

National News

House extends R&D tax credit

On Nov. 18, the House of Representatives passed the Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 by a vote of 418-2, which authorizes a five-year extension of the Research and Development Tax Credit. The Tax Credit had lapsed in June, and the House Committee on Science had been lobbying for the enactment of a permanent credit, but the full House would only extend it for five years.

While a positive policy, to encourage private companies to invest in R&D, the motivation behind the extension only shows the bankruptcy of the Conservative Revolutionaries' economic ideology. In welcoming the House vote, Committee chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisc.) stated, "As Federal discretionary spending for R&D is squeezed, incentives must be used to maximize private sector innovation and maintain our global leadership in high-tech, high-growth industries that help keep our economy the strongest in the world."

The R&D tax credit was first enacted 18 years ago, during the Reagan administration, to try to make up in the private sector for the cuts in R&D in the Federal budget.

Dominican daily exposes DNC racism

The Dominican Republic's daily *El Siglo* on Nov. 29 published a commentary by Jorge Meléndez titled, "The Democratic Party's 'Democracy' in the U.S.A.," on the attempts by former Democratic National Committee chairman Don Fowler, his attorney John Keeney, Jr., et al., to do away with the 1965 Voting Rights Act. This article, along with one published the week before by the daily *Hoy*, is bound to have widespread repercussions, since the U.S.'s ambassador-designate to the Dominican Republic is Charles Manatt, one of Fowler's predecessors at the DNC.

El Siglo cites Keeney's "unbelievable

argument" on behalf of declaring the Voting Rights Act unconstitutional (see *EIR*, Nov. 5 and Nov. 26), proving that a faction of the DNC "is not only racist, but does not respect democracy." They fear Lyndon LaRouche, who averaged 8% of the vote in the 1996 Democratic primaries, and whose influence "is growing in the whole world and in the United States." For example, LaRouche "has just received the endorsement of former Mexican President José López Portillo." After reporting how the Voting Rights Act came about in response to the racist actions of the Jim Crow Democratic Party during the 1960s, and how LaRouche is suing Fowler for instructing Democratic state chairmen in 1996 to "disregard" votes for LaRouche in the primaries that won him delegates to the Democratic Convention, the article states that in the eyes of Fowler and company, "when LaRouche wins, it is the voters who are mistaken," as happened in 1986 in Illinois and in the last U.S. primary elections. But these same people demand that other countries "hold free, democratic elections, and seek to give us lessons in democracy. How can they seek to be exemplars of democracy in the world, when in their own house they apply methods that are at odds with the most elemental principles of respect for others, and they opt for racist and anti-democratic means?"

Pentagon document hails relations with Britain

"The United Kingdom remains our closest partner in political, security and intelligence matters," a classified Pentagon document reported in April, as Defense Secretary William Cohen was about to meet with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, about a week before the NATO summit.

A background document prepared for Cohen, entitled "U.K. Scope Paper," also said that the British "continue to cooperate closely with the United States on many key issues on our foreign and defense policy agendas"—citing NATO, Bosnia and Kosovo, and the Persian Gulf.

Other than in the Blair government's approach toward Europe, the Pentagon docu-

ment reported, "there are few apparent differences between the stated foreign policy goals of Labour and its Conservative predecessor. The Labour Government continues to support a strong defense—over some objections within the old left of the Labour Party—and is working to keep a military that can deploy with U.S. forces."

The Pentagon document also predicted that Blair and the Labour Party "look a sure bet to win a second term in 2000 or 2001."

The documents were reported in the London *Guardian* on Nov. 29.

Brzezinski seeks UN role in Chechnya

Former U.S. National Security Adviser and geopolitical nut-case Zbigniew Brzezinski, in a commentary in the Paris daily *Le Monde* published on Nov. 18, called for a United Nations intervention in Chechnya, modelled on that in East Timor. Entitled "Russian Genocide in Chechnya," the article asserts that Russia is out to massacre all Chechens.

"Central European secret services recently furnished highly alarming, precise information concerning projects Russia has to destroy Chechnya totally," Brzezinski writes. "Among the weapons they will try to deploy are fuel-air explosives which pour out combustible compounds on the targetted territories with a generalized explosion that sows death everywhere."

Brzezinski complains that a Russian victory would destabilize the southern Caucasus, reinforce the Russian hard-liners who want to eliminate Eduard Shevardnadze in Georgia, counter American policies in the southern Caucasus and Central Asia, and cut "Azerbaijan and Central Asia off from the West; and also the political control over the Baku-Soupsa pipeline."

"The U.S. government should not follow the political line of 'all united against bin Laden,'" he writes, because "terrorism is not the central geopolitical question nor the moral problem to invoke." Instead, financial aid to Russia should be cut, and "moral" pressure should be brought to bear.

