove the residue of the previous dualistic pairing. Any campus will immediately offer dozens of such examples, usually of incredible banality.

### The 'New Criticism'

After Derrida's 1966 appearance at Johns Hopkins, deconstructionists began to colonize U.S. university faculties. They did not find employment first as professors of philosophy, but usually as literary critics in English, French, Romance language, and comparative literature departments. These English departments especially were still dominated in those days by a school of literary studies called the New

Criticism. New Criticism had grown up with a group of Confederate nostalgics at Vanderbilt University who called themselves the Southern Agrarians. In their manifesto, entitled "I'll Take My Stand," these old New Critics came out against modern technology, industry, and urban life. John Crowe Ransom, Alan Tate, Cleanth Brooks, and others taught their students to disregard history, biography, authorship, and other relevant information and focus exclusively on "texts," understood as pieces of writing floating in a void. The result was that most English departments had given up any idea of reality and confined their attention to such fetishized "texts" long before Derrida had come along. These departments became the line of least resistance to deconstructionist infiltration.

Some of the New Critics exhibited fascist sympathies, and this reminds us of the case of Paul de Man, the Belgian-born literary critic who helped make Yale University's high-powered English Department the leading American nest for deconstructionists during the late 1970s and early 1980s. In 1988, some years after his death, De Man was widely accused of having written collaborationist, pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic articles for the Belgian newspaper *Le Soir* of Brussels between 1941 and 1943. These articles have since been published. Derrida and many other deconstructionists, including Geoffrey Hartman, rushed to defend their former colleague. Deconstructionism has never been characterized by high moral tension. De Man himself had once written: "It is always possible to excuse any guilt, because the experience exists simultaneously as fictional discourse and as empirical event and it is never possible to decide which one of the two possibilities is the right one. The indecision makes it possible to excuse the bleakest of crimes" (see *Allegories of Reading*). This may be how the Serbian killer Karadzic thinks about his own activities. No one should look forward to appearing in court before judges who have been trained in "critical legal studies," which is the expansion of deconstruction into law schools which Derrida has been busy promoting. A deconstructionist judge would have no problem in showing that expressions like "due process" or *habeas corpus* are full of aporia and thus meaningless.

After examining the cases of Heidegger and De Man, plus the implications of Derrida's own work, it would be perfectly in order to brand deconstructionism as fascism warmed over. But this may not convey the magnitude of what the deconstructionists are attempting. At the present moment, the banner of deconstructionism is the rallying point for regrouping every epistemological obscenity of the last hundred years, including Nietzsche, Heidegger, Freud, Nazis, fascists, and the rest. Shortly after the Berlin Wall came down, Derrida spoke at a symposium in Turin, Italy, and indicated what his next move would be. At the very moment when Europe had a chance for historical renewal, Derrida talked about Europe, which he inevitably described as "the point of a phallus." Derrida repeated his usual litany that Europe is old and exhausted, that Europe must make itself

into something that it is not, far out of the European tradition. Then he announced that it was time to go back to Marx so as to be able to deconstruct both left-wing dogmatism and the counter-dogmatism of the right. This will allow a new critique of the new evils of capitalism. The main thing, he stressed, is to tolerate and respect everything that is not placed under the authority of reason. Since Derrida has never written at length about Marx, this represents his bid to bring former and future communists into his phalanx as well. Deconstruction thus advances its candidacy to become the undisputed focus of intellectual evil in the late twentieth century.

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# Pérez loses big in landmark asylum case

by Valerie Rush

The Colombian government's arrest and planned deportation of two Venezuelan military officers who had helped lead last November's second coup attempt against the government of President Carlos Andrés Pérez, provoked a singular crisis on the continent, which was only resolved March 2 when the two political refugees were permitted to enter neighboring Ecuador under promise of asylum. The Venezuelans' release followed a week of intense political warfare which spanned the Americas, in which Pérez and his backers in Washington came out the losers.

In pressuring the Colombian government of President César Gaviria to send the officers back to Venezuela, Pérez was in effect trying to force the Ibero-American continent to stand behind his corrupt regime and his Washington-backed policies of demilitarization and International Monetary Fund (IMF) economic austerity. Pérez and his "Project Democracy" sponsors sought not only to continue their savage persecution of Venezuela's military rebels, but to suffocate the military nationalism which is on the rise across the continent. Their intention was to make clear to Ibero-America's patriots that even such elementary principles as the right to political asylum could no longer be taken for granted.

Colombian President César Gaviria had had every intention of complying with Pérez's demands, and had already announced plans to deport the officers, denying them both counsel and asylum. But neither Pérez nor Gaviria anticipated the outpouring of protests from across Ibero-America, and especially from within their own countries. The protests represented nothing less than a popular referendum on those governments' own political and economic policies. Both Pérez and Gaviria lost the "referendum," making the deportations politically impossible. The officers had to be released.

## A matter of principle

Col. Higinio Castro and Capt. Oscar Navas were arrested on Feb. 20, in Ipiales, Colombia as they tried to enter Ecuador by the international Rumichaca bridge. Through the offices of the Colombian security police, the DAS, the Gaviria government announced Feb. 22 that the two Venezuelans would be deported to Venezuela, allegedly because they had entered the country with false passports. Their pleas for political asylum were ignored, in what constituted a violation not only of the right to asylum, but also of Colombia's international treaty commitments.

Colombia is a signator to the Declaration of Territorial Asylum, approved by the United Nations General Assembly in 1967, which states: "In case of persecution, every person has the right to seek and receive asylum in any country." Colombia is also a subscriber to an agreement approved at an international conference held in 1954 in Caracas, which prohibits deporting any person seeking asylum in a foreign land, even if the person entered the country illegally.

The Venezuelan officials, fugitives since the failed military uprising of last November, were trying to cross into Peru, whose government had already granted political asylum to the group of Venezuelan rebel officers headed by Gen. Francisco Visconti. Colonel Castro and Captain Navas expressed special concern for the welfare of their families back in Venezuela, and insisted that their own lives would be in danger were the Colombian government to deport them to Venezuela.

Numerous witnesses testified that during the Nov. 27 uprising, security forces loyal to President Pérez had murdered between 63 and 200 prisoners at the Catia prison. The Pérez government is also accused of having ordered the cold-

blooded murder of a dozen rebel soldiers at Los Mecedores, the offices of a Caracas television station which they had occupied, *even after the soldiers had surrendered*. The Venezuelan press later reported that the soldiers had been shot at point-blank range "in the temples, the foreheads, and the mouths." On Dec. 8, the daily *Diario de Caracas* reported on repeated denunciations that jailed insurgents, including civilians, were tortured and savagely beaten, "naked and threatened with sodomy and electric shock to the testicles."

## IMF breeds tyrants

Pérez's demand that Colombia violate the right to asylum can be added to an already long list of his crimes, which range from the enforcement of IMF prescriptions to drastically reduce living standards, to his embrace of the concept of "limited sovereignty"—both pet projects of the U.S. State Department. Pérez's government has long promoted and openly voted for reforming the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) to permit foreign intervention into the nations of the region, in the name of "defending democracy."

The "democratic" Pérez has also lent the weight of his administration to Washington's efforts to overthrow the "authoritarian" President of Peru, Alberto Fujimori, who has rejected this concept of "limited sovereignty," and who has persisted in conducting a war against the Maoist butchers of Shining Path, despite the hostility of Pérez and of certain forces in Washington to his efforts.

Clearly, President Pérez was hoping that forcing Colombia and the rest of the region to line up behind his demand for the officers' deportation would also have helped, at least temporarily, to shore up his crumbling throne, given the fact that the vast majority of Venezuelans are clamoring not only for their President's resignation, but also for his trial on charges of corruption. The military fugitives, as long as they remain at large or under the protection of asylum, are a constant reminder of how despised Pérez's corrupt "democracy" really is.

And yet the continent-wide opposition proved overwhelming, frustrating not only Pérez but, more importantly, the "Project Democracy" forces in Washington, which need a whole slew of Pérezes in Ibero-America if their usurious looting schemes are to remain in force. On Feb. 24, thirty-six Venezuelan congressmen sent a letter to Colombian President Gaviria, urging him to grant asylum to the two Venezuelan officers. In hard-hitting statements, two Colombian senators and one representative also demanded Gaviria's adherence to the respected principle of asylum. Numerous newspaper editorials inside Colombia urged Gaviria to respect the Venezuelans' plea for asylum.

The pressure on Gaviria was dramatically intensified when, alerted by an EIR News Service press release on the case, hundreds of citizens from throughout the Americas and Europe contacted the Colombian embassies and consulates

in their respective countries to demand that the Venezuelans be granted asylum. The press release revealed that Colombia's denial of both counsel and refuge to the Venezuelan officers violated the right of asylum. The release also quoted a spokesman for the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) in Colombia's capital Bogotá, that the two officers' fear that their lives were in danger if deported to Venezuela, was well-founded. "The Gaviria government should not deport them to Venezuela, but grant their just request for asylum," said the MSIA spokesman.

## Extreme case of nerves

Pérez, it appears, has but one source of solid support: his godfathers in Washington. "Venezuela occupies a central place in the relations of the United States with Latin America," intoned U.S. Ambassador to the OAS Luigi Einaudi last Oct. 22. Einaudi was warning that the fall of the IMF's favorite Ibero-American "democrat" would provoke an "extreme response" from his country.

This support notwithstanding, Pérez and company are apparently suffering an aggravated case of nerves. On Feb. 22, as reports began to circulate of the arrests of the two Venezuelans in Colombia, Pérez's ambassador to the OAS Guido Grooscors was forced to publicly deny charges made by Air Force Gen. Francisco Visconti, leader of the Nov. 27 uprising against Pérez, that his government supported an OAS reform embracing Washington's "doctrine of limited sovereignty."

In his address to a meeting of the Hemispheric Security Commission of the OAS, and in the presence of a full assembly of OAS ambassadors, the president of the Inter-American Defense Board, and the IDB's country representatives as well, Grooscors denounced as mere "speculation" Visconti's claims in a Jan. 20 interview with *EIR* (see *EIR*, Feb. 19, pp. 20-29) that Venezuela endorses Washington's efforts to convert the Inter-American Defense Board into an OAS multilateral intervention force at Washington's bidding, while simultaneously eliminating Latin America's armed forces and replacing them with police forces. "This is of course totally false, as we all know. No one in the OAS has conceived, or even imagined, such a pact," protested Grooscors.

Visconti has since publicly demanded that Venezuelan Foreign Minister Gen. Fernando Ochoa Antich fully investigate his charges, "and explain to the Venezuelan people and to their Armed Forces the implications such a reform of the OAS Charter as proposed at the foreign ministers meeting held Dec. 14, 1992, would have on Venezuela's national sovereignty." According to a Feb. 23 account in the daily *Ultimas Noticias* of Visconti's latest statement, the general "charged that in the OAS meeting, a U.S. demand to reform the charter, to incorporate the doctrine of limited sovereignty that would legalize a U.S. intervention into the countries of the hemisphere through such supranational institutions as the Inter-American Defense Board . . . was accepted."

# Chronology of the new 'strategy of tension'

*The terrorist bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City on Feb. 26 appears to have launched a new "strategy of tension" against the United States, Lyndon LaRouche has warned (see article, page 70). What follows is a chronology of some other terrorist incidents since January, which may possibly be related.*

**Jan. 24:** Investigative journalist Ugur Mumcu of the newspaper *Cumhuriyet* is killed by a car-bomb in Ankara, Turkey. The killing is claimed by at least two previously unknown Islamic groups. Some 500,000 people at funeral blame Iran for killing, but Turkish sources say it was done by the U.S., acting through Iran, with Israeli help. Mumcu was a specialist on Mehmet Ali Agca's assassination attempt on the pope in 1981, which he claimed was a joint U.S.-Soviet operation. At the time of his death, Mumcu was investigating ties between the terrorist PKK (Kurdish Workers Party) and the CIA.

**Jan. 25:** Apparently random killings outside the entrance of the CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. The FBI later names Mir Aimal Kansi, and he is charged with capital murder. Kansi was a legal Pakistani immigrant whom the FBI claimed had ties neither with the CIA nor with any terrorist group, although he worked for a courier service which was exclusively responsible for deliveries to the CIA. Kansi, who reportedly fled to Pakistan, has not been located. According to a Virginia prosecutor, Kansi told his roommate the week before that he was going to "make a big statement" by shooting up the CIA, the White House, or the Israeli embassy, in protest against the treatment of Muslims in Bosnia.

**Feb. 13:** Algerian Defense Minister Khaled Nezzar narrowly escapes assassination in a suburb of Algiers, when a bomb hidden in a van exploded as his convoy passed by. No one is hurt by the blast, but the bomb destroys several cars parked nearby. Nezzar is often depicted as the most powerful figure in Algeria; the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), while not claiming credit for the attempt, says the attempt reflected popular will.

**Feb. 17:** Gen. Esret Bitlis, commander of the Turkish Interior Ministry's 120,000-strong paramilitary gendarmerie, dies

in an air crash, which the military later claims is not sabotage. Bitlis was the mastermind of the effort to wipe out the terrorist PKK; his gendarmerie formally oversees all armed actions against the PKK. In what may be a related development, 18 PKK and Dev-Sol (Revolutionary Left) tunneled their way out of the maximum security Nevsehir prison that week. One of the escapees is Mursel Goleli, the head of Dev-Sol.

**Feb. 23:** U.S. Army helicopter crashes at Wiesbaden Air Base in Germany, killing four soldiers, including deputy commander of the Fifth Corps based in Frankfurt, Maj. Gen. Jarret J. Robertson; Assistant Fifth Corps Chief of Staff G-3 for Operations Coliam J. Densberger; and Fifth Corps Assistant Chief of Staff G-2 for Intelligence Col. Robert J. Kelly. The group was returning from Stuttgart, where they were attending a meeting at the headquarters of the U.S. European Command.

The Fifth Corps is the operational command for the largest body of American troops in Germany and would most likely be involved in any military operations in the Balkans. Although the U.S. Army press spokesman called the meeting in Stuttgart "routine," any military planning involving the Fifth Corps would take place at the U.S. European Command and would involve at least the deputy commander and his operations and intelligence officers.

**Feb. 24:** Michael Bernard Shields of Virginia Beach, Virginia is arrested by federal agents, after he tells Secret Service agents that he intends to assassinate President Clinton and other prominent figures. Shields is the president of Firearms International, Inc., in Norfolk, Va. He was a weapons supplier for Joseph Dougherty, an associate of the National Alliance, a white supremacist group. The case against Shields emerged in the course of an investigation by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms into gun running.

**Feb. 26:** World Trade Center in New York City is bombed.

**Feb. 26:** An explosion rips through a crowded coffee shop in central Cairo, Egypt, and kills two foreigners. Police report the bomb was made out of TNT packed in a bottle. The bombing is the most serious terrorist attack in Cairo for many years. Police and hospital sources say 20 people are injured: 12 Egyptians, two Americans, two Somalis, a Canadian, a Saudi, a Turk, and a Frenchman. The Interior Ministry later claims, without providing evidence, that the bombing was done by the El Gama el Islamiya, the "Islamic Group."

**Feb. 28:** Unidentified attackers set off bombs against Education Ministry offices in France. Explosion in Toulouse destroys three offices, damages cars, and shatters windows not far from the headquarters of an Army paratroop division specializing in overseas missions. In Aix-en-Provence, bomb causes slight damage.



# Boutros-Ghali promoting a coup d'état against Bosnian sovereignty

by Umberto Pascali

Was the crowd around U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali promoting a sort of coup d'état in Bosnia when Boutros-Ghali's spokesman Fred Eckhard said that if Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic "does not want to sign the Vance-Owen plan, we'll look for somebody else to do it"? The outburst, in New York on March 2, was a threat addressed to President Izetbegovic and his Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic who were responsible for "making trouble" and refusing to accept the Vance-Owen plan, which would be the death knell for the independence and sovereignty of Bosnia. The plan aims to split the country into ten "ethnic cantons," dissolve the central government and the armed forces, and reward the barbarian aggression, the genocide, the mass rape and the other horrors committed by the Serbian irregular forces, the Chetniks.

Eckhard made clear that he and the U.N. secretary general had in mind—in the person of Prime Minister Mile Akmadzic—a very concrete alternative to the legal leadership of the Bosnian state.

## Treachery out in the open

In making such a blackmailing statement against the leaders of a member country, the Boutros-Ghali group was simply making more explicit what it has been doing underhandedly all along: to break the resistance of Bosnia by promoting infighting between Bosnians and Croats. This, added to the Serbian aggression, should have led the Bosnians to accept the U.N. diktat and to give up their sovereignty. "The Vance-Owen plan is designed to provoke the rage of the Bosnian and de facto to lead to the partition of Bosnia itself," a Balkan insider told *EIR*. Indeed the Vance-Owen philosophy is based not only on favoring the Greater Serbians, but also on corrupting the Croats with the mirage of large territorial gains in Bosnia. Through this perfidious mechanism, the U.N. leadership is pushing the Croats to make a deal with the Greater Serbians and to partition the territory of Bosnia.

There are two opposing tendencies fighting each other in Croatia: On one side are supporters of the so-called Starcevic doctrine, i.e. good faith negotiations with the Muslim Bosni-

ans and common fight against the common aggressor. On the other side, there is the tendency favored by Boutros-Ghali and those who support him. This is the so-called Macek doctrine, which foresees making a deal with the Serbs and the grabbing as much land as possible, while extending no recognition for Bosnia as an independent country.

