

Editorial

March 23—two years later

It is now two years since President Reagan's historic announcement of the shift in military doctrine now known as the "Strategic Defense Initiative," on March 23, 1983. Since that time, Andropov died, Chernenko died—and a new figurehead for the Soviet military dictatorship has just been installed in the Kremlin.

In Western Europe, the Social Democracies are working with the Soviets and their Communist parties to bring the ecological fascists known as the Greens into power—precisely as *EIR* warned at the end of 1980, when we caught the Washington-based "conservative" Heritage Foundation in on the plot. In Ibero-America, the illegal drug mafia, backed by such "respectable" institutions as *Crédit Suisse*, the partner of scandal-ridden Boston U.S. Attorney William Weld's family firm and of Donald Regan's Merrill Lynch, is openly bidding for power.

The President is clearly committed to the Strategic Defense Initiative and the war on drugs. His greatest weakness is that we are on the edge of a new general financial collapse like that of the 1930s, and that the White House's "economic advisers" are owned by the foes of the SDI and the war on drugs.

The man who shaped the doctrine behind the SDI, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., showed in a Nov. 5, 1984 election eve television program that the President's own SDI is the way to cut the Gordian Knot. We quote:

"First, we must abandon the insane doctrine of nuclear deterrence, as the President proposed on March 23 [1983].

generation of strategic ballistic missile defense capable of destroying not less than 40% of all the Soviet missiles which might be launched against the United States or our allies, and must continue to develop and deploy improved systems which will destroy over 95% of all such missiles. Third, we must change our monetary and economic policies toward both our allies and toward developing nations generally. We must promote rapid technological progress in agriculture and basic industry among all those nations which are either our

military allies or merely friendly republics. We must build a wall of steel, a great wall of powerful economic progress, around the Soviet Union. If we take these three sets of measures, we still have time to survive. We must rebuild our economy today as President Roosevelt rebuilt our economy during the period 1939 through 1943. If we do not take such measures, the United States will not survive much past the present decade, at best. . . .

"The best estimate of the cost of the deployment of a first generation system of strategic ballistic missile defense, is between \$200 and \$250 billion over a period of approximately five years, an average of about \$50 billion a year. . . .

"We can, and we must, reopen 3 million jobs for operatives in manufacturing, mining, construction, transportation, and energy production. That would mean more than 5 million total jobs in industrial firms. If we can bring this up to a total of about 8 million added jobs in total, the entire present federal budget deficit will disappear. About \$250 billion invested in strategic ballistic missile defense over the coming four to five years will be a great stimulant for new investments and new workplaces in all categories of basic industry, providing new employment for operatives in steel, in the automobile industries, in mining, in energy production, and in all categories of high technology industries. Just as NASA's new technologies spilled over into civilian industries to give us the greatest rates of growth of productivity during the postwar period, so the spillover of beam-weapon technologies into civilian production will mean that the average operative produces much more than today, and that that average operative employed has an improved standard of living."

"If we get back to the way we used to run our economy in the two decades after President Roosevelt's war-time economic recovery, we will begin to be able to afford an adequate defense and also many of the other things, such as good schools, which we have foolishly made ourselves too poor to afford during recent years."