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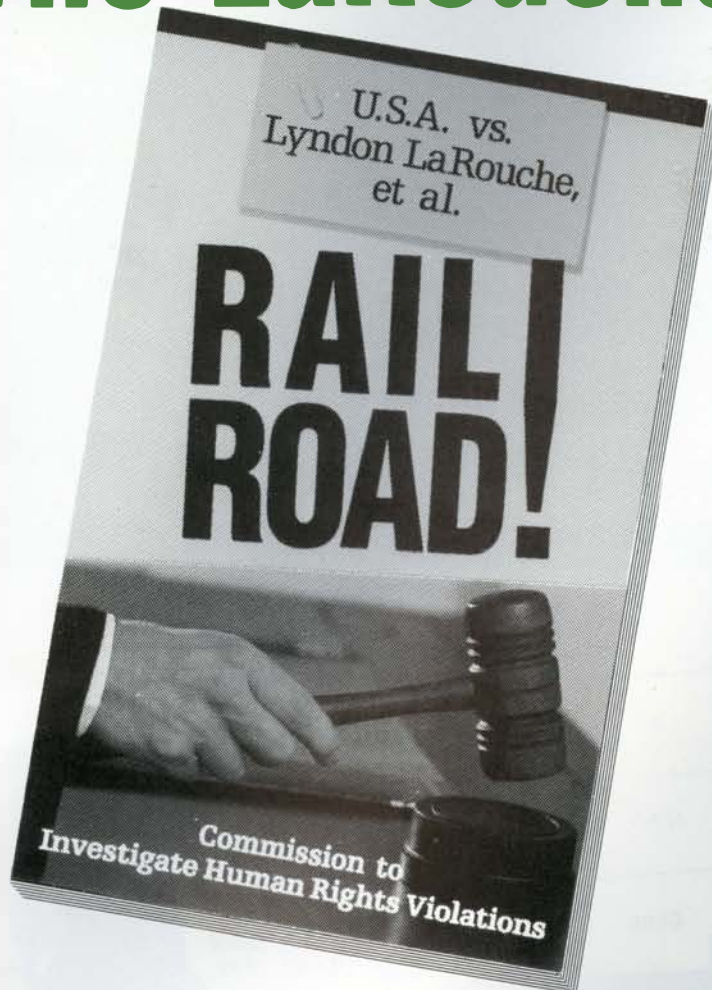
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Tel: (06121) 8840. Executive Directors: Anno Hellenbroich, Michael Liebig

In Denmark: EIR, Rosenvængets Alle 20, 2100 Copenhagen OE, Tel. (01) 42-15-00

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From the Editor

In comments made on Feb. 1, U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche warned that the war in the Persian Gulf is “running out of control.” “The United States must find a way to disengage from this war,” he emphasized: “Granted, the United States has the military capability of demolishing the entire territory of Iraq, but if it were to do so, it would only assuredly lose the broader, spreading war.”

LaRouche added, “We are now at the point that the Soviet factor which Mr. Bush so far refuses to acknowledge, is going to become the dominant factor in this war.”

Among this week’s exclusive stories:

- The Soviet danger. Did you buy Gorbachov’s reassuring words about “withdrawing” troops from the Baltic states? Turn to p. 43 and get the facts.

- The widening war. Our coverage of the spread of Bush’s Gulf conflict to involve Muslims and Arabs far beyond Iraq begins on p. 38.

- Police states in the “free world.” On p. 42, read about the clampdown on civil rights in Western Europe and the United States under the pretext of the war. And on p. 60, read excerpts from the U.S. Army War College report criticizing U.S. policy toward Iraq. It pre-dates, and partially explains the reasons for, the present war—but its authors are not allowed to discuss it.

Meanwhile, the word “sortie” has turned, since Jan. 17, from a somewhat obscure military term of French origin, into a household word in the United States, as Pentagon spokesmen bombard us with triumphant reports on the U.S. air war over Iraq. And so we ask, where are the sorties to defend the United States from a far greater threat than any imagined one in the Middle East—the threat of mind-destroying drugs against our youth? Where is the military “war on drugs” (consistently recommended by Lyndon LaRouche) when it comes, not to invading a small Third World country like Panama, but to stopping the transformation of the United States from a major consumer of drugs, into a major *producer* of drugs as well? This is the theme of our shocking cover story.

As a reminder that we can still offer our youth a brighter future, the *Science & Technology* section returns, with a series on the work of physicist and fusion energy pioneer Winston Bostick. Were fusion’s potential realized, there would be no more wars over oil.

Nora Hamerman

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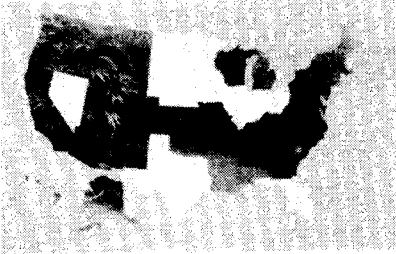
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Washington uses Gulf war to wage trade war

by Marcia Merry

In the theater of trade war, the Bushmen have won significant battles since the American bombs began firing in the Persian Gulf on Jan. 17. As of the end of January, concessions have been made to U.S. agricultural and industrial trade demands by many nations that were previously trying to protect their own economic interests. The most dramatic examples are:

- the decision by the European Airbus Industrie to slash government subsidies to the aircraft consortium; and
- newly-offered European Community (EC) concessions to U.S. demands for "free market" agriculture, in the context of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations.

The chief trade war tactic by Washington has been relatively simple, and apparently effective. President Bush and his top representatives communicate the message: We are crazy! We are destroying our own economy, and we expect you to do the same. What are you going to do about it?

As of Jan. 31, the European Community offered to mollify Washington by slashing EC support to the Airbus Industrie by up to 45%. U.S. trade officials had been raging that such subsidies were "unfair" to U.S. interests, never mind the sovereign right of European nations to carry through their own industrial policies.

The proposed Airbus concession follows a four-year stalemate over charges and counter-charges, and U.S. threats to take the case to GATT for mediation. Since the outbreak of the Gulf war, pressure has been fierce on the 12 EC member nations to kowtow to the Anglo-American demands that they slash internal subsidies to industry and agriculture, and pay their part of "burden sharing" for the war.

France and Germany, the leaders of the Airbus consortium, had held out against Washington's pressure before the war, but now appear to have capitulated. The Airbus group

will be hit by this just at a time when it is reeling from large order cancellations by the U.S. airlines which are in financial crises, including Pan American and Continental. The major rival to Airbus in world civilian airplane manufacture is the U.S. Boeing Co.

Farm support policies targeted

Washington trade officials are moving for the same European capitulation on agriculture support policy, in negotiations for a global GATT treaty for "free market" agriculture. On Dec. 7, 1990, talks in Brussels broke down among the 107 GATT member nations, after a four-year drive, called the Uruguay Round, in which the Anglo-Americans pushed for a world treaty by late 1990 that would have slashed farm supports and national import laws. The cause of the breakdown was the impasse between the EC and the United States over agriculture.

The United States and the Cairns Group (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and collaborating governments in the Third World) demanded that all farm price supports and similar mechanisms be phased out over the 1990s, or at least slashed by 75%, and that any protectionist food export/import practices be eliminated.

The European Community counterproposal was for a de facto 15% cut in their farm supports by 1995, figuring that they have already implemented a 15% cut over the last five years. Over 30,000 farmers demonstrated in Brussels on Dec. 3 against the GATT, and the talks broke up.

However, U.S. Special Trade Representative Carla Hills, outgoing Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter, and the Geneva-based GATT Secretariat Director Arthur Dunkel have been scurrying around to resume GATT agriculture treaty talks—on Anglo-American terms, now that the Gulf

war has started.

Dunkel's first salvo misfired. He gathered a meeting together on Jan. 15 of GATT member delegates in Europe to confer on prospects for an agriculture treaty early in 1991. But after 30 minutes, the meeting adjourned, when the Swiss representative said realistically, "It's absurd to discuss trade liberalization when we are about to have a Mideast War."

But as the war proceeded, the U.S. officials proceeded with their GATT intentions. Hills let it be known that if the EC showed some "flexibility" on its previous proposal for 15% cuts in farm supports, she would reciprocate. By this, she meant only that she would ask Congress to move back its March deadline for "fast track" approval of any GATT treaty that might be negotiated.

MacSharry agrees to more cuts

Reflecting the U.S. pressure, EC Agriculture Commissioner Ray MacSharry has reportedly drafted a new proposal for cuts in supports to farmers that would be more than his original 30%. According to informed reports from Brussels, MacSharry's latest proposal, prepared as part of a total reform of the EC's Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), calls for a further 40% cut in EC Intervention Prices for farm price stabilization.

Preliminary estimates are that this would wipe out entire national agriculture sectors in countries dependent on agriculture, such as Denmark and the Netherlands. It is not yet clear whether EC member governments will accept or block the MacSharry proposal. There were intense political battles and farmer demonstrations against GATT throughout 1990, and farmer protests are continuing in the new year. On Jan. 29 and 30, farmers in Spain blocked roads all around the country, to demand higher prices for their products within the EC. Union leaders said the protests would continue all week.

Last April, before the annual meeting of EC ministers to confirm the CAP price levels for the upcoming year, record demonstrations by farmers swept Western Europe. The mood was strongly anti-GATT, anti-EC bureaucracy, and anti-Washington. This ferment is now feeding into the huge demonstrations in Europe to oppose the Gulf war.

France's Jacques Delors, chairman of the European Commission, and the other EC commissioners reportedly support the MacSharry plan. It is likely that several of these bureaucrats cannot even see that a 40% price support cut would cause mass bankruptcy of the base of the larger, more efficient farms now operating across Europe.

Backing from the food cartels

With or without a GATT treaty, Washington expects Europe to drastically alter the CAP, in the way that the food cartels succeeded in using the policy of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to undercut U.S. farms during the 1980s.

The food cartel companies are pushing the MacSharry proposal hard, especially Nestlé's and Unilever. Cartel grain bro-

kers are maneuvering to line up sweetheart contracts with managers for "mega-farms" in the former East Germany, made up of huge tracts of acreage from government "land reform" territory and former communist state collectives—some of which are over 10,000 acres of prime farmland. This would make them feudal barons of food control within the year. One group includes Krupp-Lonrho in Dortmund, Germany.

In mid-December, an outfit was set up in Hamburg called the Börde Agro AG, which has lined up a 123,000-acre tract for a mega-farm near Magdeburg. Chairman of the board of this new enterprise is one Peter Rother, who is also chairman of the Board of Grain AG-Rendsburg, an international trading house for grain and farm supplies.

So far, the German federal government has been paralyzed to move against these cartel interests by breaking up the state farms collectivized by the communists, and to restore individual family farms. It remains to be seen if the EC governments will resist the U.S. pressure to have a GATT treaty that will further slash CAP supports.

High praise from Washington

At the end of January, EC External Relations Commissioner Frans Andriessen flew to the United States for talks with Carla Hills, Clayton Yeutter, and other U.S. officials on the current situation. After meeting with Andriessen on Jan. 28, Yeutter praised the "new EC attitude" on farm policy.

Yeutter was the cartels' point person for the GATT Uruguay Round, right from the beginning in Punte del Este, Uruguay, in 1986. At that time, he was U.S. special trade representative; before that, he was head of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange; and he later became agriculture secretary. In March, he plans to take over the chairmanship of the Republican Party and continue his career as faithful bully-boy for the Bush administration, and for the commodities cartel interests running U.S. and British food policies—Cargill, Louis Dreyfus, Continental, ADM/Toepfer, ConAgra Bunge, and the rest.

In his Jan. 29 State of the Union address, President Bush reiterated his demands for GATT, and also stressed the bilateral "free trade" pacts with Canada, Mexico, and others in South America that Washington expects will run parallel, or as fallbacks, to a GATT trade treaty.

Using his usual technique of avoiding content and offering rah-rah rhetoric, Bush intoned, "A successful Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations will create more real jobs, and more real growth for all nations. . . . You and I know that if the playing field is level, America's workers and farmers can out-work, out-produce anyone, anytime, anywhere." He said that the Western Hemisphere will set the pace for "low cost" agriculture through a free trade zone. "And with a Mexican Free Trade Agreement, and our Enterprise for Americas Initiative, we can help our partners strengthen their economies and move toward a free trade zone throughout this entire hemisphere."

Schiller Institute helps Poles plan to replace Bielecki

by Frank Hahn

The internationally celebrated leader of the Solidarnosc trade union, Lech Walesa, now that he has become President of Poland, has flabbergasted his longstanding supporters and friends by naming the 39-year-old free market liberal Jan Krzysztof Bielecki from Gdansk as his prime minister.

Who is this ductile Gdanskier, who graduated from the College of Economics in Zopot in 1973 with a doctoral thesis on "Great Britain's Ties to the Continent via the English Channel"? For ten years, from 1973 to 1982, i.e., under the communist government, Bielecki worked in the Manager Training Center of the Ministry for Trade and Machine Building. The anglophile Bielecki became Solidarnosc's economics expert in 1980. Because of his cooperation with the independent trade union, then outlawed, in 1982 he lost his job in the government and later became a private businessman. To be more exact, after managing a shipping business, in 1985 he founded a consulting firm, which was particularly concerned with privatizing state-owned enterprises. The delicate aspect of this affair was the close cooperation between Bielecki's firm and the World Bank. Certain scandals—for example, Bielecki's support for the effort to sell off the Gdansk Lenin Shipyard to the American Barbara Johnson under the most impossible conditions—are still very much in the awareness of Poles today.

The free market image already shines through clearly in these few biographical details, but what was his essential programmatic proposal at the time the government was sworn in on Jan. 5? Bielecki announced that his top priority would be "defending the stability which has been achieved." What he means is, obviously, the infamous shock program of Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz, whose "stability" has achieved a drop in Poles' buying power by 31% and in industrial production by 27% in 1990 alone. The retention of Balcerowicz in the Finance Ministry was the essential precondition for the formation of the government, and thus Bielecki praised the shock program and swore to continue on this path. His announcement that in the future, foreign investors

may transfer their entire profits from Poland to their home countries (instead of having to invest at least a part in Poland), as well as his primary focus on Poland's export capacity, make clear in what direction Poland will march under Bielecki: Like Ghana or Bolivia, Poland is to beg for crumbs from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and watch as its resources are systematically plundered by foreign creditors and speculators. Gdansk shipbuilding professor Jerzy Doerffer put it this way: "Foreign investors want to make at least a 200-300% profit here. They behave like big-game hunters who hope to bring down a dozen wild beasts with a single shot—these Western investors are really carnivores!"

This is a bitter pill for all those who hoped that with the election of Walesa as President, the ill-famed Balcerowicz chapter in Polish history would end. Does Walesa not know what he is doing, or has he been so quickly corrupted by assuming high office? Many Poles are asking this question, inside and outside the country. Of course, there has been pressure on Poland, from the Americans and the IMF. The threat was, among other things, that credit would be cut off if Balcerowicz's program were not carried out. But even a Lech Walesa has yet to learn that no compromise or tactic works with these gangsters—only active opposition—since according to a recent communiqué from the Polish news agency, the IMF has delayed all further credits to Poland anyway, claiming that wages are still too high.

We cannot evade the tragic reality that the greatest hopes of the revolution in Eastern Europe—such as Walesa or Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Havel—had brilliantly and bravely faced down the communist dictatorships, but were not prepared for the task of leading a whole nation from the standpoint of true statecraft. In today's time of world economic crisis and danger of world war, this concept of statecraft belongs precisely to a Leibnizian conception of economic science.

Forming a new elite

What Poland now needs is not only a President who can make good on this assimilation of knowledge in a "crash course," so to speak, but also a broad layer of people from industry, labor, Church, and universities who will competently reject Balcerowicz and Bielecki's free market suicide program, and develop a scientific perspective for Poland. The Schiller Institute has become a decisive factor in Poland on this task of formation of an elite.

Thus, an informal meeting of managers of the shipbuilding industry from the Gdansk-Gdynia region took place with representatives of the Schiller Institute over one weekend in January in Gdansk. This group of managers sees itself as an organized opposition to Balcerowicz and Bielecki. They are proceeding on the assumption that with the right sort of active public relations, the Bielecki government will vanish in the parliamentary elections next spring. Schiller Institute proposals as an alternative to the Balcerowicz Plan were wel-

comed with gratitude. Especially helpful to the Poles was information on the catastrophic economic situation in the United States and the advice in this regard from the Schiller Institute: "Tell your government what a mess the American economy has become since the ideology of Jeffrey Sachs [the Harvard-trained mentor of Balcerowicz] was applied. Ask your government why they have to buy this crazy second-hand ideology like a used car that will break down after five miles."

One of the managers from a Gdansk shipyard said that this expressed exactly what he felt. "This week, I spoke to Bielecki for three hours," he said. "Then I realized that it was completely pointless, since this man understood nothing whatsoever about the economy, and I told him that." An example of Bielecki and Balcerowicz's total nonsense was then given: The government set an upper limit on wages at the shipyards in the Gdansk area. If the company on its own pays one zloty more, then it must immediately pay an additional five zlotys in taxes. This manager said, "I have enough money, and now pay my workers 1.5 million zlotys [approximately \$125] instead of 1.1 million. For that, I have to waste 2 million zlotys per man in additional taxes. But if I didn't give these wages, the people would stay away, since in some cases they earn 3 million zlotys at other firms. I could also pay 3 million or more in wages if I were willing to form a joint venture with a Western firm. For example, if a Western textile dealer opens a business here in Poland, he can offer his employees double pay and there aren't even any questions asked about eligibility. I call that modern slave trade!"

