

Business Briefs

Science

China inaugurates new atom smasher

China on Oct. 19 inaugurated one of the world's most advanced atom smashers, an underground machine physicists use to study the basic structure of matter, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Zhou Guangzhao, president of the Academy of Science and head of the project, called its completion one of the most important advances in Chinese science in recent years, the agency said.

The \$65 million machine causes subatomic particles to collide and disintegrate into tiny units that can be photographed.

The project, begun in 1984, includes a 656-foot-long linear accelerator, a radiation laboratory, and a computer center.

Dope, Inc.

Bolivia plans to export cocaine

Bolivia plans to export coca paste and cocaine "for medicinal purposes," government officials announced Oct. 19.

They said that the Soviet Union has put in an order for 220 pounds of cocaine and 10 tons of coca paste for its pharmaceutical industry, while "a European country" had offered to buy 10 tons of coca base a year for \$10 million, officials said.

Deputy Planning Minister Anibal Aguilar, who would not name the European country, said the legal coca exports depended on authorization by the U.N.'s International Narcotics Control Board.

Deputy Minister for Social Defense Jorge Alderete added that Bolivia is also considering adopting "the Peruvian policy" of selling confiscated drugs. In September, the Peruvian government issued a decree allowing coca and coca paste confiscated by law enforcement officials to be sold, instead of burned.

East bloc

Troubled Yugoslavia sharply raises prices

The government of Yugoslavia, teetering on the edge of a military coup, ethnic civil war, or both, has just announced sharp food price increases.

The government announced a 60% rise in the price of bread, while price increases are expected to "drive the remaining shoppers out of the meat markets."

Ground beef prices have been increased from \$2.21 to \$3.39 per pound. The cheapest kind of bread rose 5-8¢ a pound.

Yugoslavia has implemented a savage austerity policy at the behest of the International Monetary Fund. Its rate of inflation is now 217%.

Food prices were already a major cause of the breakout of ethnic hostilities before the latest hikes.

Trade

Wisdom from the Fed chairman

"Goods Shrink and Trade Grows," reads the headline on a piece of post-industrial gibberish by Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan in the Oct. 22 *Wall Street Journal*. He insists that world trade is "expanding." He then gives statistics that prove that world trade is *not* expanding.

He argues that trade is expanding, on the basis of a "marked downsizing of economic output." For example, radios have been miniaturized and don't weigh as much. "Obviously, the less the bulk and the lower the weight, the easier it is to move goods."

But it is also not expanding, he admits: "If all the tons of grain, cotton, ore, coal, steel, cement, and the like that Americans produce were combined, their aggregate volume probably would not be much greater on a per-capita basis today than it was, say, 50 or 75 years ago."

"It is not surprising, therefore, to find that pounds shipped by vessel and air per

real dollar of U.S. exports have fallen an average of more than 2½% per year during the past two decades. Pounds shipped per real dollar of U.S. imports have declined an average of more than 4% per year.

"On a global basis, the real value of trade has grown at an annual rate of more than 5% over the past two decades, significantly outstripping the growth in world GNP. In tonnage terms, of course, the increase has been far less."

What trade has then been "expanding"? The "conceptual components" of world trade, such as "information technology."

Greenspan also argues, "The extraordinary downsizing of goods makes protectionism harder to sustain," and makes economic integration more necessary, as in the "Europe 1992" project, in which all customs barriers are to be dropped in Europe that year. All this, says Greenspan, requires greater coordination of industrial nations' economic policies to prevent "destabilizing capital flows."

Finally, he observes, "Coordination presupposes the foregoing of full sovereignty over a nation's affairs."

Agriculture

Seed corn output cut by half

1988's seed corn crop production will be 48% less than projected, according to the American Seed Trade Association of Washington, D.C., which surveyed its membership in late July and early September.

Said Bill Schapaugh, executive vice president of the association, "In my opinion this is very reliable information. Seed corn supplies are going to be very, very tight and inadequate for next spring. The situation is unprecedented in the seed corn industry, I have never seen it before; I don't believe there's ever been such a wide area of production affected."

Typically, there's a pipeline supply of seed that either is in reserve or ordered by dealers or farmers that isn't planted during the season. Today, that pipeline is only 30-35% of what is available in a normal year.

