

International Intelligence

EIR briefing on SDI held in Spain

A high-level briefing, sponsored by *Executive Intelligence Review*, on the implications of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) for the defense of Europe, was held in Madrid on April 25. In attendance were representatives of the Spanish defense ministry, members of parliament, top representatives of the Spanish navy and air force, laser scientists, technical experts from leading Spanish industries, diplomats, and more than a half-dozen representatives of the national press.

The briefing began with the showing of a 30-minute television program on the SDI, featuring 1984 Independent Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. This was followed by an in-depth presentation of the latest scientific and technological breakthroughs in the American beam-defense program by Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum of the Fusion Energy Foundation.

Michael Liebig, strategic expert for *EIR* in Wiesbaden, West Germany, addressed the crucial question of the future of Europe, and Spain in particular, in the context of unprecedented Soviet war preparations and provocations. Liebig called on Spain to join West Germany and other European countries in a crash program to develop beam defenses against Soviet short- and medium-range missiles, a program to be carried out in cooperation with the United States, complementing the American SDI.

Jacques Cheminade of the European Labor Party in France, characterized the economic issue as strategic problem number one for the Western alliance. Unless the policies of the IMF are reversed, said Cheminade, the Soviets will rule Europe, and most of the rest of the world, within this decade.

U.S.-South Korean alliance strengthened

Security ties between the United States and the Republic of Korea have been tightened,

as a result of the visit to Washington April 25-27 of South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan. The U.S. relationship to South Korea, it was announced shortly before the visit, has been placed on the same footing as that to West Germany, Great Britain, Canada, and Japan, with regular security consultations to be held at the ministerial level.

The Chun trip is to be followed up with meetings in Washington between Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and a military delegation from Seoul. The Reagan administration's increased emphasis on the security relationship with South Korea—in contrast to Jimmy Carter's desire to withdraw U.S. forces from the country—is based on the assessment that, especially since the September 1983 downing of the KAL-007 airliner by Russia, and the bombing that killed half of the Chun cabinet that October in Rangoon, the Korean peninsula is a flashpoint for war.

South Korea has attempted to carry out a two-pronged strategy to deal with the threat from North Korea. For the first time last fall, official inter-Korea talks were held between Seoul and the Pyongyang regime of Kim Il-Sung. These talks were interrupted by a November shoot-out on the border—when a Soviet defector jumped across the demarcation line—but will be resumed again May 17. In addition, increased trade ties between South Korea and China, a close ally of Pyongyang, it is hoped will ease tensions on the peninsula, despite reports which continue to show that North Korea is engaged in a buildup for war.

Soviets brandish own space weapons

For the first time, Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Sergei Sokolov has admitted that the U.S.S.R. "is conducting scientific research in space, including for military application."

This confession, embedded in a torrent of distorted accusations and threats against the United States, was part of the furious Soviet reaction to President Ronald Rea-

gan's trip to West Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's support for the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, and the two leaders' affirmation of the U.S.-German alliance.

As recently as May 5, in an interview released by TASS, Sokolov lied that the Soviet military program in space has consisted only of "early-warning reconnaissance, communication, and navigation systems." The United States, he charged, emphasizes the defensive nature of the SDI, just to cover up the development of "strike weapons" in space. "From the military viewpoint, the American 'Star Wars' plan is an inseparable component part of U.S. nuclear strategy, the first-strike strategy."

Moscow knows, and Washington knows, that Sokolov's statement was false on both counts: Soviet innocence of anti-missile and anti-satellite R&D in space, and the U.S. "first strike" intentions Sokolov alleged. The charges were in the nature of psychological "projection."

"If the U.S. begins the militarization of space," Sokolov warned, "the Soviet Union has no choice but to take counter-measures," which "could be . . . both in the sphere of defensive and offensive armaments."

Israeli ambassador supports reconciliation

May 8 was a day of reconciliation, said Israel's ambassador to Bonn, Yitzhak Ben-Ari, in two newspaper interviews. Ben-Ari, who accompanied President Reagan and West German Chancellor Kohl to Bergen-Belsen on May 5, voiced conciliatory statements which stand in stark contrast to the attacks against Bonn from Israel these days. He told the *Stuttgarter Nachrichten* on May 4 that Bitburg must not aggravate German-Israeli relations, and that May 8, 1945 marked the end of the Nazi regime and "the beginning of a new period in German history."

