

Editorial

Il gran rifiuto

One month has passed since the President of the United States, in a letter to Mikhail Gorbachov, generously offered to Russia to share America's most advanced scientific and technological secrets associated with the Strategic Defense Initiative, provided that Russia agreed to proceed with a joint and coordinated deployment of these purely defensive and otherwise quite harmless devices, whose only awesomeness will be their ability to knock out thermonuclear missiles in flight.

Though Mikhail Gorbachov is still silent as a tomb on the subject, the hollow brass cymbals of his propaganda machine continue their irrational denunciations of the SDI.

Some say, Gorbachov's silence is a sign that he will eventually come around and accept this generous American gift of the new, marvelous, directed high energy technologies; some say that his silence portends that he is scheming to gain time before he unleashes his thunders. The weeks ahead will tell.

Yet, why all this suspense and high drama over a simple offer of a technology, of which the layman knows nothing, the politician very little, and most scientists a little more than very little?

The layman is waiting to be informed before he gets caught in the excitement of these new technologies' golden promise; the average politician fears an unknown world made better by the rational power of science; the run of the mill scientist fears that the vast horizons of the emerging scientific and technological revolution will render him obsolete.

The layman can begin to appreciate the profundity of the historical implications of these technologies—so generously offered by Reagan to Russia—by this simple example: Back during 1982, *EIR*'s economic analysis project, the LaRouche-Riemann Model, did a computer projection of what the introduction of SDI technologies would do to the economy of the United States. The answer was a 400% increase in productivity during the initial phase of application!

An industry whose forges are commanded by lasers with the kind of deliverable punch and versatility re-

quired for SDI, and powered by the cheap and virtually unlimited source of fusion energy, has virtually no limits visible by the vision of even the most visionary person of the present generation.

The scientific implications and the technological prowess of the work associated with the SDI, can truly liberate mankind's creative potential from the fetters of small life on this planet and launch the great adventure of conquering, first, our solar system, and then of the great space beyond.

These implications are very well known to the Russian leadership. It is these implications that they fear in President Reagan's offer, more than any petty military consideration. Western culture, despite its recent problems, is still endowing its members with the moral and cultural impulse to rapidly assimilate ever broadening scientific and technological horizons and, firmly standing on science, carry on the adventure of human progress in God's creation.

Eastern culture, whose military champion Moscow, the Third Rome, today is, has long ago imprisoned, and still keeps in chains, this creative moral impulse in its members. The introduction of technologies which might enable Western societies to ease into a one-shot 400% increase in industrial productivity, if introduced in the Russian kind of society, might trigger, in short order, a breakdown of existing hierarchical, despotic social arrangements. Leaders such as Gorbachov do not serve society; they serve the particular political system which has culled them for the leadership role. Reagan's generous offer would be most beneficial for the members of Russian society, but it might prove deadly to the political cult which is dominating that society at this time.

So, Gorbachov is sitting there, in the Kremlin, silent, and his silence suggests a grand rejection, Dante's *gran rifiuto*, which hurls its tormented practitioner straight into Inferno's oblivion. Or maybe he shall accept Reagan's "gift of fire," and prove himself a better man than we think?

Regardless of what he does, we must go on.