The corrupting influence of the Boutros-Ghali group is what is behind the total and immediate acceptance by the Croatian government, from President Franjo Tudjman on down, of the Vance-Owen plan, and the enthusiastic support for the plan by Mate Boban, the head of the so-called Hercegovina, formally the Croatian entity inside Bosnia. The poisoned offers from Cyrus Vance and David Owen have favored a series of armed confrontations between the Army of Bosnia and Hercegovina and Boban's "Croatian Council of Defense" (HVO). Now, when it was never more necessary to collaborate, Croats and Muslims have instead fought each other several times. This is even more absurd, considering that the HVO includes a very high proportion of Muslims, and that the Army of Bosnia is comprised of all three ethnic components of Bosnia, including Serbs who are fighting against the Chetnik butchers.

The colonialist divide and conquer strategy also produced its rotten political fruits. Bosnian Prime Minister Mile Akmadzic wrote a letter in late February to Sen. Joe Biden (D-Del.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, protesting against the testimony previously given by the Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic. Silajdzic had attacked strongly the Vance-Owen plan, which was gaining the support of many congressmen. In particular he had attacked, armed with documentation, the colonialist stance of the U.N. leadership.

It is difficult to explain the Akmadzic letter without suspecting an operation coordinated with the Boutros-Ghali group. The letter actually stressed that the Bosnian foreign minister did not represent Bosnia but only its "Muslims." It also stressed that Prime Minister Akmadzic supported the Vance-Owen plan and that the U.S. Congress should not believe what the foreign minister of Bosnia said. A few days before, Akmadzic had visited several cities of the United States on a fundraising tour, accompanied by the head of

"Herzeg-Bosnia," Mate Boban. Their support for the Vance-Owen plan turned their speaking engagements into embarrassing, no-debate-please performances, as several Croatian-American sources told *EIR*. But despite this, strangely enough, the fundraising was apparently successful.

On March 2, it was Mile Akmadzic's name that the U.N.'s Fred Eckhard invoked to blackmail President Izetbegovic and Foreign Minister Silajdzic: "If Izetbegovic does not want to sign the Vance-Owen plan. We will look for somebody else!"

On March 4, Izetbegovic signed the "military document" of the Vance-Owen plan. Bosnia had already agreed to another of the three documents that constitute the basic plan, which was the document on "principles." The third document concerning the "maps," i.e. the formal dismembering of Bosnia into 10 provinces, has not yet been signed at this writing, though Boutros-Ghali and his people are "guaranteeing" for reporters that it is only a question of days, if not hours.

### **Negotiation during the massacres**

Lyndon LaRouche has already repeatedly underlined that the U.N. negotiations in New York are worse than the Munich conference in 1938. Indeed, the latest events have more than confirmed that assessment. While the Bosnian delegation was being pressured politically by the U.N. enforcers, in Bosnia itself, in a coordinated action, the Chetniks renewed the massacres, this time centered especially around the eastern town of Cerska. The area of Cerska, where 100,000 people have been cut off from communication with the outside world since April, was also one of the objective of the U.S. airdrops of food and medicine. At this point it is not clear whether anybody there is able to take advantage of the supplies. "If the West were serious in its call for negotiations, it could have ordered a cease-fire." Dr. Nedzib Sacirbey, the representative of President Izetbegovic in Washington, told *EIR* on March 3. "In any serious negotiation, one of the key conditions is to stop the fighting. In particular, when you start a negotiation, you demand that the aggressor stop the aggression while the talks go on. But one of the sins of Vance and Owen and Boutros-Ghali is that they tolerated and forced through negotiations while there is no cease-fire, and people are being slaughtered."

The attack on the area of Cerska had been prepared well in advance, according to Bosnian officials, but it was launched precisely during the negotiations. Hundreds of people, perhaps over 1,000, have been killed in a few days. Women, children, elderly—civilians all—just fled the area in terror, only to be gunned down by Chetniks lying in wait for them along the road to Konjavic Bolje. According to reports the dead bodies are still there, unburied.

There are also reports that the Bosnian army in the area has run out of ammunition. "We must thank the strategists of the arms embargo against Bosnia for this massacre," Dr.

Sacirbey said. Gen. Ratko Mladic, the military commander of the Chetniks is still refusing to let 12 U.N. trucks through, the vehicles that are supposed to remove the wounded. Mladic said he would let any aid to civilians go through, only if the Bosnian army surrendered and if the population leaves *en masse*, in other words, only if Bosnians carry out self-inflicted ethnic cleansing.

"If the Bosnian soldiers surrender," a Bosnian official told *EIR*, "then there will be a massacre. We expect the massacre of at least 20,000 people. Fifteen villages have already been burned. Terrible things are going to happen: The town of Kamenica is totally surrounded; when the population leaves, they will be massacred. Our army cannot help any more. Please spread the truth; tell the world what's really going on."

*EIR* continues to receive reports from Bosnia on the horrors taking place at this moment. "There is the shocking story of an 11-year-old girl. Her house was destroyed with grenades by the Chetniks, so she (Mina O.), her mother, and 20 other women hid in the cellar thinking they would be safe. Fifteen persons died because of the grenades and Mina O. and the other survivors cried for help. They did not know that the Chetniks had just occupied the village. So the Chetniks came to 'help,' pulled the women out and began raping them, reported the crying girl. She also said that they first raped the women that were slightly wounded and then those severely wounded. They did this laughing. They even raped a young woman that still had shell fragments in her groin. . . ."

### **Karadzic threatens U.S. with more terrorism**

And while all this was happening in Bosnia, the leader of the Chetniks, Radovan Karadzic, issued a "Open Letter to the American People" in which he attacked the "ill-advised American humanitarian cooperation." This "cooperation" he said "could transform overnight a local conflict into a Balkan war, perhaps a world war." Though later he presented some form of apology, Karadzic had also threatened that the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York shows how "volatile" the situation is and which "dangers" could be presented by a U.S. involvement on behalf of Bosnia.

On March 4, the war criminal Karadzic held a news conference at the United Nations, where he stated that the two countries responsible for the war were—Germany and Turkey. These two countries, he said, are conquering the world. Given that Karadzic is a psychiatrist, an expert in the Goebbels art of the Big Lie, one should consider carefully what he is trying to accomplish. He is publicly offering his support if the Anglo-American elite wants to go for an attack against Europe (Germany) and against the Islamic and Third World countries ("Turkey").

More and more Russians military "volunteers," in the meantime, are joining the Chetniks to fight against the "Islamic danger."



## A 'vaster project' lies behind Serbia's ruthlessness

*Flaminio Piccoli is the former general secretary of the Italian Christian Democracy (DC), and he was also president of the Christian Democratic International. He is still an honorary member of the International, and is one of the historic leaders of the DC in Italy. At present, he is a member of the foreign affairs committee of the Italian Senate, where he recently spoke out against Europe's neutrality in the war on Bosnia-Herzegovina, calling for recognition that the Serbians are the aggressors.*

*The investigation into the Italian Masonry to which the senator refers, is being conducted in Calabria by prosecutor Agostino Cordova, who last autumn ordered the search of the central offices of the Italian Masonry and other lodges all over Italy, aimed at seizing evidence of the ties between the Masonry, organized crime networks, and terrorism (cf. EIR, Nov. 20, 1992, p. 48). Cordova was strongly attacked at the time, including by then-Justice Minister Claudio Martelli.*

*Senator Piccoli is one of the signers of the appeal to President Clinton to free Lyndon LaRouche, which appeared in the Washington Post on Jan. 20. He replied from his Rome office on March 1 to questions posed by Liliana Celani for EIR.*

**EIR:** Recently, more and more voices have been raised, including the pope's, your own, and those of numerous politicians in Germany, including former Postal Minister Schwarz-Schilling, against the western world's inaction toward Serbian aggression in the Balkans. Some, among them *EIR*, assert that the Serbian aggression against Croatia and Bosnia is not simply the result of Milosevic's brutality, but also of a geopolitical game which involves old interests with the aim of destabilizing Europe by involving it in a new "Thirty Years' War."

**Piccoli:** Honestly, I am also among those who maintain that the ruthless decision with which Milosevic is operating to make war against Bosnia, against Croatia, and shortly—if things go on this way—against Kosova and Makedonija, is backed up by a vaster project, in which international organizations are taking part; by secret pacts with countries which are preparing revenge for the fall of the Berlin Wall and the dismembering of the U.S.S.R.; and also by furious struggles

in the international economic world to weaken Europe in the decisive phases of its unification process. This unification process is considered dangerous by the business world of other great powers, which wants to be in first place in the economic world and barely tolerates European competition.

The weaknesses of the European Community, its hesitations at the time of the outbreak of the Serbian war against Slovenia and Croatia, its pretense of not seeing and not hearing what was taking place in ex-Yugoslavia, its recourse to the United States and the U.N., without committing itself when it was a question of a totally European problem, have added force to the free rein of the only communist party which survived the fall of the Berlin Wall. It is right to say that Serbia is working hard to favor the fall of Yeltsin's attempt at democracy in Russia, with the establishment of a new national-military or even communist regime, which could re-create the unity of the ex-Soviet republics. This could also happen because of the serious economic decline into which the populations of the former Soviet empire have fallen in the failed effort to build a free economy, which has made the situation of various populations very difficult.

**EIR:** What measures should Europe take, in your view, to stop the ongoing genocide in the Balkans, and what role could Italy play?

**Piccoli:** The genocide can be stopped only by an act of force which would isolate Serbia and force it to stop the war. Instead, all efforts are concentrated on aid to the populations which have been so painfully caught up in the war: aid which does not arrive, aid which has even lost all moral advantage, in the face of the tragedy of thousands and thousands of lives killed by the war, and above all, by hunger and cold.

I am convinced that the last-minute attempt by the United States to send food relief to the Bosnian population, from 4,000 meters up, is failing because of the perverse hostility of the Serbs; and also because it will end up producing an ignoble struggle between populations to get that food for themselves, at all costs, with the risk of fratricidal battles. Then people will realize that the only possible solution is to isolate Serbia with a military force of various nations, which would operate not to "defeat" the Serbs, but to keep them from broadening the war front, which is their strategy. This

is becoming more and more obvious to anyone who wants to see things as they are and not through hopes which are doomed to fail before they begin.

**EIR:** There is a lot of talk about the fact that the Masonry is playing a key role in destabilizing Europe (East and West) and especially in Italy. Speaking at the Festival of Friendship last September, you stated that “masonic plots do exist” and that “the Masonry is not an abstract entity. There are various kinds of lodges, starting with the Scottish Rite type which is the most widespread in Italy.” Do you see a connection between this Scottish Rite and the “new democracy” project of Licio Gelli, which is aimed at depriving Italian democratic institutions of their authority?

**Piccoli:** The Italian magistrates are working on the Masonry and they have already collected a lot of material. Let’s make sure they can do their work, if it is true—as it is true—that Prosecutor Cordova up to a few days ago had received no help from the ministry for a task which requires the concrete collaboration of many high-ranking magistrates.

**EIR:** In the United States too, the Scottish Rite is at the center of a battle. Rev. James Bevel, the former lieutenant of Martin Luther King, has led numerous marches and demonstrations to pull down the statue of Albert Pike, the grand master of the Scottish Rite and founder of the Ku Klux Klan, a statue which has been erected in Washington, across from the Labor Department, to symbolize the influx of southern Masonry into the capital. What ties are there between American Confederate Masons and those active in Italy?

**Piccoli:** There are very strong ties, which are certainly known to the Italian services and to the interior minister. But this is material for a volume, not for a journalistic answer.

**EIR:** As you have pointed out, the same circles which are destabilizing Italy are currently promoting privatization and the selloff of state industries, hitting the center of national sovereignty created very consciously by the work of Enrico Mattei [the Italian Christian Democratic industrial leader assassinated in 1962]. Against such forced privatizations and unbridled free-market capitalism, the American economist and political figure Lyndon LaRouche has counterposed a dirigistic project for infrastructural and economic development called the Paris-Berlin-Vienna Productive Triangle, which is based on the government’s prerogative to generate credit and to mint money. Do you think that such a dirigistic plan is preferable to privatization?

**Piccoli:** I know the work and proposals of LaRouche. I believe in the good faith and good will of the government which wants to free itself of sectors of industry which have come under the State Holdings.

However, I observe—and I have said so in political and parliamentary settings—that while we must privatize that which has become an impossible burden for the state, we



*“The genocide [in the Balkans] can be stopped only by an act of force which would isolate Serbia and force it to stop the war.” Above: the hospital in Gospic, severely damaged by daily attacks by Serbian forces since October 1991.*

must safeguard the “family jewels,” such as the SME [a state-owned conglomerate], because it is not written in heaven that everything which is private is healthy and robust, and that everything which is held by the state must declare itself incompetent, when there are vital sectors there for the Italian economy. Not to mention that in many situations of the country, it was the State Holdings which resolved the problem of industrialization in such regions, which had been forgotten by private initiative.

I wonder how the rapid selloff (at prices which today would be bankruptcy prices) of important sectors of the national economy could contribute to saving hundreds of thousands of workers from unemployment who are now receiving jobless benefits. I wonder also how the selloff of delicate sectors of industry, only because they are public, would contribute to improving the country’s economic situation, or if this does not mean a surrender to foreign competition with the result of an extreme worsening of unemployment.

Once the state has been deprived of the ability to move some sector to make the situation less painful, who is going to replace the state for a positive intervention, even if it is done in a cautious manner?

# Russia at a crucial juncture, as Yeltsin meets the military brass

by Mark Burdman

Events in Russia took a dramatic turn March 3, when 25 senior Russian officers held a private meeting with President Boris Yeltsin, and demanded that he take firm action to bring an end to the political crisis that is paralyzing the country. The 25 included Chief of the General Staff Kolesnikov, the commanders of all the service branches, and the commanders of the military districts and the fleets. According to an account in the daily *Izvestia*, "During the meeting, the military expressed concern about the development of the political crisis in the country and demanded that the President take resolute measures to end it."

The meeting took place in the context of a session of the Russian Security Council, an influential entity headed by the shadowy but powerful Yuri Skokov, which has assumed a determining role in strategic deliberations over the past months. Like all Security Council meetings, the session was attended by the foreign, justice, and security ministers, as well as by Foreign Intelligence Service head Yevgeny Primakov and other senior officials. But the attendance of the 25 generals and admirals is unprecedented since the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and underscores how serious the situation has become. The formal explanation for such a senior armed forces gathering in Moscow, was that the Security Council had to formulate a new foreign and defense strategy for Russia, and could not do so without consulting all relevant military layers. But this doctrinal consultation was followed by a closed-door session with the President, at which the sentiments described by *Izvestia* were expressed.

The significance of this has nothing to do with the idle speculation from some western commentators about a "bonapartist" threat by certain officers or a threatened new putsch. Neither is on the agenda. Rather, what the events of March 3 graphically demonstrate, is that the military has become, *by default*, the one remaining institutional arbiter for Russia, at a time when the country is going through economic, social, and moral-cultural disintegration. While events are slipping out of Yeltsin's control, it has become clear that neither the opposition Civic Union group of top industrial managers and entrepreneurs headed by Arkady Volsky, nor Yeltsin's most persistent and vocal opponent, Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, is going to provide a workable alternative to the current regime.

Meanwhile, the situation is more and more resembling

the period of 1990-91 preceding the fall of Mikhail Gorbachev and the collapse of the Soviet Union. On March 1, miners at the key coal-producing districts of Vorkuta and Kuzbass held a one-day warning strike, and reports from Russia are that a full miners' strike is planned for March 10. The food and health situation has degenerated to the point that a senior Russian Public Health Ministry official, Elmira Pogorelova, told the journal *Argumenty i Fakty* that millions will die from hunger and/or malnutrition-related disease over the next two to three years, because they have been reduced to a "hunger diet" by the central government's promotion of a completely inadequate "minimum diet," and by the effects of food price inflation (see *Agriculture*, p. 16).

## Yeltsin maneuvers

Yeltsin himself is becoming ever-more frenzied in his efforts to save his own authority in the days before the extraordinary session of the Congress of People's Deputies beginning March 10, at which session Khasbulatov and his allies could effectively torpedo the April 11 national constitutional referendum on which Yeltsin has staked his prestige. On March 2, Yeltsin gave an interview to the daily *Pravda*, in which he welcomed an alliance with "moderate communists," thereby reversing his months of expressed bitter antagonism toward what he has derided as the "brown-red" forces in Russia.

Yeltsin is opportunistically trying to exploit his meeting with the military to his own advantage, and is hinting that he would have won its backing for declaring a state of emergency and "presidential rule." There is a huge element of bluff in this, and it may backfire. On March 4, the Congress of People's Deputies demanded that the President appear and give a full accounting of what he had discussed with the Armed Forces leaders the day before. The Officers' Assembly, which claims to represent 60% of Russian officers and which is bitterly opposed to the Yeltsin regime's International Monetary Fund (IMF)-mandated "reforms," and to what they see as the dismantling of Russian military capabilities, charged that Yeltsin was "planning a coup."

In a further indication of how far matters have degenerated, Yeltsin warned, in a speech before Russian women's leaders March 3, that a failure to come to a reconciliation with his opposition in the Congress could "blow Russia apart,"



creating conditions for Russia to split into 50 or 60 separate principalities, and "there would be war among them for centuries to come."

### **'Pax Russica' and its backers in the West**

Yeltsin's statement reflects the fact that Russia is facing an historical "crisis of existence." How this will be resolved, is impossible to forecast with certainty. However, it is certain that many influentials in Russia, across the political spectrum, are increasingly tempted to try to unify the country around a "restorationist" notion of creating a new "Russian empire," which would establish its sway over the peoples who comprise the territory of the former Soviet Union and which would take a more aggressively "interventionist" pro-Serbian line in the Balkans. This temptation is made all the greater, as an anti-western backlash grows against at the devastation that has been caused by adopting the "shock therapy" measures demanded by the IMF and Harvard University thug Jeffrey Sachs.