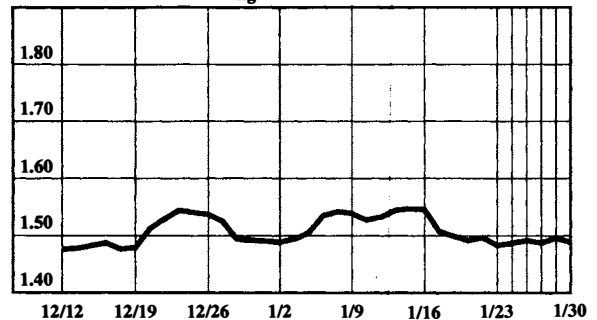
Where the strategy of joint ventures can lead, especially in industry, has just been graphically demonstrated to east coast shipyards in the case of the Norwegian firm Kvaerner SA. This company wanted to form a joint venture with the largest shipyard in Gdynia. The Polish shipyard had capital resources of \$145 million at the beginning of 1990. For an investment of \$22.5 million for a period of two years, the Norwegian firm, however, wanted to buy the position of general director and his assistant. Further, Kvaerner insisted that as a precondition for any negotiations, two contracts from France and England had to be immediately canceled and no further contracts to build ships accepted! And that, given a worldwide boom in shipbuilding in which the Polish shipyards can participate in an outstanding way!

Against this background, there was great interest and enthusiasm for intensive discussions of the Schiller Institute's program of the Paris-Berlin-Vienna Productive Triangle which, for the first time, advocates the necessary development of domestic productive capacities rather than depending on the world market. It was evident that the Poles are ready to fight for such a perspective and that thus, the old battle cry, "Poland is not lost yet," is still true, when the Gdansk manager made his confident closing remark: "We have already brought down so many governments in the last few years, we will topple Bielecki as well."

Currency Rates

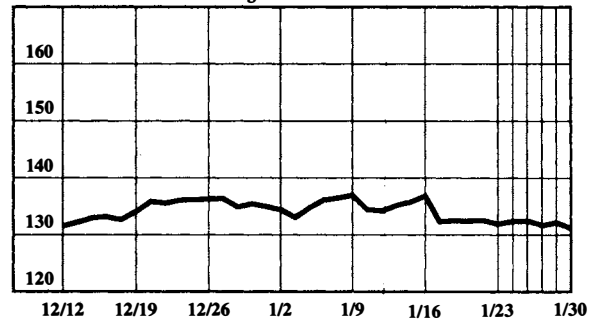
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



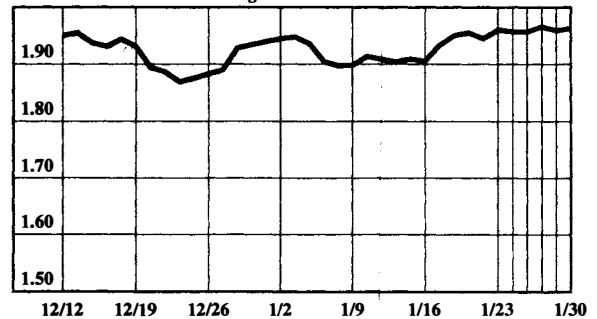
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



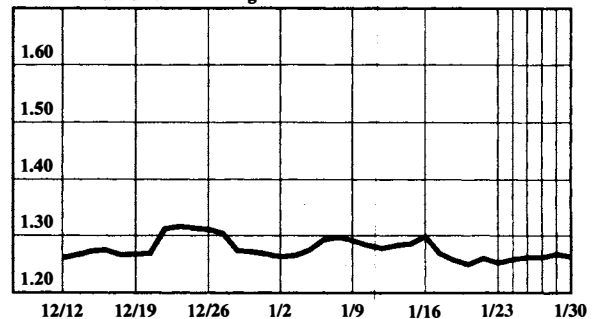
The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



Will Ibero-America's economies survive Bush's Gulf war?

by Dennis Small

Will the nations of Ibero-America use their energy and food resources for their own survival in the coming months, or will they continue to export them to satisfy the requirements of Bush's war drive in the Middle East?

Will they alter their economic and monetary strategies to protect their domestic economies from the international storm, or will they maintain the liberal, free market policies that their creditors have dictated, and continue to pay their foreign debt no matter what the cost?

These are the two central issues which are facing—and politically dividing—every nation of Ibero-America today, as the realization sets in that the world is in for a long war, and that it is a war whose purpose is to assure that no Third World nation achieves sovereign economic development.

"External shock," "crisis," "hoarding," "emergency measures," "extremely negative consequences"—these are the catch-words now heard constantly from Ibero-American government officials, opposition politicians, and the media, in response to the impact that the Gulf war is having on the area's economies.

Who gets the oil?

There is nothing more important to Venezuela than supplying oil to the United States, Venezuelan Energy Minister Celestino Armas told visiting U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher, in Caracas on Jan. 15. Armas confirmed that his government intends to launch "an ambitious project to expand its oil industry" in order to increase its oil exports to the U.S. by about a million barrels per day (bpd) over the next year. Mosbacher was in Caracas—on the day President Bush launched his war against Iraq—to offer Ibero-American nations \$15 billion in loans if they subject their economies to the demands of the U.S. war drive, especially on the energy front. A week later, Adm. James Watkins, the U.S. Secretary of Energy, traveled to Mexico with the same goal: ensuring "hemispheric energy security."

"Not a single Ibero-American soldier, not a drop of Ibero-American oil for the imperialist war against the Arab peo-

ple," countered a leaflet issued in mid-January by different nationalist groupings across the continent, and which is circulating in the hundreds of thousands of copies. The leaflet, which was quoted extensively in Panama's only opposition daily, *El Periodico*, under the headline "Bush's war is against the Third World," called for using the continent's resources for its own survival and development.

But today's reality is that most of Ibero-America's oil production does *not* go to meet its own requirements. As **Table 1** indicates, Ibero-America as a whole gets only 25% of its oil imports from Ibero-American producers—the remaining 75%, or 880,000 bpd, comes from other areas of the world, especially the Persian Gulf. Brazil, the area's largest importer by far, is in relatively the worst shape: Imports make up about half of its national consumption of about 1.2 million bpd, and only 5% of these come from within the continent. (All of the figures used in this report are *pre-Gulf war* estimates, based on CEPAL and national statistics. In many cases, the Middle East war has already brought about significant changes in these numbers.)

TABLE 1
Ibero-America's oil imports
(thousands bpd)

Country	Total	From Ibero-America	From rest of world	From Ibero-America (% of total)
Brazil	600	30	570	5.0%
Chile	150	70	80	46.7%
Central America	130	100	30	76.9%
Others	300	100	200	33.3%
Total	1,180	300	880	25.4%

Sources: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; *EIR* estimates.

Table 2 shows that there is no reason at all for this skewed pattern, other than the convenience and profitability of the oil multinationals in maintaining Ibero-America's dependence and vulnerability. Ibero-America as a whole exports over 3.7 million bpd of oil, only 8% of which is shipped to other Ibero-American countries. The remaining 92%, or about 3.4 million bpd, is sold elsewhere. Thus, Ibero-America as a whole exports more than three times as much oil as it imports—meaning it could easily cover the *entire* 1.18 million bpd import requirement with less than one-third of its exports, as **Figure 1** shows. The 880,000 bpd which Ibero-America now buys elsewhere, could be provided by the area's own exporters, by redirecting only one-quarter of what they now sell outside the region.

Why doesn't this occur? Why does Ibero-America tolerate such terrible vulnerability of its main economies? For two reasons. First, governments of the main oil-exporting nations, Mexico and Venezuela, have placed top priority on using their oil, not for development, but to earn foreign exchange with which to pay their foreign debt. And second, because the Bush administration has demanded that Ibero-America's oil exports must go preferentially to the U.S. strategic reserve—i.e., to the war machine—and the governments of Mexico and Venezuela have agreed.

Figure 2 shows the way in which Brazil's dependence on non-Ibero-American oil outweighs that of all other Ibero-American countries combined. Of the 880,000 bpd of the continent's non-Ibero-American imports, Brazil accounts for about 65%.

And where does Brazil get its imported oil from? Or, rather, where did it get it before the outbreak of Bush's war? **Figure 3** shows that 72% of its 600,000 bpd of imports came from Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Iran—all Persian Gulf countries now caught up in the maelstrom of war. It is true that, over the past few months, Brazil has taken steps to cover for the suspension of Iraqi and Kuwaiti shipments: Purchases

from Iran have risen from 100,000 to 150,000 bpd; new suppliers have been contacted; and domestic consumption is being reduced by rationing. But what will Brazil do if the entire Persian Gulf goes up in smoke over the weeks and months ahead, as it very well might? Can Brazil survive without those 430,000 bpd in imports? Or, even if some of that oil continues to arrive, can the economy withstand a \$50, \$75, or \$100 per barrel oil price?

So cataclysmic are these prospects, that even the slow-

The irony of this neo-colonial trade pattern is that there is near perfect complementarity of the Ibero-American economies. The big oil exporters (Venezuela and Mexico) need to import food, while the biggest oil importer (Brazil) is in a position, along with Argentina, to be a major food exporter.

witted administration of Brazil's President Fernando Collor de Mello is beginning to wake up to the gravity of the crisis. For example, Antonio Barboza, Brazil's ambassador to ALADI, an Ibero-American regional economic organization, has called for an emergency meeting of that body, because "the Gulf crisis leaves the region and its economies in suspense, and could provoke extremely negative effects on their trade balance, on internal prices, on public finances, and on the negotiations on the foreign debt." Ambassador Barboza went on to discuss Brazil's oil problem: "It's hard to believe," he confessed, "that Latin America, with at least two big producers, with 13% of reserves and 12% of world production, buys only 20% of its imports in the region." He went on to request an emergency ALADI meeting to take up the issue of regional self-sufficiency.

In Mexico, there is also a growing awareness that oil and its uses are central to the Gulf war—although there are sharp disagreements over whether to use it for domestic development or to feed the U.S. strategic reserve. Reflecting a "safe consensus," all of that country's political parties—from the ruling PRI, to the opposition PRD, PAN, PARM, PPS, and others—issued a joint "manifesto" Jan. 22 calling for a national demonstration to "confirm the national consensus to maintain our country apart from the war confrontation and what lies behind it: the strategic dispute for world control over oil. Mexican export oil must be used to mitigate the effects of the conflict in the poor countries, not only for the powerful countries, and never for war purposes."

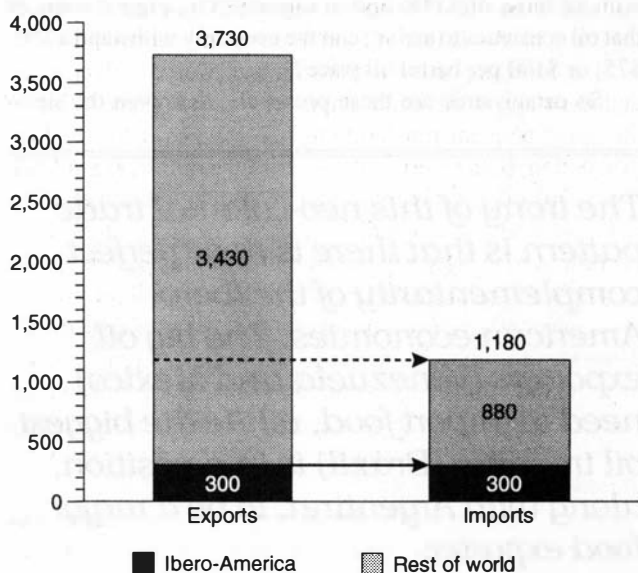
TABLE 2
Ibero-America's oil exports
(thousands bpd)

Country	Total	To Ibero-America	To rest of world	To Ibero-America (% of total)
Venezuela	1,800	160	1,640	8.9%
Mexico	1,400	80	1,320	5.7%
Colombia	250	20	230	8.0%
Ecuador	180	25	155	13.9%
Others	100	15	85	15.0%
Total	3,730	300	3,430	8.0%

Sources: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; EIR estimates.

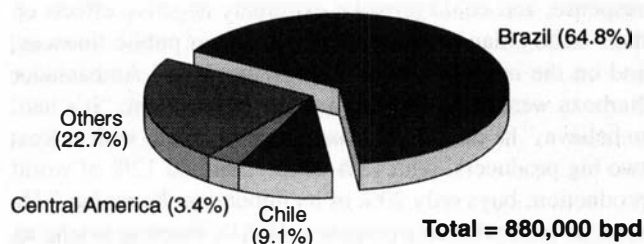
FIGURE 1
Ibero-American oil trade, by source and destination

(thousands of bpd)



Source: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; *EIR* estimates.

FIGURE 2
Ibero-America's oil imports from outside its area

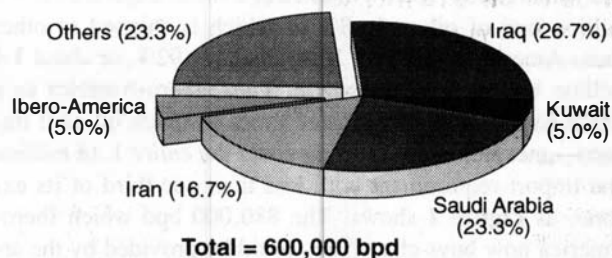


Source: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; *EIR* estimates.

Debt blowout imminent

Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez has publicly recognized Brazil's plight and offered to discuss ways to increase intraregional oil trade. But he has steadfastly insisted that Venezuela, as an oil exporter, has no such problems, that it can weather the storm, and that it is in no need of altering either its own economic gameplan, or its fierce allegiance to Bush's war effort. "There is absolutely nothing to fear regarding supplies, or market paralysis in any part of the

FIGURE 3
Brazil's oil imports, by source



Source: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; *EIR* estimates.

world," the Venezuelan head of state told the press.

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari is also putting up a good front, stating that his administration will proceed with the same Bush-dictated free market policies set in motion before the crisis: sharp reduction in the government budget; privatization of numerous state sector companies; overall economic liberalization and opening to foreign capital; and, above all, strict payment of the foreign debt.

Planning and Budget Secretary Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, speaking in direct representation of the Mexican President on Jan. 20, insisted, according to the daily *Excelsior*, that "the economic strategy of the Salinas government will not change, and due priority will be given to cleaning up government finances, to discipline in public spending, and especially to combatting inflation." Patting himself on the back, the government official stated that this was because "the economic strategy for 1991, which was drawn up prudently, anticipated the possible occurrence of particularly adverse external circumstances," and that therefore "the conditions of uncertainty that prevail in the world economy will not inhibit" Mexico.

Fortunately, not all political layers in Ibero-America are so blind. For example, the Mexican daily *El Universal* reported on Jan. 14, that "Mexico's economic recovery program is in grave danger," referring to the multiple damage which the economy will suffer as a result of inflation, the loss of export markets and tourist income, rising interest rates, and the drying up of investment capital.

A particularly insightful editorial on this subject appeared in the Colombian daily *El Espectador* on Jan. 21, which took note of the broader policy implications of the Gulf crisis: "We are dealing with a long and cruel war, even if there are those who hold to contrary illusions. . . . We think that the national government would do well to organize a working group to study the matter, and then prepare for what should be done with regard to supplying the country, beyond simply the fuel question. . . . The intervention of the state is going

TABLE 3

Losses and gains due to increases in the price of oil and interest rates

(millions \$ per year)

Country	Oil (\$1/barrel increase)	Interest rate (1 point increase)
Argentina	0	- 600
Brazil	-220	-1,150
Mexico	+510	-1,000
Venezuela	+655	- 350
Others	-210	-1,200
Total	+735	-4,300

Sources: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; World Bank; *EIR* estimates.

to be more, and not less, necessary, as free markets disappear or weaken everywhere, as rationing and prohibitions appear, which will be inevitable if the conflict spreads and becomes worse. That is, when a war economy comes.”

There are also those in Brazil who believe the crisis demands a total change in government policy from the current liberal, pro-Bush orientation. For example, on Jan. 11, Congressman Gastone Righi, a leader of the pro-government PTB party, predicted that the Middle East conflict could force the adoption of “other long-term alternatives that supersede the economic recession,” such as those adopted in the 1940s by Brazilian President Getulio Vargas, which began the process of industrializing the country.

The fact of the matter is that the biggest economic impact of the Gulf war on the Ibero-American economies won't even come from the direct effects of the oil crisis.

Of far greater magnitude will be the indirect effects triggered by the world trade, financial, and debt crises resulting from the conflict. Global depression, trade collapse, and skyrocketing interest rates will have a devastating impact on Ibero-America.

Table 3 tells part of the story. Take the case of Brazil. Every \$1 rise in the per barrel price of oil means a steep \$220 million loss for Brazil, because of the additional cost of oil imports. But a mere one point rise in international interest rates means that Brazil's annual debt service rises by about \$1.15 billion—five times as much as the oil effect!

An oil exporter like Mexico fares little better. It has a monetary gain of \$510 million from a \$1 per barrel oil price increase (although the Mexican government has made it clear that it will use such increased revenues *only* for further debt payments, and not for domestic development projects), but it would lose this amount *twice over* by a one point interest rate rise. And when you consider Ibero-America as a whole, the net oil effect, taking winners and losers combined, is a \$735 million windfall for every \$1 rise in oil

prices, compared to over \$4 billion lost to extra debt service from a one point rise in interest rates.

Food panic

One of the areas in which the combined effect of the oil and debt crises will be most severely felt—in fact, it already is hitting hard—is that of food imports and consumption.

