

National News

Poll shows beam weapon support

The results of Rep. Frank Wolf's (R-Va.) recent constituent poll on President Reagan's policy of developing directed energy weapons for strategic defense, showed strong support from Virginia's 10th Congressional District, which often elects ultra-liberal Democrats to Congress. Fifty-two percent favored the President's strategy while only 29 percent were opposed. Nineteen percent remained undecided.

In his poll, Wolf outlined that the President proposed "to counter the Soviet missile threat based not on a build-up in offensive weapon systems, but instead through the development of defensive weapons to intercept attacking missiles in flight. During the next two decades, the President has called for an all-out effort for the U.S. to use its technology to construct and base an anti-ballistic missile system in space." Wolf then asked if his constituents favored, opposed, or were undecided about the policy.

AFL-CIO leaders back Rohatyn corporatism

The AFL-CIO Executive Council on Aug. 9 endorsed a corporatist "new industrial policy" put forth by banker Felix Rohatyn as its domestic economic program.

The council endorsed vague wording calling for a corporatist business-labor-government "national planning apparatus" to design a new industrial policy. In private session, the council was briefed by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) on the progress of a "bipartisan committee for a new industrial policy," which is co-chaired by AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland and DuPont's Irving Shapiro. Kennedy reportedly told the AFL-CIO leadership that the committee would be ready to introduce corporatist legislation in late fall.

The group has the full backing of the Harriman wing of the Democratic Party and party chairman Charles Manatt. While the Kirkland-Rohatyn-Kennedy crew cloaks its

scheme in talk of reindustrialization and the need to revive depressed basic industries like steel and auto, Rohatyn and others in the group have stated that the need for austerity and contraction is primary. A specially constituted AFL-CIO study group, which has reported to the council, supports this concept. Basic industry is to be "revived" through quick fixes using existing outmoded technologies. The group additionally concluded that "sunrise" industries like computers and "revived" basic industries will not provide enough jobs to make up for losses due to "necessary" retrenchment. What is required, the study group said, is that blue-collar workers be retrained for the service industries, especially in technetronic offices.

New York's Leichter drafts euthanasia bill

State Sen. Franz Leichter has authored a new bill to legalize the Nazi practice of euthanasia in New York State.

Leichter's Senate Bill 2401, titled the "Natural Death Act," would encourage contracts ("living wills") signed by hospital patients and others which would make it legal for doctors, and other health care providers to cut off "life-sustaining procedures" when the person becomes defined as "terminally ill."

Leichter drafted the bill in February 1983 for the fourth year, using model legislation from the Right-to-Die Society. Leichter's bill is now before the Senate Health Committee, which is not expected to act on it until January 1985.

The "living will" is opposed by both Orthodox Jews and the Catholic Church, and has only four co-sponsors in the Senate and none in the Assembly.

While promoting the concept of "a life not worthy to be lived," which the Nuremberg tribunals found to be "the small beginnings" of the Nazi holocaust, Leichter and the assemblyman who shares his constituency, Brian Murtaugh, conducted a "fear and smear" campaign this spring, terrifying constituents in their Upper West Side Manhattan districts with tales of "Nazis and anti-Semites in our neighborhood." Their targets were LaRouche Democrats running for school board on a platform of classical ed-

ucation and a war on drugs. (Leichter has also introduced legislation to have marijuana sold in liquor stores.)

Assemblyman Murtaugh believes in euthanasia; unlike Leichter, Murtaugh says he is too afraid of the clout of the Orthodox Jews in his district to push it. Murtaugh, who is working on a bill redefining "brain death" as a step toward legalized murder of the terminally ill, said recently, "In terminal circumstances, a person should have a right to say 'I don't want to have extraordinary measures taken.' Why go through emergency measures to keep the whole body alive when someone is terminally ill? We all have to die sometime. . . . Why do we spend enormous resources on these cases? I won't say it publicly, because you might get stoned, but if resources are limited, what is the best use of those resources? . . . The most expensive place to treat people is in the emergency room."

'Community control' kills in Chicago

The people of Chicago got an object lesson in "community control" of urban services when four elderly nursing home patients died of complications from the late-July Chicago heat wave. The killings occurred at the best-known community control experiment in the city, the Christian Action Ministry-run nursing home, the Center for Human Development.

The nursing home, reportedly \$400,000 behind in mortgage payments, was unable to spend \$15,000 for routine maintenance of its two air-conditioners. Two days before the public assistance recipients' deaths, which the medical examiner attributed to temperatures inside the home up to 105°, health inspectors found filth and vermin, as well as patients covered with bedsores.

The Christian Action Ministry, a Lutheran ministers group formed after the mid-1960s West Side riots, opened the \$5 million, 220-room Center for Human Development in 1979. By 1981, the home was losing \$250,000 a year, partly because Illinois Medicaid payments are among the lowest in the nation.