Going with the prevailing winds, Yeltsin told a meeting of the Civic Union on Feb. 28: "I think the moment has come when responsible international organizations, including the United Nations, should grant Russia special powers as a guarantor of peace and stability in the region of the former Soviet Union. Russia has a heartfelt interest in stopping all armed conflicts on the territory of the former Soviet Union. . . . The world community is increasingly coming to understand Russia's special responsibility in this difficult task."

Yeltsin was seconded on March 1 by Marshal Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, Chief of Staff of the Commonwealth of Independent States, who insisted that Russia be seen as the "pivot" of a new NATO-like defense structure comprising several, if not all of the CIS republics. He declared: "Russia is the pivot of the CIS on all levels, economic, natural resources, defense capacities—this is a secret to no one. Russia will have the role, besides, of nuclear umbrella for the other states; it is necessary that it become the guarantor of peace in the ex-U.S.S.R."

Yeltsin's statement raised eyebrows, since it extends the notion of Russian "guarantor of peace and stability" beyond the regions of Central Asia (especially Tajikistan) and the Transcaucasus, where Russian forces have been involved in "peacekeeping" actions during the past months. Read literally, it would mean Russian pressure for the "world community" to recognize its "guarantor" role vis-à-vis Ukraine and the Baltic states.

Statements and threats against Ukraine are the most ominous. Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is threatening to issue an "important declaration" on the matter of "Soviet" strategic nuclear weapons located on Ukrainian territory, if the Ukrainians refuse to recognize Russian claims on ultimate control over these weapons. Russian leaders are reportedly prepared to further blackmail Ukraine by cutting back yet more on gas supplies to Ukraine, and by lobbying western countries for a

full aid cutoff to Ukraine, unless it concedes on the nuclear question.

What makes this "neo-imperialist" or "restorationist" trend all the more ominous, is that there are various western idiots and lunatics who are *encouraging* the Russians to act in this way. This is ostensibly motivated by a "geopolitical" belief that the Russians could become effective partners in containing Germany and in fashioning a new "Yalta" spheres-of-influence division in Europe. In France, for example, former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing recently opined that Ukraine and Belarus are, from a historical standpoint, really part of Russia.

From the British side, the influential Royal Institute of International Affairs has published a new study by London School of Economics professor Jonathon Aves, on "Post-Soviet Transcaucasia," which purports to document Russia's historical role as a force of stability in the crisis-torn region comprising Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. Reviewing Aves's work March 3, the *Financial Times's* senior commentator Edward Mortimer stated that "Pax Russica is, after all, the only peace that Transcaucasia has known in the last two centuries, and the chances of its peoples making peace spontaneously among themselves seem very slight."

### **'Worse than former Yugoslavia'**

In response to Yeltsin's Feb. 27-28 "guarantor" statement, Ukraine has launched an official protest to the United Nations.

In an interview with the German weekly *Der Spiegel* of March 1, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk stated: "Again and again, I learn that the West would prefer the Soviet Union to be still around. This is not showing much of a sympathy for those nations that were forced to live in the Soviet empire. But the attempt to recreate something like the Soviet Union would lead to a horrible war, which would be worse than that in the former Yugoslavia."

Kravchuk is absolutely right. It is not only that the formerly captive peoples of the Soviet Union will fight to the death to prevent being brought under Russian imperial hegemony. Given the economic and social realities of Russia, there is no basis for Russia to play such a "restorationist" role, without creating new breakdown processes within Russia itself. Those processes would only make the Russians more desperate. In fact, the more astute Russians may come to the conclusion that those western geopoliticians "encouraging" the new Russian empire are actually seeking Russia's destruction, especially as it is no secret that those now so seemingly favorable to "Russian ambitions," have done nothing to help the Russian economy over the past couple of years, but have acted to bring about Russia's economic collapse. Given that Russia still possesses 30,000 nuclear warheads, the western idiots playing the game that Kravchuk is warning against, may actually be laying the basis for a third world war.

# U.S. 'human rights' barrage against Peru in defense of Shining Path

by Valerie Rush

The February release of the U.S. State Department's 1992 report on human rights in Peru has led to a renewed international offensive against that besieged nation, with the intention of forcing the Fujimori government to retreat from its successful campaign against narco-terrorism and from its defense of national sovereignty. Peru is being overtly threatened with the "Haiti treatment," that is, either it surrenders its sovereignty and returns to the "democratic" fold (in this case, through a negotiated surrender to narco-terrorism), or it faces financial, economic, and diplomatic strangulation of the sort today being visited on the starving nation of Haiti.

The most immediate objective of the State Department pressure is to force the Fujimori government to free retired Gen. Jaime Salinas Sedo, recently convicted and sentenced to eight years in jail for his role in a November 1992 failed coup d'état against Fujimori. Salinas is Washington's man; in fact, he himself has openly stated that he was convinced to try the coup by the State Department's Bernard Aronson, who was appointed assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs in the Bush administration, and is yet to be replaced by a Clinton appointee. Should Washington fail to secure Salinas's release from prison, it will find it increasingly difficult to get its military assets elsewhere on the continent to do Washington's bidding in the future.

In a Feb. 21 interview with the daily *La República*, General Salinas revealed that during his stay in Washington preceding the coup attempt, his mission was shaped by Aronson and others: "I became more sensitive to these matters. I spoke with Bernard Aronson. I spoke with other Latin American politicians. I realized that reasons of state cannot be the only rules of conduct. I was convinced that beyond these rules, there exist others such as respect for human rights."

## Turning the screws

The State Department human rights report, which accuses the Peruvian Armed Forces of "a systematic pattern" of human rights violations, draws the bulk of its "evidence" from the claims of Peru's self-proclaimed National Human Rights Coordinator, described in the report as "a respectable and independent committee." And yet, according to highly

placed Peruvian sources, the National Human Rights Coordinator is run by one Pilar Coll, a former member of the Maoist sect Revolutionary Vanguard, which advocated "armed struggle" and from which numerous members eventually merged into the murderous Shining Path narco-terrorists!

It is with this "respectable and independent" terrorist support group that Aronson has maintained "a close working relationship," according to the Lima daily *Expreso*. Not surprisingly, immediately following Aronson's recent meeting with the Peruvian justice and economics ministers, at which he passed on Coll's complaints against the Fujimori administration, the National Human Rights Coordinator took out a full-page newspaper ad demanding that the government retreat from every inroad it has made in the past year against the terrorist support infrastructure which has enabled Shining Path to remain on the offensive in Peru.

The State Department report has been complemented by a variety of other official and unofficial pressures against Peru, such as a recent report of the "human rights organization" Americas Watch, which blames the Peruvian military for committing human rights abuses while waging war against one of this century's most violent insurgencies, or the U.S. press barrage against Peru retailing the same "corrupt military" line.

But the greatest pressures on this impoverished nation have been financial. After Washington, claiming to have "reservations" over Peru's human rights record, refused to join a "Peru support group" charged with putting together an urgent \$400 million loan, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) canceled its Feb. 24 plans to consider approval of Peru's letter of intent and the release of some \$1.8 billion in World Bank-IMF loans. The IMF's approval was to be considered the green light for Peru's "reinsertion" into the world financial community, from which it has been ostracized since last April's move by Fujimori to shut down Peru's corruption-ridden Congress and courts, which were running cover for the narco-terrorists.

Respected Peruvian journalist Patricio Ricketts, writing in the daily *El Comercio* of Feb. 26, commented, "Let's not fool ourselves. The U.S. has not committed an 'error' with

regard to Peru. In arrogantly denying us, in the most offensive manner possible, and with great fanfare, a tiny loan, knowing full well the damage that could cause us at a decisive point in our negotiations with the IMF, the 'friendly' empire perpetrates a monstrosity. . . . Not content with [its blackmail,] the State Department justifies its defamation of the country and its institutions, especially the military and the police, with terms never used against a communist country. This is dirty war under the flag of pulchritude. . . . Shylock is worried about human rights."

Washington's decision to hold Peru hostage to its "human rights agenda" comes from Clinton's National Security Council. According to the daily *Expreso*, "Confidential sources have confirmed that the delay [in forming the Peru support group] originated in the National Security Council and the White House." And the NSC input, insists *Expreso*, comes from Richard Feinberg, Clinton's recent appointee to the council's Latin America post.

Feinberg, in turn, comes to the NSC directly from the presidency of the Inter-American Dialogue, a high-level think-tank funded by such establishment institutions as the Ford, MacArthur, Aspen, and Carnegie foundations, which first made a name for itself in 1982 by recommending "selective" drug legalization for the Americas, and whose latest project is called, not surprisingly, "Redefining Sovereignty." The Dialogue has long functioned as the behind-the-scenes agenda-setter of the numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) of the Americas. More importantly, it dictated the U.S. foreign policy agenda of the Bush administration vis-à-vis Ibero-America, and through Feinberg, continues to do so today from the inside of the Clinton administration.

Peruvian journalist Jorge Zuñiga Sanudo described to the daily *El Comercio* of Feb. 23 how, immediately after Fujimori's so-called "self-coup" last April, Feinberg "untiringly distributed press releases condemning the April 5 actions in the hours just before the ad hoc meeting of Organization of American States' foreign ministers."

It was to Feinberg that Peruvian justice and finance ministers Fernando Vega and Jorge Camet were forced to grovel in a two-hour session on Feb. 22, during which they reportedly had to promise that Peru would "ask the advice of the United Nations on human rights matters," and would throw open its doors to any and all international observers, from the International Red Cross to Amnesty International. They further promised to establish a permanent dialogue between the government and the National Human Rights Coordinator, which President Fujimori had earlier denounced as an openly pro-terrorist organization.

### **The Red Cross scandal**

Another major pressure point against Peru has centered around the so-called Red Cross scandal. The alleged reason that the United States refused to join the "support group" for Peru, according to a Clinton administration source cited by

*Expreso*, was to punish the Fujimori administration for having permitted a secret tape-recording to be made of a September interview between International Red Cross medics and imprisoned Shining Path chieftain Abimael Guzmán. The interview was then leaked to and published by the anti-government magazine *Caretas*, triggering protests by human rights lobbyists and Clinton officials alike that the secret recording had "violated" the terrorist's human rights. Despite a public apology by President Fujimori for the incident, which he declared was unauthorized, the Red Cross has insisted on a written apology.

The special irony of Washington's protests over the tape-recording is that the U.S. Justice Department did the same thing, and worse, in its dealing with Panamanian prisoner of war Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. As *EIR* reported back in November 1990, Cable News Network had broadcast the contents of confidential *pre-trial* conversations between Noriega and his attorneys which had been recorded illegally by the U.S. government. Despite this gross violation of Noriega's right to a fair trial under the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the courts refused to order a mistrial.

The added factor in the Peru case, of course, is that the local chapter of the International Red Cross is notorious for repeatedly siding with the cause of the Shining Path narco-terrorists against the government. For example, when the Fujimori government took the rather obvious security precaution of restricting access to prisons in the wake of Guzmán's capture, the Red Cross in Peru issued violent diatribes against the government, rivaling those of Shining Path itself. *El Comercio* editorialized Feb. 25 that the Red Cross's "local representation has held a position which reveals an open partiality toward subversive criminals." This is not the first time, continued the editorial, "that an international agency supposedly interested in humanitarian aid and human rights, shows itself to be sympathetic, or partial . . . toward leftist extremists."

Virtually every State Department asset inside Peru has been activated to pressure the Fujimori government, prominently including *Caretas* magazine's Enrique Zileri, whose anti-government sympathies are as well known as his pro-homosexual proclivities. Zileri recently won a public show of support from the State Department's Aronson, following his conviction for slandering one of Fujimori's top intelligence officers, Capt. Vladimiro Montesinos. In a satellite television interview broadcast in Peru, Aronson brazenly intervened in internal Peruvian affairs by virtually demanding that Montesinos be fired. Asked by a journalist about Montesinos, Aronson replied: "I believe you are asking what role he plays within the Peruvian government, if it is legitimate, within the bounds of legality, dealing with intelligence matters, or if he is contributing to an environment or a climate of intimidation against journalists and attacks against human rights officials. In that case, [Montesinos] does create problems for Peru and is not helping Peru."

# LaRouche allies field candidates amid growing discontent in France

*Jacques Cheminade, president of the French Schiller Institute, is heading up the Nouvelle Solidarité slate of candidates in the National Assembly elections which take place on March 21. He spoke with us on March 1.*

**EIR:** The Socialist Party of François Mitterrand is expected to be heavily defeated in the upcoming elections. Will an opposition government mean any real change in French policy?

**Cheminade:** These elections mean the end of a regime, the end of 12 years of social monetarism enforced by the French Socialist Party which caved in to the orders of the international financial forces who run the bond and derivative markets. This compromise regime is going out with a record number of 3 million unemployed in France, with generalized corruption and mismanagement of the state. Another important element is the vote in favor of non-governmental or protest parties. A third element is that for the first time, there is a very strong anti-media, anti-television movement, which is hardly surprising, given that French TV is one of the worst in the world. . . .

As for François Mitterrand, he is tremendously unpopular in the country. Only 26% of the voters are satisfied with him personally and over 60% are dissatisfied, and less than 20% think that the country is correctly ruled.

According to the polls, the Socialist Party will probably end up with no more than 20%, and the right-wing opposition of the UPF (Union for France, which regroups the nominally Gaullist RPR of Jacques Chirac and the liberal UDF of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing) is now at 40% of the votes and 60-70% of the seats in the National Assembly. The disproportion is due to the fact that so many votes will be scattered among the non-governmental parties which won't make it to the parliament. The Communists are expected to get 10-12% and the ecologists somewhere between 14% and 18%, and the extreme left 2%. So altogether, these protest parties represent more than one-third of the vote.

Even an ecologist-Socialist alliance could probably not stop the right-wing parties from winning. The conservative vote will give them a huge majority in the Assembly but it will not be a popular groundswell. In fact, they will be mainly gaining from the anti-Socialist sentiment. The opposition will win because people are fed up and want to see new faces

in power.

Normally, one would expect important changes to take place when the government goes from the left to the right-wing parties. But the platform of the opposition has really no substance. It has even been dubbed the "flatform." They want to immediately make the Bank of France independent from the government, giving it a status similar to that of the U.S. Federal Reserve or the Bundesbank in Germany. That means putting an end to the state monopoly over currency, and control of credit and banking. As soon as they come to power, they will cut off one of their arms. They will be weak from the very beginning.

There will also be a fight between the President—François Mitterrand's term ends in 1995—and the prime minister and his government. The government will do everything to encourage Mitterrand to leave, and a poll has recently shown that 51% of the French population would favor his resigning early. But Mitterrand, of course, has no intention of giving up power, so he will be constantly laying minefields beneath the feet of the government.

It will therefore be difficult for the opposition to make any significant changes in policy. Moreover, Edouard Balladur, who is generally considered the most likely candidate for the next prime minister, has said he would not change the present economic policy of Pierre Bérégovoy.

So, we shouldn't have too much hope in what the new government will do. In one year, this government may be as unpopular if not more so than the present one, because the crisis will only become worse.

**EIR:** Do you expect the new government to take a harder stance on the GATT negotiations or in defense of the French farmers?

**Cheminade:** Yes, in principle, but this would be more demagogic than anything else, because the only way to solve the problem of food production in the world is to give the people who need it, the means to buy it and to consume it. The incoming government has no policy for giving the Third World those means. So I don't see how, without creating a demand for the food, they can defend the food producers. It is also a fact that Charles Pasqua has extensive links to some African leaders, for example to Eyedema in Togo. Remember that Eyedema ordered his personal army to fire on a

crowd and created a massacre. Also the networks of Jacques Foccard, historically the adviser to the right-wing on Africa, are linked to the present rulers and it is well known that most of these leaders do not care about their populations. So I don't see how in these circumstances, a policy to feed the African populations could be organized, although that would be the only real way to help the French farmers. The government will certainly support them formally but there will be no substance to it.

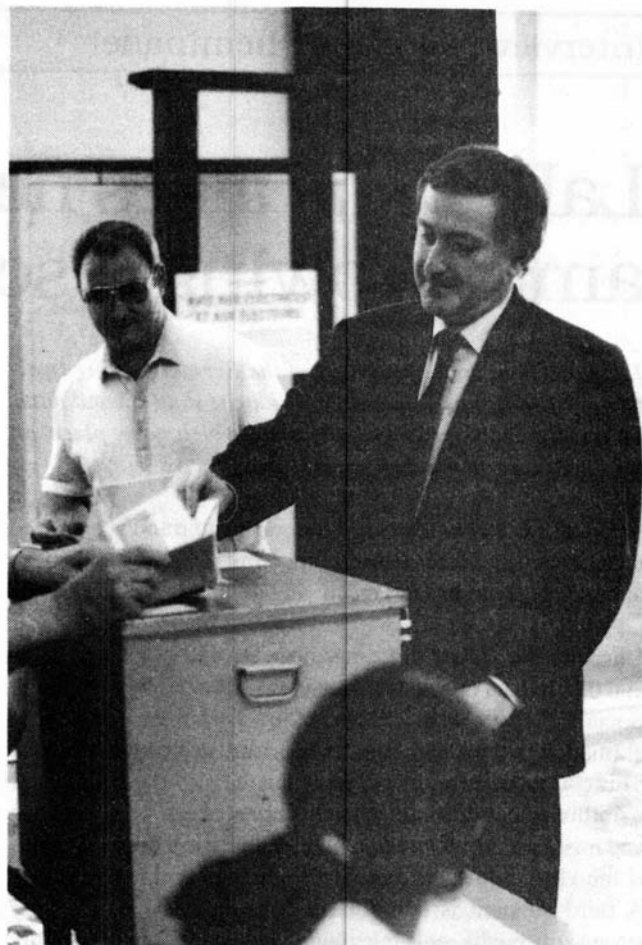
**EIR:** In foreign policy, do you see any major policy shifts?

