

## EIR Interviews

# A panorama of 1986 interviews

by Mary Lou Pearl

Throughout 1986, *EIR* interviewed leading figures in science, religion, politics, medicine, and business. Presented below are excerpts and summaries from some of those interviews. (The dates in parentheses indicate the issue in which the interview appeared.)

### The battle for SDI and Western Europe

A former British prime minister, (1963-64) **Lord Home of the Hirsil**, told *EIR* that the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (Jan. 17) "could be the answer to a European defense," and warned that the Russians "will try to detach Europe from the United States."

Later in the year, when Britain was rocked by reports that the Queen disagreed with her prime minister on a whole series of issues, including South Africa, Libya, the coal strike, and social policies, *EIR* spoke to Conservative Member of Parliament **Anthony Beaumont-Dark** on the crisis. He stated: "We live under a constitutional monarchy where the monarch always *has* to accept the views of the government of the day. . . . The monarch is not there to put forward their own views to the public."

Several prominent figures on the European continent talked to *EIR* about European cooperation with the SDI. **Gen. García Conde Cenal**, former chief of staff of the Spanish Air Force (July 18) believes that the defense of West Germany is the duty of all Europeans. He is convinced that "cooperation with the United States on the SDI would be useful not only in military but in scientific, economic, and development aspects."

But **Yuri Dubinin**, the Soviet ambassador to the United States (Oct. 24), stated that there can be no arms-control agreement separate from the SDI, in an interview granted immediately after the Reykjavik meeting.

In West Germany, **Karl Heinz Derbfuss** and **Robert Gräper**, of the newly formed political party Patriots for

Germany (May 23), running for office in Lower Saxony, explaining why the new party was necessary: because the Christian Democrats had abandoned the middle class and their own founding program.

**Helga Zepp-LaRouche**, a co-founder of the Patriots for Germany (June 6), stressed, "The Patriots movement has become a true republican movement of a similar spirit to the time of the American Revolution."

As Soviet-inspired "irregular warfare" escalated in France and West Germany, **Jean Rochet**, ex-director of the French counterespionage agency, DST (Oct. 31), gave *EIR* an exclusive interview. He is convinced that the Soviet Union is the prime instigator of escalating incidents of terrorism throughout Europe. "If we fail to recognize this as a 'form of war,' we will never develop the appropriate will and means to fight it."

### AIDS

**Gus Sermos**, then public health adviser for the Centers for Disease Control, assigned to Florida (Feb. 21), reported the lack of surveillance of AIDS cases in Florida: "For that kind of medical disinterest and irresponsibility by public health officials, there's absolutely no excuse."

**Professor G. Leigh**, head of the Dermatology Department, Main Hospital, Novara, Italy (Sept. 5), said, "We cannot exclude the possibility of AIDS being transmitted by insects, especially mosquitoes." A greater effort, more resources and funds are needed to deal with this important problem.

After the Pasteur Research Team, the Department of Oncogene Virology announced in August that insects from Africa were found to be infected by the HIV virus in their genome, *EIR* interviewed the team's director, **Dr. Jean-Claude Chermann** (Oct. 24), in Paris, on the need to gear up a vast AIDS research effort.

**Dr. Mário Barreto Correa Lima**, of the University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Dec. 12), warned that "The already low nutrition and health levels make Brazilians susceptible to the AIDS virus." The citizens' health must be "the highest objective of the state"—over foreign debt payment because health is "worth more than ordinary economic goods."

**John Cardinal O'Connor** (Nov. 21) of New York is "not against" measures similar to Proposition 64 (the Nov. 4 California ballot initiative to apply standard public-health measures to AIDS) if it were worded in such a fashion that "clearly the thrust would be to protect people against malicious discrimination, and yet at the same time, very rationally provided guidelines or statutes to protect the community."

## Human rights

Following

Rouche's associates in Leesburg, Virginia, a call went out to form an International Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the United States. *EIR* interviewed some prominent sponsors of that call: **S.C. Birla** (Nov. 14), an advocate to the Indian Supreme Court, stated: "Public opinion should be mobilized against the violations of human rights and for the rule of law. A regular working board of inquiry is needed." Swedish attorney **Lennart Hane** (Nov. 21), warned of the danger of "applying Soviet legal methods to Western legal practice," reporting that in Sweden the legal "culture geographers subjugate family values to the state."

