

# National News

## Dixy Lee Ray backs 'Patriots for Germany'

Former Washington state governor Dixy Lee Ray has endorsed the effort of a group of German patriots to prevent the success of the Soviet drive to "decouple" the United States from the Federal Republic of Germany. The statement endorses the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), and calls for reviving the Western alliance on the basis of the cultural and political principles of the German classics and the American Revolution.

Dr. Ray, who is also the former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, said: "I believe strongly in non-appeasement, maintaining our freedom and that of Western Europe, and returning to classical education and support for the SDI."

The statement of support for the "Patriots for Germany" which Governor Ray endorsed is being circulated in the United States by Milton Croom, former chairman of Peace Through Strength. Released from West Germany on Oct. 18, the statement says in part: "On behalf of millions of Americans committed to the preservation of freedom, we the undersigned applaud the formation of the Patriots for Germany citizens organization. . . . We, too, say no to decoupling, and yes to cooperation on the Strategic Defense Initiative, economic growth and a strong alliance. We applaud your efforts against a Red-Green government, and for a just treaty of peace for all Germany."

## \$200 million cut from Coast Guard budget

The Senate voted 84-13 on Oct. 23 to sustain \$500 million in budgets for the Coast Guard and Federal Aviation Administration as part of a \$10 billion Department of Transportation appropriation for fiscal 1986.

Despite the vote, almost no support was expressed for the budget cuts, and it is ex-

pected that the money will be restored when differences between the House and Senate are ironed out in conference committees.

According to James S. Gracey, head of the Coast Guard, the cuts would reduce the service's operational budget by \$200 million. The reductions would jeopardize 6,000 jobs and force the service to mothball harbor tugs, cutters, and patrol boats along the Eastern seaboard, and would severely limit the Coast Guard's role in the Reagan administrations's war on narcotic smugglers.

## New York City: a Village singles' bar?

"We have a mayor in New York who runs this city like it was a giant Greenwich village singles' bar," the Right-to-Life mayoral candidate Yehuda Levin said during the first and only New York mayoral debate on Oct. 24.

Levin directly attacked Mayor Edward Koch's "anti-family" values, adding that by marching in a homosexual parade (said to include the North American Man-Boy Love Association, NAMBLA), speaking at a Jewish temple attended by homosexuals, condoning pornography, and pressuring religious institutions receiving government aid to issue bans on discrimination against homosexuals, Koch was "one step away from excommunication."

"As a Jew, I feel you are an embarrassment. . . . I think the things you are doing are obscene," said Levin.

According to a source, Levin also said Koch would wind up with the "blood of New York City's AIDS victims on his hands."

## Seaway unreliable due to disinvestment

The vital St. Lawrence Seaway system has been paralyzed since a canal wall collapsed Oct. 14 on the Welland Canal between lakes Ontario and Erie. Seaway officials are scrambling to repair the damage in time to

convince customers that the shipping route is not accident-prone, and say shipping will resume before the waterway normally closes in late December.

Thomas Burke of the Cleveland Port Authority recently suggested the United States take over the entire line, because of what he sees as poor maintenance procedures by Canada. Though Canada ships 60% of its export wheat through the seaway (compared to 7% for the United States), some maintain the seaway does not generate enough income to afford what should be spent to refurbish the system.

The 26-year old seaway has trapped 154 vessels in this accident, compared to the broken-lift bridge at Valleyfield, Quebec, 11 months ago, that stranded 165 vessels, and caused millions of dollars in losses for ship owners.

## Soviets increase chemical warfare

A report just released by the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency says the Soviets have significantly escalated preparations for battlefield use of nerve gas.

The report, "Soviet Chemical Weapons [CW] Threat," identified a 26% increase in the number of Soviet chemical warfare depots since 1980, making a 16% rise in storage capacity. There are now 32 chemical warfare depots in the East bloc.

## 'Free trade' cuts for maritime industry

In the name of "free enterprise," the Reagan administration has announced the end to the construction subsidy program that previously paid up to 50% of the costs of vessels built in American shipyards.

At Savannah, Georgia, the Propeller Club convention's national president, Frederick W. Hassett, read a telegram from President Reagan to the maritime industry, calling for less government funds, and an urgent

"loosening of fetters so the industry can compete vigorously. . . ."