Big food-importing nations such as Mexico, Venezuela, and Peru are in the early stages of national panic. First of all, oil-dependent transportation is a major factor in food production, both in terms of cost as well as physical availability. So the oil crisis will have an immediate multiplier effect in the food sector. Second, the Ibero-American nations have become increasingly dependent on U.S. food exports, as the decade's financial crisis decimated domestic food production, and now U.S. wartime measures are beginning to invalidate existing contracts, making U.S. military needs first priority. And third, as foreign exchange is channeled increasingly into debt service by the submissive government of Ibero-America, less and less is available for urgently required food imports.

In response to this developing situation, there was hoarding and panic buying in Venezuela in the first week after the Gulf war started, which forced Venezuelan authorities to go on television to try to reassure the population that “panic buying has caused momentary fictitious shortages,” but that “there is no cause for alarm.”

There has also been hoarding and panic buying in Peru, the Dominican Republic, and elsewhere.

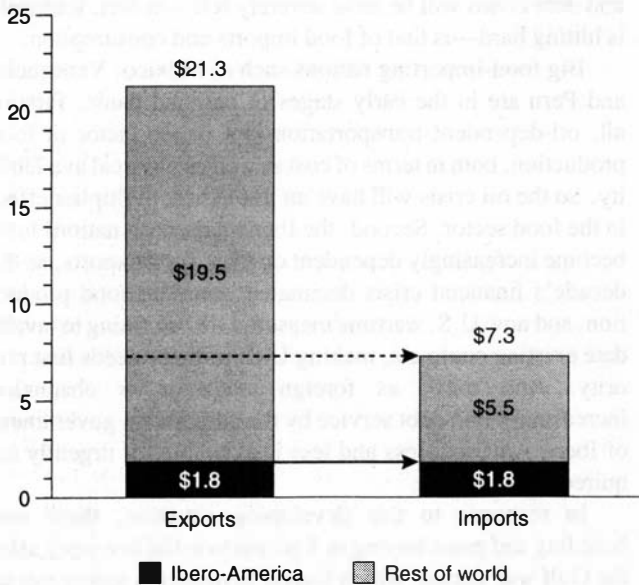
In Mexico, there is also grave concern. According to Jan. 15 statements by Jesús González Gortazar, the head of the National Small Property Confederation, Mexico only has enough food reserves “to cover necessities for 45 days.” The well-known political leader added, “At times of world tension, food reserves play a strategic role in every country in the world.” Mexican Agriculture Ministry sources, according to the daily *El Financiero*, put the country's food reserves at even less: only 30 days.

Ibero-America's trading pattern with food is painfully similar to oil. The area produces enough food globally to be self-sufficient, but it exports its surplus mainly outside the region, rather than to other Ibero-American countries. Thus, if there were to be a forced cutoff of extraregional food imports, which could occur for financial reasons or for lack of suppliers, or for simple reasons of political and economic warfare against the region, Ibero-America would be in trouble. **Figure 4**, based on 1985 data, summarizes the picture in a way which is also applicable today: In that year, Ibero-America exported \$21.3 billion in food, but only 9% of that, or \$1.8 billion, went to other Ibero-American countries. This meant the continent's food importers had to buy an additional \$5.5 billion in food outside the region. As with oil, if a mere 25% of the food exports sold outside the region (\$19.5 billion) were redirected to the hungry Ibero-

FIGURE 4

Ibero-American food trade in 1985, by source and destination

(billions \$)



Source: *La integración iberoamericana*, Schiller Institute, 1987

American market, this \$5.5 billion requisite could be met easily.

The final, bitter irony of this neo-colonial trade pattern is that there is near-perfect complementarity of the Ibero-American economies. That is, the big oil exporters (Venezuela and Mexico) need to import food, while the biggest oil importer (Brazil) is in a position, along with Argentina, to be a major food exporter in return.

Ibero-American integration

The solution to the current life-and-death crisis facing Ibero-America is for the nations of the continent to establish an Ibero-American Common Market, which will give priority to such intraregional trade, in order to be self-sufficient, and which will also unite the nations of the continent into a debtors' cartel capable of imposing a debt renegotiation on their creditors which will stop the current free market looting of their economies.

Integration in order to implement such survival measures is also the basis for then proceeding to industrialize and develop the continent with advanced technologies.

Will such steps be taken in response to the Gulf war crisis? Or will the existing governments be allowed to continue to hand over Ibero-America's oil, food, and population to Bush's war machine? That is the issue that has been placed on Ibero-America's agenda for early 1991.

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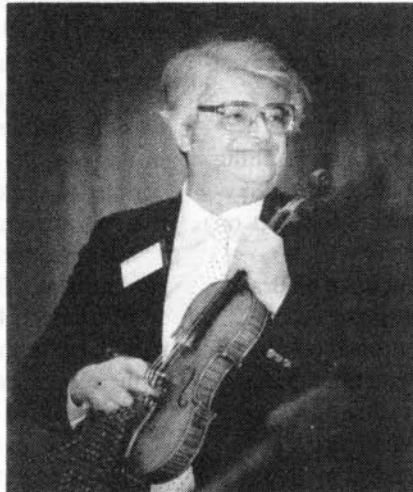
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Economic blackmail and the Gulf war

The quest for an IMF loan is behind India's endorsement of the Anglo-American gameplan in West Asia.

India's growing economic crisis, and particularly the worsening balance of payments problem and acute foreign exchange bind, have been the subject of much discussion since December, when the ultra-minority government of Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar took over after several months of social chaos as the V.P. Singh government crumbled. At that time, it was discovered that foreign exchange reserves had plunged to a scant \$1.5 billion, barely two weeks' worth of imports. The new government launched a worldwide canvassing drive for funds.

Now, as the curious fact that India has fallen into line behind the Anglo-American gameplan in West Asia has come in for close scrutiny here, the smell of financial blackmail is inescapable.

On Jan. 23, for instance, it was reported from Bombay that two Indian commercial banks with branches in West Asia had successfully negotiated an unprecedented \$3 billion deposit from "certain individuals, including members of the Saudi royal family." The Reserve Bank of India gave its permission to the unusual deposit, to be held as a long-term certificate of deposit bearing "a mutually acceptable special interest rate."

Days earlier, on Jan. 19, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) finally gave its approval to a \$1.8 billion loan package. The package consists of two credits: \$777 million as a first credit tranche standby arrangement for three months from Jan. 18; and \$1.09 billion under the oil import section of the Compensatory and Contingency Fi-

ancing Facility (CCFF). Both loans are repayable in five years and bear an interest rate of 9%.

But, as Finance Ministry officials admit, \$1.8 billion will only provide a "breather." A larger loan was in fact sought, but the IMF refused to consider it unless the 1991-92 budget, due to be unveiled in the "budget session" of Parliament in the third week of February, contains specific provisions for cutting the deficit, reducing subsidies and restoring fiscal balance. Now the plan is to make formal application for a "structural adjustment" loan of some \$3-5 billion (depending on the course of the war) in March or April.

According to the *Economic Times*, India's leading economic daily, Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials acknowledge that the quest for an IMF loan was behind India's stand on the Gulf. American officials are no less candid, claims the daily, and have readily admitted that the IMF loan might prove more effective than any diplomatic channel in silencing India on the Gulf issue. The high-profile refueling stops in Bombay of American military transport planes shuttling between the Philippines and the Gulf war theater since the beginning of January—even though there is no military reason for them to need to do so—are an advertisement for the success of the muscling operation.

In approving the first loan package, IMF officials emphasized the need for strong measures to correct the budget deficit and boost exports. Indeed, between Christmas and New Year's Eve, Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha had already pushed additional taxes for the

current fiscal year, amounting to \$670 million through Parliament, and announced that the 25% oil price surcharge imposed in October would be continued through 1991-92.

At the meeting of the parliamentary consultative committee to the Finance Ministry Jan. 28, Sinha vowed that the Union Budget for 1991-92 will reduce the fiscal deficit to 6.5% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), from 8.3% at present. How this will be done will be revealed over the coming weeks, as the budget is given final shape. The parameters of the problem, hang largely on the price of oil.

India's annual budget is now about \$50 billion-plus. It is estimated that some \$5.6-6.1 billion will have to be found through increased revenues or expenditure cuts or both, to bring the deficit down to 6.5% of GDP. If the price of oil stays in the \$15-16 range, the oil price surcharge (designed to recover the full burden of a \$25 oil price), will automatically produce a kitty of more than \$2.8 billion for the government, assuming that consumption stays high. But, should the oil price move above \$25, the full \$6.1 billion will have to come from fresh taxes and drastic (and politically explosive budget cuts).

Any faltering in the country's tenuous export drive could also prove disastrous. As the foreign exchange crunch of recent months indicates, India's external debt has jumped to \$70 billion, and debt servicing was already eating up over 30% of the export earnings as of 1989-90. The depression-driven downturn in world trade, sent into a new ratchet by the Gulf war, has already shut the door on India's export prospects for the near term. It is estimated that exports for 1990-91 will end up at about \$16 billion, just about three-fourths of the \$22.3 billion target, and representing zero growth from the previous year.

Will Gramm-Rudman be axed?

"Time is not on our side," admitted Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan.

The U.S. "recovery that never was" was officially buried by Congressional Budget Office (CBO) director Robert Reischauer Jan. 23, when he informed the Senate Budget Committee that the CBO now forecasts two consecutive quarters of economic contraction—the fourth quarter of 1990 and the first quarter of 1991. By doing so, the CBO is preparing the repeal of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget law, and a taxpayer bailout of the big banks.

The budget was in no danger of being balanced, anyway. White House budget director Richard Darman has publicly predicted that the budget deficit for the current fiscal year will hit a record \$318 billion, and that doesn't include the cost of the Gulf war, much less the bank bailout.

The Resolution Trust Corp., the agency responsible for disposing of the assets of the failed savings and loans, is taking in assets faster than it can sell them. The RTC has already spent more than twice the \$50 billion the S&L cleanup was supposed to cost, and now Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady says that without another \$77 billion by March 1, the agency will grind to a halt. Brady asked Congress for a blank check to fund the RTC, but was turned down.

Thanks to its takeover of Columbia S&L on Jan. 25, the RTC is now the third-largest holder of junk bonds in the U.S., with \$7 billion in face value of these worthless IOUs.

The real estate picture is even worse. "I believe we are in a free fall of real estate values," RTC Oversight Board member Robert Larson warned

the Senate Banking Committee Jan. 23. Next to the Mideast war, he said, "it's the most important single issue facing Congress." The RTC directly holds some \$16 billion in real estate, and owns tens of billions in loans backed by real estate. The agency can't find buyers for these properties, and can't afford to keep them either.

The blowout is even grimmer in commercial banking.

Citicorp chairman John Reed recently admitted that the \$228 billion bank needs to add \$4-5 billion to its \$8.6 billion capital reserves—a 50% increase—over the next three years. Citicorp has \$2.5 billion in admitted non-performing real estate loans and another \$8.6 billion in leveraged buy-out loans. The bank is also taking huge hits on its credit card business. According to a recent study by Moody's Investors Services, credit card defaults rose 49% between November 1989 and November 1990, and credit card delinquencies rose 35%.

Citicorp has been searching worldwide for investors, with little success thus far. Moody's made the search even more difficult by once again lowering Citicorp's credit rating. There are rumors that the Kuwaitis and Saudis will be persuaded to bail out the giant bank. Perhaps they will. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) certainly can't.

The CBO estimates that the FDIC's Bank Insurance Fund (BIF) "would almost disappear by the end of [fiscal year] 1991" on Sept. 30, "and the fund would be insolvent by early in fiscal year 1992." Reischauer told the Senate Banking Committee

Jan. 29 that the BIF would have only about \$1.4 billion left by Sept. 30, and would probably spend that before Dec. 31.

In Rhode Island, where many citizens have lost faith in the banking system, the depth of the distrust was vividly demonstrated Jan. 23, when a Cable News Network (CNN) news-clip on the state's problems included a shot of Old Stone Bank, one of the so-called healthy banks. The runs began the moment the bank opened its doors, as depositors jammed the bank's 28 branches. It took the combined efforts of the bank, the Federal Reserve, Gov. Bruce Sundlun, and CNN two days to stem the outflow of deposits and restore a modicum of temporary calm.

The explosiveness of the situation was further demonstrated when hundreds of enraged depositors stormed the Rhode Island Statehouse Jan. 24, to demand that the state stand behind all the deposits at the dozen financial institutions which remain closed in the state's banking holiday.

People are jumpy in neighboring Massachusetts, too. When Leon Dusoe, a vice president of Granite Bank of Keene, New Hampshire, was arrested for allegedly embezzling over \$1 million from his bank, the news prompted a rash of calls from depositors of the Granite Cooperative Bank of Quincy, Massachusetts. The Quincy bank is also known as Granite Bank, but the two banks are not related.

Where Rhode Island and Massachusetts go today, the rest of the nation will soon follow. Caught between an enraged population and a depression, the government will find it difficult to force the taxpayers to rescue the banks.

"Time is not on our side," Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan observed recently. No kidding.

What price war?

As Just Cause showed, military operations will only be a small part of the costs of Desert Storm.

The political parties that supported the former government of Gen. Manuel Noriega beat U.S.-supported candidates in congressional and local elections held in Panama on Jan. 27. The results of the elections, the first held in Panama since George Bush ordered his "Just Cause" invasion of Panama 13 months ago, constitute an overwhelming repudiation of the American occupation government.

More than half the electorate simply abstained. Not that the occupation authorities did not try to get out the vote in favor of the "democracy" installed by Bush's invasion. In the weeks leading up to the elections, the U.S. military Southern Command (SouthCom) deployed its troops all over the country in an effort to "win the hearts and minds of the people," as the late Lyndon Johnson used to say. According to the opposition daily *El Periódico*, candidates hand-picked by the Americans campaigned in U.S. military helicopters. The 142nd, a U.S. Army medical battalion, dispensed vaccines and pushed pills to peasants in the most remote villages. Since you can't have an American-style electoral campaign without opinion polls, the 470th intelligence brigade interrogated voters daily.

And, because it is not possible to teach the natives good old U.S. of A. electioneering without a little pork-barreling, a few days before Bush launched his Operation Desert Storm against Iraq, U.S. occupation authorities in Panama sent out the bulldozers to the town of Nombre de Dios, in the province of Colón on the Atlantic coast, to launch operation "Fuerte

Camino 91." Dubbed as "the largest civic action program" undertaken by SouthCom in all of Ibero-America, the operation was inaugurated with the kind of fanfare that would have caused the envy of a Chicago ward heeler from the old days.

Presiding over the kickoff was the U.S.-installed President Guillermo "Porky" Endara; one of his vice presidents, drug banker Guillermo "Billy" Ford; about half of the cabinet; U.S. military commanders, and the man who really governs Panama, U.S. ambassador Deane Hinton. As with most activities by the Bush administration, this was a public relations exercise with an eye on the electorate. During the eight months of the operation, only 36 miles of unpaved road and a few other paltry projects will be built in all of Panama!

Not enough to buy off the voters: Panama's economy was left destroyed by the 1989 invasion and the preceding two years of economic sanctions. One-third of the labor force is unemployed. In Colón, unemployment is 45%. Last year, fishing dropped 25%; revenues from the Panama Canal fell 2% and those from the inter-oceanic oil pipeline fell 22%.

The U.S. war cost the Panamanian economy \$3 billion, a not insignificant amount for a country with an annual Gross Domestic Product that barely exceeds \$5 billion. At the time of "Just Cause," Bush promised \$1 billion to help Panama rebuild from the damage inflicted by the U.S.

Less than half that amount was finally approved by the U.S. Congress, and of that, a lot less than half ever

reached Panama.

Not that the U.S. taxpayers' hard-earned money wasn't spent. It went into the coffers of the international credit institutions and the American, British, and other banks that are Panama's creditors. This year's budget calls for 11.2% of GDP to be paid out to foreign creditors. That's 11.2% of the total national budget, officially. Unofficial estimates are that debt payments will really take up half of every dollar the government spends.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the U.S. occupation authorities forced the Endara regime to adopt a policy of "fiscal restraint." This belt-tightening was so successful in 1990, that Panama had a budget surplus. Of course, as the opposition members of Panama's Legislature Budget Commission noted in a recent report, this surplus was achieved by not spending all of the paltry amounts budgeted for "education, health, housing and contracted wage payments owed public workers." Not one home destroyed by the U.S. bombs during the invasion, has yet been rebuilt.

Taxes have been increased, most recently on gasoline. Since Jan. 5, Panamanians are paying an average of \$2.50 a gallon of gas. There have been proportionate increases in public transportation, food, cooking fuel, and everything else.

State-owned enterprises, which generate a lot of revenue, are being sold off at bargain basement prices because of the Bush administration's insistence that Panama be "privatized." As the report warned, the economic policies being pushed by the U.S. will "mutilate even more the nation's independence and sovereignty." Those policies have also been proven to "cause social explosions in those countries where they have been applied."

Business Briefs

Energy

Third World demands imperil environment?

The U.S. Congress's Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), a bastion of anti-technology zero-growthers, has issued a report on energy use and the global environment which, according to the *Washington Post*, "dramatizes the dilemma facing many of the world's poorest and most densely populated nations: The more their people gain access to motor vehicles, mechanized farm equipment, and modern appliances, the more they have to spend on power plants and imported oil and the greater the risk of environmental degradation."

The *Post* quotes a bevy of environmentalists suggesting that "non-fossil fuel" avenues to development must be used by the Third World, since "you can't ask these countries to forego development, so you have to make it possible for them to develop in a more environmentally friendly way."