**Cheminade:** Well, everybody in France now claims they favor the Franco-German alliance. Pierre Lellouche, a key adviser to Jacques Chirac, just published an interesting article in *Le Monde*, where he noted that the commemoration of the Franco-German treaty was a disgrace, they drank champagne but they did not mobilize the population (see *EIR*, Feb. 19). Lellouche says we should be as inventive as de Gaulle and Adenauer were in 1963, to meet the challenges of our times. I fully agree with that, but his proposals are very weak. He supports the Maastricht Treaty, although it is a dead end. And instead of proposing an active intervention into the former East bloc countries to help their economies take off, he says France and Germany should study the problems, in other words, remain passive. This is not a Gaullist option; it is weak and meaningless and has no perspective. In fact, everybody speaks of the Franco-German alliance, but nobody gives it a sense of mission or of *dessein*.

Our candidates from Nouvelle Solidarité are the only ones doing that. A leaflet will be sent to 700,000 voters saying that the Franco-German alliance should be based on a daring plan to develop the East and the South, and that the money, instead of going into speculation, should go into long-term projects. Therefore, we call upon the voters to oppose the denationalization of the Bank of France and demand that all government resources be used for this kind of broad approach, in the same way the United States mobilized for the Marshall Plan. Without this perspective, it will not be possible to solve the problems of Europe and the relations of Europe to Africa.

There is also a dangerous idea among the right wing, expressed by former head of the UDF, François Léotard, who says that France, together with Germany, should make Algeria the Mexico of Europe. He means a sort of North American Free Trade Agreement approach toward North Africa, which is exactly opposite to an approach of common and mutual development.

This government will have no real foreign policy, because they do not wish to confront the dangerous problems coming from Russia or those of the Anglo-American establishment. The inner strength which characterized de Gaulle and his governments is what is lacking in the political forces today. The Nouvelle Solidarité candidates are really the only ones who can honestly call themselves Gaullists today.



*Jacques Cheminade, who heads the Nouvelle Solidarité electoral slate for French National Assembly elections on March 21, shown here voting in the 1989 polling in Paris.*

**EIR:** The recent political corruption and fraud scandals, and especially the contaminated blood scandal, have greatly discredited the political elite. Are the projected spectacular returns for the ecologists an element of the voters' abreaction?

**Cheminade:** Yes, it is the case that the ecologist vote reflects in part a concern for moral issues mainly because the media present the ecologist movement very favorably, as the defenders of moral issues. What they plan to do would, of course, be worse than the present policy.

The discrediting of the establishment politicians does open the way for a new party to emerge, and we see this as a great opportunity for Nouvelle Solidarité.

But let me add that at the same time, the danger exists that anti-Parliament, anti-government, anti-everything forces will come to the fore, and if these forces, motivated only by rage and hate, become organized, it could lead to a kind of fascist movement. There are also active ex-Comintern networks in France who are not counting on the weakened Communist Party but rather on the disintegration of the country to gain power. . . .



**EIR:** Can you tell us more about the slate of Nouvelle Solidarité candidates.

**Cheminade:** Because of limited financial and logistical means, we had to restrict the number of campaigns, but we did try to have candidates in different parts of the country in order to ensure a broad coverage for our ideas and our programs. We have one in Paris, three in the Paris suburbs, two in Lyon, one in Valence, one in Nice, and one in Strasbourg. What we notice is that many people are more interested in ideas than ever before. The endless questions over left-wing or right-wing labels have been dropped, they are recognized as totally meaningless. That is also because the so-called left-wing Socialist Party followed a policy of monetarism, which used to be considered right-wing.

Our problem, our big problem, is getting our voices heard by the population.

**EIR:** On a personal note, why did you decide to run in the 5th and 6th arrondissements [districts] of Paris, known to most Americans as the Latin Quarter?

**Cheminade:** I am running in the district that covers the 5th and part of the 6th arrondissements, the Latin Quarter, partly because of the intellectual tradition that is still to be found there and partly because, contrary to what Americans might think, there is a Christian tradition there, as well as an old socialist tradition. The RPR candidate has been the deputy since 1968, which means for 25 years, and he is considered no longer fit for the job.

He is also involved in a scandal, since he was the boss of the subsidized low-rent housing program (HLM) for the Paris administration, and he was giving these HLM to wealthy people who are the political clientele of the RPR.

This arrondissement is also interesting because there is an interesting combination of rather old and quite young populations. The older ones themselves remember what the Marshall Plan was all about, and they of course knew de Gaulle. So our campaign echoes the best periods they experienced in the past. Let me add that they also tend to be well educated.

Among the young people, there is a lot of enthusiasm but they are ill-informed. They find our poster very funny: it shows a Goya ink drawing of a donkey who is teaching from a book showing a generation of donkeys. The poster says, "If you don't want them for eternity, why not vote for Nouvelle Solidarité." So this is seen as a good polemic against the established figures.

I would just add one concluding remark. Jacques Delors, the President of the European Commission, said in a recent declaration that the West lacks vision and he fears that rising unemployment will lead to social exclusion, poverty, violence and racism. He is right in that, but he unfortunately has no policy for confronting such problems. We, from Nouvelle Solidarité and the LaRouche movement, are the ones who have that vision.

## North Korea set up for Iraq-style showdown

by Mark Burdman

Will North Korea become the flashpoint for a major international strategic crisis by April-May? This possibility is signalled by a sensationalist propaganda campaign, labeling North Korea "the new Iraq," by the same institutions and media outlets which promoted both the Gulf war against Iraq in 1990-91 and the ensuing dismantling of Iraq's industrial capabilities by the "inspection teams" of the United Nations.

In late February, the London *Economist* warned that "North Korea is next in line for nuclear prevention" and "should expect a bloody nose." In testimony to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee on Feb. 24, new CIA chief James Woolsey stated that "North Korea, as recent headlines suggest, is probably our most grave current concern," as it is producing and selling "weapons of mass destruction," and possibly has enough fissile material for "at least one nuclear weapon." U.S.-based "non-proliferation" loudmouth Gary Mulhollin told the Feb. 27 London *Guardian* that the situation is "far more serious than in Iraq. North Korea has already produced enough plutonium and spare fuel for several bombs. . . . North Korea could already have the bomb."

Under the title "West Rushes to Stop Korean Atom Bomb," the *Guardian* noted that the Russians are throwing fuel on the fire, with an "unusual" report by the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (the successor to the KGB) to the U.S. Senate, claiming that North Korea is involved in building and testing biological weapons. In mid-February, the Russian intelligence services had "suddenly" made public that back in October 1992, senior Russian scientists were intercepted at an airport, as they were attempting to leave for North Korea to help the latter's military programs.

March 25 is now the date which the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna has set for North Korea to accede to IAEA demands for rights of "special inspection" of two secret reactor storage sites at Yongbyon, 60 miles northwest of Pyongyang. So far, North Korea has rejected that deadline as a violation of sovereignty. If Pyongyang does not comply, the IAEA will likely refer the matter to the U.N. Security Council, and an eventual military strike is not excluded. The IAEA's tone vis-à-vis North Korea has been uncharacteristically confrontational. In his testimony, Woolsey praised the IAEA's new "aggressive" posture.

## The real agenda

Whatever is going on in the secretive Stalinist state of North Korea, the suddenness, intensity, and coordinated nature of the campaign about the "North Korea bomb" suggests that there is a not-so-hidden "agenda" beyond North Korea itself. Can Woolsey be serious when he describes the matter as "the most grave current concern" of U.S. intelligence, at a time when war and genocide are raging in the Balkans, or when Russia is at the brink of a process of implosion? He cannot be unaware that a new Korea flashpoint could have a dramatic effect on the world situation, possibly ushering in a new era of East-West confrontation. Is that result desired in certain circles in Washington and London and among imperial-restorationist circles in Moscow?

Minimally, it seems clear that the Anglo-Americans and their counterparts in Moscow are trying to unsettle the situation in Asia, to manufacture a crisis artificially that would place these powers at the center of a delicate crisis-management and balance-of-power strategy in Asia, with various Asian nations, particularly South Korea, Japan, and China being played off against each other (with the Chinese simultaneously in cooperation and conflict with the Anglo-Americans).

It seems clear that, if left to their own devices, the nations of East Asia could reach an arrangement with North Korea. North Korea is in desperate economic shape, and a mixture of economic aid offers and firm pressure, in the context of the ongoing probes around eventual Korean reunification, could probably work, especially as neither South Korea nor Japan, nor probably China (at least for the time being) would want an international crisis around the Koreans. But by insisting on backing Pyongyang up against the wall, especially in the middle of an ongoing succession crisis dictated by Kim il-Sung's age (he is 80), the Anglo-Americans may end up inducing the paranoid North Koreans to lash out. Perversely, in a self-fulfilling prophecy, that could give the Anglo-Americans the pretext they are looking for.

According to a source in the international "non-proliferation" complex, who is not sympathetic to the North Korean regime, the problem of its nuclear facilities was being effectively discussed on a South Korea-North Korea government-to-government basis, until the United States began issuing harsh ultimative demands toward Pyongyang. This stiffened Pyongyang's attitude into a hard intransigence, embodied in its rejection of IAEA demands.

This source feared that there are "non-proliferation" hardliners in Washington who want to adopt "the Iraq method," including possible use of cruise missiles, against several countries deemed to be "violators" of the global non-proliferation regime. North Korea would be a convenient whipping-boy now, in preparation for similar future campaigns against other developing nations.

The campaign against North Korea is meant less for North Korea as such, than it is to institutionalize "technologi-

cal apartheid" against the developing nations in general, and to do this under the "non-proliferation" buzzword. This is in fulfillment of the program of the late Bertrand Russell and the Pugwash Conference, for "one-world" centralized control over the nuclear cycle.

If the relevant agencies were really concerned with non-proliferation, their focus would be Israel, which has, by minimum estimates, 100 nuclear weapons, and the capacities for building scores more, and which, unlike North Korea, has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

## 'Force, if need be'

The Russellite aspect of the campaign targeting North Korea is clear from the *Economist* editorial. Under the title "Getting Tough with North Korea," it wrote: "By refusing to let the inspectors check two suspect nuclear sites, North Korea is not just cocking a snook at the IAEA; it is threatening the whole international effort to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. Which is why, if it cannot be persuaded to keep its promises by diplomatic means, it should expect a bloody nose."

The *Economist* conceded that this approach might, indeed, not be "fair," since there are other nuclear powers who have "got away with it," including Israel, Pakistan, and India, "but fairness is not the issue. The aim is to persuade the freelance bomb-builders outside the NPT that their security can be better guaranteed within it, not to let loose more nuclear nasties." It claimed "the stakes have never been higher," since if North Korea is "allowed to flout" the IAEA, "others will follow."

"And if persuasion and diplomacy fail?" the magazine asked. "Though North Korea is a test case for the newly toughened NPT, it is the NPT itself which is on trial. If North Korea can cheat on regardless, South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan will be tempted to build their own bombs. The Security Council should stand ready to use whatever it takes to uphold the NPT—economic sanctions, force if need be—or lose the entire treaty."

The *Economist* line was complemented by Woolsey: "Of the many issues that have emerged in recent years, few have been more serious, have more serious and far-reaching implications for global and regional security and stability than proliferation." He insisted that "the strengthening of the IAEA must go hand in hand with renewing and reinforcing the Non-Proliferation Treaty. . . . But the recent showdown between the IAEA and North Korea shows the fragility of the agency's mandate. Without strong international sponsorship and support, it cannot succeed. The United States can take a lead role in strengthening and supporting international organizations, but we cannot do it alone. Outspoken and forthcoming assistance from others, such as the Russians, Europeans and Japanese, is essential in giving the IAEA the credibility and accountability it needs to complete its mission successfully."

# Nobel laureates stoke tensions in SE Asia

by Lydia Cherry

The recent foray into Thailand by a group of Nobel Peace Prize winners to put pressure on neighboring Burma, was not designed as a "peace" initiative but rather to create havoc, and that it did. From the time that Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the first of the seven laureates, arrived on Feb. 15 until the end of the month, this mission, whose ostensible purpose was to free from house arrest pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Ky, wreaked bedlam in Thailand. As a Bangkok source described it: "They are creating Hell here; they seem to want Burma and Thailand to go to war."

Among the other luminaries in the mission, which reportedly was forced on Thailand by the United States, was the Tibetan Dalai Lama and former President of Costa Rica Oscar Arias Sánchez. Mikhail Gorbachov expressed regret that he could not go, and his support for the venture.

## Whose idea was this?

According to a spokesman from the Montreal-based International Center for Human Rights (which pulled the mission together), the brainchild of this initiative was Oscar Arias, who sits on their board. It is no surprise that Oscar Arias, who believes that developing sector countries don't need armies, would target Thailand, where the effort to weaken the country's military is well advanced following violent demonstrations instigated by U.S.-backed non-governmental organizations (NGOs) last summer (see *EIR*, June 12, 1992). Oscar Arias has a long history of promoting the elimination of national militaries in favor of supranational forces under the control of a U.S.-dominated U.N. His National Liberation Party took power in Costa Rica in 1948 in a guerrilla uprising backed by the U.S. CIA, and his first task was to disband that country's military. Both the party and Oscar Arias himself have been repeatedly linked to the drug trade. Indeed, the founder of this party, José "Pepe" Figueres, from 1972 until his death in the early 1990s, provided political protection for Dope, Inc.'s Robert Vesco.

The laureates' hidden agenda has at least four goals: 1) increasing tensions between Burma and Thailand; 2) increasing tensions between China and Thailand; 3) giving strong backing to the western-spawned NGOs in Thailand against the Thai military; and 4) creating a wedge in the consensus among the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on how to deal with Burma and the other communist or former communist countries of Southeast Asia.

Before the delegation arrived, China issued two warnings to Thailand in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent the exiled Tibetan leader, the Dalai Lama, from entering the country. As a result of these warnings, the Dalai Lama's visit was shortened and the itinerary modified.

Upon their arrival, the Nobel laureates called for Burma's expulsion from the U.N., an immediate embargo of arms sales to the country, and an economic boycott. Archbishop Tutu, Oscar Arias, Ross Daniels from Amnesty International, and Edward Broadbent from the Canadian human rights organizing body all attacked the ASEAN policy of "constructive engagement," calling instead for "a policy of constructive and rapid disengagement." Regional organizations have the "primary responsibility for dealing with a particularly barbarous regime," insisted Broadbent. Timed with the visit, the Bangkok English-language daily *The Nation* on Feb. 21 ran an editorial that reads as if it were drafted by Amnesty International. Titled "Time for ASEAN to Say Goodbye to Store," it insists that it is time for Thailand to break from the ASEAN position. "Burma is our Bosnia; it is the current 'killing field' of Asia." It called "constructive engagement" "a trite argument put [forward] by regional leaders whose own human rights records are appalling."

The Burmese military dictatorship responded by accusing Thailand of interference in its internal affairs. Thai Army Commander Wimon Wongwanit criticized the Thai government's decision to give in to U.S. pressure and agree to the visit. He suggested that the human rights people should "go and scream against Burma from the United States rather than from Thailand," the Thai source said.

"The government here couldn't do anything because they were forced by the U.S. government to accept this group; the military was against it, and much of the population. The royal family was against it," the source said. He noted that the Thai king had earlier become involved in cooling out tensions between Burma and Thailand around a territorial dispute. The king addressed the issue in his New Year's Eve speech (end of January) when "Burma was massing its troops and Thailand had sent tanks and it looked like there was going to be a big clash between the two countries. . . . He called off the Thai military, and negotiations started."

What the laureates seemed to be ignoring is Burma's status as a satellite of Beijing. The net result of the West's human rights actions are to push Burma further into the hands of the Chinese, whose recent military support to Burma reportedly includes long-range weapons and other equipment, from 40 mm rocket launchers to 120 mm mortars and 130 mm modern rocket launchers. The Chinese are advising the Burmese Army on guerrilla warfare. The two nations are also building a joint venture weapons factory. Clearly, this over-arming is a provocation against Thailand. "A war between these two countries would be like Iran and Iraq—nobody could possibly win; the two countries would only destroy themselves," the source concluded.

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## Book Review

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# 'Kurdistan' would be a monstrosity

by Joseph Brewda

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### **The Kurds: A Concise Handbook**

by Mehrdad R. Izady

Crane Russak, Bristol, Pa., 1992

267 pages, hardbound, \$39.95; paperbound, \$15.95

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Crane Russak, a publishing house often rumored to be tied to the CIA, has just published a comprehensive overview of the Kurds, the ethnic group of 20 million which straddles Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Turkey, but which has no state of its own. Interest in this obscure Iranic, primarily Muslim, people has increased since the 1991 war against Iraq.

This book, which contains 42 highly detailed historical and demographic maps, and eight detailed charts, accompanied by an elaborate cross-reference system, is quite useful for an English reader in obtaining a look at Kurdish history, politics, and culture. Prof. Mehrdad R. Izady, of the Department of Near Eastern Languages at Harvard, is certainly well versed in the subject. But, as Izady is an acknowledged associate of Dr. Vera Beaudin Saeedpour, whose Kurdish Library and Museum of Brooklyn, New York has more than a little to do with ongoing intelligence games in "Kurdistan," prudence is also required in evaluating his conclusions.