"Finally, the United Nations must also

play a role,” Brzezinski concludes. “Even if Chechnya is worse than Kosovo, Russia is not Serbia, and a NATO-type action is not appropriate. The Chechnya conflict more resembles that of East Timor, where strong international pressure, without military threats, convinced Indonesia that a peaceful settlement would be more profitable to its national interests.”

In another article, published in the *New York Times* on Nov. 19, Brzezinski developed the same theme: “Let’s state the obvious: The only fair and workable solution, good both for the Chechens and for the Russians, is self-determination for Chechnya.”

Colorado schools crack down on drug dispensing

The Colorado Board of Education voted that teachers may not force students to take psychotropic drugs, by refusing to let them attend class unless they are drugged, the *New York Times* reported on Nov. 24. One motivation is that the Littleton, Colorado student killer Eric Harris was taking the anti-depressant Luvox during his murder rampage. Luvox, in addition to Ritalin, is one of the drugs frequently forced on students.

Dr. Peter R. Breggin, of the International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology in Bethesda, Maryland, testified before both the Board of Education and the State Legislature on the question, saying, “We’re drugging them into submission, rather than identifying and meeting the genuine needs of the family, the school, and the community. . . . It’s wrong in principle.”

California investigates Irving Moskowitz

The California Joint Legislative Audit Committee has launched an investigation into the financial dealings of Irving Moskowitz, a supporter of Israel’s former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and a major funder of terrorists committed to creating a “Greater

Israel.” According to a Nov. 6 article by Joe Segura in the *Long Beach Press Telegram*, the committee is looking into possible violations of state law by Moskowitz’s Hawaiian Gardens gambling operations near Los Angeles, which have been used to fund Netanyahu, the Temple Mount crazies, and the takeover of Arab land. The probe comes at the same time that the State Attorney General is reviewing Moskowitz’s application for a permanent gambling license.

According to former Hawaiian Gardens district City Councilman Kathy Navejas, the investigation came about primarily as a result of the efforts of a group of rabbis she has been working with to shut down Moskowitz’s operations. The LaRouche movement has helped to energize the campaign to expose Moskowitz; the rabbis recently held a rally in Hawaiian Gardens against Moskowitz, and a Moskowitz employee came running out demanding to know why they were working with Navejas and “that anti-Semitic LaRouche.”

For background to the affair, see Harley Schlanger, “Terrorist Funder Moskowitz Threatens Middle East Peace,” *EIR*, Sept. 5, 1997.

Representative Hall: No ‘prosperity’ here

Rep. Tony Hall (D-Ohio) issued his yearly report card on how Congress dealt with the problem of hunger, on Nov. 23. He excoriated the 106th Congress’s record in virtually all areas, except that it increased funding for the Meals on Wheels program by 31%.

“Children—especially those under age 6—fared worst of all,” he said. “Some 42% of young children live at or near poverty; one in 10 lives in extreme poverty; and yet nearly two-thirds live in families that receive no public assistance whatsoever.”

He added that poverty among children is one-third higher than it was a generation ago, and that poor *legal* immigrants suffer hunger at rates ten times higher than citizens. Plus, he said, “poverty among families where at least one parent works is at an all-time high.”

Hall gave the 106th Congress a grade of D+.

LAROCHE’S Committee for a New Bretton Woods made its first submission for Presidential primary campaign matching funds on Dec. 1. The total matchable amount submitted was \$739,685 in contributions, given by 5,700 contributors. Certification for virtually the full amount is expected shortly, and the first payment—a percentage of what is owed—will be made to the campaign in early January.

AL GORE will meet with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in Washington on Dec. 8. Kuchma recently won reelection, in a campaign that many observers charged was marked by widespread vote fraud and intimidation of Kuchma’s electoral opponents.

MARION BARRY, the former Washington, D.C. Mayor, charged on Nov. 20 that the Justice Department and the FBI are still out to get him. “They thought they were going to get this big, major conviction,” he said, “send me to jail for five to ten years, destroy my political ability to do something. . . . They can’t get over it. But they ought to get over it, because I’m not doing anything illegal. They’re not going to entrap me in anything, because I know how to deal with them now.”

‘THE ROAD TO RECOVERY,’ Lyndon LaRouche’s campaign program book, has been translated into Chinese, and was released in a special edition of *EIR*’s Chinese newsletter, in a run of 10,000 copies.

CYBER WARFARE is at the top of defense planners’ agenda, the *Times* of London reported on Nov. 20. Said CIA director George Tenet: “We face a growing cyber threat, the threat from so-called weapons of mass disruption. Potential targets are not only governmental computers but the lifelines that we all take for granted—our power grids and our water and transportation systems.”