

National News

Teller: Russians have 'monopoly' on defense

The Russians are far ahead of the United States in civil defense, physicist and Nobel Prize winner Edward Teller said in a speech Nov. 24 in California.

"Today, the Soviets have a monopoly on defense and they intend to keep it. We have done practically nothing about civil defense." Teller said the problem with the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) is that U.S.-deployed defensive space weapons are vulnerable. He noted that the Soviets have worked for the past 10 years perfecting laser weapons and now have a laser capable of shooting 1,000 miles without its beam spreading more than 5 feet.

Bernard Blake, the editor of *Jane's Weapon Systems*, wrote in the review's 1986-87 edition, released in late November, "Anyone who thinks that the Soviet Union is lacking a comparable SDI system should think again." Quoting U.S. defense sources, Blake reported that Moscow has an extensive laser program employing 10,000 scientists and engineers as well as other advanced weapons-research projects.

He added that the Soviets have the only ASAT system, "whereby an offensive device enters the same orbit as the satellite and destroys it by exploding a conventional warhead."

Washington Times interviews LaRouche

The Nov. 24 *Washington Times* features a three-quarter-page interview with Lyndon LaRouche under the heading "'Great panty raid' no joke to LaRouche." The Moonie paper's editor-in-chief is Arnaud de Borchgrave.

In the interview, LaRouche gave his views on a variety of issues:

- On the raid on his associates in Leesburg, Virginia, Oct. 6: "I'm the target of a

kill operation. These guys don't want me in prison. They want me dead. . . . There was no basis for that amount of armed force. . . . Look at the thing from a military standpoint. . . ."

- The 1986 election: "In terms of 1988, the election was tremendous, a tremendous success. We have secured a baseline of one-third of the vote in the Democratic Party. . . . The economic crisis will increase it. The thing that's been holding people back on me is I've insisted we have not had an economic recovery."

- AIDS and California Proposition 64: "For 20 years, the U.S. has been on a countercultural kick. . . . Anything that's considered immoral or illegal before is now popular. . . . and now disaster looms. . . . Prop 64 has made AIDS an international issue of prime focus."

- On any attempt to put him in prison: "In prison, I'm a political martyr, a living political martyr, which creates a new dimension of problem for them. You want to see a rally? You have people around the world supporting me. You put me in prison, you'll see that. That could be a major problem for the U.S. government."

- On the outcome of charges brought against him and his associates: "I'm looking for a good, honest, gutsy judge who believes in the law."

KGB journalist visits United States

A top commentator for the Soviets' *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, Fyodor Burlatskii, is now on a three-week tour of the American East Coast. Burlatskii arrived in the United States on Nov. 20, and will stay through Dec. 10.

Burlatskii was a close associate of the late Yuri Andropov in the Soviet KGB back during the 1960s. *Literaturnaya Gazeta* is considered a KGB outlet.

One of Burlatskii's more famous past trips to the United States, involved his participation in the 1983 Minneapolis "nuclear freeze" meeting at which Walter Mondale's election platform stands on disarmament and

the Strategic Defense Initiative were drawn up.

Burlatskii recently completed a tour of Great Britain, where he met with several Soviet studies departments at universities and pushed the idea of a "reform trend" in Soviet culture, mediated through the new Soviet Culture Fund of Raisa Gorbachova.

New Orleans bishop blasts Dominican

Archbishop Philip Hannan of New Orleans has publicly blasted Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee, the former head of the Dominican order, for attacking the Vatican's crackdown on American heretics Fr. Charles Curran and Archbishop Hunthausen of Seattle.

Hannan took Weakland to task for "wildly exaggerating" when he compared the Vatican's actions against Curran and Hunthausen to the horrors of the Inquisition. In an editorial for his diocesan newspaper, reprinted in the Nov. 20 issue of the national conservative Catholic newspaper *The Wanderer*, Hannan wrote that the "scourge of abortion, drug addiction, pervasive sexual immorality, racism, and the weakening of family life are of prime concern in my opinion."

DNC ducks demand by Jesse Jackson

The Democratic National Committee ducked a demand by Jesse Jackson that it intervene in the Chicago battle between Mayor Harold Washington and Cook County Democratic chairman Ed Vrdolyak. The request was supposedly made to "prevent a campaign of racism, mud-slinging, and divisiveness" in the Feb. 24 mayoral primary.

DNC chairman Paul Kirk did, however, pledge to discuss the Vrdolyak challenge with Washington and speak out against "any overtone of racism at any level of the party," according to the Nov. 23 *Washington Post*.