Immediately following the 1990-91 Anglo-American-French war against Iraq, a Kurdish insurrection in their base in northern Iraq, was triggered by the CIA, British, and French intelligence, with considerable aid from Saudi Arabia and Israel as well. The uprising was crushed, as was the simultaneous Iranian-linked Shi'ite revolt in southern Iraq. Two hundred thousand Kurdish refugees fled into Turkey, and perhaps a million into Iran. At least some of these refugees were fleeing as much from the tribal chieftains leading the rebellion as from the Iraqi Army.

In the spring of 1991, the U.N. Security Council endorsed a French-sponsored resolution authorizing a U.S.-led occupation of northern Iraq, nominally intended to protect the Kurds from "Iraqi genocide." This resolution was the first ever authorizing military and related action within the borders of a sovereign state to deal with a purely internal

matter. The cynical argument was that "human rights" supersedes sovereignty. Last fall, Kurdish tribal leaders Mahmud Barzani and Jalal Talabani, both on the Anglo-Americans' payroll, declared an "autonomous" Kurdistan in northern Iraq. Clearly some Anglo-American strategic planners are considering carving out oil-rich "Kurdistan" from Iraq.

While Izady compiles useful data otherwise generally inaccessible, he fails, in his history of Kurdish nationalism, to report its most important feature: It is largely an externally sponsored movement intended to destabilize the region. In fact, there has been no significant Kurdish nationalist revolt in the last 150 years that was not run by British intelligence.

To take just one example, the 1925 revolt of Sheik Said (a leader of the Naqshabandi Sufi order) was directed by Kinahan Cornwallis, a descendant of the famous general who surrendered to the American revolutionaries at Yorktown in 1781. Sheik Said was a pawn of a British effort to destabilize the new Republic of Turkey, which Mustapha Kemal Ataturk had formed in 1922. The British sparked another revolt, led by Gen. Mustapha Barzani, the father of today's Kurdish rebel Mahmud Barzani in 1927.

The British hated Ataturk because he sought to make Turkey a modern nation, and had saved it from the dismemberment envisioned in the 1920 Treaty of Sevres. Since Ataturk was successful, and served as a model for regional leaders opposed to British imperialism, the British kept up their game. Part of the game was to make eastern Anatolia into a greater Armenia and Kurdistan. The British also tried to use the Kurds to destabilize the Pahlevi dynasty of Iran. The founder of that dynasty, Reza Shah (the father of the last Shah of Iran), emulated Ataturk. For the same reason, the British have deployed the Kurds to wreak havoc in Iraq, which also has a commitment to building economic infrastructure.

Throughout the book, one is given all the reasons normally put forward as to why Kurdistan should be a state. The Kurds have a shared history, language, culture, etc. Repeated deportations and massacres of the Kurds over the millennia, including in the recent period by the Arabs and Turks, it is said, also show the necessity and justification for such a state.

But if merely a shared identity and history were an adequate basis for forming a state, one could carve out hundreds of new states in the world. Bloody regional wars, leading the world in the direction of a third world war, would be the result. This process is particularly clear in the case of "Kurdistan": As it straddles Iran, Iraq, and Turkey, attempts to create it might lead to war amongst all three. Unless a people has a universal mission that supersedes regional and supranational geopolitical maneuverings, one might conclude that it has no legitimate right to found a nation-state, and will probably not succeed in doing so in any case. One of the minimal qualifications that the Kurds must demonstrate, if one could say that they had a right to form a sovereign state, is that their leadership stop being paid lackeys of the British, American, and French establishments, and instead imitate Ataturk.

## India's opposition is in trouble

*The Hindu opposition's vaunted "show of strength" on Feb. 25 fizzled, and now the BJP party is faltering.*

**A**n unprecedented show of strength by India's Congress Party-controlled government to enforce its ban on all rallies in the capital, and some serious miscalculations by the leadership of the Hindu fundamentalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), joined up with several days of cold and drizzly weather to turn the rising opposition party's Feb. 25 demonstration into a thoroughgoing flop.

The government's preventive measures virtually shut down the city for two days: Schools were closed, and there was some 60% absenteeism from work, as roads and transport routes were blocked and free movement was prohibited through a series of concentric circles around the capital. Steps were taken across the country to prevent activists from even getting to Delhi. In the event, some 1,000 BJP workers were arrested in the city, including all the top leaders, and not a single soul gained access to the rally site. The hundreds of local rallies anticipated in general, also did not materialize.

This was in sharp contrast to BJP chief Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi's strident claims that 1.5 million people would attend the rally despite the government ban. Though the BJP has since blamed the "brutal use of state power" for the fiasco, it is apparent that its own miscalculations were at fault.

The Feb. 25 rally was called as a show of strength, and to demand government action on the party's demands for a repeal of the ban on the Hindu religious group Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangha (RSS), which

has been in force since the Dec. 6 destruction of the Muslim mosque in the town of Ayodhya. The BJP has demanded prompt reconstruction of a Hindu temple on the ruins, and prompt elections in the four previously BJP-ruled states taken over by the national government after Dec. 6.

But despite the BJP's organizational skills, plentiful resources, and elaborate planning, the rally did not inspire public participation beyond the already committed activist cadres. The assumption that the typical BJP sympathizer would jump to join a confrontation with the government, was a serious miscalculation. The call subsequently for observance of "Anti-Repression Day" on Feb. 26, likewise drew scant response, despite the absence of any government or police restriction of movement on that day.

This reality has exacerbated tensions within the BJP leadership between so-called hardliners, represented by Dr. M.M. Joshi, and more moderate voices such as that of Atal Behari Vajpayee and others, who had argued for a change of venue for the rally pending satisfactory negotiations with the government. These leaders seem more concerned with re-establishing the party's credibility as a responsible, future ruling party, and not the zealous demolition unit reflected in the Dec. 6 events in Ayodhya.

Along these lines, in early February a party leader's call for forcible eviction of Bangladeshi immigrants in Delhi was immediately pounced on as an attempt to start riots in the city, and

had to be officially retracted.

The dilemma is that the BJP's momentum as an up-and-coming force has been fueled almost exclusively by the type of communal passions which characterized Ayodhya. On the day-to-day issues of economy and governance, the BJP does not distinguish itself, much less arouse the public's imagination or passion.

The depth of the crisis in the BJP leadership can be gauged by the fact that the "direct action" program promised loudly by Dr. Joshi did not materialize on Feb. 25, and was not heard of following the party's national executive meeting Feb. 27, either.

Accordingly, the party's angry vow not to allow the parliament to function until its demands were met, has now been revised, despite government intransigence. The BJP had demanded an unconditional apology from the government, a parliamentary inquiry into alleged excesses against members of parliament, and removal of the Delhi police commissioner. The reversal is tied to the realization that such disruption tactics are becoming counterproductive. Meanwhile, a BJP filibuster has been the party's mealy-mouthed response to the government's 1993-94 budget. But the budget, presented by Finance Minister Manmohan Singh on Feb. 27, appears to have effectively buried the BJP drama for the duration.

The BJP's stance on the budget shows, however, that it offers no real alternative. The critique consists of complaints that the finance minister is overestimating India's growth rate, and therefore government revenues. One unnamed senior leader is putting forward the tortured argument that the budget is "an election year budget" designed, since the Congress Party knows it cannot win, to be an albatross around the neck of the next party in power.



## Narco-regime used to blackmail Peru

*The U.S.-installed government is stepping up political persecutions, as it floods Panama with drug money.*

**T**he Panamanian government of drug banker Guillermo Endara is demanding that Peru hand over businessman Carlos Wittgreen as the price for restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries. Wittgreen, a friend and associate of U.S. prisoner of war Gen. Manuel Noriega, has been locked up in a Peruvian jail since Feb. 8, while Peru's Supreme Court decides whether he will be extradited to Panama to face trial on charges of arson and murder.

The charges stem from an incident that occurred in May 1989, when unknown persons torched the yacht *Casimiro II*, which belonged to Gabriel Lewis Galindo, the man who ran the U.S. "Project Democracy" operation against Noriega. The yacht's security guard, a poor Panamanian named Félix Augusto Vásquez, was killed. It was not until more than one year later, in December 1990, that Wittgreen was indicted in Panama for the incident. The case lay dormant until September 1992, when Panamanian authorities, having been turned down by the Peruvian courts on an earlier request to extradite Wittgreen for "influence peddling," revived the yacht's case.

There are no witnesses against Wittgreen, nor is there any material evidence tying him to the crime. His only mistake was that he got into an altercation with the son of the yacht's owner, who made some offensive remarks about his friend General Noriega. It was Wittgreen's bad luck that the owner, Lewis Galindo, enjoys considerable influence in the United States, particularly among the min-

ions of the Inter-American Dialogue, the pro-drug legalization outfit that set the Bush administration's policy toward Ibero-America and continues to do so under Clinton.

Wittgreen's case has not been helped by the fact that Peru is particularly vulnerable at this time to blackmail pressures from Panama's puppet regime, because of the virtual economic choke-hold imposed against it by the U.S. embargo. U.S. officials such as the Inter-American Dialogue's Richard Feinberg, now with the U.S. National Security Council, are punishing Peru for alleged "human rights" violations, including taping the conversation between jailed narco-terrorist leader Abimael Guzmán, of Shining Path, and Red Cross officials. As if the U.S. government had not done exactly the same thing when it taped the telephone conversations between Noriega and his defense attorneys!

If the Peruvian government agrees to extradite him to Panama, Wittgreen would face a corrupt system of justice whose primary purpose is to hound the political opponents of the pro-drug government installed by the 1989 yuletide invasion ordered by George Bush. Scores of civilians and Panamanian Defense Forces officers who were taken prisoner by the U.S. invading forces, continue to languish in Endara's jails without a trial. Hundreds more have either gone underground or into exile—as in Wittgreen's case. Reliable estimates are that as many as 35,000 Panamanians are either political prisoners or are be-

ing persecuted for political reasons.

The rottenness of the system is shown by the case against columnist Luis de Janón, who was subjected to six hours of grueling interrogation by the Panama attorney general's office on March 3, for "conspiring against national security." Several of De Janón's co-workers, as well as his editor and publisher at *La Estrella de Panamá*, the oldest continuously published newspaper on the west coast of all the Americas, including the United States, face the same charges.

What makes this attack against the freedom of the press particularly egregious, is that the charges against De Janón are being brought by all the sitting justices on Panama's Supreme Court, to punish the journalist for publishing a particular bit of sleaze regarding Chief Justice Carlos Lucas López Tejada, a drug banker.

Reportedly, a few months ago, Lucas López had a traffic accident while driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver of the other vehicle, a local barber, was hauled into the Supreme Court, interrogated, tried, and convicted, and was ordered to pay damages. The court explained that it assumed the duties of a lowly traffic court, because only the Supreme Court can sit in judgment of one of its members. Further, it was not the chief justice but another member of the court, Justice Arturo Hoyos, who was driving the car involved in the accident, accompanied by his wife.

The latter is a particularly sore point for Lucas López, who was publicly accused of hiring a Colombian drug assassin to murder the husband of his mistress and her two children last Aug. 30. While all these charges have been aired by the tabloid press, when *La Estrella* published the drunk-driving allegations, this was seized as a convenient pretext to shut down the most important opposition medium.

## Salinas's highway project is bankrupt

*Mexican truckers' rebellion against highway toll robbery exposes the decay of the President's economic model.*

A new aspect of the informal economy has emerged in Mexico in the past two months, visible to anyone travelling certain stretches of the luxurious but deserted superhighways that were opened in Mexico last year. At a short distance, but parallel to the highways themselves, legions of children can be seen hauling dirt and filling in holes along passages carved through the underbrush by truckers and others who are refusing to pay the highways's outrageously high tolls.

The tolls were imposed by six private companies to which the government of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari granted concessions to build 4,000 miles of highway during his six-year term. The *New York Times* recently compared the cost of a 14-mile stretch of superhighway between Mexico City and Toluca, where the toll charge is \$6.30, with a 148-mile strip of highway in New Jersey, which costs \$4.60 in tolls.

The truckers' protest has acquired the characteristics of a national insurrection, and has already incorporated legions of American tourists who participate in highway blockades at the toll booths, as part of the protest. In mid-January, the entire country gave its full support to a truckers' protest on the Mexico-Nogales highway, on a stretch that goes from southern Sonora to northern Sinaloa. Some 2,500 tractor-trailers blocked the highway for five days, to protest a 60-80% hike in highway tolls that had been decreed by the Sonora Congress. The average passenger car was now expected to

pay the equivalent of \$5.33, and the trucker, a whopping \$29.60.

There are sections of the superhighways where drivers have no option but to pass through the toll plazas, and these are the points which are being saturated by protests.

The idea behind the construction of the superhighways was to facilitate cargo transport that would supposedly intensify once the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with the United States and Canada was put into effect. The contracting of the work, however, was carried out under conditions of usury reminiscent of the past century. Asphyxiated by its spiralling debt burden, the government was giving away large chunks of its economic sovereignty by granting administration of customs to the creditor banks and exploitation of economic sectors which normally correspond to government oversight, such as infrastructure, to private companies.

To date, scarcely 1,300 miles of superhighway, out of a total of 4,000 miles planned by the Salinas government, have been built, and the whole grand scheme is already falling apart. The six construction companies which received the government concession are all associated with the same banks that took over the country during the era of "savage capitalism," that is, Shearson Lehman Brothers, Citibank, and Baring. The poor recovery of capital, due to the truckers' creative "toll avoidance" efforts, has forced the government to extend the

companies' concessions from four years, to up to 18 years.

But this is only part of the story, since the same scheme is being used in the granting of concessions for port, airport, railroad, and even telecommunications infrastructure.

A recent French study, reported in *El Universal* in early January, reveals that 90% of the toll-free highway network in the country—some 54,000 kilometers (33,500 miles)—is in a state of disrepair and on the verge of collapse, the result of 10 years of total abandonment and lack of maintenance.

The study estimated that at least \$700 million a year for 15 years is required to put at least half of the federal highway network into serviceable condition, and yet the Salinas government has announced an allotment of only \$333 million for this year.

All of which confirms that *EIR* was right all along, and the government was wrong, when *EIR* warned that the government's granting of concessions to private companies to rebuild the nation's destroyed infrastructure was not a temporary expedient, but a first step toward giving away complete control of the country to the great financiers of Wall Street and the City of London.

Already there is talk that the six companies with the highway concessions are going to sell bonds on Wall Street to enable them to complete the full 4,000-mile contract during this six-year term. If the usurers of Wall Street decide to invest in an economy such as Mexico, which is on its way to collapse, these "highway bonds" could point the way to "salvaging" other areas in similar crisis. To the astute observer, this re-entrance into the short-term debt maelstrom that precipitated Mexico's 1982 payments crisis should appear uncomfortably familiar.

# International Intelligence

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## *War looms between Russia and Georgia*

A military confrontation between Russia and Georgia will result from the Abkhazian conflict, the President of Georgia, Eduard Shevardnadze, warned in a statement in Tbilisi on Feb. 23. Shevardnadze called for a last-minute summit meeting with Russia's President Boris Yeltsin, to avoid the military escalation.

The warnings came in direct response to a Russian air raid on Feb. 23 on Sukhumi, the capital of the Abkhazian province that wants to secede from Georgia and align with the Russian Federation. Shevardnadze declared that all Russian troops must be withdrawn from Georgian soil, otherwise there would be a general mobilization of the armed forces of Georgia.

In reply, the Russian Defense Ministry ordered Russian forces in Abkhazia and Georgia to "shoot to kill" any Georgian troops that get in the way of any activities or operations.

On Feb. 24 Russian Defense Minister Gen. Pavel Grachev declared that Abkhazia can never be relinquished by Russia, because of the question of "access to the Black Sea." This same argument could be applied to Ukrainian Crimea.

Russian media have been filled with accounts of Abkhazians, Russians, and Georgians facing famine in towns cut off and surrounded by Georgian forces in Abkhazia. Russia could easily use the plight of these people as the humanitarian cover for military intervention.

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## *Bombs hit French Education Ministry*

Unidentified attackers set off bombs at Education Ministry offices in the southern French cities of Toulouse and Aix-en-Provence on Feb. 28. The National Front for the Liberation of Corsica (FLNC) claimed responsibility for the incidents and said in a statement that it wanted to protest against

the restricted teaching of the Corsican language.

The powerful pre-dawn explosion in Toulouse destroyed three offices, damaged a dozen parked cars, and shattered windows not far from the headquarters of an Army paratroop division specializing in overseas missions.

Another device, thrown into the grounds of the building in Aix-en-Provence, broke windows but caused only slight damage.

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## *Parejo to campaign for Colombian presidency*

Former Colombian Justice Minister Enrique Parejo González formally announced his candidacy for the 1994 presidency on Feb. 28, with a call for peaceful civil resistance to the present government's open-market, or "neo-liberal," economic policies. Said Parejo, "Colombians in general, and especially workers, have the right to rebel against these measures," which have taken a brutal toll on living standards in the country. Parejo is the only one of Colombia's several announced candidates to denounce the freemarket model promoted by the International Monetary Fund.

Dr. Parejo also charged that the Gaviria government's free import policy was destroying Colombian agricultural production, and that privatization was deliberately skewed in favor of a handful of economic groupings: "No to the government's neo-liberal policies! No to savage capitalism! No to the sale of the country, which appears to have been put on the public auction block!"

In response to the latest wave of drug cartel bombings, Parejo denounced the Gaviria government's appeasement policy of negotiating amnesties and plea bargains with the narco-terrorists. It was precisely such a government policy which allowed drug lord Pablo Escobar to slip through the authorities' fingers last year: "One cannot hope for Colombia to retake the moral road, if the President himself makes deals concerning the law that should be applied to criminals."

