

development is the fight for LaRouche's full program, and the necessary funding mechanisms, which ultimately would not cost the United States anything, but would generate wealth. It is the LaRouche campaign's mobilization that will be decisive in the short weeks ahead.

Opposition grows to Cox Committee hoax

by Jeffrey Steinberg

The Cato Institute, a Washington, D.C. flagship of the most rabid "free market" wing of the conservative revolution in America, was the unlikely host to a group of national security scholars, who violently trashed the Cox Committee report on alleged Chinese espionage at American weapons labs as a vicious hoax, and called for a shift in U.S. policy toward a deeper political, economic, and military collaboration with Beijing.

On June 7, Cato sponsored a forum with the provocative title, "People's Republic of China: Red Tiger or Pink Pussycat?" The featured speakers were notorious China-basher Ross H. Munro of the Foreign Policy Research Institute, the author of a book-length diatribe, *The Coming Conflict With China* (1997); Joseph Cirincione of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; and Alfred Wilhelm, the vice president of the Atlantic Council. Dr. Wilhelm served for several years as the U.S. Army attaché in Beijing.

Cox Report trashed

The Cox Report has been so thoroughly attacked—by former U.S. national weapons lab directors, by Rep. John Spratt (D-S.C.), a dissenting member of the Cox Committee, and others—that even the Cato Institute's defense policy studies director, Ivan Eland, who chaired the conference, admitted that the report bordered on McCarthyite "Red Scare" propaganda.

But it was Cirincione who launched into a no-holds-barred assault on the report, as unworthy of having been published by the U.S. Congress. "This has never been done before," Cirincione said, pointing to the report's glossy cover and its large-character, screaming headlines. "The report was full of dramatic statements—all untrue." Cirincione presented a systematic review of China's strategic nuclear weapons program, demonstrating that China poses no threat whatsoever to the United States or any U.S. ally.

He contrasted the Cox Report to the official Central Intelligence Agency damage assessment, conducted by a task force chaired by Adm. David Jeremiah (ret.), and including

Johnny Foster, the former director of Los Alamos National Laboratory, and former Bush administration National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft. That assessment concluded that there was no compelling proof of Chinese espionage. Cirincione also cited testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee by Gen. Patrick Hughes, the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), in which Hughes stated that he had "high confidence" in the "unanimous" DIA assessment that China has no intention of increasing spending on its strategic nuclear weapons force.

Indeed, one of the high points of Cirincione's presentation was his observation that China's number-one strategic priority "for the next 20-30 years," is to achieve peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region, so that it can pursue the development of its internal economy, its infrastructure, and the eleva-

Chinese press covers LaRouche on Cox Report

China's official news agency, Xinhua, covered the LaRouche Presidential campaign's June 2 Washington news conference, in a June 3 wire, as follows (unofficial translation): "American economist and *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., refuted the Cox Report with a statement on June 2.

"LaRouche said in his statement that the Cox Report is a fraud. The accusation of nuclear espionage against China is made up, and not based on facts. The content of the report proves that its authors are ignorant in scientific matters.

"LaRouche's spokesman, Debra Freeman, said to the National Press Club that the accusations are ridiculous, and are not accepted by intelligent people.

"Nuclear secrets can be found on the Internet, but the Cox Committee spent a lot of money to investigate this. The Cox Committee is trying to damage Sino-U.S. relations. Freeman said the latest developments damage Sino-U.S. relations. She hopes Clinton succeeds in repairing them. She appealed to the U.S. administration to respond to the demands that Clinton punish those responsible for bombing the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade."

China's leading radio station, the Central People's Broadcasting Company, twice cited LaRouche on its most popular program, *Xin Wen Lian Bo*. On the evening news on June 3, and again on the morning news on June 4, the station reported LaRouche's analysis of the Cox Committee Report.

tion of the standard of living of its population. For that period of time, at least, he emphasized, military expansion will be a secondary priority, at best.

Dr. Wilhelm went even further in his remarks, charging that the Cox report, and other efforts—such as those of Ross Munro—to foster a new military containment of China, represented the *only* serious threat to regional stability. “We can *create* a hostile relationship with China,” he warned, noting, in contrast, that China has been engaged in an impressive reform and modernization process for more than 150 years. “Modernization is essential for China. . . . China emulates the United States more than any other nation,” he said.

Dr. Wilhelm was also dismissive of every one of the Cox report’s apocalyptic lies about China’s threat to the world. “The Cox report was nonsense,” he stated bluntly. “It did a poor service to us, it was a poor evaluation.” Wilhelm joined Dr. Harold Agnew, the former head of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, Johnny Foster, Dr. Edward Teller, and other qualified figures, in lambasting the Cox report’s claim that “legacy codes” and other computer data, allegedly stolen by Chinese spies, provided the basis for the design and building of copy-cat nuclear weapons. “Nuclear weapons designs are the first phase of a very complex problem,” that include development of sophisticated specialty metals, control over thermonuclear materials, and so on, he stated.

Munro’s dissenting voice

In the face of this assault on the Cox report, Ross Munro told the audience that he was trashing his prepared remarks, in order to respond to the “conventional wisdom” and “lack of wariness” about China’s strategic intentions. Offering not a thread of evidence, Munro asserted, over and over again, that China’s “grand strategy” is to dominate all of Asia. “The new geopolitical reality, since the breakup of the Soviet bloc,” he blustered, “is that the P.R.C. is now the dominant, unchallenged power in the East Asia land mass.”

Munro’s solution? The United States must build a series of military alliances with the Pacific rim countries surrounding China, including South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, and the Philippines, to prevent China from realizing its goal of regional hegemony. Munro went so far as to invoke the name of self-confessed British agent Henry Kissinger, whom he quoted, saying that there are only three kinds of world orders: hegemony by one global imperial power, balance of power, or chaos. “We can defeat China’s goal of dominating Asia by balance of power,” he railed. “If China achieves air and sea domination, the balance of power in Asia crumbles.”

“Kissinger only looks backward,” Dr. Wilhelm shot back, in reply to Munro’s paeon to Kissingerian balance of power. “Kissinger’s ideas have *nothing* to do with the future.” Wilhelm repeated that the kinds of geopolitical games peddled by Munro and Kissinger can create a self-fulfilling

confrontation with China, one that is otherwise thoroughly avoidable.

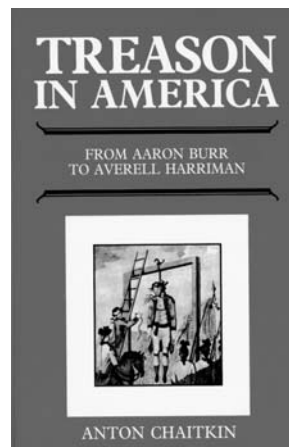
In response to a question from *EIR*, Wilhelm elaborated his idea for a series of confidence-building initiatives by the U.S. military toward China, to overcome the “justifiable paranoia” now rampant among Chinese military and political leaders as the result of the Cox report, the NATO bombing of China’s Embassy in Belgrade, and the persistent rantings of American neo-conservatives demanding an Asia-Pacific regional ballistic missile defense pact, targeted against China.

Wilhelm cited the numerous U.S. bilateral security agreements with the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War, that provided an essential point of stability, as the Soviet Union began to break up. “Why don’t we have any such security pacts with China? I believe it is due to our own myopia,” he said.

Wilhelm called upon the Clinton administration to immediately create a series of bilateral security and scientific cooperative pacts with Beijing. “It costs us no money to build a positive relationship,” he observed, noting that the United States and China could both benefit tremendously from a joint commission to explore urgently needed breakthroughs in medical research.

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