Attorney and Peronist Party leader **Juan Gabriel La-baké**, (May 2), charged that the government of Argentina has conspired to keep former Argentine President Isabel Perón "penniless and therefore politically powerless" in order to leave the Peronist Party "with no ideological or programmatic unity."

A key human rights issue that came up throughout the year was euthanasia. We interviewed **Dr. Karsten Vilmar** (April 18), president, West German Medical Association, who denounced the active euthanasia practiced in that country for economic reasons: "... The thing to fear is, where does it stop?"

## The sinking economy

**Gov. Mark White** (D-Tex.) (March 21) called on Washington to impose an oil import tariff, to be adjusted according to the price of oil, to keep prices stable. He would like to see the United States increase its industrial output: "I don't want to see us turn into a nation of people who, all we do is shine each others' shoes."

**Edward M. Kennedy** (retired), former secretary and legislation director of the National Farmers Union, research director for the United Mine Workers, Maryland probate judge (Oct. 31), deplores the present federal food programs as unconstitutional and immoral.

**Archbishop Philip Hannan** of New Orleans (Nov. 21)

criticized the Pastoral Letter on the economy issued by the American Bishops at their conference in November, for its neglect of science and technology: "... only one way to go ... with science and increased production ... we need more people to consume the food. It's not that we don't have enough food ... the tide is moving [among Bishops] to abandon the anti-science, anti-military prejudice."

## The crisis in Africa

Much attention during the year was focused on the issue of apartheid in South Africa and the imposition of punitive sanctions—while the continent was dying as a result of AIDS and devastating insect infestation. Our interviews addressed these realities from a standpoint that rebuked the hypocrisy of the liberal press:

**Mangosuthu Buthelezi**, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, chairman of the South African Black Alliance, and president of Inkatha, the major black liberation movement (June 6). "Whites need blacks as much as blacks need whites, in fact, we are interdependent. So that economic interdependence can be used in negotiations to convert it into political interdependence. ... The free enterprise system is as evil as apartheid itself." Those who propose sanctions "wish to destroy the economy; apartheid is not the issue."

**Dr. Oscar Dhlomo**, KwaZulu minister of education and culture, Secretary-General of Inkatha (June 6). "Foreign investment and economic development in Africa [will be] useful tools in the post-apartheid struggle. ... Blacks will suffer the most as a result of disinvestment."

**Dr. Peet Strydom**, chief economist of Sankorp, a large, Afrikaaner-based financial conglomerate (Aug. 1): "The growth of the manufacturing economy represents important leverage against apartheid. ... [Sanctions] dismantle the economy, which has always been opposed to apartheid."

**Sir Leslie Smith**, chairman, British Industry Committee on South Africa (BICSA) (Aug. 15), formed in 1986: South Africa needs a "positive approach, the sanctions approach is negative. ... The biggest pressure available to bring to bear on the Afrikaaners, to end apartheid, is to encourage the growth of the black middle class. ... South Africa's economic growth is the engine for the entire region. ... [Its] effects would spill over automatically to the front-line states."

*EIR* exposed bureaucratic opposition to the large-scale measures needed to stop the locust plague, in interviews with **Julia Taft**, Director, U.S. Office for Disaster Assistance (Sept. 5), and **Rafink Skaf** of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (Sept. 26). In contrast, **George Cavin**, retired Department of Agriculture entomologist (Oct. 3), urged large-scale spraying efforts. **M. Falilou Kane**, Senegal's ambassador to Washington (Oct. 24), (Senegal was the only country to request and receive assistance for large-scale insect eradication using large planes) stated: "We did not accept the advice of some experts saying we did not

need big planes, what we needed was spraying on the ground or spraying with small planes. . . . So for us, it is really a big success."

### Third World debt

Peruvian President Alan García's success with his "10% solution" to the crushing foreign debt was debated by many debtor countries:

President-elect of Guatemala **Vinicio Cerezo** (Jan. 10) promised to search for rational payment schemes for the debt. Those proposed by Alan García of Peru "could be a starting point. . . . We would support a position on this question if taken jointly by all the Latin American countries."