The report itself notes, "Overuse of biomass already contributes to environmental degradation. . . . Moreover, gathering traditional supplies of fuel wood is time-consuming, exhausting work frequently undertaken by women and children, who are thus diverted from other activities."

A later OTA report will make recommendations for dealing with the Third World energy "problem."

Aerospace

Italy proposes seven European satellites

The Italian Ministry of Defense has proposed that Europe build seven new military satellite systems during the 1990s, according to *Space News*. The proposal, following technical studies which were completed last June, would cost \$13 billion, and is intended to involve Italy's European space partners. The new programs would include three satellite programs

for communications and data relay, two for observing satellites, one for theater navigation, and one for electronic intelligence.

At the present time, the Italian Defense Ministry is involved in the Helios photographic reconnaissance satellite with France and Spain, the all-Italian SICRAL Alarm and Classification Communications (early-warning) satellite, and the U.S. Navstar Global Positioning (navigational) satellite system. An Italian Air Force official is quoted saying, "The proliferation of long-range missiles and aircraft is a problem for Italy and its European partners. Satellites give us the necessary warning."

Investment

South Korea to give billions to industry

The South Korean government will provide \$2.1 billion in grants and loans over five years to help industries develop manufacturing technology, the Trade and Industry Ministry announced on Jan. 26. The plan was contained in a ministry report to President Noh Tae Woo on measures to promote industrial development, the *Bangkok Post* reported Jan. 29.

Officials said that, under the plan, 919 technology development projects would be assigned to Korean manufacturing companies.

It was also announced that Korea will seek seven joint research projects with Japan. Economic and technological ties between the two countries were stimulated during the visit of Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to Seoul the second week of January. According to *Korea Herald* reports of the visit on Jan. 10, the two sides agreed that it was "as a result of the brilliant economic achievements" of the two countries that the region is in as good shape as it is, and that the "strengthening of economic, scientific, and technology cooperation between our two countries will not only contribute to our own development but will accelerate that of others."

Demography

China's 'excess birth guerrillas'

Villages of outcast families are springing up outside the cities of the People's Republic of China, where families can escape the abortion police and freely commit the crime of giving birth. The newspaper *Henan Ribao* reports on one such village, known as "Monks Ridge," with over 100 households. Some have jobs in the cities, but many pick up garbage or tell fortunes for fellow villagers. Attempts to bulldoze the villages have met with successful resistance from the "guerrillas."

Meanwhile, China's economy continues in desperate shape. Reports in the Beijing press say that 40% of the rural labor force of 400 million are "surplus labor." The vice minister of agriculture, Chen Yao-bang, says it is closer to 50%, but claims that about 45% of this surplus has been employed in rural industries. However, 400,000 rural industries have been closed in the past year. It is estimated that employment must be found for about 200 million people over the coming years.

Astronomy

Galaxy has no big black hole

Blobs of plasma apparently ejected from the Milky Way's "central object" provide a new assessment of this object's nature, two astronomers reported to the semiannual meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Philadelphia on Jan. 16.

The plasma blobs and a particle wind were detected through their emission of radio waves, and the observations lead to an estimated mass for the central object of only 300 times the mass of the Sun.

"This study rules out a supermassive black hole, in accordance with other methods of analysis I suggested several years ago," said Leonid Ozernoy of Los Alamos National Laboratory, who presented the new results, along

with Farhad Yusef-Zadeh of Northwestern University.

Astronomers have thought for many years that the central object, known as Sagittarius A* ("Sag A-star") might be a supermassive black hole, with a million times the Sun's mass. The concept of a black hole, a mass so great that its gravitation prevents even light from escaping, is a mathematical extrapolation that has never been found in nature, being perhaps a figleaf for astronomers' want of imagination.

The two astronomers consider that the central object is either a small black hole, or a rapidly spinning, magnetized star. The central object should provide some clues to the process by which galaxies are formed.

The supermassive black hole hypothesis had been supported by observations of gamma ray emission from the galactic center. A recent French-Soviet experiment, however, shows that the gamma rays are coming from a different source near Sagittarius A*, previously known for its X-ray emission.

Biological Holocaust

WHO has no money to fight AIDS

The World Health Organization's anti-AIDS program lacks the money required, Director Michael Merson told the press in Geneva, Switzerland on Jan. 28. The budget for 1991, which was about \$100 million, must be cut by \$30 million. This means jeopardizing both the so-called prevention programs and the medical treatment of patients.

Merson also pointed to the fact that 10 million children in Africa will be orphans by the year 2000 due to the death of their parents from AIDS. For these children, there must be food, clothing, and housing, Merson said.

About 1 million of the 16.8 million citizens of Uganda are estimated to be HIV-infected, the German magazine *AIDS Forschung* says. The Rakai District, a rural area with a population of 330,000, is considered to be a region with a high prevalence of HIV infection. In this area, the parents of about 40,000 children may already have died of AIDS.

In Abidjan, the capital of Ivory Coast, AIDS is now the leading cause of death for males, and the second leading cause for females. Between 1988 and 1990, the prevalence of HIV-1 in hospital patients increased by 8.2% to 53.1%, and the combined prevalence of HIV-1 and HIV-2 is now 58.0%.

Health

U.S. readies new cuts in hospital care

Gail Wilensky, administrator of the Medicare program, has sounded the opening salvo of the federal government's latest war on rising hospital costs, attacking hospital capital investments and treatment costs as the major culprit. Wilensky plans to cut Medicare's paltry 85% reimbursement of capital costs to a flat rate payment, ignoring the capital expenditures a facility may need.

In her memo to Congress, Wilensky claims that "nationwide, more than one-third of hospital beds are empty," and that hospitals are still building to increase numbers of beds.

To the contrary:

- The American College of Emergency Physicians reported in September 1989 that overcrowding emergency rooms threatens the future of the country's hospital system.

- The American Hospital Association reports that 104 hospitals closed in 1988. By the mid-1990s, AHA estimates that 1,000 hospitals will be closed or converted. Between 1993 and 2000, the estimate of AHA and others is that an average 300 hospitals will close each year.

- The AHA, as well as the National Association of Public Hospitals and the National Committee for Quality Health Care, estimate that in the next 11 years, 40% of all U.S. hospitals will close. It estimates that 2,700 hospitals will close or convert, leaving about 4,100 hospitals nationwide—all because of uncompensated or undercompensated care for the poor, uninsured, and the Medicare/Medicaid prospective payment system (PPS) which reimburses hospitals at a fraction of their costs.

Briefly

- **THE EUROPEAN** Airbus consortium has had to arrange extraordinary financing to extend the leases for 21 of its jets to bankrupt Pan American. A.I. Leasing II, an affiliate of Airbus, is owed \$16 million in back payments for the leased aircraft, and an additional \$18 million was due at the beginning of January.

- **SOUTH KOREA** will extend a \$3 billion credit to the Soviet Union toward purchase of Korean technology, Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Malukov announced from Seoul. The agreement will be signed in March, preceding the scheduled visit by Mikhail Gorbachov to Japan.

- **ENERGY** consumption per dollar of GNP in the United States declined every year between 1970 and 1989. Over that same period, GNP nearly doubled. Energy consumption in 1970 per GNP dollar was 27,490 BTUs. By 1989, it had declined to only 19,600 BTUs—a 29% drop. But GNP rose from \$2.4 to \$4.1 trillion over the period—demonstrating a serious decline in real industrial and agricultural capital formation.

- **BANKRUPTCIES** in Australia doubled in the last quarter of 1990. A total of 2,924 Australian companies were declared bankrupt in the October-December quarter, a 56% jump from a year earlier. The October-December figures compared with 1,874 in October-December 1989, according to the daily *The Australian*. Worst hit was western Australia in which bankruptcies nearly doubled, and then Victoria, with a 65% increase.

- **WEAPONS SYSTEMS** now in use by the United States in the Persian Gulf are technologically far behind the typical Japanese commercial product, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. A personal computer contains more sophisticated electronic components than the cruise missile, for example. The major reason is the contraction of the manufacturing base for many new technologies.

Winston Bostick, a man of great 'physical intuition'

The great physicist, who pioneered in fusion energy research and in the theoretical elaboration of the electron, will be missed. The Fusion Energy Foundation's Charles B. Stevens remembers him.

Dr. Winston H. Bostick, pioneer in particle physics, radar technology, fusion energy research, plasma and astrophysics, died on Jan. 19. Bostick, 74, was an innovative thinker and teacher who inspired many with his ability to give physical-geometrical descriptions to the abstract particles and forces that fill the theoretical world of physics and quantum mechanics. For more than half a decade, Bostick carried on an unrelenting struggle against cancer, while simultaneously increasing the output of his creative scientific work. His most recent scientific paper, published in the Winter 1990 issue of *21st Century Science & Technology*, is an example of how he used his work in experimental plasma physics to develop geometric configurations and dynamics for electrons, protons, neutrons, and other *onta*. (He called them *onta* to avoid designating them as particles or point masses.)

In late 1976, I had the task of delivering to Prof. Harold Grad of the Courant Mathematics Institute a copy of Winston Bostick's manuscript for "The Pinch Effect Revisited," whose serialization we begin below, which was to appear in the first issue of the Fusion Energy Foundation's *International Journal of Fusion Energy*. Grad was on the advisory board of *IJFE*. He was also something of a living legacy, having been among the protégés of Richard Courant. Courant had come to the United States in the 1930s from Göttingen, Germany, where he had been the leading collaborator of David Hilbert, a scientific descendant of Carl Gauss, Lejeune Dirichlet, Carl Jacobi, and Bernhard Riemann, the great minds of modern mathematical physics.

The Göttingen school of mathematics was renowned for its emphasis on "physical intuition." Riemann, for example, had always presented his most far-reaching mathematical investigations in the context of a physical problem; a proposal

for a crucial experiment so to speak.

While the Courant Institute had become the leading mathematics center of the United States, if not the world, the Göttingen spirit of physical intuition had atrophied to a large extent. But Harold Grad was the happy exception. In this he excelled. His entire life's work had been rigorously embedded in the leading problems of physics and magnetic fusion in particular. His contributions to magnetic fusion were so outstanding that he had become a leading light of the fusion research establishment—an establishment that Winston Bostick most vociferously attacks in his paper.

It was therefore with some surprise that I recorded Grad's first reaction to the illustrations of Winston Bostick's paper. A sparkle came to his eyes and he said, "Winston has the most marvelous physical intuition." Bostick had presented geometrical constructions for the dynamics of plasma vortices, which at one stroke provided the basis for solutions to problems that would engulf the lifetimes of a score of less imaginative mathematical physicists. While I did not know it at the time, Grad was not merely glancing over his neighbor's field of study; Grad had just recently immersed himself in the study of plasma vortices, and not without some spectacular and most controversial results of his own. (One of his papers had even been rejected by a leading journal because it called into question that holy of holies of hydrodynamic science, the Helmholtz conservation of vorticity theorem.)

Similarly, Lyndon H. LaRouche was often overheard noting the originality and scope of Winston's physical intuition. The most amazing thing, LaRouche commented frequently, is how a Winston Bostick could have emerged and survived in 20th-century America.

Winston Bostick devoted his life to harnessing the virtu-

ally unlimited energy potentials of controlled thermonuclear fusion. He was a pioneer of the controlled thermonuclear research (CTR) program. And while he devoted his life to fusion plasma science, his work left virtually no field of physical science untouched.

‘L’chaim onta’

This universality of his work came to the fore during the 1980s series of seminars on physical and biological science sponsored by the Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) and chaired by Lyndon H. LaRouche, held in Leesburg, Virginia. The first of these seminars was devoted to reviewing work inspired by Bostick on superconductivity. The last such seminar was focused on developing the broader implications for the physical geometry of space-time in general, of the work of Eugenio Beltrami, the great Italian collaborator of Riemann, whose work Winston first brought to the FEF’s attention in 1974 at its founding conference. Bostick would always present the most profound conceptions with a good dose of humor. This agapic quality is captured in his last article for *21st Century*, in which he used the term *l’chaim onta*, after the Jewish toast “to life”: “Nature unified all forces and energy with electromagnetism years ago, for which we are devoutly thankful. The greater cause for rejoicing now is the *l’chaim* electron, photon, fermions, and all *l’chaim onta* are bringing quantum mechanics, the prodigal son, back into the family of classical physics. Gone will be the schizophrenia of duality—the apartheid syndrome in scientific thought represented by Aristotelian logic. In its place will come the analogue of the *Filioque* (the principle that the Holy Spirit envelopes and proceeds from both the Father and Son), with its ecumenical message of electromagnetism. The divisive, misleading, jealousy-producing tenet of [Newtonian] lump mass will be buried forever.”

Bostick received both his BS (1938) and doctorate (1941) in physics from the University of Chicago, precisely at the time that this institution spawned the Manhattan Project to build the atomic bomb. Chicago was also one of the centers for the birth of modern high-energy particle physics—the study of subnuclear processes. Bostick, at the time, was doing his thesis work under the direction of A.H. Compton and M. Schein; it was concerned with the use of cosmic rays to generate subnuclear events for particle physics experiments.

It was also during this time at Chicago that Winston came to know Dr. Robert Moon, a major contributor to the Manhattan Project, who was also a founding member of the Fusion Energy Foundation.

Following his graduate work, Bostick became a staff member of the second great scientific crash program of World War II, the effort centered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Radiation Laboratory to develop new radar systems. His work was primarily directed toward development of pulse transformers to generate the high voltages—the

higher power densities—needed for more powerful radars. In his later work on the plasma pinch, Winston saw this to as a means of achieving even greater power densities.

Following the war, Bostick continued to work at MIT on a new type of bubble chamber for particle physics measurements which he had invented. He then worked with J.C. Slater on the MIT microwave linear accelerator until 1948. From 1948 to 1954, he was on the faculty of the Physics Department of Tufts University. He then took a leave of absence to work at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory on the early Controlled Thermonuclear Fusion Research (CTR) program until 1956. From 1956 until 1986, Bostick was the George Meade Bond Professor at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. During 12 of these years, Bostick was head of the Stevens Department of Physics. During 1961, Winston Bostick worked at Fontenay-aux-Roses in France and at the Culham Laboratory in England under a National Science Foundation Senior Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. In 1970 he held a UNESCO visiting professorship at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina where he helped set up an experimental plasma physics program. Also in 1961, he won first prize in the Gravity Foundation Research essay contest with a paper, “The Gravitationally Stabilized Hydromagnetic Model of the Elementary Particle”—a model for elementary particles of matter based upon his work on plasma pinches. His last paper published in *21st Century Science & Technology* concerned further developments along these same lines.

Bostick wrote hundreds of scientific papers, mostly on plasma physics, including contributions for *Scientific American*, *Colliers Encyclopedia*, and *Encyclopedia Americana*. During the mid-1980s, Bostick took leaves of absence from Stevens to work on relativistic electron beam particle accelerators at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory in New Mexico.

Bostick never compartmentalized his creative scientific work from his broader social and cultural responsibilities. In 1966, Bostick was a Democratic primary candidate for the U.S. Congress, and two years later he was a delegate from New Jersey, pledged to Eugene McCarthy, to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Love of great music

It is a well-known story that Richard Courant would make it a prerequisite for prospective mathematicians at his institute to demonstrate a level of competence in performance of classical music. He was heard to comment, we can always teach them mathematics, but music is a bit harder to master and much more essential for serious scientific work. In this regard, Winston Bostick not only played the violin, but even mastered the skills needed to make his own instruments. Those who have attended any of the many international meetings of the Schiller Institute know that his optimistic spirit never shone brighter than when he was playing with the Schiller Institute orchestra.

The pinch effect revisited

The late Winston H. Bostick's 1977 groundbreaking examination of this aspect of controlled thermonuclear fusion. Part 1 of a series.

We present here an historic scientific essay by Prof. Winston H. Bostick on the development of the plasma pinch from its inception in early fusion energy research experiments through to 1977, which was first published in the Fusion Energy Foundation's International Journal of Fusion Energy, Vol. 1, No. 1, March 1977. Given his own role in the development of this approach to magnetic fusion, the essay is necessarily semi-autobiographical.

The following information will help the reader to put the essay in the context of developments since 1977.

In 1977, the United States had the world's largest and most advanced fusion energy research program. But during the Carter administration, the program was essentially put on hold. Then, during the Reagan administration, fusion energy research as well as nuclear power development in general, were permitted to die on the vine, so to speak. Now, under the Bush administration, the fusion program is being completely destroyed by budget cuts.

Therefore, at the time Professor Bostick's paper was published, the U.S. fusion program was relatively healthy and his critique of it was focused on the wrong-headed approach of centering the program on one single method, the tokamak. In the final outcome, both the tokamak and more general research were both cut back. For example, the last major step toward a tokamak fusion reactor was the Princeton Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor, which is currently in operation. Planning for this large experiment was initiated in 1973 and initial design completed in 1976. No other major project of similar size has been initiated since the Princeton Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor.

In fact, experiments to date throughout the world have demonstrated that the tokamak would work as a power reactor. There simply has been no follow-through to actually do that, despite the passage of the 1980 Magnetic Fusion Engineering Act mandating just that.

But this does not mean that Professor Bostick's critique was off the mark. In fact, the same experiments which demonstrated the capabilities of the tokamak as a potential power reactor, have also shown that Bostick was correct in terms of the fact that the nonlinear dynamics demonstrated in the

plasma pinch have been found to be essential in understanding the tokamak itself. Furthermore, this deeper scientific comprehension has opened up prospects for realizing even more advanced types of fusion reactors. But neither the tokamak nor these more advanced possibilities are being pursued today, given the budget cuts now being implemented.