Parejo is one of Colombia's few surviv-

ing anti-drug heroes, having taken up that mantle from his close friend and collaborator Rodrigo Lara Bonilla after the latter's 1984 assassination at the hands of the Medellín cocaine cartel. Parejo himself barely survived a 1987 assassination attempt while ambassador to Hungary. His return to Colombia in 1991, after abandoning protective exile abroad, has placed him at the top of the drug lords' hit list.

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## *Former Soviet officials: SDI caused policy shift*

Former top Kremlin officials, speaking at a Princeton University conference on the end of the Cold War, said on Feb. 26 that the implications of former President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative and the horrors of the Chernobyl nuclear accident combined to change Soviet arms policy and help end the Cold War.

The statements by the two former officials have bearing upon the numerous published Soviet attacks on Lyndon LaRouche at that time, and will be the subject of an upcoming *EIR* feature.

According to Reuters on Feb. 27, "the officials said ex-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was convinced any attempt to match Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) of 1983 to build a space-based defense against missiles would do irreparable harm to the Soviet economy. . . ."

"The 'Star Wars' initiative was announced by Reagan a month after a secret Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) assessment showed a considerable arms build-up in the Soviet Union. . . ."

"The author, CIA analyst Lawrence Gershwin, said, 'We didn't see much prospect of any arms control agreement and we projected a vigorous increase in Soviet build-up.'"

"He said that from the U.S. view a Soviet increase in defensive forces would 'give them a big advantage.'"

"Former Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh said Soviet intelligence 'was telling almost the same story [about the

## Briefly

United States]. We were told, even before SDI, the U.S. has suddenly changed course away from a defensive posture and begun an enormous build-up.'

"Then came SDI, which Soviet officials saw as 'something very dangerous.' Bessmertnykh said SDI 'made us realize we were in a very dangerous spot.' . . .

"After Chernobyl, said Gorbachev aide Anatoly Chernyaev, the Soviet leader would not entertain any 'positions based on the assumption that we would fight the Americans.'

"Gorbachev then assured the U.S. we would never attack.' "

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### ***Russia says Israel has 200 nuclear weapons***

A new report released by Yevgeni Prima-kov, head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, says that Israel has produced at least 200 nuclear weapons and has weapons-grade uranium stocks to last 200 years.

The study, titled "A New Challenge after the Cold War—the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction," stated that the Israeli output of fissionable plutonium is increasing by 20 to 40 kilograms per year. It also said that Israel has three plants for producing weapons-grade plutonium, each of which can produce enough material for 5 to 10 weapons a year. "Stocks of uranium in Israel are estimated as being sufficient for its own needs and even for exports for roughly 200 years," the report stated.

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### ***Israel's President makes first visit to Britain***

Israeli President Chaim Herzog met British Prime Minister John Major in London on Feb. 26 and warned him of the dangers of Islamic fundamentalism in the Middle East. It is the first-ever visit of an Israeli President to the United Kingdom.

Herzog "emphasized the different aspect of the struggle against Islamic fundamentalism all over the Middle East, not just

in Israel but in other countries as well," an Israeli embassy spokesman quoted the President as saying. In an interview with the BBC, he said that Israel is engaged in a "major battle against Iranian-controlled Islamic fundamentalism," and this was why Israel had expelled more than 400 Palestinians in December. "It's true that there's no Soviet Union now threatening. . . . But there are all sorts of lunatic states around like Iran and Iraq and so forth which could upset the whole balance in the world."

Under his former name of Vivian Herzog, the Irish-born Israeli President served as a major in British Military Intelligence during World War II, assigned to the Mideast.

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### ***Aristide charged with plan to wreck military***

The strategy of ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide would be to "encircle and destroy the military institution," warned Hubert de Ronceray, a leader of Haiti's Movement for National Development, who told the IPS press agency on Feb. 18 that his party, along with 30 other political groups, are totally opposed to the return of Aristide from exile.

Instead, said de Ronceray, former Interim President Joseph Nerette must be reinstated and should organize new elections. Nerette, who served as President after Aristide's overthrow in 1991, never formally resigned from office and has recently proposed alternative solutions to Haiti's crisis, countering those offered by the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS).

De Ronceray explained that Aristide's recent call for 3,000 human rights observers to be sent to Haiti is part of the deposed President's "strategy of encirclement and destruction of the military institution with the support of the U.N. and the OAS." Aristide, he said, wants "to exterminate the 7,000 soldiers of the Haitian Army and replace it with a popular army of which 200 elements were sent to Cuba for training in 1991."

● **BORIS YELTSIN** warned about growing military involvement in the political battles in Russia, in an interview with the military daily *Krasnaya Zvezda* of Feb. 23. "I need hardly say that people are trying to fill this vacuum," he said. "There are those who want to play their army card."

● **ISRAELI** Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, after several months of secret negotiations with Syria, is offering the return of the Golan Heights as part of a secret deal, news services report. Israel has demanded total normalization of relations, including open borders and trade with Syria, which is not losing any sleep over the fate of Palestinian deportees.

● **MEXICO CITY** authorities on Feb. 26 discovered a small weapons arsenal belonging to members of the terrorist Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URN). Among the weapons, which were to have been delivered to Guatemala, were nine AK-47 military assault rifles, 25 mines, 18 rocket launchers, 60 rocket-propelled grenades, ammunition, and materials to make additional rocket launchers.

● **POPE JOHN PAUL II** called for the reunification of Korea, speaking at a ceremony on Feb. 22 to receive the new South Korean ambassador to the Vatican, Noh Young Pauk. "All lovers of peace would be pleased if the two Koreas increased contacts to the maximum level," he said. "Reunification could be accomplished through love and reconciliation."

● **FINNISH** Social Democratic Party chairman Ulf Sundqvist resigned in a corruption scandal at the end of February, saying he wished to save his party from the political effects of the accusations against him. He was previously the managing director of the workers' bank SIS, the first bank to go bankrupt in the current banking crisis.

## Trade Center bombing: 'strategy of tension'?

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Strong circumstantial evidence suggests that the recent wave of terrorist actions inside the United States is part of a new "strategy of tension" directed against the Clinton administration and the American public, by intelligence circles best described as Anglo-Israeli. While U.S. assets are unquestionably involved in this effort, the geopolitical motives and essential players in this destabilization are associated primarily with British and Israeli intelligence agencies.

As this issue of *EIR* goes to press, federal authorities are claiming that the arrest of a Jordanian-born Muslim in the Feb. 26 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City represents a major break in the case. The sketchy details provided so far about a Jersey City, New Jersey man, Mohammed Salameh, who is accused of having rented a panel truck that was reportedly used to place over half a ton of explosives in an underground garage of the World Trade Center complex, have triggered a media barrage about "Islamic fundamentalism" as the gravest terrorist threat against the United States.

The Feb. 26 bomb blast killed five people and injured over 1,000, and caused what may eventually be billions of dollars in damage and lost business for corporations and government agencies operating in the Lower Manhattan financial district.

The World Trade Center attack is one of several unusual terrorist attacks that have taken place inside the United States or against key American targets since the inauguration of President William Clinton in late January:

- On Jan. 25, a man identified as Mir Aimal Kansi killed two people and injured several others in an attack on a line of cars waiting to turn into the main gate of the Central Intelligence Agency headquarters in Langley, Virginia. Kansi escaped to Pakistan and subsequently disappeared. The two murder victims were both CIA officers, one of whom

was involved in clandestine operations in Ibero-America and Asia.

- On Feb. 23, a helicopter carrying three U.S. Army officers involved in directing the relief airlift into Bosnia, mysteriously crashed near Wiesbaden, Germany, killing all three. No cause for the accident has been publicly indicated.

- On Feb. 28, agents of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) raided a compound housing the Branch Davidian church near Waco, Texas. In the shootout that ensued, four federal agents were killed along with an unknown number of members of the church. As of this writing, federal authorities are still negotiating an end to the standoff.

(See the fuller chronology of international terrorist acts on page 50.)

### Propaganda and coverup

Prior to the March 4 arrest of Mohammed Salameh on charges of "aiding and abetting" in the World Trade Center bombing, American and European terrorism specialists had cautioned *EIR* investigators against presuming that the bomb attack had been carried out by any one of the myriad of terrorist groups whose names have surfaced in the media. These experts, including one experienced bomb technician, emphasized that the sophistication of the attack suggested the involvement of government intelligence agencies, and that 50 or more people may have been involved in the planning and execution of the attack.

The idea that a small group of Islamic fanatics could have engineered such a massive terror assault, is, to these experts, patently absurd. This is not to presume that Salameh and Islamic activists were not in some way involved, but rather that these groups, without the backup of highly trained professionals, could not carry out such acts. For decades, British



intelligence agencies have been promoting, infiltrating, and steering some Islamic fundamentalist groups, including that with which Salameh has been linked.

The intelligence experts with whom we spoke furthermore join with Lyndon LaRouche, a longstanding expert on irregular warfare and international terrorism, in suggesting that the recent anti-American terror acts may be part of a "strategy of tension" aimed against the new Clinton administration.

The concept of a strategy of tension was developed in Italy in the second half of the 1970s, when several European states, notably Italy and Germany, were targeted for political destabilization. One key element in those destabilizations was the use of terrorist assets to eliminate prominent business and political figures. In the famous case of the 1978 kidnap-murder of former Italian Premier Aldo Moro, Israeli intelligence was identified as providing key logistical and technical support to the Red Brigade terrorists. While terrorist labels were placed on the actions in Germany and Italy at that time, intelligence agencies from both NATO and the Warsaw Pact were subsequently found to have played controlling roles.

LaRouche and these other experts draw a parallel between the present terrorism against the United States, and those earlier incidents.

### **Arab terrorism?**

In the days following both the World Trade Center and Waco incidents, the U.S. media have been saturated with scare stories coming from a very specific network of Israeli intelligence-linked individuals, preparing the American public to jump at the first opportunity to pin the bomb attack on Arab or Palestinian terrorists. For two days before the arrest of Salameh, for example, the *Wall Street Journal* and other newspapers had been highlighting the terror operations of Islamic Jihad and Hamas, both Islamic fundamentalist groups. Once the Salameh arrest was announced, the airwaves were flooded with such Israeli assets as Cable News Network correspondents Wolf Blitzer and Steve Emerson, and Ariel Sharon publicist Uri Dan, all pronouncing the case closed and demanding war against Islam.

For several months, Israeli intelligence and Zionist lobby assets in the United States have been pushing to have Hamas, the Islamicist group active in the Israeli Occupied Territories, listed by the U.S. State Department as a terrorist group. Israeli government spokesmen and media have claimed that Hamas is actually headquartered in the United States, and that U.S.-based Palestinians provide the financing and the command structure for Hamas.

A parallel situation developed with the Waco siege. While media accounts from the outset assailed the BATF for conducting a frontal military assault against the church compound, only a few news stories revealed the pivotal role of the Cult Awareness Network in whipping up the federal agents for the attack. CAN was implicated last September in a nationwide kidnapping ring, which is still a target of federal investigation. CAN "deprogrammer" Rick Ross, a convicted

felon, was an adviser to the federal agents just prior to the raid. Following the shootout, a national TV news broadcast interviewed CAN kidnapper Galen Kelly, one of the central figures in a nationwide kidnap-for-hire ring and a founding member of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, an Israeli intelligence front suspected of infiltrating American military and intelligence agencies.

In short, the "Arab terrorism" line inundating the American media smells of coverup.

In a related matter, police and federal agents in San Francisco are investigating the possible role of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) in spying on Arab-Americans and funnelling illegally obtained information to Israeli authorities for use against Palestinians in the Occupied Territories. In late January, two Chicago men were arrested by Israeli police when they attempted to visit relatives in the West Bank. The two men were charged with being members of Hamas. According to the San Francisco District Attorney's office, one of them, Mohammed Jarad, was a target of ADL spying prior to his illegal detention by Israeli authorities.

The prospect that the ADL's nationwide spy operation would be exposed along with its penetration of U.S. law enforcement and intelligence agencies, has panicked many in the Anglo-Israeli environment. The World Trade Center propaganda offensive, which named Islamic groups long targeted by the ADL and its allies, as the culprits days before the Salameh arrest, raises serious questions about the recent terror acts.

### **Who benefits?**

In contrast to the leap to label the World Trade Center bombing as an act of Islamic terrorism, the news media and federal investigators have been quick to downplay the reports that the attack may have been the work of Serbians or supporters of the Serbian offensive in the Balkans. According to one Associated Press wire that was issued on the morning of Salameh's arrest, police in New York City were seriously pursuing the Serbian lead, because a caller claiming to be from the "Serbian Liberation Front" had provided accurate details about the bombing that were not public. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic issued an "Open Letter to the American People" which warned President Clinton to back off from any further military involvement in the Balkan conflict, citing the New York bombing as an example of the consequences of escalated American intervention. The "ill-advised American humanitarian cooperation" to help the Bosnians "could overnight transform a local conflict into a Balkan war, perhaps a world war," he said.

Since the Clinton administration's announcement of the aid airlift into eastern Bosnia, British officials have also come out harshly critical of the new President. Following the World Trade Center bombing, numerous British commentators have gloated over the terrorist attack on the United States, saying they hoped it would make Clinton reconsider his policy in the Balkans.

# Clinton must give up 'Slick Willie' image and become President Clinton

*Below is a slightly edited excerpt from the weekly radio program "EIR Talks with Lyndon LaRouche" on March 1. Melvin Klenetsky conducted the interview. Radio stations can receive the program for rebroadcast by satellite. The interviews are broadcast from 7-8 p.m. Eastern Time, Saturdays on: Galaxy 2, 74 Degrees W; Transponder 3 74.9 MHz NB, SCPC; 3:1 Companding Flat; or, Satcom C-1 137 Degrees W; Trans 27.5 MHz; Wideband Video Subcarrier. Readers who would like to have Mr. LaRouche answer a question are invited to send their questions to Melvin Klenetsky, %EIR News Service, P.O. Box 17390, Washington, D.C. 20041-0390.*

**EIR:** You mentioned that President Clinton's plan for the Balkans is somewhat different than Lord Owen's plan. This news service has been involved in many, many different interviews with Croatian and Bosnian patriots who have claimed and asserted that James Baker III [as Bush's secretary of state] and Lord Owen are responsible for the conflict currently taking place in the Balkans. How does Mr. Clinton's current policy of airdrops conflict with Lord Owen?

**LaRouche:** Let me say something very plainly about President Clinton. President Clinton has got to look at himself in a mirror some day very soon, if he wants to become successful as a President. He has to say, "Willie, you've been 'Slick Willie' too long. You're now President. You are not the governor of Arkansas any more. You've got to become President Clinton, not 'Slick Willie' from Arkansas."

Often President Clinton—as Governor Clinton and as President to date—seems to have more of a political weathervane functioning up there on top of his head, than a conscience. That is, he goes with the political winds and considers that the smart thing to do politically, and well, if you are in power, and you have the power, then you have the power to do some good.

But the problem is that the political weathervane says, to get power and keep power, you just don't get around to doing good or doing it for very long. Bill is going to have to look at himself in that way and say, "It is a tough way to go, Bill, but if you want to do something good for this country or the world, you are going to have to stop being 'Slick Willie.' And you are going to have to take good, firm positions—

moral positions—on the basis of conscience, and stick to them."

Bill Clinton had a moral, shall we say, impulse toward the Balkans situation. At least that is what he put forward. Then, under pressure from Britain and New York financial circles and others, he backed down and he supported the Owen-Vance plan critically—not fully, but critically. In order to retain some semblance of a conscience-guided idea to assist the Bosnian victims of this Serbian fascist aggression, he decided on this airdrop business. He was going to give an armed escort and he was told he couldn't do that, so he didn't do that. It is an unarmed escort.

So there you see an impulse in the right direction—a humanitarian impulse, which is commendable in itself—but it is so diluted and so ineffective that it does not really address the situation. Therefore, while it might do some good for some desperately hungry Bosnian here or there in East Bosnia, in the long run it will not solve, or contribute to solving the fundamental problem which has to be addressed.

**EIR:** We are seeing a new type of warfare, perhaps. Maybe it is not new, maybe it is old: this "ethnic cleansing" approach of the Serbians. You have received journalists from Croatia, and they have given you reports on this. How do you characterize this form of warfare?

**LaRouche:** This is an extension of what [former Secretary of Defense Robert] McNamara and Kissinger and similar people did in Vietnam. This is an extension of what Oliver North, the Marine, and his sidekick, Donny Moore, of "Kidnappers, Inc.," did in Vietnam. In Operation Phoenix, people went in and cleaned out villages. I know some of the people who did it. I am not talking about news reports. I knew Adm. Payton Magruder, now deceased, who was working under [then-CIA director] Bill Colby to get a 1,000-a-day body count, under Phoenix. And Magruder, who was a naval officer from a distinguished family of service to the United States over many generations, became a drunk, and died as a result of drunkenness and alcoholism brought on largely by this experience, this disgust every day, with this body count. I have known other people who were involved in this body count business, who were in the Special Forces and things like that; officers who were stuck with this thing.

At a later stage, they had the kind of operation which Donny Moore as a U.S. Special Marshal and [Loudoun County, Virginia] deputy sheriff planned to do to me in 1986, which is called a spike team operation. Go into a village, pinpoint some targets, people who are influential in that village, and sneak up one night and kill them. Or drag them off and torture them to death—for pleasure as well as for political effect. That is the kind of mentality.

You have people like [the leader of the Serbian irregular forces in Bosnia] Radovan Karadzic, who is notorious there, a bunch of psychiatrists, who were originally based around Croatia, who are part of the old Yugoslav Federal Army, guerrilla warfare/psychological warfare division and counterintelligence section. These people were trained by the Tavistock Institute, they were trained by the friends of Hannah Arendt, people like Martin Heidegger, her lover, and they simply came up with this kind of terror. . . .