**Vishwanath Pratap Singh**, India's Finance Minister (Jan. 10): "The debt position of a large number of developing countries has become grave. . . . international action must immediately be taken . . . to improve the prospects of flows of real resources and free access to markets of industrial countries."

**Jorge Carrillo Rojas**, then Colombia's Labor Minister (March 28), asked: "Why not design financial institutions that take into account the important precept that man comes first," not "the defense of usury and its institutions?"

From Italy, **Hon. Publio Fiore**, Christian Democratic member of Parliament (March 21) called for a club of politicians of the United States, Europe, and developing sector countries to oppose the International Monetary Fund, "to give an immediate, real hope, to the developing countries."

### Mideast 'Marshall Plan'

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres's "Marshall Plan" for the Mideast was explained by **Gad Ya'acobi**, Economic Planning Minister for Israel (April 11 and June 20): "The general idea is that the Mideast will be more developed from the economic point of view" and the increased standard of living will mean "people will therefore have more to lose as a result of war . . . which will help establish a peaceful environment in the Mideast." We must get the United States, Canada, the EC countries, and Japan to initiate and carry out an "overall economic development program to accelerate the development process in industry, education, training, irrigation, technology, and Research and Development."

**Arnnon Gafny**, former governor of the Bank of Israel (June 20), said, "I would like to see the funds which can support bigger projects; this is why I suggested the mobilization of at least \$30 billion for 10 years. . . ." **Yitzhak Artzi**, member of the Knesset, Independent Liberal Party (June 27) said the Plan would improve the climate between Israel and the Arab countries "to reach a situation where two countries technically in a state of war are cooperating." **Meir Pa'il**, Knesset member (June 27): "I can envision Israel as a United States of the Middle East."

Peres's moves won approval from **Hanna Siniora**, editor-in-chief of the Palestinian daily *Al Fajr* (Aug. 8), who

called the prime minister's summit with King Hassan of Morocco "a bold step" which "provides mobility after six months in which there had been no action at all."

### Science and Technology

The *Science & Technology* section, inaugurated in fall 1985, introduced many discoveries to *EIR*'s readers in the words of their pioneers. A sampling:

**Dr. B.A. Soldano**, Professor of Physics at Furman University and former research fellow at Goddard Space Center (Jan. 31), collected a series of empirical results to challenge accepted physics on the equivalence of gravitational and inertial mass.

**Thomas O. Paine**, former administrator of NASA and head of the National Commission on Space (June 20), which released its report on May 23, recommended a manned return to the Moon by 2005 and a manned Mars landing by 2015. "We need a much stronger, more vigorous NASA. . . . It's going to take us a good five years of intensive technological development and that means you can't be sitting around debating Gramm-Rudman."

**Dr. George Baldwin** of the Los Alamos National Laboratory talked about advances in gamma-ray lasers since 1961 (Oct. 31). **Dr. Dale Meade**, in charge of Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) experiments at Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (Nov. 21), said, "TFTR brings us closer to fusion as a practical energy source. . . . [it] will shut down at the end of September 1986. If we had the money, it would not!"

Also interviewed were: **Dr. Charles Fenstermacher**, director of Los Alamos National Laboratory's Trailmaster program (April 18), which will help drive x-ray lasers and fusion reactors; **Birch Holt** of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (July 25), the principal investigator of self-propagating high-temperature synthesis in ceramics with applications in nuclear reactors; **Dr. John Cox**, president of Future Tech Industries in Gainesville, Florida (Nov. 14) on a system for food irradiation using x-rays, which will be a particular boon to developing countries.

### Cultural warfare

**Mrs. Elisabeth Furtwängler**, widow of the late great German conductor, paid tribute to Wilhelm Furtwängler on the 100th anniversary of his birth (Jan. 24).

**Gen. Chavalet Yodmani**, Thailand's secretary-general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (Oct. 31), described his country's war on drugs and stated: "The big mafia behind the scenes is American. We are happy to see the United States take the lead in the war on drugs on a large scale."

**Carl Oglesby**, 1960s Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) leader (May 16), states that LaRouche has never been a Marxist. LaRouche "has been very consistent over the years . . . he is a Platonist, I am an Aristotelian."