The pinch effect is the self-constriction of a column of deformable conductor which is carrying an electric current. The constricting effect on the column is produced by the magnetic field pressure resulting from this current, or equivalently, by the Lorentz force produced by the current flowing in its own magnetic field. Thus, in a controlled thermonuclear fusion research (CTR) magnetic-containment device of the pinch-effect type, the containing magnetic field is generated chiefly by the currents flowing in the plasma itself.

In the sixteenth century the effect of a Lorentz force on a movable, deformable plasma conductor was observed by William Gilbert, the court physician to Queen Elizabeth I of England: He noted that a candle flame was deflected away from a magnet when the magnet approached the flame. J.A. Pollock and S.H. Barraclough at the University of Sydney reported in 1905 an analysis on a piece of lightning conductor (a 1.8 cm-diameter, 0.1-cm-wall-thickness copper tube) which had passed a lightning bolt about the year 1895. The copper tube had been crushed by the "electrodynamic action of the current," and if the tube was assumed to be rigid (not softened to plasticity by the heat) at the time of the passage of the current, it could be calculated that the magnetic pressure had been about 400 pounds per square inch, and the current had been about 100,000 amperes. Photographs of the cross-section of the crushed cylindrical shell are shown in **Figure 1**. Indeed a lightning stroke in the atmosphere is a column of plasma whose diameter is influenced in some measure by the pinching electromagnetic forces.

In 1933, (when the neutron was being discovered and Hitler was on the rise to power), Willard Bennett wrote his famous paper on the steady-state pinch effect (published in 1934). This article treated in a relativistically correct way the effect of the mutual attraction of electrons moving in one

direction and the positive ions moving in the opposite direction. The correct relationships showing how the electric charge density depends upon the frame of reference (relationships developed independently again by Budker in his doctoral thesis in 1956) were set forth by Bennett. Bennett calculated the equilibrium radial electron (and ion) density distribution to be

$$n_e = \frac{n_0}{[1 + (r/r_0)^2]^2}$$

where

$$\mu_0 e^2 r_0^2 n_0 v_z^2 = 16kT$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_0 I_0^2 / 8\pi &= NkT \text{ (mks units),} \\ B_z &= 0, p = n_e kT_e + n_i kT_i, \\ T &= (T_e + T_i) / 2, \end{aligned}$$

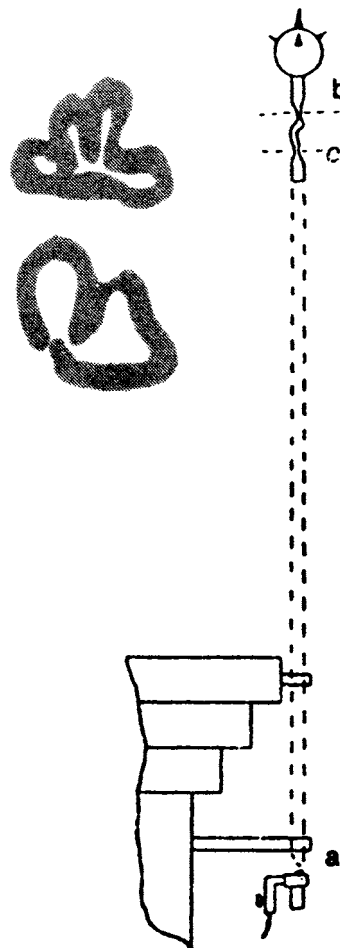
I_0 is the total current,

$$N = N_e + N_i \cong 2N_e =$$

the number of electrons and ions per unit length of column, v_z is axial electron drift and is constant everywhere, k is Boltzmann's constant, e is the electronic charge. It is rather incredible that such a sophisticated and perceptive paper on this phase of plasma physics should appear all by itself at this early date.

About ten years later experimental work on the pinch effect in plasmas commenced with some work by Steenbeck, who worked on induced, pulsed, high currents in a ring-shaped glass tube. Cousins and Ware at Imperial College in England performed experiments of this type from 1947 to 1951 and "were the first to demonstrate" that the current channel ($10^4 - 2 \times 10^4$ amps) did constrict. In 1951, due to security classification, this work was transferred to AEIRL at Aldermaston where extensive development was carried on in the problem of arcing between the segments of the metallic liners used in their discharge tubes. The employment of the applied magnetic field (in 1953) in the direction of the pulsed current led to the SCEPTRE program. Bill Baker at the Lawrence Berkeley Lab (formerly the University of California Radiation Lab) in 1951 produced a pulsed, pinched high current (10^5 amps) discharge between two electrodes in H_2 gas and photographed the constricted (~ 3 mm diameter) channel. Security classification prevented Baker's work from being published at that time. About 1950 at Los Alamos, planning of experiments (the Perhapsatron) on the pinch effect got under way under the direction of James Tuck. Apparently the Soviets also started work on the pinch effect about the same time: The work on the H-bomb in the U.S.A., U.S.S.R., and United Kingdom had by this time rekindled enough interest in controlled thermonuclear research to get some experimental CTR programs under way at the security-

FIGURE 1



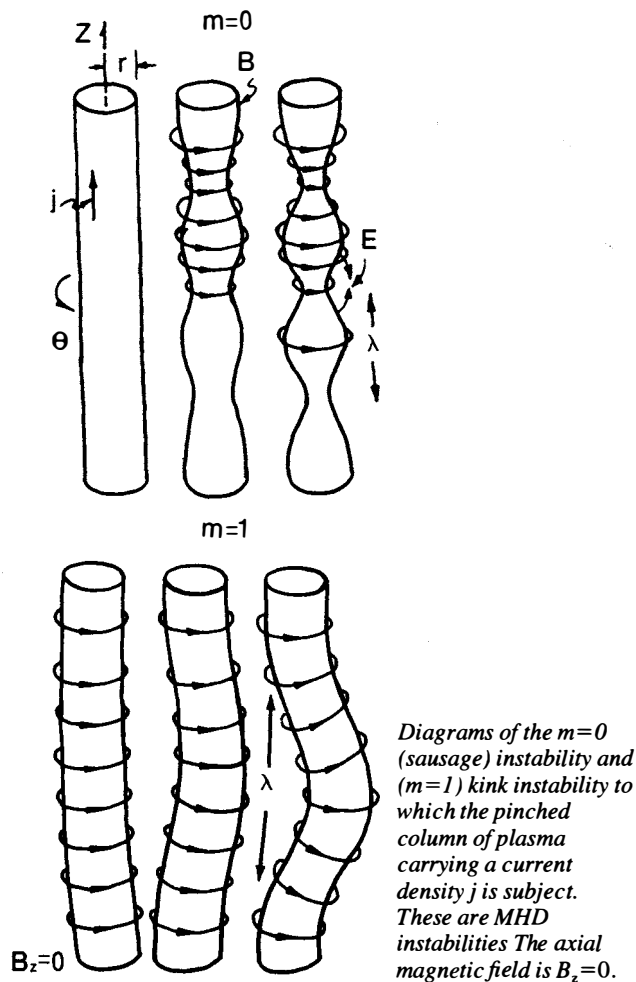
Drawings of the cross-sections of the copper lightning rod that was crushed by the passage of a lightning bolt.

classified weapons laboratories in those countries.

Levine, Combes, and Bostick at Tufts University showed in 1952 and 1953 that an 8,000-ampere pulsed current in low pressure nitrogen gas produced a pinch which concentrated the spectral line emission from singly ionized nitrogen, and concentrated even more the lines from doubly ionized nitrogen.

In June 1952 at a meeting of the American Physical Society in Denver a special session on CTR was held under security classification for those interested physicists who held the appropriate security clearance. The "Matterhorn" project from Princeton University under Lyman Spitzer described their concept of the stellarator with its figure "8" configuration to obviate the "grad B drift," and presented, in brief, the theoretical work of Kruskal and Schwarzschild in which they predicted the sausage ($m=0$) and kink ($m=1$) MHD [magnetohydrodynamics] instabilities that the pinch effect would be expected to be subject to (see Figure 2). These instabilities were similar to the Rayleigh-Taylor instabilities of fluid mechanics and could be classified as MHD instabilities because

FIGURE 2



the pinched fluid was largely regarded as an MHD fluid in the treatment. The e-folding time for such instabilities was calculated to be a characteristic dimension divided by the sound speed in the medium, where the characteristic dimension was the geometric mean of the pinch diameter and the wavelength of the instability. At this meeting the Livermore CTR group discussed the concepts of its mirror machines and also the possibility of radio-frequency confinement. James Tuck and W. H. Bostick made a few remarks about the pinch effect and Herbert York showed a few of the pinch-effect photographs taken by Bill Baker at Berkeley. Victor Weiskopf asked the question: "Just what is this pinch effect?" whereupon George Gamow (always in a jocular mood) approached Weiskopf from behind and pinched him. Van Allen, who was at the time involved in the leadership of Project Matterhorn, expressed great skepticism about the pinch effect and stated that none of the evidence thus far presented had convinced him of the existence of the pinch effect. Thus ended that session in 1952.

1954-63: practical schemes

To locate the pinch effect among the various animals in the CTR zoo we must recognize that the bulk of CTR thinking has traditionally reasoned that the pinch-effect magnetic field will impart energy to the plasma by adiabatic compression (in the dynamic pinch), by shock heating, by Joule heating, and by various instability mechanisms, and that in these processes the plasma can be expected to acquire an energy density approximately equal to that of the magnetic field.

In the experimental investigation of the translation of this magnetic field energy into the plasma energy it has appeared that the plasma becomes more difficult to confine as it absorbs the energy; that is, the instabilities grow more rapidly in the energetic plasma, and the instabilities will very quickly and prematurely result in a loss of the plasma and its energy to the wall of the vacuum chamber.

On the other hand, a successful CTR magnetic containment device must have an energy containment time τ and an ion density n sufficiently large so that an appreciable fraction of the fusionable fuel will be burned; that is the Lawson criterion must be satisfied ($n\tau > 10^{14}$ for a deuterium-tritium (D-T) reactor). In the ordinary dynamic pinch, that is, one with no axial (longitudinal) magnetic field, B_z , it was concluded that the magnetic energy goes very rapidly into the development of instabilities which dump the plasma and its energy from the containing column to the walls before the fuel has an opportunity to burn. Thus, at a fairly early date (about 1954-55 in the U.S.A., perhaps earlier in the U.S.S.R. and United Kingdom) there were growing suspicions that the ordinary dynamic pinch was unsuitable for a practical thermonuclear fusion reactor.

Accordingly, from about 1954 through 1963 a vigorous effort was mounted in the international CTR community to devise a practical scheme employing axial magnetic fields, conducting walls, radio-frequency fields to stabilize the pinched plasma column long enough to permit an appreciable fraction of the fuel to react.

The quantitative concept of the transient pinch as being a process of heating the plasma by an adiabatic compression was generated in the U.S.A. by Levine, Bostick, Combes and transmitted in a letter to Lyman Spitzer in 1953. The stabilizing effect of a conducting copper coating outside the glass-walled pinch vessel was also recognized in the U.S.A. by Levine and Bostick quantitatively in a letter to the Matterhorn group in 1953. These same ideas undoubtedly occurred independently at about the same time or earlier to other workers in the U.S.A., United Kingdom, U.S.S.R., and elsewhere. Because of security classification there was no systematic reporting in the journals.

In 1954 Bostick went to work at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, but Levine, remaining at Tufts, demonstrated experimentally that an enclosed axial magnetic field (B_z) would stabilize the $m=0$ (sausage) and short wavelength $m=1$ (kink) instabilities of the pinch effect. Levine gave a

paper on this work at a classified CTR meeting in Princeton in 1955 at the same meeting when Rosenbluth gave his theoretical paper on the stabilizing effect of a trapped axial magnetic field in the pinch. Rosenbluth showed theoretically that the pinched radius must be kept larger than one-fifth of the radius of the return conductor shell and the plasma pressure must be low compared to $(B_z)^2/(2\mu_0)$. The region containing the hot plasma and the B_z field must be sharply bounded from that containing the B_θ pinch field. These are the conditions necessary for stability against the $m=1$ mode.

Figure 2 shows the sausage ($m=0$) and kink ($m=1$) instabilities which develop in the pinch effect when there is no B_z , or axial magnetic field, either inside or outside the pinched column. The MHD instability analysis investigates the stability of the pinch against perturbations of the form

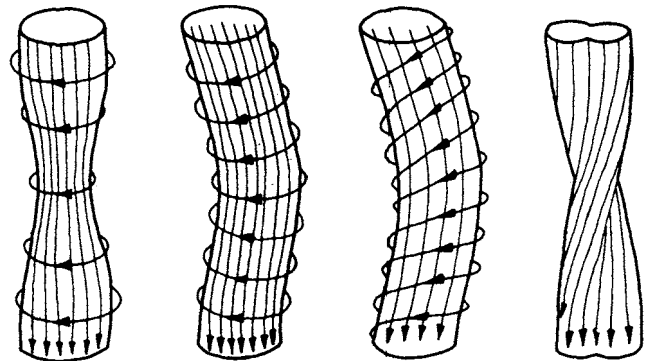
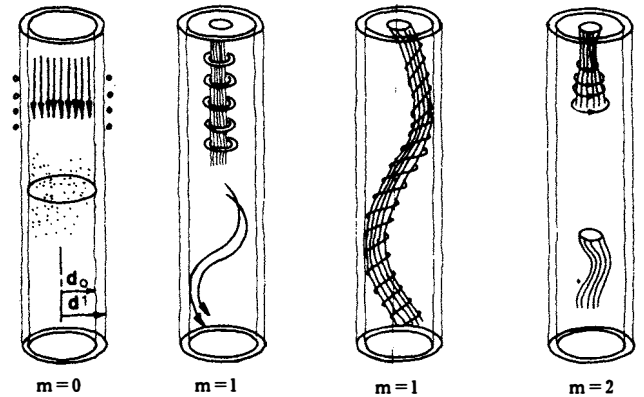
$$\text{Re}^{i(\pm m\theta + kz)} = \cos(kz \pm m\theta).$$

k is the wave number of the perturbation in the z (axial) direction and m is the wave number of the perturbation in the θ direction. **Figure 3** shows the form of these perturbations when $B_z \neq 0$. **Figure 4** shows typical experimental arrangements for the pinch (linear and toroidal). **Figure 5** is a kind of collage of these various early pinch schemes. Figures 2-5 were sketches made about 1956 by the author who was then contemplating writing a book on controlled thermonuclear research.

In 1954 Rosenbluth and Garwin in a classified Los Alamos report came out with their famous report on their "M" theory (M stands for motor) in which they used Maxwell's and Newton's laws to compute the time that it should take for the pinch effect to collapse. They also produced the theory of the Rosenbluth sheath and in doing so they reinvented the Ferraro sheath which was developed by Ferraro in the study of the Earth's magnetosphere.

In the Rosenbluth M theory the calculated velocity dr/dt for the radial collapse, as determined by Newton's second law and the Lorentz force, is $r \sim (E^2/\rho_m)^{1/4}$ where E is the applied electric field and ρ_m is the mass density of the ionized gas which is swept up in "snowplow" fashion by the current sheath. The thickness of the current sheath is calculated to be c/ω_p where ω_p is the plasma frequency and c is the speed of light. In actuality the observed current sheath thicknesses are usually 10 to 100 times this value. Furthermore, as will be shown later (1966), the current sheath is *not* purely planar or purely cylindrical but it corrugates in the two directions which are parallel and perpendicular to the applied magnetic field. Plasma vortex filaments are observed to lie in the grooves of these corrugations and the current sheath is really a tissue made up of these vortex filaments. Thus, the M theory which can be used to compute effectively the gross dynamics of the time for collapse for the linear pinch and the gross shape of the plasma-focus current sheath (Potter's code, for example) is a kind of a myth in a plasma focus as far as the fine structure of the current sheath itself is concerned. And indeed the famous 1934 Bennett theoretical,

FIGURE 3

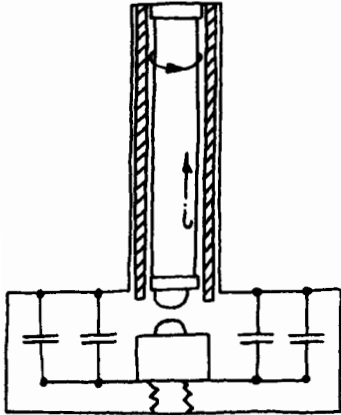


Finite conductivity model where B_z and B_θ are mixed throughout the column

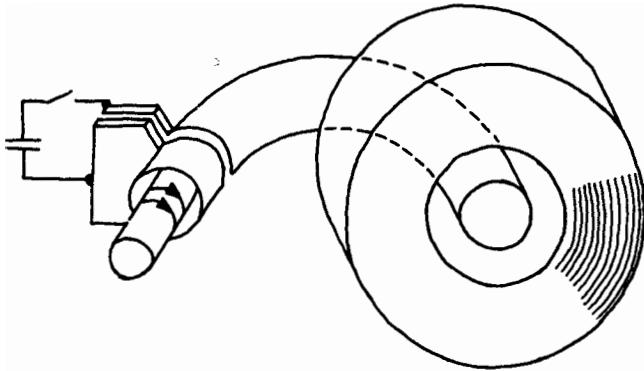
Diagrams of the $m=0$, $m=1$, and $m=2$ perturbations when $B_z \neq 0$ and there is a conducting metallic coaxial return conductor. The applied B_z can be trapped inside the column or it can be both inside and outside the column.