In an interview for a coming issue of *Juedische Nachrichten* in Munich, he said that today's Federal Republic of Germany

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has to be considered genuinely democratic; Germans have reasons to celebrate this on the 40th anniversary of the Nazis' defeat. He also attacked the ideas of leftists and peaceniks that "resistance" against the Federal Republic of today is justified: "Resistance was only justified against the Hitler state." Ben-Ari also modified the notion of collective guilt, saying there is only "collective responsibility and concern."

Sudan, Libya seek closer ties

Sudan and Libya are engaged in a process of full reconciliation. A 120-strong delegation led by Libya's number-two man, Jalloud, spent the weekend of May 4 in Khartoum, negotiating a good-neighbor treaty.

The key to the shift in Khartoum is Qaddafi's pledge to stop supporting the secessionists in the south of Sudan. He called on secessionist leader Colonel John Garang to support the "popular revolution in Khartoum" in which the military overthrew Gaafar Numayri April 6.

Sudan, which faces food riots in the countryside, may also be falling prey to Qaddafi's previous offer of a \$5 billion aid package—on condition that Khartoum break with Washington and Cairo.

Further regional destabilization was indicated by reports that the Ethiopian army has cut the food supply-line from Sudan into the province of Tigre, according to the May 8 *Times* of London. For more than two weeks, no food has reached the distribution centers in the Central Highlands of the country, putting two million people at risk of starvation.

Club of Rome founder on 'Caucasian ghetto'

"We Caucasians are gradually becoming a very small minority. Even with the honorary Caucasians, like the Japanese, we'll be under 20% of the world's population by the

next century. This is pretty serious. From a political standpoint, can we Caucasians exist as an armed ghetto, with hungry multitudes? I think the situation is untenable, and I see no solution." So said Dr. Alexander King, co-founder of the Club of Rome, in a discussion May 8.

"What I'm worried about," King stressed, "is the question of migration, and its effect on population. The pressures of migration to the North—into the Western world, that is—will lead to local wars, refugee problems. . . . We in the North often think, wrongly, that population is a problem of the South. It's not, because of the question of migration, with the spread of diseases by other races, that we have not been accustomed to."

Asked about his own racial stock, King answered, animatedly, "I'm a Celt!"

The Club of Rome was founded in 1968 by King and Aurelio Peccei—at the instigation of the KGB's Dzhermen Gvishiani—to push for radical deindustrialization and population reduction policies in the West and the Third World.

Genscher helped start Bitburg controversy

Christian Democratic Union (CDU) foreign affairs spokesman Gerhard Reddemann said on May 4 that the Bitburg affair proves how bad the foreign ministry's information and media work actually is—and has been ever since Hans-Dietrich Genscher took office in 1974.

Reddemann said that especially the Goethe Institutes, which are responsible for most cultural information abroad and are supervised and funded by the foreign ministry in Bonn, have contributed to the bad reputation Germany still has in the United States. They have repeatedly arranged U.S. tours for the German Greens and the anti-defense movement. The Bitburg hysteria, said Reddemann, which heard not a peep from Genscher in Germany's defense, will "have to be discussed thoroughly" after Reagan's departure.

● **LAWYERS** for *EIR* filed a suit on May 6 in the Venezuelan Supreme Court to overturn a lower-court decision banning *EIR*'s controversial book, *Narcotráfico, SA (Dope, Inc.)*. The entire Caracas press corps turned out to hear *EIR*'s attorney, Randolph Rosal Machado, attack the Dope, Inc.-connected Cisneros family, declaring their suit which led to the book's banning an assault on freedom of expression.

● **THE VATICAN** has sentenced one of the leading ideologues of "theology of liberation," Leonardo Boff, to a year of public silence, "during which he will not be permitted to grant interviews, teach or publish," reports the May 9 *Washington Post*. The Vatican order was handed down in secret, but Boff confirmed the ban and promised to obey it.

● **STALIN'S NAME** was mentioned by Soviet party head Gorbachov in his VE-Day speech on May 8, bringing loud and long applause from the audience. "The gigantic work at the front and in the rear was guided by the party, its central committee, and the State Defense Committee headed by the general-secretary of the central committee of the All-Union Communist Party, Josef Vissarionovich Stalin," he said.

● **STALIN'S FACE** appeared in a photo published by the Soviet military daily *Red Star* on May 8.

● **SOVIET SCIENTISTS** most vocal against the U.S. beam-weapon program are active in developing the Soviets' own strategic-defense systems, says a new CIA report, "Soviet Directed-Energy Weapons: Perspectives on Strategic Defense." Evgenii Velikhov, and scores of other outspokenly "peace-loving" Russian scientists, are working on "lasers for strategic and tactical applications," as well as a number of other projects "for the military use of space," and are making "impressive" gains in "exotic" particle-beam technologies.