Jackson dominated the DNC meeting at the Washington Hilton Hotel, claimed the *Post*, and staked out other areas for future challenges to the party's rules—including proportional representation of primary voters, a challenge which he carried all the way to the floor of the 1984 convention.

California judge curbs PANIC raiders

A California judge has placed curbs on overzealous officials of the state Justice Department who raided the Los Angeles offices of supporters of Proposition 64, the ballot referendum that would have treated AIDS with traditional public-health measures. The initiative was defeated in the Nov. 4 election. Following the Nov. 20 raid, a judge has ordered illegally seized material to be placed under seal in his custody.

On Nov. 21, the attorney for PANIC (Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee), Bob Levy, presented motions before Judge Schwab, who had originally authorized the search warrant, demanding a return of illegally seized property. Once the First Amendment violations involved in seizing membership lists and journalists' files were laid before Schwab, he ordered that these materials be placed under seal of his personal custody.

California Attorney-General John Van de Kamp's office was apparently caught unprepared, and had no one available to oppose the motions. Judge Schwab also ordered that any illegally seized material from the Livermore offices be placed into his custody.

During the raid, Van de Kamp's agents revealed that they were not merely investigating "petition irregularities"—the ostensible purpose of the operation. They indiscriminately confiscated property belonging to the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC) and *Executive Intelligence Review*, whose West Coast offices are housed in the same building. In the case of the NDPC, its membership lists were illegally seized. *EIR*'s office had journalists' investigative files confiscated, of an ongoing in-

vestigation of the California organized-crime mafia. Many of these files were on Van de Kamp's ties to these circles, especially his friend, Sidney Korshak. Both of these seizures were protested by legal counsel as being in clear violation of the search warrant. A hearing is set for later in December to determine the final fate of the seized materials.

The legal basis for the raid was alleged irregularities in the gathering of the petitions to place Proposition 64 on the ballot. A similar raid was conducted Oct. 6 against offices of associates of Lyndon LaRouche in Leesburg, Virginia, by 400 armed law-enforcement agents.

California doctor withheld AIDS view

Only two days after the Nov. 4 election, the same California medical "authorities" who bitterly denounced Proposition 64, started to demand action to make AIDS a reportable disease—as Proposition 64 would have done. According to the *Los Angeles Daily News* of Nov. 7, Dr. Jack E. McCleary, the head of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, called for doing away with a state "confidentiality" law that prevents doctors from telling anyone that a patient has AIDS—even the patient's spouse or other doctors!

After he and his associates have contributed to defeating a public health measure that would have made AIDS reportable and begun to save lives, McCleary stated that "the danger to a third party outweighs a patient's right to privacy when the danger is lethal."

McCleary admitted that he had withheld his statement until after Californians went to the polls to vote on Proposition 64, because "talking about this during the campaign might have helped the LaRouche Amendment get passed." Now, however, Dr. McCleary claims that "it's something that has to be said," and that many doctors agree with him.

An average of one person a day dies of AIDS in Los Angeles County, and two new cases are reported each day, officials report.

Briefly

● CIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Robert Gates said in a speech in California on Nov. 25 that the Soviet Union has spent \$150 billion on its own version of the SDI during the past 10 years. The U.S.S.R. has the ability to construct individual ABM sites in a matter of months, rather than years, he said, and the new devices they have developed could violate the 1972 ABM Treaty.

● THE STATE DEPARTMENT

is being sued for libel by British AIDS expert Dr. John Seale, for circulating the evaluation that Seale is "imbalanced or rather crazy" and "a prophet of doom who has been getting worse year after year," the *Daily Mail* of London reported Nov. 27.

● EDUCATION SECRETARY

William J. Bennett told a meeting of the Fairfax, Virginia, Chamber of Commerce Nov. 21 that third graders should not receive "safe-sex" education about AIDS. He was replying to a question on whether he agreed with Surgeon-General C. Everett Koop about AIDS education of third graders.

● DOMINIQUE DE MENIL'S

Rothko Chapel is giving its annual prize to the sanctuary movement for Central American refugees and to the "Red Bishop" of Ecuador, Leonidas Proano, among others. The prizes will be awarded Dec. 10 in Houston.

● U.S. EDUCATION fails to pre-

pare Americans to compete in the international marketplace, according to a Southern Governors' report released Nov. 21. "We know neither the globe nor the cultures of the people who inhabit it," says the report, titled *Cornerstone on Competition*. The report recommends greater emphasis on geography and foreign languages in the schools, suggests that states set up world trade centers to provide education and marketing assistance, and says that foreign exchange programs should be expanded for Americans.