

# National News

## Weinberger in China: a modest success?

Despite the hoopla over an announced exchange of visits by Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and President Reagan planned for January and April of 1984 respectively, Defense Secretary Weinberger's visit to China was at best a modest success.

Weinberger arrived in China with assurances that a number of high-technology items previously denied the Chinese would now be approved. He also raised the possibility of military cooperation in the areas of personnel exchange, training, and logistics.

However, Premier Zhao was less than enthusiastic about committing China to any cooperative military relationship with the United States: while saying that China might be willing to purchase certain military items, Zhao emphasized that "self-reliance" will remain the watchword for China's military modernization.

Chinese leaders again made a point of raising the issue of the U.S. relationship to Taiwan, and restated Peking's intention of adhering to its policy of not being attached to "either superpower."

While Weinberger was packing to leave, China's leaders let it be known that the Soviet negotiating team which will participate in a third round of talks aimed at normalizing relations between the two communist giants will arrive in Peking on Oct. 4.

## WerBell to Reagan: Go with laser defense

Lieutenant-General (R.F.A.A. ret.) Mitchell Livingston WerBell III issued the following statement Sept. 21 from his home in Powder Springs, Georgia. WerBell has devoted his life to military and intelligence service on behalf of the United States, specializing in clandestine operations, and has been decorated by numerous nations. He is currently the director of Sionics, Inc., a counter-terrorist training center.

WerBell addressed his statement to the White House:

"I call today upon President Reagan to carry through on his March 23, 1983 television announcement by immediately launching a crash program to develop and deploy laser-based antiballistic-missile systems.

"In March, when the President and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger initially announced the U.S. return to a traditional military doctrine based on a commitment to Mutually Assured Survival and the emphasis on defensive weapons systems rendering nuclear warheads obsolete, a clear offer was presented to Moscow to jointly develop those ABM systems and put an end to the era of thermonuclear terror.

"The Soviet response to the President's generous offer was lies, destabilizations, threats and, ultimately, the premeditated murder of 269 civilians aboard a Korean Airlines flight on Sept. 1.

"The KAL massacre offers the clearest profile of the barbarous state of mind governing the Soviet leadership. Only by publicly announcing a crash ABM program, complemented by the production and deployment of the MX missiles can the President demonstrate the kind of raw military, economic and political power required to tame the Russian bear.

"I call upon President Reagan to get on nationwide television at the earliest possible date to announce such a crash program. Communicate to the Russians, Mr. President, that America has the strength and resolve to deal with tyranny."

## Nuclear test reactors come under assault

An alliance of anti-nuclear activists and the Tom Hayden-controlled city government of Santa Monica is waging a campaign to close down the Argonaut nuclear research and training reactor at the University of California's Los Angeles campus. A victory for this campaign could challenge the re-licensing of the nation's 43 other university test

reactors.

The UCLA reactor, experts there have noted, has not had a single mishap that posed a threat to the health or safety of any employee or member of the public. Rocks brought back from the Moon by NASA are now undergoing experimentation there.

Built in 1958, the reactor cost about \$203,000. Using the "intervenor" regulations initiated under nuclear energy saboteur James Schlesinger when he headed the old Atomic Energy Commission, the Committee to Bridge the Gap and allies of Tom Hayden have compelled UCLA and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to spend more than \$1 million parrying their attack.

During a press conference in July at which the scientists at UCLA exposed the fallacious contentions of the Gapniks, Dr. Walter F. Wegst, Jr. explained that the Argonaut's fission reaction cannot take place without its moderator, water. Much like a motel room coffee pot, when the heating element boils off the water, the container gets lighter, eventually causing the heating element to stop operating—the plant shuts down automatically. It is therefore physically impossible even in the "worst case scenario" for the reactor to create a danger.

## Defense resolution submitted to AFL-CIO

The AFL-CIO national convention in Florida has been asked to repudiate Democratic National Committee chairman Charles Manatt's endorsement of the nuclear freeze and other Soviet-inspired "peace" policies.

Excerpts from the text of the resolution circulated by the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC) follow.

"Whereas, the shutdown by the Soviet Union of Korean Airlines Flight 007 and the murder of 269 innocent civilians, including a U.S. Congressman, was a willful and barbarous act that is indicative of the current confrontationist character of Soviet policy;

"Whereas, this murderous act occurs as Soviet-backed forces in Lebanon are killing U.S. Marines on a peacekeeping mission and Soviet-supported madman Col. Muam-

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mar Qaddafi is butchering the population of Chad; . . .