Andrew E. Gibson, U.S. maritime administrator from 1969 to 1972 and now president of American Automar company, groaned: "Government—when it comes to the maritime industry—is there any vision? And when there is no vision, people perish."

## Some senators remember what progress is

Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) attacked the *Washington Post* during congressional hearings on the Strategic Defense Initiative. Referring to a front-page article in the *Washington Post* of Oct. 30 which claimed that computer problems make the SDI impossible, the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman opened the hearings, which featured testimony from SDI chief Lt.-Gen. James Abrahamson, by caustically noting:

"I'm kind of glad that the *Washington Post* hasn't been around forever. Because if it was, we would have no radios, no automobiles; we never would have put a man on the moon, we wouldn't have developed penicillin or cured polio; there would have been no heart transplants. We wouldn't even have panty hose.

"So I came to this hearing today, General Abrahamson, to have my confidence restored that America can do damn well anything that it puts its mind to."

## Scientists criticize OTA report on beams

Dr. Robert Jastrow, professor of Earth Sciences at Dartmouth College, and Dr. Frederick Seitz, president emeritus of Rockefeller University, said that the "confusion" in the Office of Technology Assessment report on Ballistic Missile Defense Technologies "raises questions about the value of this analysis as a contribution to the technical issues involved in missile defense."

As *EIR* demonstrated (Oct. 18, 1985), the OTA's most recent pronouncements are discredited merely by comparing them with its own 1984 report on the same topic. All the major claims made in that 1984 report against the technological feasibility of ABM defenses were dropped or watered down in the 1985 version.

In a press conference in Washington D.C. on Oct. 29, Jastrow and Seitz said that the OTA staff "did not contain the level of technical skill and understanding required to handle [the SDI issues] in an adequately critical way by the methods they used."

The OTA advisory panel, they noted, was held "not responsible for the contents of the final report," which, unusually, was not subject to outside neutral review to ensure fairness, and the report totally ignored "the most striking aspect of the SDI program . . . its rapid progress towards achievement of its technical goals."

## Executive calls for industrial restoration

Robert W. Lundeen, chairman of Dow Chemical Co., speaking to business executives at a luncheon meeting of the Hong Kong Association of New York in late October, compared the Reagan administration to a corporation "that achieves cost savings by reducing personnel and cutting discretionary expenditures here and there, but fails to spend enough on maintenance of its plants and on research and development for the future."

Short-term profit improvement makes the shareholders "happy for a while," but the shareholders become disenchanted "when the company fails to produce and deliver successful new products against aggressive competitors because its basic structure has corroded and its capacity for innovation has been blunted."

Lundeen called for a "business wizard" in the White House to convince Reagan that a "national, bipartisan action program directed at restoring our country's industrial competitiveness is, after national security, our highest priority as a nation. . . ."

## Briefly

● **A NEW JERSEY** court has given the state ombudsman for the institutionalized elderly, Jack D'Amborsia, the authority to decide which comatose or "incompetent" patients are to live and which are to die. He is authorized to approve the withholding of food, medication, and life support. The court ruled that this is not "inhumane," since anyone unable to sense hunger or thirst would not suffer.

● **LINUS PAULING**, the kook chemist, told reporters at a press conference in Portland, Oregon on Oct. 25 that Vitamin C should be used to treat on AIDS. "AIDS is caused by a virus and since Vitamin C inactivates viruses, it would seem that in large doses Vitamin C might help." He failed to mention the evidence accumulating that the massive dosages of the vitamin he has advocated in the past have caused cancer.

● **THE AFL-CIO** voted its president Lane Kirkland a 30% salary increase, bringing his annual income, without perks, to \$150,000! This is in contrast to the 2% pay hike averaged by most of the 13 million members of the labor confederation, not to mention the millions of unemployed AFL-CIO members. Trilateral Commission member Kirkland was also re-elected for a two-year term at the just-concluded AFL-CIO national convention.

● **SENATOR** Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) called the Strategic Defense Initiative "the most outstanding technology of my generation" in remarks at Congressional hearings on the SDI on Oct. 30. "There is no doubt [the SDI] will be the turning point to bring peace to the entire world," he said. "Gorbachov is afraid of the SDI because if we can defend ourselves from missiles, he can't carry out his domination of the world."