The *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Chicago Tribune* have treated the deaths as the out-

come of "corruption" and called for "reforms" that would force more nursing homes to close. Illinois has only 16.

Urbanologist Stanley Hallet of Northwestern University's Urban Affairs Institute said, "CAM has probably done a better job of keeping community control and making ideas work in the neighborhood than anyone I know of."

NASA telescope sights new solar system

A swarm of particles has been discovered by NASA's IRAS (Infrared Astronomical Satellite) telescope. The Aug. 10 discovery at the Jet Propulsion Lab verifies that Vega, the brightest star in Lyra and only 25 light years from Earth, has its own solar system.

The IRAS infrared telescope "sees" low-temperature heat. An infrared telescope's temperature must be lower than the object it is observing. In space, temperatures can be kept near 0° Kelvin.

Vega radiates much more in the infrared than any star of comparable size because of the bodies around it, which extend about 7 billion miles and appear to be at -300°F., much higher than that of empty space.

An optical space telescope soon to be launched will later be able to take pictures of the Vega solar system, which is within the traveling capabilities of potential fusion powered rocket technology and could be reached within a few years time—relative to the passengers' time.

Gelber mayoral campaign shakes up Boston

Boston's Mike Gelber for Mayor campaign has enlivened politics in that enclave which the Harriman-Kennedy wing of the Democratic Party mean to embroil in race riots over the austerity they are imposing.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) exclusion of LaRouche Democrat Gelber from its debate has backfired, and is becoming the hottest issue in the election. WBZ radio, the most listened-to station in Boston,

has asked Gelber to be on for one hour before the upcoming League of Women Voters TV debate (from which he is excluded). At a rally in front of the LWV offices, Gelber's supporters carried signs reading "New Sex Scandal—LWV in Bed with KGB" and "What does the LWV have in common with Henry Kissinger?—They both believe in free elections!"

Ruth Saris, director of the LWV Debates '83 (which Gelber has renamed "Debaclés '83"), noticing her home phone number on a leaflet, called Gelber to request that he please see to it that only her office number be published, since she does have a private life, and has been getting calls, late and early. She was told that 50,000 leaflets were out and that Gelber was not responsible for what people think of the LWV.

Gelber dominated a one-hour debate on Chanel 56 to be aired 10 p.m. on Aug. 14. With topics such as "Racial Conflict" and "Housing," every question was slanted for racial polarization. Chicago Mayor Harold Washington helped that effort Aug. 7 by campaigning for the black radical Mel King, who is backed by Communist and Socialist Worker Party fronts.

The other candidates conceded that Gelber has won the bumper sticker campaign with "Up Yuri's!"; "Honk if You Hate the *Globe!*", the Boston daily; and "Before Hitler there was Harvard!"

Gelber was the only candidate to dare ask King a question: "How can you say your campaign is for racial harmony, when it's run by a vice-president of the State Street Bank who was a top official in the Carter Democratic National Committee, controlled by Harriman, the leading racist today . . . and you have brought Harold Washington here, who has succeeded in preventing Chicago from functioning?" King only said that he is "happy when a banker gets religion."

On WBZ television for a half hour on Aug. 7 as the weekly interview guest, where he discussed Operation Juárez, beam weapons, and re-industrializing Boston, Gelber was attacked by the *Globe* reporter. He responded by saying, "Well, you know what I think of the *Boston Globe*," and holding up his "Honk if you hate the *Globe*" sticker. The *Globe* reporter, kept repeating "Very funny," while the camera zoomed in on the sticker.

Briefly

● **DON EDWARDS** (D-Calif.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, wrote in a *New York Times* op ed Aug. 9 that Congress's "most effective check" against the waging of an "illegal war" in Central America is to "weigh impeachment" of President Reagan.

● **ED KOCH**, who has presided over the destruction of the nation's once-foremost city, announced on Aug. 8 that he will conduct a national speaking tour to warn that the Democratic Party as presently led is heading too much towards the left, and towards "special interest groups," and must pay more attention to the middle class. Otherwise, the New York mayor said, the Democrats will be clobbered in 1984 as they were in 1980.

● **THE NEW YORK TIMES** Science Section Aug. 9 reported on the human craving for salt, which "may also help explain the ritual acts of cannibalism once practiced by tribes in the Amazon jungles, the highland regions of New Guinea, and elsewhere."

● **THE CATHOLIC WAR** Veterans in its early August Philadelphia national convention passed a resolution condemning the U.S. Catholic bishops' pastoral letter which endorsed the nuclear freeze.

● **RUSSIAN ORTHODOX** patriarch Pimen, at the recent Vancouver conference of the World Council of Churches, held a press conference to denounce a letter issued on the letterhead of the World Council of Churches (WCC), a letter which purportedly said the Patriarch was an agent of the Soviet KGB. The Patriarch astonished the press by denouncing the letter as scurrilous while acknowledging its truthfulness.