FIGURE 4

a) linear pinch



b) toroidal pinch.



Typical geometrics for pinch-effect apparatus.

steady-state pinch is, in actuality, also a myth: It is never achieved because of the instabilities which destroy it or the vorticity which modifies it.

Stirling Colgate joined the CTR movement in 1954 at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and was fascinated with Rosenbluth's work. Colgate set up an MHD experiment with liquid sodium where he demonstrated quantitatively that the sausage and kink instabilities did develop, that is, that the MHD, Rayleigh-Taylor instabilities were there.

By this time the Perhapsatron at Los Alamos and the toroidal pinch in the United Kingdom were showing the sausage and kink instabilities and the project Columbus I was under way. Columbus I was an attempt to produce a pinch effect in a high current discharge between two electrodes in deuterium at about 100 microns pressure, in an apparatus like Figure 4. The famous E.O. Lawrence of Berkeley happened to be visiting Los Alamos and saw their experimental setup for Columbus I and heard their tale of woes about

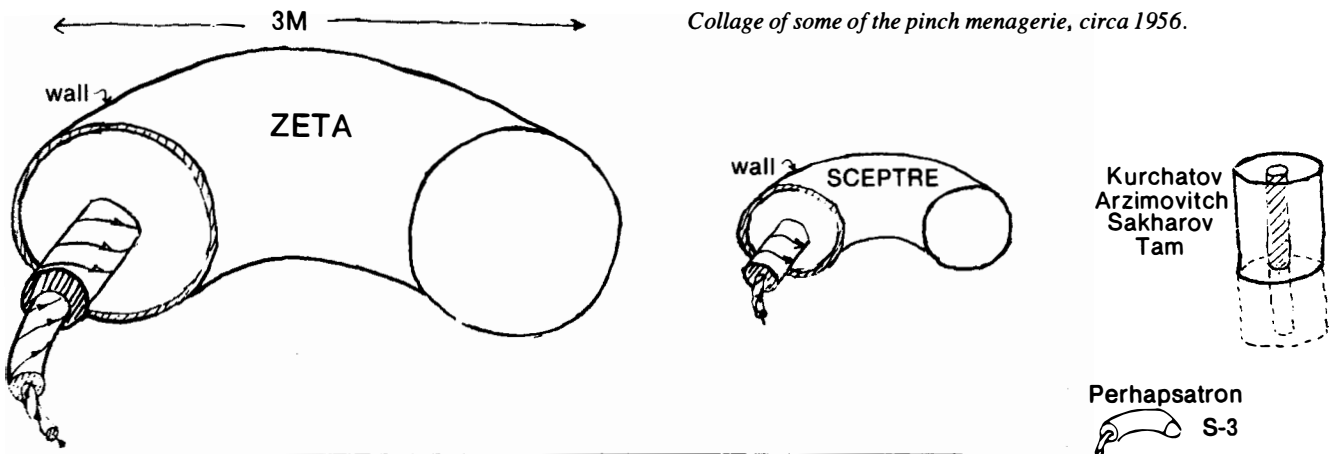
cracking glass tubes and leaking seals. He recalled that his highly talented group under Bill Baker at Berkeley had already worked at the pinch effect, and when he returned to Berkeley he put Baker back to work on the pinch effect apparatus similar to that used for the results reported by Herbert York at Denver in 1952. In about two months of work Bill Baker's group was observing X-rays and the 2.45 Mev neutrons, $D+D=n+He^3$, from the pinched discharges in deuterium gas at about 100 microns pressure.

At that classified CTR meeting in Princeton in 1955, at which Levine presented his results on the H-centered (B_z -stabilized) pinch, Baker gave his results on the neutrons and X-rays from the linear (z) pinch.

After Baker's presentation the author recalls hearing one representative from Los Alamos remark in a private discussion that he felt it was "highly unethical" for Berkeley to have started work, under Lawrence's stimulation, on the pinch effect at that time: Los Alamos had no such spectacular results on the pinch effect to report at that meeting, and at least one of their investigators obviously was piqued at being upstaged so suddenly by the Berkeley lab in so important a CTR role as pinch effect research. The experimenters at Los Alamos, emboldened by Baker's results, went back to their lab after that Princeton meeting and soon they were producing neutrons with Columbus I and II. Furthermore, so heady was the wine of their first success that they were wont to assert that these neutrons were very likely true thermonuclear neutrons, and not those produced by a process which electrically accelerated deuterons into deuterons. Colgate at Livermore undertook, with the help of Berkeley's nuclear emulsion scanners, a detailed comparative analysis of the knock-on proton tracks obtained from the neutrons proceeding from the anode-to-cathode and cathode-to-anode directions of the Columbus I pinched discharge.

Colgate's results showed clearly that the neutrons proceeding in the anode-cathode direction were, on the average, definitely of higher energy than the neutrons proceeding in the cathode during the pinch, and, therefore, that deuterons were average, the center of mass of the pairs of reacting deuterons in the reaction $D+D=n+He^3$ was moving from the anode to the cathode during the pinch, and, that therefore, deuterons were being accelerated in the anode-cathode direction and reacting with other deuterons which had not been so accelerated and were thus acting as targets for this accelerated beam of deuterons. It was hypothesized that a rapidly pinching sausage instability in the channel produced a high back electromotive force ($\cong -IdL/dt$) and that the resulting choking of the current built up a high positive potential toward the anode and a high negative potential toward the cathode end of the pinched channel. (Such high voltage spikes from the back EMF could be seen on the oscilloscopes which recorded the voltage signals from capacitance dividers.) These high potentials were thought to be able to accelerate a few of the deuterons into other deuterons to produce the

FIGURE 5



Collage of some of the pinch menagerie, circa 1956.

	Energy storage	Half-cycle time	Maximum current	B	Neutrons per pulse	T from neutron yield	T from Doppler
Zeta	5×10^5 J	4ms	84–187 KA	160–400g	$0.4-134 \times 10^4$	4.6×10^{16} K	3×10^{16} K
Sceptre	7×10^4	400 μ s	20–200 KA	100–1000g	10^3-10^5	$2-3.5 \times 10^6$	$2.5-3.8 \times 10^6$
Columbus II	10^5	4 μ s	$1-2.5 \times 10^6$ A	0– 10^4 g	2×10^7 B 0, 3×10^6 B 23, 10^3-10^5	2×10^4	$B_z=200$
Columbus s4	1.5×10^4	12 μ s	2.5×10^5 A	0–1750g			
Beybatchenko	1.4×10^5	30 μ s	7×10^5 A	0–12000g			
Golovin USSR							
Perhapsatron s3	4.4×10^4	12 μ s	2.3×10^5 A	0–4000g	$2 \times 10^5-10^6$		
Kurchatov	3×10^5	6–60 μ s	2×10^6 A				
Sweden	10^5	10 μ s	3×10^5	0			

neutrons. X-rays (approximately 5 kev to 200 kev) were also generated simultaneously with the neutrons. At any rate the results showed that energetic deuterium ions (and electrons) did not represent a thermal ensemble, and therefore the fusion reactions were judged to be nonthermonuclear and hence theologically “impure” as far as the CTR program was concerned. These results were a chastening blow to the ardor of those people working on the pinch effect at Los Alamos.

During the highly limited unfolding of this security-classified story in the U.S.A. there occurred a dramatic international announcement, exceeded in its spellbinding effect only by the explosion of the bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki (with the subsequent Smythe report) and the announcement of the successful H-bomb detonations. In 1956 Khrushchov and Kurchatov (after whom is named the Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy in Moscow) appeared for a visit at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell in the United Kingdom. The press throughout the world carried front-page pictures of Khrushchov and Kurchatov in white laboratory coats inspecting the various sites at Harwell because Kurchatov, in a prepared speech before the United Kingdom scientists assembled at Harwell, proceeded to describe in considerable detail the results of the pinch effect

research in the U.S.S.R. One must recognize that the pinch effect research at this moment was not a side show to a CTR circus involving the stellarator, Ogra, mirror machine acts; the pinch effect was the featured show in the main ring. The Soviet results told of neutrons and X-rays and voltage spikes from their pinch effect apparatus which was similar to that in use in the U.S.A. The Soviets had found that the neutrons came from a nonthermal process, their work was accurate, highly detailed, well planned, well instrumented. Lewis Strauss, then the head of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), made the response to the press that: “The Russian results do not tell us anything we have not known for some time.” Strauss’s adverbial phrase, “for some time” covered up the fact that the U.S. pinch effect research had arrived at the same conclusion as the Soviets by a margin of only a few months. It could be estimated that the Soviets had been producing such results since about 1953, and the U.S. effort compared to the Soviet was rather thin. One might surmise what Lewis Strauss would have been able to say if E.O. Lawrence had not ordered Baker to get back on the pinch effect research in 1954 and if Stirling Colgate had not insisted on analyzing the neutron energy.

To be continued.

Pot production soars as depression hits United States

by Marcia Merry, Dennis Small, and John Hoefle

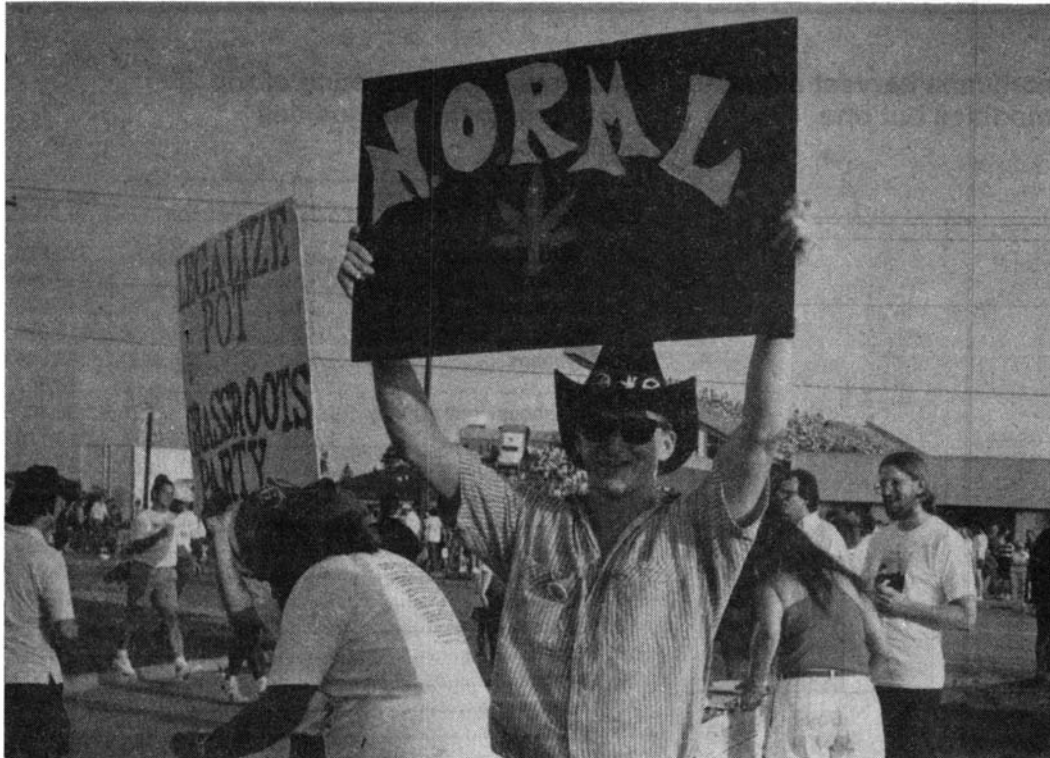
In 1988, a Montana farm couple, Dick and Judith Kurth, of Fort Benton, were convicted and jailed for switching from cattle to marijuana as their cash crop. *People* magazine, the TV networks, and all major media publicized the incident, in part to promote the view that decent farmers everywhere were turning to pot growing, and wrongly punished. In 1985, the Kurths were in debt for \$1.2 million to Norwest Bank, and the bank cut off their credit. Unable to operate their once-prosperous cattle ranch, they investigated growing marijuana in makeshift hot-houses in their farm buildings, in a desperate bid to save their farm.

Over the 1980s, marijuana cultivation in the United States became gigantic, and it continues to soar. For example, in 1987, the total gross value of the crop was an estimated \$43.7 billion. Two years later, in 1989, that had risen to \$50.1 billion. In part, this reflects the rising street price, particularly as eradication raids periodically kill off significant amounts of cultivation in certain regions. But over three-fourths of the dollar increase is due to increased *physical production* of marijuana. Clearly, the trend is toward increased domestic cultivation of the drug, even as Mexico and other points also continue to increase their production. In terms of percentage of annual estimated world output, the U.S. share of marijuana production in 1989 constituted about 27% of the world total.

America's drug problem is no longer just a *consumption* problem—importing marijuana, cocaine, and heroin from “over there.” We now have a major domestic drug *production* catastrophe on our hands as well.

Twenty percent increase per year

We use 1987 data in this report, because, for purposes of assembling a consistent and complete data base for both agriculture and estimated marijuana values, that was the best recent year. (See accompanying box for methods and sources used.) The patterns have, if anything, worsened over the intervening years, as pot production has kept growing by around 20% per year. Meantime, levels of farm



Barbara Miller

Drug legalizers are on the rampage, as marijuana becomes the top crop in many states. Here, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) peddles its wares in July 1990, at a concert in Iowa that featured aging ex-Beatle Paul McCartney.

output of food and fiber are depressed, relative to need and potential productivity. In fact, 1987 marked the first year in recent history that, for a month or two, the United States was a net food importer.

Figure 1 shows that the 1987 marijuana harvest (\$33,095 million) was almost equivalent to the receipts from the largest agriculture commodity (cattle and calves) that year (\$33,829 million), and it was larger than *every other* agricultural commodity, and larger than several major grain crops combined. The relative values are shown for a breakdown of five of the top farm commodities in the bar diagram, and another 20 commodities are shown for comparison in **Table 1**.

What is outstanding is that by 1987, the harvest value of marijuana exceeded that of soybeans and corn combined (\$18,372 million)—the two crops in which the United States leads in world production. Even adding in the value of wheat (\$4,869 million) and hay (\$2,233 million), the \$25,474 million total does not begin to rival marijuana.

Bankers give the nod

You would be wrong to expect to see “waving fields of hemp” in Iowa, however. The pattern in these figures does *not* reflect some imputed “natural shift of preference” among farmers away from producing food, into producing dope. The U.S. marijuana harvest reflects a series of deliberate policy decisions by a network of influentials in the megabanks, the Justice Department, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and related

agencies, to create the conditions where dope growing in the United States is encouraged.

Over the 1970s and 1980s, the banks jacked up international interest rates into the stratosphere, and then forced Third World nations to adopt austerity policies. This predictably destroyed the productive sectors of their economies, at which point the bankers told them that they should produce any crop—including drugs, wherever it was lucrative—for the purpose of generating cash to repay their debts to the banks.

The spectacular growth of marijuana cultivation in the United States in the 1980s is a result of the same policies. The same usurious interest rates that destroyed the Third World have also made it nearly impossible for agriculture to survive in the United States. Bankruptcies in the farm sector have skyrocketed, and farmers are being told to grow pot, or lose their farms.

So long as the Bush administration promotes liberal free market economic policies at home and abroad, the drug trade will flourish—at home and abroad—and Washington’s so-called War on Drugs will remain a cruel joke.

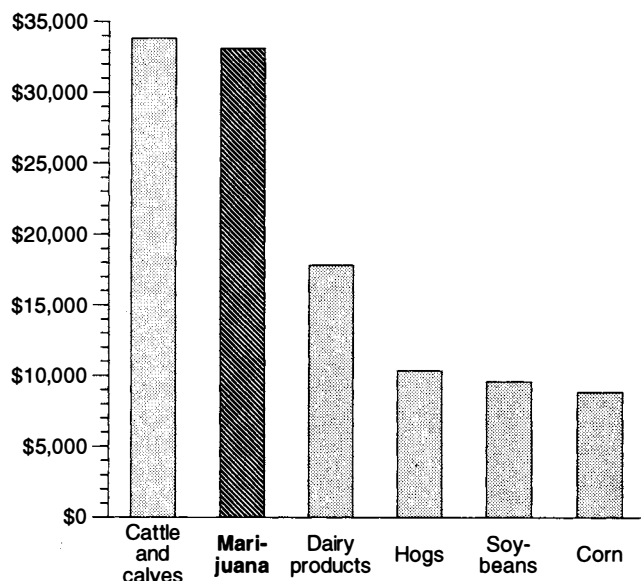
The example of the conviction of the Montana farmers is a case in point. It is on public record that Dick and Judith Kurth were advised by their local Norwest Bank officer Floyd DeRusha, that they would have a chance to prevent bankruptcy if they produced marijuana. Once the farmers, very experienced in agronomy, did produce successive years of marijuana crops, they paid off their debts, with money to spare.

