

National News

Chicago gang vows revenge for MOVE

"The consequences of a Philadelphia-type assault will be far more devastating and have greater repercussions in Chicago than anyone can possibly imagine," threatened El-Rukn "General" Rico-El at a press conference May 29 at El Rukn headquarters in Chicago. The El-Rukn Muslim Nation is more widely known by its previous name, the Black P. Stone Rangers street gang, notorious for terrorizing Chicago's south side during the 1960s and 1970s.

The purpose of the "press conference," attended by 25 wives and children and 50 male group members, was to call for "press and community protection" from what the El-Rukns call "a conspiracy to set them up for mass extermination by the police." Rico-El and three other El-Rukn members, Salim Khaadim-El, Nechon-El, and Jabar Mutawally—all "divine ministers" of the group—compared recent "slander and harassment campaign by the police against them to that launched against MOVE prior to the bombing episode in Philadelphia."

'Discovery' tests laser tracking for SDI

The 18th mission of the Space Shuttle Discovery performed the first in a series of laser beam tracking experiments for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program on June 21. The success of the test demonstrates the capability to track and hit with a laser, a Soviet satellite in orbit.

The High-Precision Tracking Experiment was designed to test the ability of a ground-based laser to accurately track an object in low-Earth orbit. The laser, based on the island of Maui in the Pacific, produced a blue-green light which was aimed at the orbiting spacecraft.

Scientists reported that the light was re-

flected back through the Earth's atmosphere to a detector at Maui island. Because the Shuttle is traveling at over 17,000 miles per hour, the maximum amount of time an object could be tracked would be eight minutes, from horizon to horizon. Officials of NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston report that the SDI office would have been happy with even one minute of tracking data, but got 2.5 minutes' worth.

Aboard the Shuttle was an international crew that included Prince Sultan Salman Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia and Patrick Baudry of France.

Soviet U.S.A.-watcher says beams won't work

A member of the U.S. Ideology and Public Opinion Department of the Moscow-based U.S.A. and Canada Institute defended the Kissingerian doctrine of Mutual Assured Destruction and attacked the Strategic Defense Initiative for beam-weapon defense, in a June 19 speech to the International Society of Political Psychology in Washington, D.C.

Claiming that the United States and Soviet Union "are locked into deterrence" and that the "problem of U.S.-Soviet relations is the problem of Star Wars," M. Malishenko demanded that the Reagan administration abandon the SDI if it wants the Geneva arms talks to continue.

Malishenko admitted that there is a consensus in the American population that the SDI could make nuclear weapons obsolete, but stated: "I don't think, and many American experts agree with me; that SDI is feasible."

Malishenko spoke on a panel entitled "Soviet-American Relations and Arms Control," with two of his colleagues, Andrei Melville and Yuri Zamoshkin. The latter is director of the U.S.A. and Canada Institute's project on American ideology, and has worked closely with "Aquarian Conspiracy" godfathers Jim Hickman and Michael Murphy of California's Esalen Institute.

Vernon Walters demands austerity for Africa

In his first major foreign policy address since becoming U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters demanded that African governments impose harsh austerity on their people, no matter what the cost.

Vernon told the Washington World Affairs Council June 18 that Africa is suffering an "unparalleled economic crisis," caused by "misguided policies of African governments," including "a hostile attitude toward foreign investment, excessive borrowing, and a bias toward industrialization at the expense of agriculture."

African governments have recently come to accept austerity as a necessity, he asserted: "We now have quite a change in Africa. We are seeing drastic policies under way, as more and more governments take unpopular measures, and austerity, even at great social costs."

Walters singled out Zaire for special praise, noting that it has "undertaken a drastic austerity program, which has reduced inflation and government spending." Stressing what "courage" this requires, Walters pointed out that in Africa and other poor regions, "even small cuts have a vastly magnified impact on the population."

Walters also insisted that the United States "has neither the means nor the answers to lift Africa out of its present crisis."

Joint Chiefs map out war on drug traffickers

A strategy for using the U.S. military to an unprecedented extent in fighting drug production and trafficking in Central America has been drawn up by unanimous consent of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and submitted to U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger for approval, U.S. Chief of Naval Operations Admiral James Watkins told a naval strategy conference in Newport, R.I., June

19. This strategy, Watkins said, "could be a rallying point for this hemisphere."

Watkins said that the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps chiefs wanted to launch a "massive new program," in which all the U.S. services would help Central American countries that ask for assistance in combatting the drug trade. The intent, he declared, was to help countries like Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela, if their governments desire it, in training highly mobile teams to stamp out rural production of marijuana and heroin, while U.S. aircraft and ships try to stop export of the drugs.

