

# Arms-control lobby creates suicide cult

by Mark Burdman

When one-third of the student body at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island on Oct. 12 voted in favor of a referendum put forward by an organization called "Students for Suicide Tablets" demanding that the university administration stockpile cyanide tablets to use in the event of nuclear war, most Americans undoubtedly reacted with profound shock and distress.

Not so the leaders of the "arms control" and "nuclear freeze" lobby in the United States linked to Walter Mondale and to the KGB. For them, the Brown University suicide referendum is only the first step toward organizing a nationwide student suicide cult.

On Oct. 16, four days after the Brown referendum, two private meetings were held in Providence, at the Rhode Island World Affairs Council and the Brown University Center for Foreign Policy Development, presided over by Herbert "Pete" Scoville, former assistant director of the CIA's Scientific Intelligence Bureau and present director of the Arms Control Association. Stated Scoville privately: "The more you can get people to think that you can't fight and win a nuclear war, the better off you are. The proposal to stockpile cyanide pills was a way to dramatize and draw attention to the issue."

One of the participants at Scoville's meetings in Providence was Jerry Elmer, a leader of the American Friends Services Committee, who had been responsible for organizing the "nuclear freeze" movement in Rhode Island out of which the "suicide" referendum grew. Said Elmer: "The students who organized this referendum have stumbled onto something. . . . I would expect to see students at Stanford say, 'Let's do it here;' students at Ann Arbor say, 'Let's do it here.' It's a very good educational effort."

One of the organizers of Scoville's trip to Providence was Leonard Cohen, an editor of the *Providence Journal* and president of the Rhode Island World Affairs Council. Said Cohen: "What this shows is that the nuclear freeze movement and everything else to raise the awareness of the nuclear threat has created a climate in which others are now waiting for a bandwagon to climb on to. It got good publicity. Speeches themselves do not."

The individuals involved in propagating this new "Jonestown" suicide cult comprise one of the nastiest KGB nests in the United States. The Center for Foreign Policy Develop-

ment was established in the early 1980s at the impetus of U.S. ambassador to the U.S.S.R. Tom Watson of IBM, through the agency of Watson's number-two man, Mark Garrison, the Soviet desk officer at the State Department from 1974-80. It has since become one of the key "crisis-management back-channels" between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Garrison is an architect of a program for U.S.-Soviet journalist exchanges that began in 1982, including an August 1984 trip by six Soviet journalists to Providence—six weeks before the referendum.

The Center has co-produced with the New York-based Public Agenda Foundation a study profiling the American population's attitudes to nuclear weapons. This study provided the raw materials for the profiles that would be useful in creating the student suicide cult. The Public Agenda Foundation is run by former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and by Daniel Yankelovich, pollster for the Malthusian Club of Rome International organization.

The Rhode Island World Affairs Council was created in 1934, with the original name "Council for Peace Action," an appeasement organization created to counter those in the United States who wanted to fight the Hitler takeover of Germany. The Council is one of a network of about 50 World Affairs Councils organized under the National Council of World Affairs Organizations, which met in Washington early in October to map out new strategies for spreading appeasement in the United States.

A U.S.-based commentator for West Germany's *Die Welt* newspaper, Thomas Kielinger, writing about the Brown referendum Oct. 16, emphasized that it underscored the two choices now facing the United States: national surrender, or support for President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)

nuclear attack by developing the beam weapons that can destroy incoming missiles.

The controllers of the Brown suicide-cult referendum are the same individuals attempting to sabotage Reagan's SDI.

During Scoville's visit to Providence, participants report, the meeting at the Brown Center for Foreign Policy Development focused on the President's "Star Wars" policy. "There were admirals there from the National War College, a former member of the National Security Council staff, members of the team that negotiated with the Soviets in the START talks in Geneva. The consensus was that, with the single exception of Edward Teller, not a single scientist believes that this system is feasible. It would be impolite to say the President is stupid, but that's the way everybody felt. . . . No one takes credibly the idea that the Soviets are testing anti-ballistic missiles in space; they are involved in anti-satellite (ASAT) work and nothing more." (See p. 56 for the facts.)

Said Scoville: "The whole space defense program is a hoax. . . . It sounds attractive, but it's a crazy idea."

By contrast, having students organizing referenda for stockpiling cyanide pills is perfectly sane?