According to press accounts, DeRusha was just “joking”

FIGURE 1

Value of 1987 U.S. marijuana harvest exceeds all agricultural commodities but one

(millions \$)



Source: USDA; NORML; EIR estimates

TABLE 1

Receipts from marketing of top 25 crop/livestock commodities

(millions of \$)

Crop/livestock commodity	Receipts
1. Cattle and calves	\$33,829
2. Marijuana	\$33,095
3. Dairy products	\$17,829
4. Hogs	\$10,326
5. Soybeans	\$9,565
6. Corn	\$8,807
7. Greenhouse and nursery	\$6,402
8. Broilers	\$6,176
9. Wheat	\$4,869
10. Cotton	\$4,027
11. Eggs	\$3,177
12. Hay	\$2,233
13. Tobacco	\$1,827
14. Turkeys	\$1,701
15. Potatoes	\$1,588
16. Grapes	\$1,355
17. Oranges	\$1,300
18. Tomatoes	\$1,283
19. Apples	\$1,091
20. Peanuts	\$1,016
21. Sorghum grain	\$1,009
22. Sugar beets	\$942
23. Lettuce	\$857
24. Barley	\$782
25. Cane for sugar	\$778

Source: USDA

when, in 1985, he replied to the Kurths' anguished plea for help to continue ranching, "Well, other than growing marijuana, I don't know what you can do. Why don't you try that?" Norwest Bank President Frank Shaw denies that this was an okay to grow dope, but the bank gladly accepted the Kurths' money to pay off their loan, even though any bank official would have to wonder where the money was coming from, since the Kurths had been insolvent. Dick Kurth further testified that he informed Norwest how he was making his money, and that bank officials even helped him make big cash deposits in such a way as to evade federal rules to detect suspicious sums of cash. According to the bank's behavior, money is money.

Nationally, this "one step removed" policy has prevailed among banks and other agencies connected with taking in or laundering dope money. The big banks caught violating federal reporting laws, and taking in large amounts of cash—such as the Bank of Boston and SeaFirst in Seattle—were given only slap-on-the-wrist fines. No followup of the drug money networks was done by the Justice Department. In the marijuana-producing areas, likewise, there are large unaccounted for cash flows, and yet there have been conspicuously few regional-raids, indictments, and convictions.

What is one to conclude from the size of the domestic pot economy? Marijuana advocates like the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) conclude that

marijuana output is so big and lucrative that it reflects public support, including that of farmers, and therefore must be legalized. Much of the major media also promote this view. But closer inspection of the patterns of cultivation do not indicate widespread public support or farmer involvement.

In the report that follows, we present a systematic computer-assisted study of the scope and geography of marijuana growing in the United States. The study shows that there are demarcated areas of cultivation, which any concerted eradication program could obliterate—if the political will to do so actually existed.

The two zones accounting for 42% of U.S. marijuana output (1987) are concentrated in the Pacific states (California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii), and in the secluded, poverty-stricken counties of the Ozarks and Appalachians, in a five-state region in the eastern central United States (Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, northern Georgia, and also adjacent southwestern Virginia) (Figure 2).

The figures show that there were not wholesale switchovers to marijuana by traditional farmers in the big farm states. Instead, the marijuana cultivation has been taken up

FIGURE 2
Ten states produce 42% of U.S. marijuana output
 (billions \$)



Source: NORML; EIR estimates

in remote areas impoverished by the shutdown of local coal mines and other industries and by the fall in farm commodity prices. Added to that is the counterculture's "Mother Earth"-type farmer, based especially on the West Coast, but located around the country, as a product of the "New Age."

If, over the 1980s there had been genuine economic growth, instead of "Reaganomics" followed by Bush's equally disastrous free market liberalism, then the U.S. farm sector would be booming, and marijuana would not have become the new crop of "alternative agriculture."

Pop singers say, 'Grow dope, not food'

The most prominent promoter of marijuana cultivation is the entertainment mafia's favorite pothead, Willie Nelson, billed as a country and western singer. Wailing Willie is the figurehead for an outfit called FarmAid, which in 1985 began annual charity concert bashes to raise funds to donate to needy farmers. FarmAid has worked hand-in-glove with the FBI Community Relations division, to police rural areas and prevent any serious political farm movement from taking shape.

FarmAid has pledged financing for a national emergency farm protest meeting in March in Washington, D.C.; the group will have its usual strings attached to see that the meeting remains at the level of impotent "protest," not "program."

Last October, Nelson was on the election trail for

pot. In Kentucky he supported gubernatorial candidate Gatewood Galbraith, whose platform called for a "hemp-based economy." Galbraith, the best-known marijuana lawyer in the state, calls for legalizing marijuana, levying stiff taxes on it, and applying the revenues for action against "hard" drugs. Galbraith says that pot growing has caused the "revitalization of the rural economy."

In his 1988 autobiography, *Willie*, Nelson bragged about how he and a pal smoked marijuana on the White House roof, during a stay as guests of President Jimmy Carter. "The boys don't play where they can't smoke dope," Nelson told a reporter who asked whether his band indulged in illegal drug use at the White House.

Now that Willie has come to be the entertainment industry's "friend of the farmer," his message continues to be: "Feelin' bad? Try dope." The *Washington Post* featured Willie in its "Personalities" column in October 1990, saying, "I don't think there's any big secret how I've felt about cannabis [hemp or marijuana] over the years. The biggest killer on the planet is stress, and I still think the best medicine is and always has been cannabis."

Where marijuana is the top cash crop

The 1980s saw a deadly boom in the production of marijuana in the United States. Estimates for the 45 states where statistics are available, show that marijuana is now cultivated in significant amounts everywhere.

The four bar diagrams (Figure 3) show the scope of the problem. They rank the 45 states in terms of the harvest value of marijuana as a percent of the total value of all other crop

and livestock output of that state.

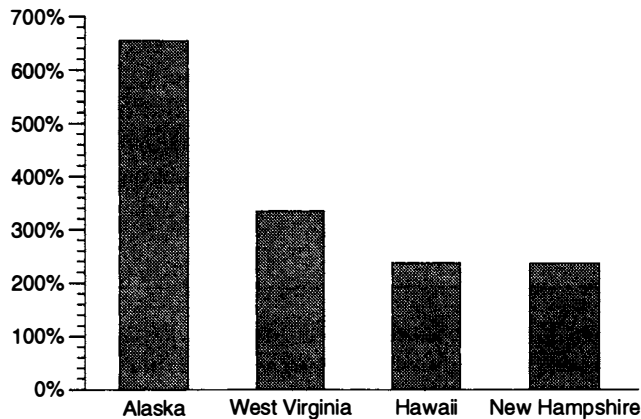
Figure 3a shows that marijuana is 655% of all other farm output combined in Alaska, 335% in West Virginia, 237% in Hawaii, and 236% in New Hampshire. Figure 3b ranks 10 states where marijuana is 50-99% of farm harvest value, from Oregon and Massachusetts (90% or over), down to 55% in the case of Maine. Figure 3c shows 18 states where marijuana ranks from 49% down to 20%. And finally, 13 states where marijuana harvest value is below 20% of other farm output, are ranked in Figure 3d.

Some grown everywhere

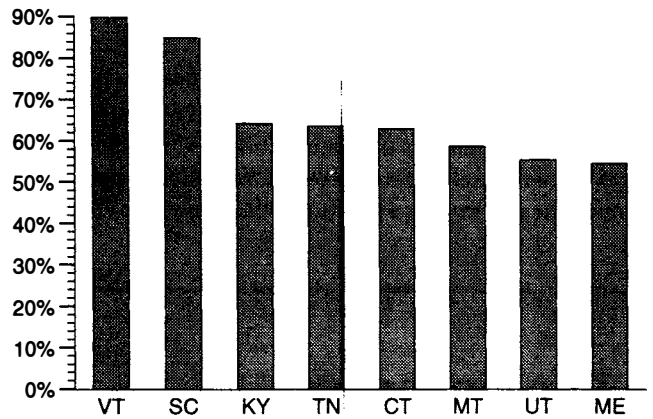
Table 2 is a master table, listing all states in alphabetical order, and giving the dollar value of marijuana output, the

FIGURE 3
State-by-state comparison of marijuana production to total value of crop/livestock output
 (percent of crop/livestock output in 1987)

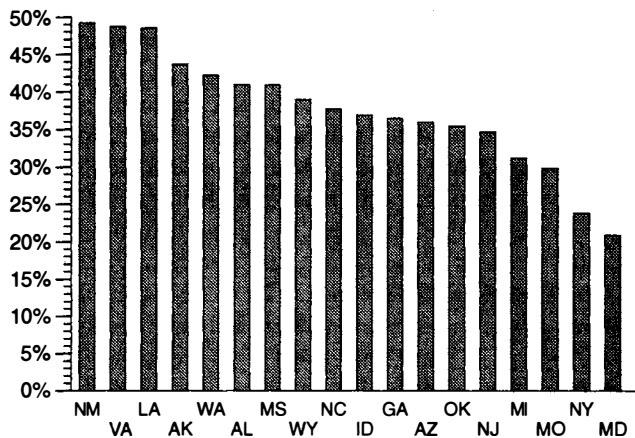
a) Marijuana is over 100% of crop/livestock output



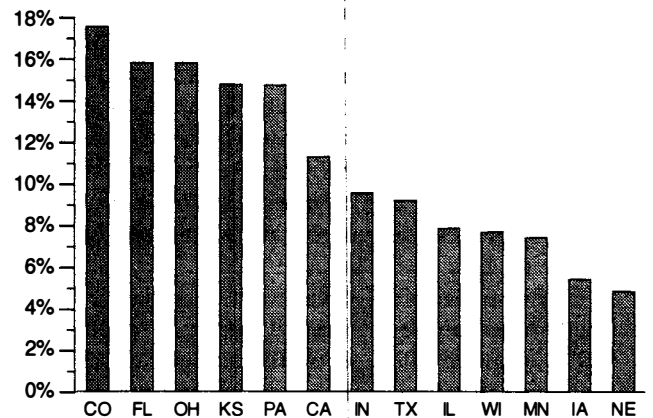
b) Marijuana is 50-90% of crop/livestock output



c) Marijuana is 20-49% of crop/livestock output



d) Marijuana is 4-18% of crop/livestock output



Source: USDA; NORML; EIR estimates

value and name of the leading farm commodity of that state, and the size of the marijuana crop, expressed as a percentage of the leading legal farm commodity. For example, in Vermont, the value of marijuana harvested (\$370 million) is 118% of the value of the state's leading commodity—dairy products (\$314 million).

Figure 4 gives another comparative view of the spread of marijuana cultivation, by showing that in 37 states, the harvest value of marijuana cultivated exceeds that of the top crop (i.e., excluding non-crop agricultural commodities, such as livestock and dairy) grown in that state.

But this map also indicates an important counter-pattern. In the Midwest corn belt, the marijuana does not outrank the value of the corn and soybean harvests. And it does not outrank the cotton in Texas or citrus in Florida—at least not yet.

A deeper look at the state data shows clearly that the top farm states are not the top pot-producing states—neither in percentage nor in absolute terms. The one exception to this is California, which is special in many respects. That state has the largest population in the nation, and an economy larger than that of many nations. It has a rich, varied agriculture, with secluded and favorable growth locations for marijuana. It also has Hollywood and a history of pro-drug counterculture, and cases of experimentation with hallucinogenic drugs provided clandestinely to masses of people.

The map in Figure 5 shows the locations of the top 10 farm states in the country, and the top 10 marijuana states. Only California ranks in both. The top 10 farm states account for 52% of the total crop and livestock commodity marketings in 1987. The top 10 marijuana-producing states account for 42% of the harvest value of all marijuana produced in the United States in 1987.

Marijuana centers

It is clear that the two centers of marijuana production are 1) the Pacific states: Hawaii, California, Oregon, and Washington, and 2) the eastern central states of Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, and North Carolina. The adjacent counties of southwestern Virginia, and other remote parts of adjoining states, such as West Virginia, could also be included.

The Pacific states were famous in the mid-1980s for what was called the "Emerald Triangle," in northern California. However, in the past three years, networks of dope dealers have vastly expanded the number of growing areas with high-quality seeds, specialized growing equipment, and other inputs throughout the larger region. Hawaii's climate can sustain three crops a year. Places in southern California and Arizona have developed underground greenhouses, with grow lights and hydroponics.

The Eastern states marijuana cultivation is spread throughout the remote areas of the Ozarks and Appalachians. Both the farm crisis of the 1980s, and the layoffs in the coal

TABLE 2

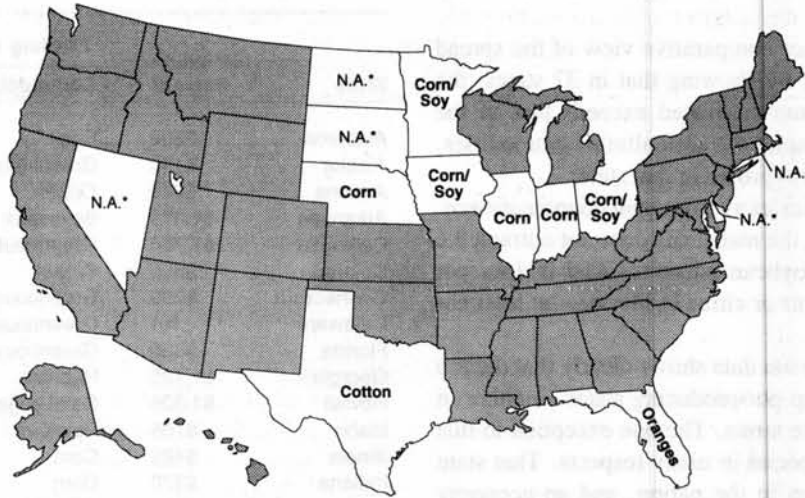
State-by-state comparison of marijuana harvest vs. leading agricultural commodity

(millions of \$)

State	Marijuana harvest	Leading commodity		Marijuana as % of commodity
		Commodity	Amount	
Alabama	\$880	Eggs	\$156	564.1%
Alaska	\$190	Greenhouse	\$13	1,461.5%
Arizona	\$640	Cotton	\$339	188.8%
Arkansas	\$1,375	Soybeans	\$369	372.6%
California	\$1,750	Greenhouse	\$1,464	119.5%
Colorado	\$560	Wheat	\$221	253.4%
Connecticut	\$230	Greenhouse	\$95	242.1%
Delaware	NA	Greenhouse	\$30	NA
Florida	\$825	Greenhouse	\$933	88.4%
Georgia	\$1,125	Peanuts	\$454	247.8%
Hawaii	\$1,325	Cane/sugar	\$218	607.8%
Idaho	\$755	Potatoes	\$321	235.2%
Illinois	\$485	Corn	\$1,858	26.1%
Indiana	\$370	Corn	\$884	41.9%
Iowa	\$475	Soybeans	\$1,689	28.1%
Kansas	\$845	Wheat	\$810	104.3%
Kentucky	\$1,550	Tobacco	\$441	351.5%
Louisiana	\$690	Cotton	\$282	244.7%
Maine	\$225	Potatoes	\$108	208.3%
Maryland	\$235	Greenhouse	\$176	133.5%
Massachusetts	\$375	Greenhouse	\$122	307.4%
Michigan	\$780	Corn	\$196	398.0%
Minnesota	\$430	Soybeans	\$769	55.9%
Mississippi	\$810	Cotton	\$532	152.3%
Missouri	\$1,100	Soybeans	\$808	136.1%
Montana	\$790	Wheat	\$332	238.0%
Nebraska	\$330	Corn	\$1,003	32.9%
Nevada	NA	Hay	\$46	NA
New Hampshire	\$245	Greenhouse	\$15	1,633.3%
New Jersey	\$195	Greenhouse	\$192	101.6%
New Mexico	\$565	Hay	\$69	818.8%
New York	\$600	Greenhouse	\$208	288.5%
North Carolina	\$1,400	Tobacco	\$730	191.8%
North Dakota	NA	Wheat	\$701	NA
Ohio	\$540	Soybeans	\$741	72.9%
Oklahoma	\$975	Wheat	\$290	336.2%
Oregon	\$1,825	Greenhouse	\$210	869.0%
Pennsylvania	\$475	Greenhouse	\$298	159.4%
Rhode Island	NA	Greenhouse	\$38	NA
South Carolina	\$790	Tobacco	\$149	530.2%
South Dakota	NA	Wheat	\$238	NA
Tennessee	\$1,225	Cotton	\$178	688.2%
Texas	\$835	Cotton	\$980	85.2%
Utah	\$330	Hay	\$45	733.3%
Vermont	\$370	Hay	\$9	4,111.1%
Virginia	\$825	Tobacco	\$114	723.7%
Washington	\$1,200	Apples	\$462	259.7%
West Virginia	\$740	Apples	\$22	3,363.6%
Wisconsin	\$385	Corn	\$229	168.1%
Wyoming	\$250	Sugar beets	\$37	675.7%
U.S. total	\$33,095		\$20,624	160.5%

Source: USDA; NORML; EIR estimates

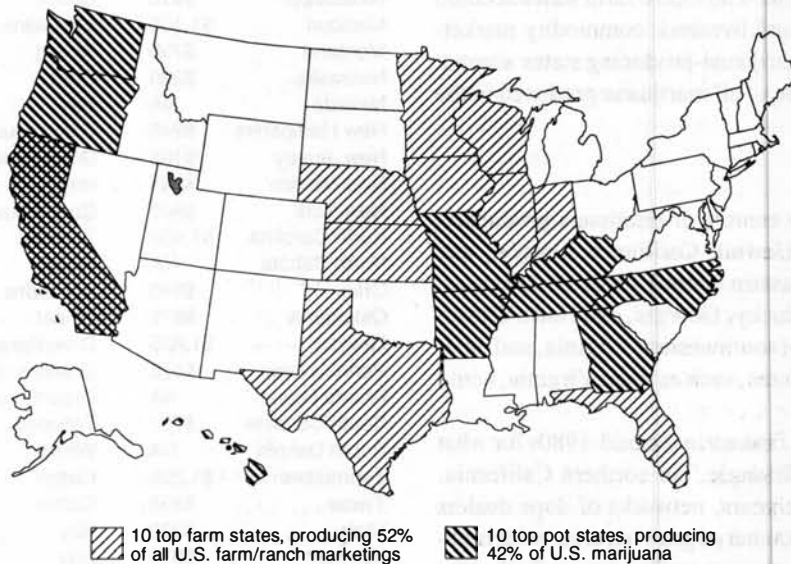
FIGURE 4
In 37 states marijuana outranks the leading crop in harvest value
 (status as of 1987)



Source: USDA; NORML; EIR estimates

* N.A. = data not available

FIGURE 5
Only California is both a top farm and marijuana state
 (status as of 1987)



Source: USDA; NORML; EIR estimates

fields, have left thousands with no livelihoods and no hope. In this poverty belt, both local residents and the carpetbagger pothead entrepreneurs have moved to create "marijuana zones." In the atmosphere of economic downturn, there are

plenty of state troopers, sheriffs, and deputies, in addition to crooked judges, who are not prepared to root out the dope networks. They are frequently the local "Yo Boys" who get a kick out of packing a gun, having some cash, and looking

the other way. The law enforcement officer or citizen who does try to take action in this environment, is targeted for harassment or even death.

