

## National News

### U.S. will close office of the PLO

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead announced on Sept. 10 that the United States would close down the Washington, D.C. office of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The decision came while 49 senators, including Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), Paul Simon (D-Ill.), Barbara Milkuski (D-Md.), Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), and Alfonse D'Aмато (R-N.Y.), are pushing their Anti-Terrorism Act, which calls for closing the PLO offices in Washington and at the United Nations.

According to press reports, there was an internal fight within the State Department over the issue, with Assistant Secretary of State Alan Keyes, Ambassador-at-Large Paul Bremer, and legal counsel Abraham Sofaer supporting the decision, and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy of the Bureau of Near East Affairs opposing it.

### Pentagon refutes claims about Soviet facility

In response to statements by three congressmen who toured the Soviet Union's Krasnoyarsk radar facility, casting doubt on Pentagon charges that it is a violation of the ABM treaty, two Pentagon officials have given a complete briefing on the nature of the facility to the press.

Frank Gaffney, the designated secretary of defense for international security policy, and Defense Intelligence Agency strategic programs officer James McCrery gave the briefing on Sept. 9. Said Gaffney, "This radar is a ballistic-missile detection and tracking radar. As such, it is a clear-cut violation of the ABM treaty. . . .

"We didn't need on-site inspection . . . to determine that. . . . We disagree categorically with the contention that this is . . .

a militarily insignificant violation of the ABM treaty . . . the Krasnoyarsk radar violation goes to the heart of the ABM treaty."

Jim McCrery then said the Soviets "have committed themselves, years ago, to . . . serious ABM development, and . . . to deployment as well. And we see that . . . in the area of large radars . . . in particular, the Krasnoyarsk radar, . . . the world's largest . . . the world's most powerful radar. . . . It can track large numbers of objects very accurately. The data from that radar can be used for any number of purposes to include early warning, attack assessment, battle management and other kinds of ABM-related functions."

He added that the radar facility could be completed in "about two more years. . . . It takes a long time to build these radars." Completion of the network of "nine large phase array radars is projected to be completed sometime in the early '90s, and so, conceivably, deployment of the engagement systems, the ABM sites . . . could begin at that time or even before that time."

Gaffney concluded: "We should remember there's another tradition in the Soviet Union, indeed going back to the time of the Czars, and this is the phenomenon of showing people what you want them to see. And this, perhaps, reached a highwater mark in the time of Catherine the Great and the Potemkin Village. . . . [Krasnoyarsk] may well be the Potemkin radar."

### SDI will go into new experimental phase

The Pentagon will soon announce that its top policy panel, the Defense Acquisition Board, has approved six satellites, weapons, and control systems for a demonstration phase of the Strategic Defense Initiative that could lead to their development as a first generation defense in the mid-1990s, according to the *Baltimore Sun* Sept. 6.

The *Sun* comments that this new phase will "further solidify SDI as a national fact of life," and quotes Rep. John M. Spratt (D-

S.C.), who has chaired SDI investigations for the House Armed Services Committee, saying that those Democratic presidential candidates who have attacked the SDI "could have to eat some of their words."

### FBI sought arrest of Lyndon LaRouche

The FBI case agent on the Boston "LaRouche investigation" tried to get an arrest warrant for presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche during the gigantic raid of Oct. 6, 1987, in which a paramilitary force of nearly 400 federal and state officials invaded the small town of Leesburg, Virginia.

On the evening of Oct. 6, LaRouche, suspecting a plot to jail him and kill him, sent a personal telegram to President Reagan, warning that an attempt to arrest him would be tantamount to an effort to assassinate him, and that he had done nothing wrong to warrant being imprisoned.

Testimony in federal court in Boston on Sept. 4 by FBI Special Agent Richard Egan is the first official confirmation that a plot to arrest LaRouche at that time in fact existed. Egan's bombshell disclosure came during testimony in a pre-trial hearing in the *U.S. v. The LaRouche Campaign* case.

Egan said that following his reading of notebooks in the office of LaRouche's associate Edward Spannaus on the morning of Oct. 6 (an action not authorized by the search warrant), he rushed out to a nearby raid command post to consult with FBI and Justice Department officials. "I thought there was a basis for additional arrests," he testified. "I thought there was probably a basis to arrest Spannaus and to arrest LaRouche."

When asked why the additional arrests had not taken place, Egan responded lamely that it took a long time to "digest" the evidence. (Perhaps "manufacture" would have been a better word.) In fact, it took the Justice Department almost eight months, until June 30, 1987, to finally indict LaRouche. Spannaus was indicted on Dec. 16, 1986.