**EIR:** You brought up the similarities between the Serbian policy of ethnic cleansing and Operation Phoenix. Can you please develop that a little bit more?

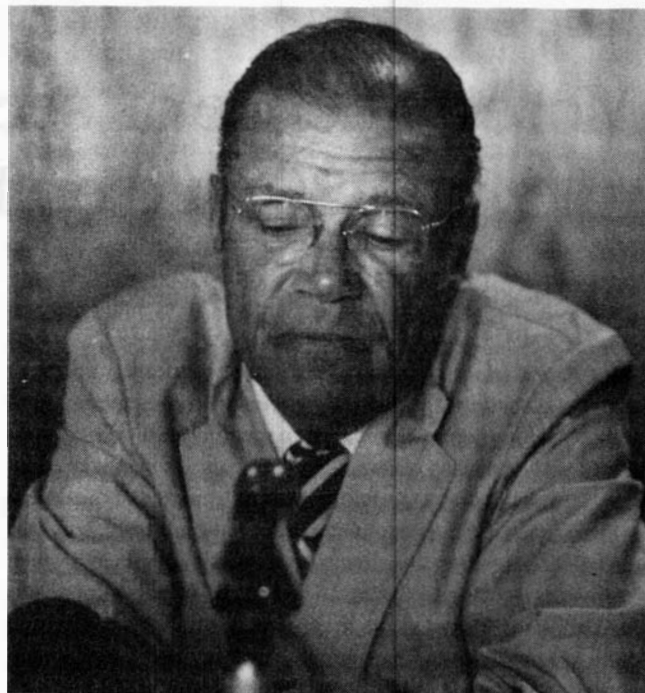
**LaRouche:** I said something, and I had better clarify it, so that some listener does not think that I might be exaggerating, or off the wall or something.

On Oct. 6-7, 1986, the U.S. government, under pressure from Moscow to commit itself to my imprisonment, launched a 400-plus man armed raid against my associates in Leesburg, Virginia.

Under the cover of that raid, according to his own bragging and corroborating information, Don Moore, who had been a U.S. Special Marshal in operations against me, and who was still, and who was also a deputy sheriff in Loudoun County, was part of the team which was committed to killing me, assassinating me under that cover.

Recently, there were tapes from the summer of 1992, in which Don Moore was bragging (unwittingly, however), into FBI tape recordings. And Don Moore bragged about what he was going to do to me [on Oct. 6-7, 1986]. He was coming in with a small team, a spike team, as he described it, to take out the guards around the place where I was located, and to move in and to personally put a couple of slugs into me—to kill me. [The tapes LaRouche is referring to were made by an FBI informant, after Moore solicited the informant to become part of a team to kidnap and “deprogram” a LaRouche associate, Lewis du Pont Smith. The full story of “Kidnappers, Inc.” is told, in the kidnappers’ own words, in the forthcoming *EIR* book *Travesty: A True Crime Story*.—ed.]

From the paperwork we have from the past couple of years’ discovery, we know that the government had to talk the sheriff’s department and Mary Sue Terry, who was then Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Virginia, out of doing this operation. But Moore and company were determined to go ahead with it anyway, under some pretext. There



*Robert Strange McNamara, a sponsor of the genocidal Operation Phoenix: photographed in 1985 when his public obsession was to sabotage Lyndon LaRouche’s Strategic Defense Initiative.*

were some people on the federal side, who were also obviously involved in that.

Moore was operating, all this time, as an enemy of mine, as a friend of his buddy, Ollie North, and Ollie North says he was part of the operations against me because of our exposure of his dope running, his drug running, into the United States, through a special operation which was centered in Room 2C840 in the Pentagon and down in the Kennedy Center at Fort Bragg. So this operation was continued. It’s an example of this kind of terrorist operation.

Now back to the Yugoslav situation. The reason for this rape operation against the Islamic population, the women and children—little boys, too—of Bosnia by Karadzic, a psychiatrist, and his killers, is that in that particular culture, if a woman is raped, she is disowned by her family. This perverted Freudian psychiatrist, Karadzic, trained by the friends of Hannah Arendt and by people in the United States, this swine, has used this operation to demoralize and discredit the families of the population of Bosnia. Cutting off the heads of children—babies—in front of their mothers, then raping the mother. This is typical, which many eyewitnesses, including official eyewitnesses, official agencies, or NGOs on the scene have recorded.

This is a hideous operation. But this is the *ultimate continuation* of what we did in Vietnam, and a continuation of the kind of terrorism which was done with NATO consent and then conveniently blamed on the Soviets, in every case, back in the 1970s and early 1980s.

# More evidence of 'secret government' role in 1986 raid on LaRouche movement

by Edward Spannaus

Information recently obtained under the Freedom of Information Act is shedding additional light on the role of the Reagan-Bush "secret government" team in the raid on facilities associated with Lyndon LaRouche in Leesburg, Virginia in October 1986. That 400-man raid, which culminated in the unjust imprisonment of LaRouche and many of his associates, was intended to result in the same sort of bloodbath which has just been staged in Waco, Texas. The new information provides further confirmation of the involvement of the "Iran-Contra" gang centered around National Security Council staffer Oliver North and his inter-agency task force.

The evidence implicates the FBI's Special Operations Groups (SOG) in the planning for the 1986 raid. These SOG units have been called the FBI's "political hit squads," and were known to have been deployed against critics of North's supply operation to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels. Also involved in the planning for the Leesburg raid was the secret office in the Pentagon through which the CIA sought Defense Department assistance for covert operations in Central America.

## NSC's 'Operations Sub-Group'

In early January, *EIR* obtained copies of the secret correspondence between the Justice Department and the Pentagon, by which it was arranged for U.S. military units to take custody of the documents seized in the October 1986 raid. Two large truckloads of documents were confiscated, and then were secretly transported to a military base in Arlington, Virginia.

The newly disclosed documents include a memorandum from Kent S. Robinson, the lead prosecutor for the LaRouche frameup trial in Alexandria, Virginia, to William F. Weld, then the head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. The Robinson memo is dated Oct. 1, 1986; it was classified "Secret" and also stamped "Urgent." It states: "Attached please find a draft of a letter from you to the Director, Joint Special Operations Agency, OJCS, requesting the assistance of the military in providing secure office space for the storing of documentary materials we hope soon to seize from the LaRouche organizations."

The director of the Joint Special Operations Agency (JSOA) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to whom the Weld letter was addressed, was Maj. Gen. Tom Kelly of the U.S. Marine

Corps. Kelly sat on the National Security Council's elite counter-terrorism working group, along with North, the FBI's Buck Revell, National Security Adviser John Poindexter, and other officials from the Pentagon, State Department, and CIA. This NSC group was known as the Operations Sub-Group of the Terrorism Incident Working Group (OSG/TIWG), and it played a key role in the Iran-Contra operation.

## Pentagon special operations

JSOA was created in 1984, and incorporated the functions of the Special Operations Division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and related functions such as psychological warfare and civil affairs. Some say that Gen. Richard Secord played a key role in the creation of JSOA; although he had retired from the Pentagon by that time, he still was a paid consultant and sat on the Special Operations Policy Advisory Committee (SOPAG) which oversaw JSOA and the Joint Special Operations Command based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Secord attended every known meeting of SOPAG in 1984 and 1985. General Kelly, the JSOA director to whom the Weld letter was sent, and Kelly's predecessor at JSOA, were also members of SOPAG.

The Weld letter was sent to the attention of Col. B.R. Hooten, chief of the Support Activities Branch of JSOA at the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It was Hooten's branch which made the arrangements for the seized LaRouche documents to be secretly taken to Henderson Hall at Fort Meyer, Virginia. Colonel Hooten's Support Activities Branch serves as the "focal point" office in the Joint Chiefs of Staff; historically, the "focal point" office was the point of contact (POC) for the CIA when it needed Pentagon support, going back to the days of the CIA's counterinsurgency programs in Vietnam.

The Support Activities Branch still played this role in 1986, as shown by a document released by the congressional Iran-Contra committee. This was a March 7, 1986 message from North to Poindexter, sent under the super-secret "Private Blank Check" caption in order to bypass the NSC staff.

The undeleted portions of the March 7 message begins with a reference to "the OSG/TIWG plan," and states that "CIA approached DOD thru the [deleted] to conduct joint . . ." It then mentions "a call back to the [deleted] POC" from "Col. Hooten," in which Hooten said that "there were

War Powers Act implications to the request.”

North goes on to complain that the Joint Chiefs of Staff want a written request “tasking the CIA/DOD planning.” North protests that “this is wrong,” that this is something “that Dick Secord has bitched about” and that such a rigid requirement “destroys the very purpose for which OSG was established.”

### **The FBI’s ‘hit squad’**

OSG shows up on the FBI side also. The Oct. 1, 1986 memorandum from Kent Robinson to Weld, enclosing the draft of the Weld letter to JSOA, concluded with the following: “This letter should not be mailed. Rather, [deleted] FBI Special Operations Division, will pick it up from you and hand carry it to the appropriate person. He may be reached at 324-5675, and should be contacted once the letter is signed.”

There is no FBI “Special Operations Division.” However, there *is* an “Aviation and Special Operations Unit” at FBI headquarters, which is the unit reached by the phone number in the Robinson memo. Its duties involve surveillance of all sorts, not just aerial surveillance. This unit oversees all FBI aviation programs and Special Operations Groups. SOGs exist in all of the FBI’s major field offices, and handle “special cases,” sensitive cases such as terrorism, foreign nationals, espionage, etc.

In July 1986, North and Revell deployed the FBI SOGs against a prominent opponent of the Contra operation, Jack Terrell, who was working with the Christic Institute and its lawsuit against North, Secord, et al. Declassified documents show that on July 17, 1986, Revell called North to get information on Terrell. In a memorandum to Poindexter on the same date, North claimed that Terrell was a participant in the disinformation/active measures campaign against the Contra operation. The North memo says: “The FBI has notified the Secret Service and is preparing a counter-intelligence/counter-terrorism operations plan for review by OSG-TIWG tomorrow.”

The next day, July 18, 1986, there was a meeting in the FBI’s Washington Field Office; the official memorandum of the meeting states that “we need full-time SOG coverage on Terrell.”

### **More spooks**

The Weld letter to JSOA also states that Assistant U.S. Attorney Theodore Greenberg had already informally contacted someone to inquire about the availability of the space at Henderson Hall. It is highly significant that contact with the Pentagon’s Special Operations Agency was initiated by Greenberg, who is one of the spookiest characters in the entire U.S. Department of Justice.

Greenberg is known to have extremely close ties to the CIA and the Israeli Mossad; some believe his strongest loyalties are to the latter. While he was a federal prosecutor in Alexandria, Greenberg handled every case coming through

that court involving the CIA or the intelligence community, including the Wilson-Terpil case, the Dale Duncan/Yellow Fruit case (involving Army special operations personnel), and numerous others. Greenberg was also consulted on the involuntary bankruptcy used in 1987 to illegally shut down three publishing companies identified with LaRouche.

### **Why the military?**

Military involvement in a domestic criminal case is flagrantly illegal, and it shows the outlaw character of the U.S. government’s conduct in the LaRouche case. By law, the military units involved cannot be engaged in domestic law enforcement or domestic covert operations.

But why, then, was the military involved in the raid?

Even though the documents had been seized under both federal and state search warrants, and were supposed to be in the joint custody of the FBI and the Virginia State Police, the Virginia authorities were denied access to the documents for several weeks while they were being held at Henderson Hall.

Just who was rummaging through the documents during the first days and weeks after the raid? Was it Oliver North and his gang? Was it allied networks in the secret government, trying to ferret out the names of military and intelligence sources in contact with LaRouche’s associates?

Or was it done so that evidence could be tampered with, and false leads manufactured, in the event the Leesburg raid turned into the Waco-style bloodbath that many of those conducting that raid wanted?

### **‘Our man here’**

The military’s special operations apparatus has in fact been a key part of the “secret government” apparatus since the Vietnam era, and it was closely linked to the illegal Iran-Contra operation run by North and Secord. When the late CIA director William Casey told North to set up a covert mechanism for supplying the Contras in Central America, North naturally enough turned to personnel from Special Operations. Among those recruited by North was special operations veteran Secord. North and Secord recruited heavily among special operations veterans to help set up the Contra supply operation. One of these was Master Sgt. John H. Cupp.

Five months before the Leesburg raid, Secord used his National Security Agency-supplied encryption device to send a secret message to North, which stated that “our man here claims Lewis has collected info on LaRouche.” “Our man here” was the above-cited John H. Cupp. “Lewis” was Frederick Lewis, another special operations veteran.

Five months later, on Oct. 6, 1986, North and his gang seemed to have found a better way to “collect info on LaRouche”—through use of the secret government apparatus which spreads from the FBI SOGs to the most secret parts of the Pentagon.

## Environmentalists push tougher restrictions

In hearings before the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Policy, Trade and Environment on March 1, a host of environmentalists, playing up the lie of the "greenhouse effect," called for tougher environmental restrictions from the Clinton administration. They criticized in particular the National Action Plan for Global Climate Change put out by the State Department during the last days of the Bush administration. Subcommittee Chairman Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.) called for revising the plan, to include definite commitments to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels and for a concrete program as to how greenhouse emissions will be improved and how emissions reduction will be coordinated.

Most witnesses criticized the action plan as being far too little, with many backing the levels demanded by the so-called Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, to reduce greenhouse emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. One witness, T.J. Glauthier, director of the Energy and Climate Change Policy of the World Wildlife Fund, called on the administration to make the draft plan's technology transfer section (transferring the technologies, practices, and processes that control, reduce, or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases) an issue of "strategic" importance for the United States.

However, Michael Baroody, senior vice president for policy and communications of the National Association of Manufacturers, urged caution. "Proceeding on a unilateral basis to stabilize or reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in the absence of an international agreement applicable to all nations emitting greenhouse gases and with an effective enforcement

mechanism, could place U.S. industry at a competitive disadvantage in world markets and could harm our nation's economy," he warned.

## Gonzalez attacks NAFTA as bankers' boondoggle

House Banking Committee Chairman Henry B. Gonzalez (D-Tex.) attacked the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as a boondoggle for the bankers. "The truth is," Gonzalez said in floor comments on Feb. 22, "that that [trade] is the caboose, and the engine driving that so-called trade agreement is the finance or the banking. Remember that at the bottom of everything is banking—everything. It always has been, it is now, and it always will be."

Gonzalez noted how the speculative "derivatives" are "rocking the whole unstable international currency markets." And the consequence? "Well, all this now is being translated into activities south of the border where one of the hottest speculative giant casino operations has begun and which is impacting America because it involves American bank credit and American investors."

Gonzalez said that he had put out four press releases about a month ago on the *maquiladoras* (foreign-owned sweatshops in Mexico), but that "no newspaper, either in Texas or in my area or up here, would pick them up. So it went unreported."

Gonzalez attributed the lame response of the American population to this looming disaster to the deleterious effects of television. "We live in a frenzied world, so that we become accustomed to accepting what is known as the electronic description of things, the television image. . . . It is the

good old American tendency since the end of the war not to focus in on anything that goes beyond the immediate crisis, and then, instead of preparing and anticipating, we sit until we are wallowing in crisis."

He warned that there were no "quick" solutions to the present economic crisis: "We have for 40 years pushed aside the emerging issues which now have developed to the point where you are not going to have a push-button solution no matter how much our new President wants or anybody. It is going to take time if at all."

One of the main effects of the unfolding crisis that concerned him was the unraveling of the value of the dollar, which has suffered, he noted, a "consistent, sustained loss of value since 1985, which incidentally was the same year that we became a debtor nation for the first time since 1914." The result of that would be, he warned, that "the United States for the first time in its history will have to be paying back the monumental debt, both on the private, as well as the corporate, and especially the governmental, debt in somebody else's currency."

## Graham pushes for high-speed rail program

Sen. Bob Graham (D-Fla.) introduced legislation on Feb. 25 which would accelerate the construction of high-speed rail systems in the country. The Graham proposal would lift the caps on the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for high-speed rail construction.

As Graham indicated in proposing the High-Speed Rail Incentives Act, airports and seaports are already exempt from caps on their revenue bonds. The Graham proposal would



add high-speed rail to the list. "The expectation is that a full expansion of high-speed rail will require the development of new tracks and electrification of those tracks, and a key issue for that subsequent development will be the availability of tax-free bond financing."

In terms of efficiency, Graham correctly noted, "two tracks of high-speed rail can potentially carry as many travelers as 10 lanes of an interstate highway system. . . . Electrified rail is four times more efficient in terms of cost of energy per passenger-mile than airplane travel, three times more efficient than automobiles."

Graham also made reference to the 19th-century tradition of "internal improvements." "In the 19th century," he said, "the federal government assisted in the creation of canals and river transportation and railroads. In this century, the interstate system has redrawn the map for urban and rural America. The question before us, as we enter the 21st century, is what will be our contribution to the mobility of Americans in the next century?"

## **C**linton package lacks votes, says Mitchell

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Me.) indicated in an interview on Face the Nation on Feb. 28 that he didn't think there was yet enough support on Capitol Hill to pass the Clinton economic program. We don't have "a sufficient number of senators committed," said Mitchell.

Mitchell indicated that there was some idea of trying to combine the economic and the health care reform packages into one "megabill" that Congress would consider this summer. Mitchell expressed the hope that

the votes would eventually be there. "I think what's happening is that passage of this economic program is increasingly being seen by the American people as a test of whether or not this government can function and whether Congress can do anything," he said.