"Whereas, given this pattern of behavior even worse Soviet actions must be expected in the period ahead;

"Whereas, Democratic National Committee chairman Charles Manatt on Sept. 20 announced that the Democratic Party leadership and all announced Democratic presidential candidates support policies, including the nuclear freeze and major cutbacks in defense spending on strategic weapons; . . .

"Whereas, the AFL-CIO places the national security interests of the United States above all partisan politics;

"Be it resolved that the AFL-CIO condemns and repudiates the statements and policies of DNC chairman Manatt.

"Be it further resolved that the AFL-CIO refuses to endorse any candidate who refuses to repudiate the Manatt statement or who supports policies contrary to the national security interests of the United States."

The NDPC also submitted a resolution of "Support for Emergency Strategic Measures to Meet the Soviet Threat," which proposes four efforts: 1) Discourage a Soviet preemptive strike by placing the U. S. strategic arsenal on alert-status and emplacing 50-100 MX missiles as rapidly as possible; 2) Launch a "crash program" for development and deployment of Partial ABM defense-capabilities; 3) Dump support for "IMF conditionalities" and reorganize the monetary system immediately; 4) Keep the doors of peace open by continuing to emphasize the offer made by President Reagan on March 23, 1983.

## Progress gives Boston Brahmins the CREEPS

Under the title "CREEP from Outer Space," the Sept. 24 issue of the Boston *Globe* editorialized against the administration's intentions to back NASA proposals for a manned space station. "CREEP" was the Nixon Committee to Re-Elect the President, whose members are among Reagan's campaign advisers.

Reagan is expected to make a public an-

nouncement on the subject soon. The *Globe*, it seems, finds this unfair, and complains that "faced with this threat from outer space" [the Glenn candidacy], Mr. Reagan "who made his debut in space technology with his Star Wars speech about outer space last winter," will boost the NASA plan for a \$6-\$8 billion manned space station.

## Block announces more crop cuts

Secretary of Agriculture John Block, speaking Sept. 29 in Iowa, the leading cornbelt state, announced a new feedgrains crop reduction program. "The Payment in Kind (PIK) program and the drought brought supply and demand pretty much where it should be," said the Secretary. "But if there is good weather next year, and they plant fence row to fence row, we'd be back to where we were last year."

Block's new plan is to be instituted by the Department of Agriculture in 1984 and will be called "acreage conservation reserve". It will require farmers to sign up to grow 10 percent fewer acres of feedgrains—corn, sorghum, rye, oats and barley, in order to be eligible for federal loan programs.

U.S. feedgrain output this year is already a worldwide disaster because of drought and PIK. Block used Global 2000 rhetoric about how crops damage the land. "We want to encourage farmers to place their more erosive land into conservation uses while continuing to balance supply and demand during 1984, he stated."

In August Block announced that PIK would be extended next year to wheat—whose output this season was not sufficiently lowered in the opinion of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the State Department.

The consequences of the disastrous crop reductions in the United States are already visible. Many farmers have already begun herd liquidation. The Texas chapter of the National Democratic Policy Committee reports that one farmer is buying three-day-old stale bread to feed some of his livestock.

● **BACKERS** of Danny Graham's new political action committee, the American Space Frontiers Committee, include Clare Boothe Luce, science-fiction writer Robert Heinlein, Adm. Thomas Moorer, Jerry Falwell, Jesse Helms, Sens. Roger Jepsen, Jesse Helms, and Malcolm Wallop, Howard Phillips; Phyllis Schlafly, Lt.-Gen. Arthur G. Trudeau; Paul Weyrich, and Reps. Ron Paul (Tex.), Tom Corcoran (Ill.), and Phil Crane (Ill.), Newt Gingrich, and Jack Kemp. The committee is prepared to give \$1 million to candidates who back Graham's tin-can anti-missile defense proposals.

● **JESSE JACKSON**, who announced Sept. 26 that he was taking a leave of absence from his Operation PUSH scam, was speaking the next night to the Human Rights Campaign Fund at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City. The Fund is a gay political action committee. Jackson failed to make the big announcement of his presidential campaign there.

● **GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN**, governor of California, refused to veto Senate Bill 762, which gives powers of attorney to family members to terminate the lives of medical patients, and let it automatically become law on Sept. 28. The only options now are a court challenge to its constitutionality, or a referendum.

● **THE AMERICAN LEGION**, at its August national convention in Seattle, Washington, passed four separate resolutions calling for the pursuit of strategic defenses, including the development of beam weapons.

● **JERRY FALWELL** is building a huge event to feature Ted Kennedy at his Moral Majority headquarters and bible college in Lynchburg, Virginia, Oct. 3.