Briefly

Europe 1992

Strauss calls for economic summit

Appearing at an Oct. 25 symposium of the American Enterprise Institute titled "Trade Policy: The Next Four Years and Beyond," Robert Strauss called for major economic bargaining to take place at a summit with the Japanese and the European Commission on trade policy. Strauss said that the focus of this discussion should be how to create growth and markets in the Third World, so that the debt problem can be resolved.

Observers believe Strauss has in mind schemes like the "North American Common Market," which would facilitate the looting of Mexico by North American financial interests. Strauss is a former Democratic Party chairman and now a leader of the "bipartisan" National Economic Commission, which is plotting ferocious austerity for the United States under the next administration. He is known to oppose any policy that would actually promote economic growth.

Strauss and another NEC member, William Brock, praised European plans for integration in 1992 at the symposium. The elimination of customs barriers that year is to be followed by the elimination of national sovereignty under a "European Central Bank," and transformation of the continent into a looting ground for the Soviet Union.

Strauss called these plans "tremendous," adding that the changes only *start* in 1992, and will continue at least until the year 2000. After the initial economic integration, will follow tighter administrative integration. Strauss predicted that the Europe 1992 developments will drive the Japanese into a closer trading bloc with the United States.

Technology

Japanese building experimental ship

The Mitsubishi shipyard in Japan is building an experimental, electromagnetic-propelled ship, which could be launched by 1990,

London's *Daily Telegraph* reported Oct. 25.

The ship will be equipped with Toshiba-made superconducting magnets for electromagnetic propulsion. It will be able to cross the Pacific Ocean in one-quarter of the current time. The ship is named Yamato One, after a Japanese battleship sunk by the Allies in 1945.

The ship will use an electromagnetic thruster to create a water jet that will replace the current propellers. This contains a water duct surrounded by extremely powerful superconducting magnets, and electrodes that send a current through the water. The water jet arises from repulsion between the magnets and the current in the sea water. The water jet will give the ship high speed in relation to the magnetic field strength, low noise, and lower operating cost.

Euthanasia

C. Everett Koop joins death lobby

Speaking in Worcester, Mass. Oct. 24, U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop asserted that he thinks it is all right to starve terminally ill patients to death—provided, of course, they ask for it.

He told a conference on euthanasia that, if a patient refused food, "I would stand back to let nature take its course. That's a phrase and an approach I suggest that we might want to explore and rely on more and more." Especially, no doubt, as the AIDS plague, which Koop is the chief official liar about, keeps on spreading.

Koop cited the case of his "Uncle Harry," whom he treated, and for whom he decided against a feeding tube. "Uncle Harry was loved and cared for. He was given nutritious fluids and medication he would or could accept" without a feeding tube. "His death was a good death, but it wasn't euthanasia."

Koop's remarks were hailed by Dr. Fred Rosner of the University of New York at Stony Brook, who declared that "only the lawyers and the ethicists . . . insist that the patient be kept alive by any means."

● **JOHN CRYSTAL**, head of Bankers Trust in Des Moines, Iowa, arranged for 11 Soviet farmers to visit central Iowa farms in October as part of a cultural exchange program. Crystal, Roswell Garst's nephew, had the group hosted by the Garst bank network in Iowa. Garst hosted Soviet Chairman Nikita Khrushchev at his farm in Coon Rapids on Sept. 23, 1959.

● **THE BANKS** cannot blithely accept suitcases, cardboard boxes, and bags full of money, and expect to escape attention, Assistant Commissioner of Customs William Rosenblatt told Reuters Oct. 27. "If you have criminals coming to your bank to make enormous deposits . . . we are going to go after your officers, your directors, for conspiracy with those criminals," he said.

● **EVERY CHILD** in the continent of South America enters the world with more than \$30,000 of financial debt, James Grant, president of UNICEF, told a conference on infant mortality in Mexico City Oct. 26. He reported that 22% of all deaths in Mexico each year are children under the age of five.

● **CLAYTON YEUTTER**, U.S. Special Trade Representative, was to decide by Oct. 28 whether to retaliate against Japan for its ban on imported rice. Japan holds its self-sufficiency in rice very dear. U.S. trade groups representing rice farmers and millers, filed a petition requesting an unfair trade practices investigation in September.

● **FOOD BANKS** controlled by the grain cartel's Second Harvest network are having no trouble obtaining food, but others which have refused to become part of Second Harvest in Texas and Ohio are being starved of supplies.