Passage in the House, where the Democrats have a significantly larger majority than in the Senate, is not in doubt. Nevertheless, there is strong opposition from Republicans to the \$16.3 billion short-term economic stimulus. They also refuse to support the tax package as long as increased taxes are a part of it. "In its present form, he's not getting Republican support in the Senate," said Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.).

Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Tex.), one of the authors of the abortive Gramm-Rudman resolution, has offered an amendment which would place a cap on domestic spending instead of raising any Social Security, income, or energy taxes. Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole (Kan.) has also presented an alternative to the Clinton package which would cut domestic spending by some \$100 billion more than proposed by the President.

Also, some Democrats are threatening to offer a balanced budget amendment if the budget cuts are not sufficient for their taste.

## **G**OPers rush to defense of DOJ injustice

Senior House Republicans have rushed to attack efforts to correct injustice in the Department of Justice (DOJ) handling of a fraud and bribery case against Rep. Harold Ford (D-Tenn.). The GOPers attacked efforts by the Congressional Black Caucus to

force an investigation of the stacking the jury in Ford's second trial, and are now seeking an investigation of the DOJ for reversing one of its decisions in the case.

Intervention by the Black Caucus led Acting Attorney General Stuart Gerson to overrule local prosecutors and demand that the Ford trial not be continued with jurors who were to be bused in from predominantly white Jackson, but that a new jury be selected from Memphis, where the trial is to be held. The White House expressed satisfaction with this decision.

House Republicans, gathered at a conference in New Jersey, alleged that the intervention by the Black Caucus had the "clear appearance of impropriety," as Minority Whip Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) characterized it. Black Caucus Chairman Kweisi Mfume (D-Md.) denied any impropriety.

Eight Republicans, including House Minority Leader Robert Michel (Ill.), Gingrich, and Hamilton Fish (N.Y.), ranking Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, also sent letters to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees requesting an investigation into the DOJ's actions. The letter to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph Biden (D-Del.) also asks that the questions surrounding the case be raised in the upcoming confirmation hearings of Miami prosecutor Janet Reno, President Clinton's choice for attorney general.

Rep. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) charged that the Black Caucus meeting with DOJ officials was "politicizing the [criminal justice] process." The Black Caucus reacted to the Ford case in the context of an unusual number of "fraud" and "conspiracy" cases in the last few years being pursued by the DOJ which have particularly targeted black elected officials.

# National News

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## Irradiating food gaining favor from consumers

"Irradiated Food Shows New Signs of Life" is the headline of an optimistic news story in the March 1 *Wall Street Journal*. The article begins by saying "Irradiation, a powerful but controversial weapon against harmful bacteria, is likely to become a big gun in the nation's food-safety arsenal." Among other things, noted is the fact that the deaths from contaminated hamburger in the Northwest have spurred the government regulatory agencies to put irradiation of red meat on a fast track for approval. Although poultry and pork have gone through the approval process, red meat has not.

The article reported that Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy recently told a private meeting of meat industry officials that if they are not able to successfully lower the level of pathogens in meat sold at the retail level, the Agriculture Department may begin requiring irradiation of meat.

Although the article notes the anti-nuclear opposition, the focus is on the positive. One Utah food supplier is quoted saying about irradiated poultry, "We have stores telling us they would prefer it." And a Chicago merchant who has sold various irradiated produce items says that his consumers "are overwhelmingly in favor of it."

*EIR* encourages readers to urge supermarkets to carry irradiated food, and not be intimidated by anti-nuclear lies about it.

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## Croatian journalist widely covered in Pa.

The official paper of the Croatian Fraternal Union (CFU) reprinted the *EIR* article by Srecko Jurdana, in its March 3 issue. The Pittsburgh-based paper *Zajednicar* is the largest Croatian newspaper in North America with 100,000 members. Jurdana was touring the United States sponsored by the Schiller Institute, founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the wife of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. In Pittsburgh, Jurdana gave a press conference with national

CFU President Bernard M. Luketich.

*Zajednicar* wrote in its introduction: "Mr. Jurdana, who said he wanted to inform Croatian-Americans on what is happening both politically and militarily in the Old Homeland, said the war in Bosnia and Croatia must be stopped immediately or it will spread into World War III. He spoke out against the Vance-Owen plan, stating it rewards Serbian aggression and genocide. He compared the six-point plan for peace in Bosnia offered by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher as supporting the Vance-Owen plan with minor modifications.

"He lashed out at Great Britain for playing a major role in the war in support of Serbia in an effort to destabilize Europe. Mr. Jurdana said Great Britain doesn't want to see an integrated Europe based on German economic power. Russia, he declared, is openly supporting Serbia because the Russians want a direct line between Moscow and Belgrade to establish Balkan control, an aim that is not clearly recognized by the U.S. or other nations. He said the Russian involvement poses a 'direct threat to U.S. security.' Beginning with the first Serbian air attack on the Slovenian city of Santill in 1991, Mr. Jurdana has covered practically all of the battlefields in the war-plagued former Yugoslavia. . . ."

Earlier coverage in Pennsylvania included articles in the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette* and the *Greenburg Tribune Review*.

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## ADL spies targeted many non-Arab groups

The *Los Angeles Times* belatedly broke the spy scandal surrounding the West Coast Anti-Defamation League (ADL) on Feb. 26, including some new information. According to the *Times*, San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) officer Tom Gerard was interviewed by the FBI in November, shortly before he fled to the Philippines. The FBI learned about Gerard's suspected selling of secret police files to the ADL and the South African government as the result of a two-year probe of ADL private eye Roy Bullock. The *Times* wrote that Bullock's phone was tapped after the FBI, which was paying him as a source, learned he was also employed by the South

Africans—as well as by the ADL. The *Times* also reported that he had worked as an undercover spy, for the ADL for as much as 40 years, and that he was covertly paid through a Los Angeles law firm.

The *Times* characterized the ADL as running a nationwide private spying operation which was eventually tapped into by the South Africans. According to the story, files seized at Bullock's home and at the ADL offices were gotten from the Los Angeles and Portland police.

According to Feb. 26 *San Francisco Examiner* feature, 75% of the names seized from the ADL offices and from Bullock's and Gerard's homes were not only of Arab-Americans, but of other ethnic groups, political activists, and journalists. At Bullock's house alone, police grabbed a data base containing over 12,000 names. District Attorney Arlo Smith publicly acknowledged that Department of Motor Vehicles records, photos, criminal records, fingerprints, and other data only accessible from police files, were found in the searches.

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## Klan foes arraigned for Pike 'statue climbing'

Rev. James Bevel, former vice-presidential running mate of Lyndon LaRouche, and historian Anton Chaitkin were arraigned by Magistrate Alan Kay in U.S. District Court in Washington on Feb. 25 and pleaded not guilty to the charge of "statue climbing." The two men were arrested Nov. 13 at the Albert Pike statue, protesting the federally maintained statue of the founder of the Ku Klux Klan in downtown Washington.

Before pleading, Chaitkin asked: "The masonic organization which erected the statue we are seeking to remove, distributed this month a broad attack and condemnation against our efforts. That group is the de facto leadership group of all Caucasian Freemasonry. In the interest of a just and fair proceeding, we respectfully request Your Honor to inform us of your own relationship, if any, to the masonic order." His Honor declined to respond at that time.

The following day, despite a heavy snow, the regular weekly rally calling to remove the statue went on. As organizers

## Briefly

read from Lincoln ally Henry Carey on how to terminate the slave trade, several passing Washingtonians joined in, taking signboards. By the end of the rally, 10 people had stopped to join, and began to pelt Pike with snowballs. Onlookers from nearby office windows also joined in the snowball target practice, until enough snow existed at the base for rally participants to trace the initials "KKK" in the snow, in keeping with the "Truth in Statuary" doctrine.

### ADL-linked judge to hear Arab deportation case

Judge Bruce Einhorn, an immigration judge in California, has refused to recuse himself from presiding over the deportation hearing of two Palestinians, despite the fact that he is an activist with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Lawyers from the National Lawyers Guild, who are representing the Palestinians filed a motion saying, "his organization has a vested interest in seeing our clients deported." Einhorn is the chairman of the civil rights committee of the Los Angeles chapter of the ADL.

In denying the motion, Einhorn said, "I don't believe my association with the ADL as a lay person has interfered with my impartiality in this case." Einhorn, who teaches legal ethics at Pepperdine University, claimed it was his ethical responsibility "not to withdraw."

### Clinton filling in sub-cabinet positions

President Clinton has made two high-level appointments at the Pentagon, as well as filling posts in the Interior Department, where Secretary Bruce Babbitt has given priority to drawing up a map of ecological systems with environmentalists.

John Deutsch, who was a Department of Energy appointee under Carter, has been nominated to be undersecretary for acquisitions at the Defense Department. Frank Wisner, a former Carter State Department official and ambassador for Presidents

Reagan and Bush, has been nominated to be undersecretary for policy. As DOE director of energy research, Deutsch was responsible for the Synfuels Corp., and he later served on President Bush's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. Appointees to the Interior Department are typified by George Frampton, who has been nominated to be assistant secretary for fish, wildlife and parks, who was president of the Wilderness Society. He did battle with the Bush White House over the northern spotted owl.

Finally, President Clinton chose Margaret Milder Richardson, a corporate tax lawyer and former Internal Revenue Service official, to head IRS. She is a partner in the Washington and Atlanta law firm of Sutherland, Asbill and Brennan.

### Most high-tech medical procedures *are* necessary

It's a myth that many medical procedures are unwarranted and unnecessary, San Antonio cardiologist and TV medical reporter Dr. Brant S. Mittler wrote in a guest column in the March 1 *Wall Street Journal*. Dr. Mittler wrote that after a 1988 RAND Corp. study concluded that 14% of medical procedures were inappropriate and 30% were uncertain, "critics of American medicine" usually rounded the figure off "to a politically correct 50%." Mittler cited a more recent RAND study, which showed that only 2.4% of heart bypass surgeries performed in New York State were inappropriate, and 7% were uncertain.

Mittler noted that Congress last year quietly ended the Peer Review Organization for Medicare, requiring physicians to gain approval from a review board of local doctors for expensive surgeries. "The numbers for Texas for 1989-91 are telling: 16,381 bypasses requested, two denied; 11,288 coronary angioplasties requested, none denied. Nationwide, in 1989, 1.7 million procedures were reviewed, with an average denial rate of only 0.17%. Where's the fat?"

Mittler continued: "Three years ago Duke reported what RAND experts had not yet figured out: A lot more patients benefit from bypass surgery than previously thought, particularly the sickest and oldest."

● **FIFTY-NINE** participants at the third annual leadership conference of the American Muslim Council the last week of February signed the petition to President Clinton asking him to exonerate political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. Signers included school directors, imams, religious studies professors, and the heads of Islamic refugees committees.

● **RICHARD LAMM**, the former governor of Colorado who told the elderly that they should "die and get out of the way" in 1984, is a board member of the Lead or Leave anti-elderly group. Other board members include Rep. Claudine Schneider; Episcopalian Bishop Paul Moore, formerly of the New York Cathedral of St. John the Divine; Tom Hayden; Massachusetts Gov. William Weld; and Drug Policy Foundation funder Richard Dennis.

● **A STANFORD** doctoral candidate is writing his dissertation on serial killers, claiming that it's "the American Way." He told an interviewer recently: "We need serial killers because we need a figure to make us feel normal, we need a figure for us to see where normality ends and deviance begins."

● **NBC CAUGHT** lying again. Hot on the public apology NBC made over faking GM truck explosions, anchorman Tom Brokaw admitted on Feb. 24 that, when NBC couldn't find any dead fish to "prove" their story that the decline of the fish population in a particular lake was allegedly caused by timber overcutting in an Idaho forest, the news team stunned fish from a different lake and showed them.

● **WILLIAM SESSIONS**, the FBI director is still under the gun. The March 1 *Washington Times* called on Clinton to replace him as soon as possible in a front-page article headlined "The FBI: A House Divided." The *Times* pointed out that Sessions, who is hated by the old J. Edgar Hoover crowd, may be being eclipsed in the New York bombing case by New York office director James Fox, who is garnering much media attention.

## Editorial

### *Bad science, bad economics*

President Clinton's proposal for an energy tax based on caloric equivalent (British thermal units, BTUs) will compound the disaster of the Clean Air Act which his administration has inherited. The most serious fallout, should it be passed, will not be the further immediate pall this tax will put on U.S. industry, nor the ensuing job losses; it will be the incentive to continue the slide into technological backwardness.

There is a school of thought in the United States that energy, labor productivity, and economic growth can be decoupled. This was born out of the Carter-era anti-scientific attack on nuclear energy. Despite careful research which proved beyond doubt that energy growth, and in particular growth in available electric power, was essential to the health of an economy, the Carter administration tried to suppress energy investment while seeking to develop chimeras such as solar power to replace nuclear power.

This was followed by the fallacies of Bush/Reaganomics, in which nuclear power was virtually priced out of existence, and the financial bubble grew. The end-result of more than 10 years of disastrous economic miscalculation and mismanagement is that speculative investment flourished, energy-dependent real investment lagged, and the productivity of U.S. workers sank below that of their German and Japanese counterparts.

As the history of mankind demonstrates, we have progressed from a scanty 10 million Stone Age hunters to nearly 5 billion people, precisely because each man, woman, and child on this planet now has orders of magnitude more energy at his or her disposal, both as consumer and as productive worker.

To put America back on track means a massive investment in precisely the kinds of technologies which are most energy-intensive, such as plasma steel-making, laser machining and welding, the introduction of high-speed trains, and, in the near future, magnetically levitated transportation systems. We must be able to move from nuclear energy to fusion power. We must make outer space habitable to mankind and to available for expanded industrial production.

What is needed is an energy policy which encourag-

es rapid development of nuclear energy, puts the U.S. mass transit system back on track, provides a healthy infusion of funding into basic research of both hot and cold fusion, and provides for the development of a safe and economical hydrogen fuel replacement for gasoline.

With proper economic policies, and a government dedicated to fostering the development of energy-related science and technology, we could be on the verge of a revolution which would allow us to easily support 10 times as many people over the next 50 years, while eliminating poverty and much disease. Under these conditions, the life-span of man could increase to 120 years. It is such a future which the philosophy behind the BTU tax denies.

Not only does Clinton's BTU tax run counter to these objectives, but the tax will accomplish none of the things claimed for it. While proponents of the tax claim that it is needed to deal with the so-called energy crisis, Clinton's BTU tax would tax clean energy such as nuclear power and hydropower. Nor will it be a revenue source, because it will cause further erosion in the tax base. An early estimate of the effect of the tax is the loss of 600,000 jobs to the economy and price rises across the board.

This tax burden, in itself, might be borne, even by the staggering U.S. economy. The problem is that the U.S. economy is indeed staggering. The BTU tax will do absolutely nothing to improve the situation, to bring money into government coffers, to improve the productivity of industry, and to help in the imperative task of rebuilding the collapsing infrastructure of the United States.

Only those fools who believe that financial manipulations which produce paper profits are equivalent to real economic growth, can believe that energy growth can be unlinked from economic growth. President Clinton inherited a sick economy, and even with the best of policies there is no quick fix on hand. As it is, however, he seems hell-bent on compounding the policy blunders of the last three administrations and in fact precipitating just the kind of devastating economic collapse which he fears.

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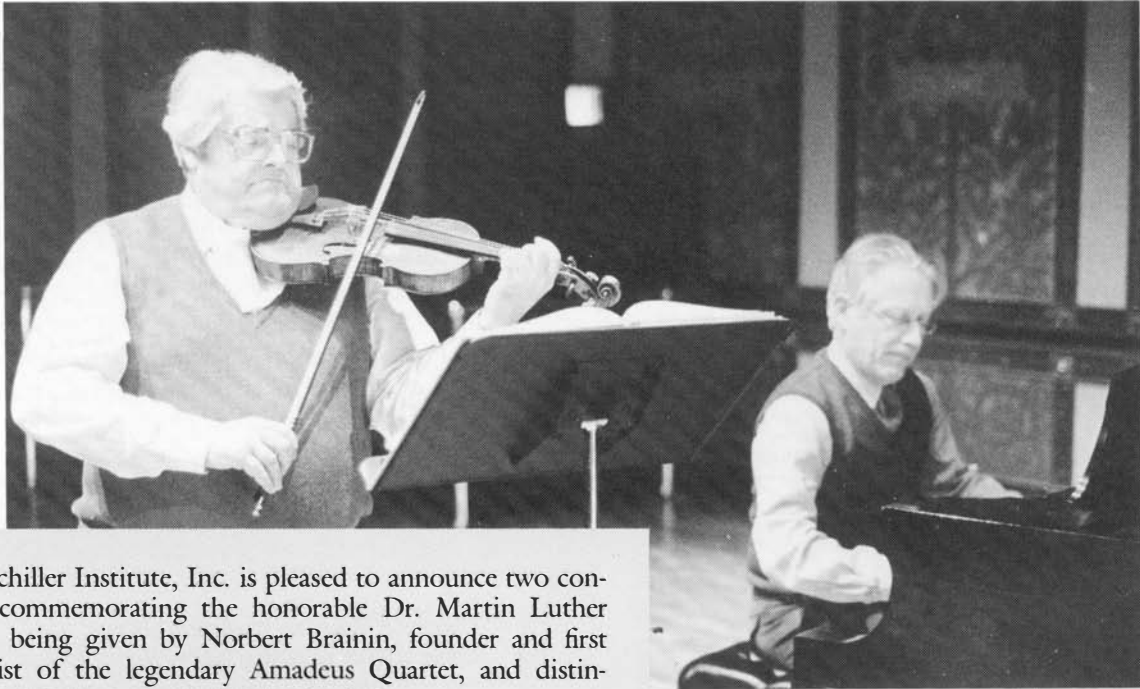
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