Egan did not return to the premises until

11:30 p.m.—over 13 hours later. The long time interval, and the pattern of FBI and police deployments on Oct. 6, suggest that an intensive debate took place during the afternoon as to whether or not to arrest and jail LaRouche, which was probably not resolved until LaRouche's telegram was sent to President Reagan that evening.

## Weinberger appeals to academics on SDI

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger spoke on Sept. 4 at the University of Wyoming, on the role of the university in defense of a free society. "I would like to argue to you today that there is no conflict between the aims of the academy, and the defense of our freedom in the nuclear age," he said. "Indeed, I see a great harmony, and even a fulfillment of those rightful aims of our great educational institutions. I believe that aiding in the construction of SDI is only a part of a larger obligation and a major opportunity for our colleges and universities to help defend our republic and our freedom."

"Given the real world in which we live," he concluded, "it is not only consistent with the purposes of the university to assist in the development of the Strategic Defense Initiative; it is a fulfillment of the university's real purpose, which is to defend the soul of free society through discovery, debate, and learning, and the pursuit of truth."

Weinberger invoked the example of Socrates, to demonstrate how the man of ideas figures in the defense of his nation. "If I were to search for a model of that man who best embodied the love of free inquiry and the love of free citizenship, it would be Socrates. He said in the *Apology* that Athens was committing a grave injustice against him by condemning him to death. Defiantly, Socrates vowed never to cease from examining the grounds of the well-lived life. Yet he always fought his city's battles and was known for his great courage in her defense. He claimed that both his questioning of Athens and his willingness to defend his city

stemmed from his love of knowledge. Moreover, in the *Crito*, the sequel to the *Apology*, Socrates refused to leave Athens for another city, even to save his life. Where else could he go, he asked, where he would be as free to philosophize?

"Like her modern descendant, America, Athens was not a perfect society. But also like America, Athens was a free society—a society that was free to perfect its imperfections. As such, she won the allegiance of the man who was to know, and who knew best how to be free."

## Report says U.S. will break ABM treaty

The Reagan White House has set the stage for abrogating the 1972 ABM treaty, according to a report prepared by the Congressional Research Service and released Sept. 4. The report said that the public record does not provide conclusive proof, "however, if the administration does determine to begin the process of withdrawing from the ABM treaty, it has laid important legal, political, and diplomatic groundwork to that end."

The report, commissioned by SDI opponent Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wisc.), said the case being made for breaking out of the ABM treaty parallels that made for dumping SALT II earlier. "I think Congress should be on the lookout for a surprise from the administration," said Proxmire, noting that the United States and Soviet Union are slated to conduct a formal review of the treaty this year.

Groundwork has been laid in several areas: 1) The White House has accused the Soviets of violating the treaty, and said the violations give Washington the right to withdraw; 2) U.S. officials have made numerous public statements during the past several years, to the effect that the Russians are poised to break out of the treaty; 3) The White House has promoted the "broad" interpretation of the treaty, which would permit aggressive testing and development of the Strategic Defense Initiative.

## Briefly

● **THE TEAMSTERS** ran a full-page ad in the *Washington Post* on Sept. 6, denouncing the Justice Department's bid to put the union in receivership. The text: "Takeovers of unions are nothing new—Communists and Fascists have been doing so for decades. It's a sad day in the history of the United States and the American labor movement when such tactics are even considered. AMERICA . . . it can't happen here. Or can it?"

● **MOSCOW'S U.S.A.** and Canada Institute is putting out the evaluation that Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis will win the Democratic presidential nomination, but that Sen. Robert Dole (R-Kan.) will be the next President, reported the English newspaper *The Independent* on Sept. 11, citing Moscow diplomatic sources.

● **ARMAND HAMMER** was in Moscow during the last week of August. In an interview to *Izvestia* columnist Melor Sturua, he bragged that he will celebrate his 90th birthday in Washington in 1988, "But my 100th birthday I promise to celebrate in Moscow."

● **MARIO CUOMO** intends to seek advice from Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and Richard Nixon, before heading off to the Soviet Union Sept. 19. "I wouldn't go to Russia without talking to Nixon," the New York governor said.

● **IRVING BROWN**, a long-time Europe-based operative of the AFL-CIO's International Department, had a brain hemorrhage at the last meeting of the International Labor Organization in November 1986. Since then, "he has had periods when he remembers he's the old Irving. For other periods, he doesn't know who he is," said an associate.