

## The education gap: Soviets leave America far behind

by Vin Berg

*Will the Soviets Rule in the 1980s?* Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, in a fall 1979 book of that title, recounted a world strategic situation veering increasingly close to thermonuclear war. The imposition of a Malthusian zero-growth policy on the Western economies, coupled with two decades of de-emphasis on manpower training and basic scientific research, has significantly undermined U.S. military capabilities and their industrial foundation.

At present, the Carter administration, with its new escalations in the Persian Gulf under the direction of Zbigniew Brzezinski, is plunging America toward a war it would certainly lose.

Yet, as the following report establishes, the present Soviet advantage in both military and industrial applications of basic scientific research now appears small by comparison with what that advantage may become in the near future. Educational statistics and other information that has been in the hands of the U.S. government for four months—and suppressed—show that Soviet education and scientific manpower development is in the process of realizing the most dramatic sort of achievements. In the United States, deterioration is continuing in an equally dramatic way.

One fact from the following report summarizes “the education gap”: last year, a mere 105,000 students were turned out of U.S. high schools with one year of calculus; in the Soviet Union, 5 million 1979 graduates had two years of calculus or more. Such differentials, moreover, hold across the spectrum of scientific disciplines. How could this have come to pass?

In the late 1950s, the United States government—stunned awake by the Russian sputnik—launched a crash science education and high-technology space exploration program that became centralized under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The NASA years had a tremendous impact on the whole of American society, as science and the potential for



Photo: Sygma

personal development in an age of technological progress, captured the imagination of the American people.

The emphasis in school curricula was mathematics, chemistry, physics, engineering, and Americans of working class origin could dream—and did—of their children growing up to be scientists, or even astronauts.

Obviously, something similar was afoot at that time in the Soviet Union; this report establishes that the Soviet development has accelerated through the present day. But between now and then in the United States, something happened.

At first, there appeared a “protest” movement—called New Left—barely distinguishable from a youth “counterculture” steeped in marijuana, psychotropic drugs and rock-and-roll. The anti-technology bias was evident, and then became blatant. Throughout the '70s, amorphous cultish fads and movements spread, and drugs reached down to the elementary school level. The former New Lefters contrived to discover that a nuclear technology accident-free for 30 years was, somehow, a safety hazard.

Not every kid went nuts. But just enough did to create an environment of unreality for all, a know-nothingism disposed to accept sado-masochism and homosexuality as, if anything, a more legitimate “lifestyle” than nuclear engineering.

As of 1980, an entire generation of American youth—the same who grew up in the NASA years—is either addicted to drugs, rock, environmentalism, astrology, and homosexuality, or ready to justify peoples’ “right to do their own thing.”

After all, the President believes in UFOs. Governors take drugs and meditate. Mayors are flagrant homosexuals. One U.S. senator—a former astronaut!—has called for Congressional appropriations to probe the role of extraterrestrial beings in the injury of cattle in his state.

## In this section

The articles and information contained in this report were the product of a special *EIR* team that included Dr. Morris Levitt, Dr. Steven Bardwell, Marsha Freeman, and Vin Berg.

- The Wirszup Report: ‘Soviet education is so far ahead comparison is meaningless’
- Novosibirsk tames Siberia with science
- Can we restore West Point’s tradition?
- Math vs. ‘New Math’—how it should be taught

This deep-rooted moral and intellectual decay has not been a "sociological phenomenon," but a deliberately induced social crisis, scheduled, prolonged and deepened in phases by a network of "social psychology" research institutions under Sussex, England's Tavistock Institute and its subsidiary NATO intelligence arm, the Club of Rome. The New Left, terrorism, environmentalism, the gay movement, cults of the supernatural—all aspects of a single, vast "social engineering project" aimed at surgically crippling and eradicating the "American dream" of progress.

The guiding principle of the financial aristocracy behind Tavistock is Malthusianism, and their quest is to achieve a "zero growth" age, a "New Dark Age," or—as the social psychologists delight in defining it: the "Age of Aquarius."

Not just we say so; they say so—as in Stanford Research Institute associate Marilyn Ferguson's book, *The Aquarian Conspiracy*.

The systematic degradation of the educated youth of the 1960s and 1970s is an evil. But what America now faces is a singular point of no return. The American educational system itself has been methodically curtailed and gutted of scientific content. In the name of "liberal arts" and "social relevance," instruction in mathematics and the sciences has been dramatically reduced, and the content of what remains must leave the serious student in demoralized agreement with the Aquarians—science is not "socially relevant."

What need of education in an "Age of Aquarius"? In fact, the Malthusian elite of the "Aquarian conspiracy" cannot allow it! The Aquarian project itself was launched after Tavistock studies of the impact of NASA and related programs in producing a growing number of scientists and engineers. The ego-ideals and "self-image" of all Americans was directed by the potentials of science. Even grade-school children could recount the mechanics of rocket fueling, lift-off and propulsion.

The decay that the United States has since been forced through has found no reflection in the Soviet Union, however.

As we document, the Soviet Union is not only far ahead in present numbers of scientific and technically-trained personnel: the Soviet Union presently enjoys a greater potential for future development on this basis than ever before, while the United States—even now behind—has virtually eliminated its potential in terms of educated manpower to recover its former greatness.

If the "incalculable" lunacy of U.S. ruling circles does not plunge the nation into a thermonuclear holocaust in the months just ahead, we are forced all the more to raise LaRouche's question: Will Malthusian policies reduce America to relative Third World status? Will the Soviets rule in the 1980s?



*"The Soviet Union's tremendous investment in human resources, unprecedented achievements in the education of the general population, and immense manpower pool in science and technology will have an immeasurable impact on that country's scientific, industrial and military strength. The recent Soviet educational mobilization, poses a formidable challenge to the national security of the United States, one that is far more threatening than any in the past and much more difficult to meet."*

Prof. Izaak Wirszup  
December, 1979