Watkins charged that the sale of heroin and other drugs was financing weapons for terrorist insurgents in the Western Hemisphere. Therefore, he declared, drug production and distribution had become "a national security problem" for the United States.

Efforts so far by the U.S. military to interdict drugs from Central America, he said, are "not good enough." Therefore, Watkins insisted, "a more coherent plan" was needed to stamp out the drugs that finance terrorist insurgencies.

The Joint Chiefs will meet with some 33 U.S. civilian agencies that would play a role in fighting drugs.

U.S. debtor status is focus of House hearings

C. Fred Bergsten, of the Institute for International Economics, testified on the foreign debt crisis of the United States at hearings entitled "The U.S. as a Debtor Nation," on June 20.

Speaking before John LaFalce's (D-N.Y.) Banking Subcommittee on Economic Stabilization, Bergsten stated: "The international position of the United States is now developing in an ominously similar way, both qualitatively and quantitatively, to that of the developing countries during 1973-82." Bergsten's remarks were seconded by former Reagan economic adviser Martin Feldstein and by Chairman LaFalce.

While all agreed that the U.S. budget deficit was the cause of the crisis, it was

Bergsten who called for increased supranational surveillance. The International Monetary Fund is currently increasing such surveillance over the U.S. economy, including dictating cuts in the defense budget.

"The current international monetary system is inadequate," Bergsten said. "It can only work when it pushes various nations to adopt policies which are consistent with international policies."

Science adviser takes fight for SDI to Europe

President Reagan's science adviser George Keyworth gave a speech in London on June 17, urging the allies to support the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). "It's not a 1980s version of 'Fortress America,'" he said.

Keyworth described the extent of the Soviet beam-weapons research program last year as "bigger than that envisaged by the Americans for 1986. Yet they have the nerve to parade the very scientists who lead that effort before the public to denounce our efforts as futile and destabilizing."

Keyworth told the European Atlantic Group, "The bottom line of this duplicity is that we can be reasonably sure that the Soviets will be phasing in their own version of SDI in the same time-frame that we could be. . . . The SDI's goal is to protect people, not weapons. We intend to do that by developing effective boost-phase defenses that stop missiles while they're still rising over the Soviet territory—without regard to what their targets are—whether they're SS-20s targeted at London or SS-18s heading for Washington."

That even if the protective "dome" created by the space-based defenses were found to be leaky, Keyworth said, it would be more than effective enough as a deterrent against a first strike by the enemy—"which of course is our goal."

"That's why strategic defense can render intercontinental ballistic missiles useless as offensive weapons—and that obsolescence would enable us to negotiate their removal."

Briefly

● **FBI DIRECTOR** William Webster asserted on June 20 that no terrorist acts have ever been committed by pro-Khomeini Iranians living in the United States. He lied. In July 1980, anti-Khomeini leader Ali Tatabai was murdered by persons known to Webster, and let go scot free by Webster and the Carter Justice Department.

● **JESSE JACKSON** is among the featured members of a new commission being established by Imam Mohammed Jawad Chirri, spiritual leader of the 36,000-person Islamic Shi'ite community of Dearborn, Mich. In an interview with the London *Daily Telegraph*, Imam Chirri said the commission would aim to send Jackson to the Mideast, to mediate the TWA hostage crisis.

● **RIGHT TO LIFE** convention delegates in Washington seem to be waking up. After hearing three attorneys defend the leadership's "new strategy" of "modifying," rather than opposing, "right to die" (euthanasia) legislation, a delegate from Minnesota stood up and denounced them, saying, "We'd still be defeating euthanasia bills if the National Catholic Conference hadn't capitulated!" She received a thundering ovation. President Reagan had earlier told the 2,000 delegates: "When we first predicted that unrestricted abortion would lead to talk of infanticide or euthanasia, some laughed and scoffed. But that is just what has happened."

● **MOOREHEAD KENNEDY**, a former hostage held in the U.S. embassy in Teheran, declared in an interview in June, "It's about time that groups like Islamic Jihad start bringing the war back home to the United States. You know, any well-dressed man could shoot the President." Three years ago, Kennedy hosted U.S. supporters of Ayatollah Khomeini, at a meeting at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.