Extensive acreage in the national park lands is planted to marijuana, both because of the remoteness of the land, and because the grower calculates thus to avoid personal property

seizure in case he is caught. The 661,000-acre Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky has had large patches of marijuana sown in secluded hollows, behind corn fields, and inside rows of corn. In Hawaii, on the Big Island, marijuana growers take advantage of vast tracts of the undeveloped land.

Even the pattern of occasional drug busts provides

Our sources and method

The agricultural statistics used in this study come from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, "State Financial Summary, 1987."

The state-by-state marijuana production statistics come from a June 17, 1988 press release issued by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), and have been cross-checked in aggregate terms against official U.S. government statistics published by the National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee (NNICC—an inter-departmental committee which includes DEA, CIA, FBI, State Department, and other federal agencies), data provided by U.S. congressional committees, and international statistics provided by various producer nations.

The NORML statistics are substantially higher (3-4 times) than those provided by most U.S. government agencies (NNICC in particular). Both NNICC and NORML start from the official DEA figures for tons of marijuana eradicated. NNICC then estimates total crop size based on their assumptions regarding what percentage of the total crop they believe to have been eradicated. Thus, in 1987, they assumed that the DEA eradicated almost two-thirds of all marijuana production; in 1989, they more modestly claimed only one-half was eradicated. NORML's estimate—based on state-by-state budget analyses, *in situ* reports, etc.—is that, from the mid- to late 1980s, only 16% of the crop was eradicated.

The NNICC notoriously underestimates most drug production statistics, for a combination of political and methodological reasons. Take the case of coca production in Peru. In our July 8, 1988 issue, *EIR* used official Peruvian statistics to estimate that total 1987 coca production in that country was about 300 tons (maximum HCl of cocaine capacity)—50% higher than the NNICC's estimate for that year. But the 1989 NNICC annual report subsequently revised their own earlier estimates upward, making their 1989 figures consistent with *EIR*'s—and de facto admitting that *EIR* was right all along.

NNICC figures for Mexican marijuana production are also revealing. Their 1989 report states them as follows:

1987 = 4,200 tons

1988 = 4,710 tons

1989 = 42,283 tons

The gigantic, order-of-magnitude jump for 1989, the NNICC admits, is *not* due to that much new production, but to the fact that their earlier numbers were much too low. Or, as they put it: "This increase is the result of improved estimation methodologies and a review of cultivation areas that had not been included in previous years."

In 1986, the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control published figures on U.S. marijuana imports (30,000 tons) which were two to three times the standard NNICC figures. These congressional figures are far closer to NORML's estimates than those of the NNICC. So it is safe to assume that the NNICC is substantially understating U.S. pot production.

It is *EIR*'s view, after careful examination of the data, that, even though NORML has "an ax to grind," their global statistics more closely reflect reality than do any other published data series. (We cannot at this time vouch for their state-by-state breakdown.)

To further verify at least the order-of-magnitude accuracy of NORML's figures, *EIR* independently estimated non-U.S. marijuana production in the Western Hemisphere at approximately \$115 billion in 1987 (see *EIR*, Nov. 9, 1990). If NORML's data are accurate, then U.S. pot production of \$33 billion that year would constitute about 22% of the value of the total output from the Western Hemisphere. The vast majority (80-90%) of this hemispheric marijuana is consumed in the United States, so that the proportions that apply to hemispheric production pretty much hold for the proportions of U.S. consumption coming from different hemispheric suppliers. That is, it is safe to assume, based on the above statistics, that the United States itself produces about 22% of the marijuana consumed in this country.

Compare this with the DEA's own estimates on U.S. consumption. They report that about 25% of the pot consumed in the U.S. is produced domestically. This is in the same ball park as the percentage which results from employing NORML's numbers in combination with *EIR*'s calculations—in fact, it is surprisingly close, given the obvious difficulty of accurately calculating the size and value of what is still an illegal crop.



Stuart Lewis

Farmers are told to grow dope in order to survive, while the rock-drug counterculture hooks the nation's youth. Shown here are dopers on parade in New York City.

enough public information to show the social and geographic characteristics of the marijuana cultivation:

Clay County, Kentucky: As many as 40% of the county's 24,100 citizens grew marijuana as of 1989, according to local authorities. The county has suffered 25% unemployment, compared with an official rate of 6% nationally; half the population is living on Social Security, disability, or unemployment payments; there is a 50% dropout rate from high school, compared with 25% nationally.

This area is a former coal-producing region where the mines shut down. As of a year ago, Clay County was the largest producer of marijuana in Kentucky, which in turn is the third-largest producing state in the nation.

Southwestern Virginia: The same situation prevails in this 15-county region, where coal mining is dying out, and there is nothing else growing in this mountainous area. Last summer, one raid destroyed 10,753 plants there, with a value roughly estimated to be \$10.7 million.

Two new patterns are apparent in the Pacific states:

Hawaii: For the last decade, this state has been the first or second largest marijuana producer in the nation. Marijuana plots as large as a quarter of an acre came to dot the state forests. Some growers hid their crops amid sugar cane fields. When a six-month eradication effort called Operation Wipe-out was conducted last year, it was estimated that 800,000 plants were destroyed. This represents about 80% of the estimated outdoor plants, and shows the extent of the dope operations, which press reports of the raid estimated to be \$8 billion.

California: Some dope growers from California's Emerald Triangle have moved south to avoid harassment from law

authorities. They have invested in high-tech underground pot production. The Drug Enforcement Administration captured 130 indoor farms in 1989, and over 260 in 1990. The most advanced setups are designed to produce four crops a year. One "farm" raided last fall in the desert near Lancaster cost about \$1 million to build, and had the potential to grow 8,500 plants four times a year, for an annual profit of \$75 million.

The farm states

Both the raids and the statistics show that the average farmer is *not* viewing marijuana as an alternative, despite the encouragement that the Reagan-Bush economic "recovery" provides. The map in Figure 5 shows that the grain belt states are *not* part of the pattern of the 37 other states where the harvest value of marijuana exceeds the value of the state's top crop (excluding dairy or livestock). The corn belt states produce relatively little marijuana—if hundreds of millions of dollars per year can be considered "little." They only look good in comparison to the West Coast and Appalachian "marijuana belt." Typically, various plots of wild types of marijuana are cultivated in the grain belt, and few high-tech greenhouses are used.

In none of the top 10 U.S. farm states does the value of marijuana outrank that of the top farm commodity, as Table 2 shows. However, in California and Florida, marijuana harvest value exceeds the value of the greenhouse and nursery output—the second-ranking commodity in each state.

The harvest value of marijuana exceeds that of the third-ranking commodity in four states: California (cattle), Texas (wheat), Kansas (grain sorghum) and Florida (tomatoes).

Dope moves in where farm policy failed

by Marcia Merry

Last December, the *Chicago Tribune* syndicated an article titled, "Hemp touted as cash crop with side effect of legalized marijuana." It sang the praises of marijuana for making paper, medicine, and other uses, saying that farmers could make huge profits from growing hemp, according to the Illinois Marijuana Initiative (IMI). "This is definitely a cash crop. It could mean billions of dollars for U.S. farmers. . . . It's already the nation's leading illegal cash crop," said the IMI's Mike Rosing.

Such arguments are aimed, not at farmers, but at softening up the non-farm population for more dope and degradation. No traditional, independent family farmer, in his or her "right mind," is so befuddled that he thinks it is wise to base national farm policy, and individual decisions about what to grow, on dope.

However, U.S. farm policy over the past 25 years has been a disaster. And millions of Americans—farmers included—have been "out of their minds" to have tolerated it. If it continues, they will soon have no choice but to grow pot—or starve.

What 'recovery'?

Over the 1980s decade of the "Reagan-Bush recovery," crisis hit the U.S. farm belt. An estimated 400,000 farmers were bankrupted or forced to quit by selling out or abandoning their operations.

Under orders from the food cartels, whose executives direct the programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. government followed a radical free market policy, in the 1985 five-year farm bill and in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations. A government study predicts that if the U.S. GATT proposal were to go through (or a domestic farm law equivalent), 500,000 farmers more would be wiped out by 1992.

The mass impoverishment of American family farmers over the 1980s was accomplished by a combination of high interest rates, removal of financing sources, devaluation of farm assets, plus high costs for inputs, and low prices for outputs. This is in exact parallel to the impoverishment of Third World nations.

In 1981, U.S. agriculture had a total assets value of \$1

trillion, which dropped to \$760 billion by 1990—a 24% plunge. Over this decade, lending agencies devalued the collateral backing farmers' loans, and demanded more collateral and higher interest rates on debt. After Paul Volcker became head of the Federal Reserve in 1979, his high interest rate policy caused some farm lending to exceed a 20% interest rate.

For awhile, in the early 1980s, farmers scrambled to hock everything they owned, and went deeper into debt. Applications soared to the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), the farmer's lender of last resort.

By the mid-1980s, total agriculture debt reached over \$215 billion, held by three major lending groups: the FmHA, the commercial banks, and the Production Credit Associations (PCA), a private entity with limited government backing. Then the axe fell. The Reagan-Bush administration ordered creditors to "tighten up" on loans. By 1990, total national agriculture debt was brought down to less than \$190 billion, by a process of shutting down hundreds of thousands of farmers, and squeezing others to the bone. The USDA dumped thousands of their FmHA farm borrowers through forced bankruptcy. Hundreds of small, local farm banks went under.

This situation prevails today. Farm communities have become ghost towns. And with the low prices for farm commodities, farmers are still unable to service debt and capitalize their operations.

The prices of all farm commodities in the United States, just as internationally, are artificially depressed by the food cartel companies—Cargill, ADM/Toepfer, Louis Dreyfus, Continental, Bunge, André/Garnac, and a few others—whose policy is to liquidate the independent family farm. Most farm prices are less than half of parity (a fair price covering cost of production, and a return on investment sufficient to guarantee the capitalization necessary for continued food production). The USDA issued a report in 1987 saying that parity is an outmoded concept.

The case of wheat

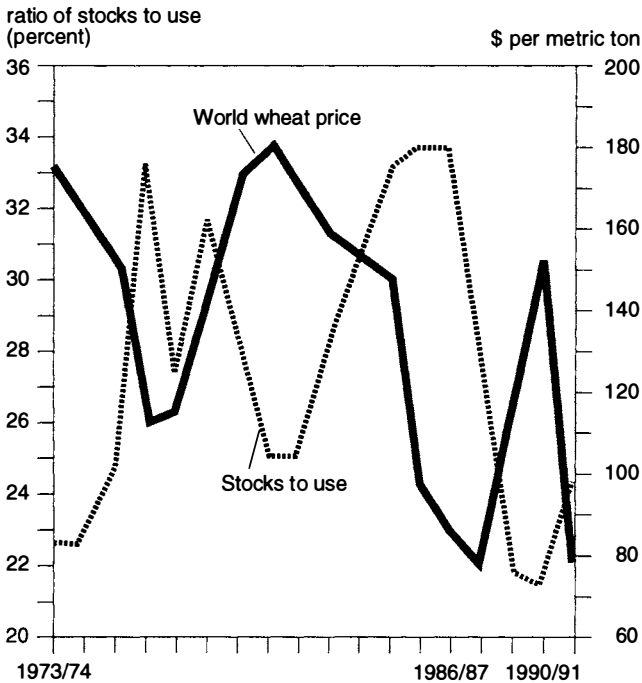
The crisis is exemplified by the current situation of wheat, the staff of life. **Figure 6** shows that wheat prices have plunged over the last eight months. The average price today is \$2.38 a bushel, lower than it has been in 20 years, and *half* the minimum cost of production.

Contrary to any propaganda you may hear, this does not represent a glut of wheat on the market, nor any suppression of prices according to some mythical law of supply and demand. Instead, it represents systematic underpayment of farmers by the cartel grain brokering companies that monopolize the world grain trade and domestic distribution. It has been the policy of London and Washington, D.C. to condone this underpayment of farmers for their food output, in the name of "free market" competition.

Wheat is, in reality, *scarce* relative to need. On a world

FIGURE 6

Food cartels depress wheat price to farmers despite low stocks



Source: USDA

basis, less grain of all types was harvested from 1987 to 1989, than was consumed. While over 2 billion tons of grains of all types were needed for consumption, only 1.6-1.75 billion tons were produced. Of this, wheat output leveled off at about 420 million tons. For the minimum for decent diets, over 3 billion tons would be required for direct consumption as cereals, and indirect consumption through livestock products.

Grain reserve stocks of all types were drawn down from 1986 to the present. Therefore, the first decent harvest year during that period, 1990, does not make up for this draw-down, nor for the fact that millions have been deprived of adequate nutrition. Over the 1980s, food output per capita declined in Ibero-America. Food output per capita in Africa has declined so drastically over the past 20 years that starvation is occurring on the scale of genocide.

The graph shows that the “stocks-to-use ratio” for wheat is low. This illustrates that prices to the farm should be much higher.

With minor changes, the wheat and grain picture holds true for other dietary staples—oils, sugars, meat, milk, fruits, and vegetables. Prices have fallen to the farmers while shortages are forcing millions to go hungry.

In this depressed environment, the “marijuana industry” has taken hold.

It's a lie that marijuana is 'safe'

by John Grauerholz, M.D.

The popular classification of cannabis as a “soft” drug is misleading, in view of its acute and chronic toxic effects.

Marijuana is a substance which for over 2,000 years has been reported to cause mental illness. Besides THC (delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol), the chemical euphoriant found in cannabis, 60 other cannabinoids have been identified, in addition to hundreds of other compounds such as sterols, terpenes, flavinoids, alkaloids, and furan derivatives. A list of the gaseous and particulate matter in the smoke of a marijuana cigarette reads like the contents of a toxic waste dump, including carbon monoxide, acetaldehyde, toluene, nitrosamine, vinyl chloride, phenol, cresol, and naphthalene. A marijuana cigarette contains twice the amount of carcinogenic tars, such as benzanthracene, as a tobacco cigarette of the same weight.

Now a more potent type of marijuana is being cultivated called sensemilla—Spanish for “without seeds.” This type is produced by a female plant segregated from male plants to prevent pollination, and then allowed to grow large clusters of buds that never flower, called “colas.” These buds have a significantly higher concentration of THC.

University of Mississippi researchers say that much of the pot being sold today may be up to 250% stronger than that of the mid-1970s. While the average marijuana of the 1960s was 1% THC, today’s blend might register around 8%. Clinics are reporting seriously impaired marijuana users showing up for help.

Link to cancer, reproductive disorders

Experiments in animals and humans have documented that marijuana smoke produces cancerous changes in lung tissue and impairs the immune cells of the lung to a much greater extent than cigarette smoke. A group of young volunteers who smoked marijuana rapidly developed symptoms of airway obstruction which were much more severe than a comparable group of tobacco smokers.

Precancerous lesions were found in biopsies of American soldiers stationed in Germany who had smoked hashish heavily for two years.

In experimental animals, exposure to cannabis has been associated with disruption of all phases of reproduction. This results from the direct action of the drug on the pituitary gland, as well as on the gonads. In men, cannabis, THC, and other cannabinoids cause shrinkage of the testicles, with reduced sperm counts, an increased prevalence of abnormal sperm cells, and lowered hormone levels in the blood.

Cannabinoids cross the placental barrier and appear in maternal milk. Thus the fetus can be affected in the uterus by cannabis smoked by its mother, as well as by contaminated breast milk. Experimental studies indicate that the negative effects on development which have been seen in different animal species may be caused by: preconception exposure to cannabis with damage to the germ cells (sperm and egg); prenatal exposure in the uterus; and/or postnatal exposure to contaminated mother's milk.

In one study, of 10 independent factors such as age, alcohol use, cigarette smoking, and race, which were studied as possible causes of adverse effects in pregnancy, marijuana use was the most highly predictive of fetal malformations. In fact, it now appears that a significant number of cases of fetal alcohol

syndrome may actually represent the effects of marijuana.

Unlike alcohol, in which the heaviest consumption occurs among a small percentage of the total number of consumers, regular marijuana consumption is more widely distributed among the total number of consumers. Epidemiological studies indicate that the abuse potential of cannabis (its capacity to induce daily intoxication) may be nine times greater than that of alcohol, when it is easily accessible and socially acceptable.

It is also an addictive, dependence-producing drug. Since studies of large numbers of high school students show that 26% of marijuana users went on to experiment with opiates, barbiturates, and amphetamines, it is not surprising that those who are profiting from the drug trade are so eager to legalize this drug.

U.S. must grow food, wipe out marijuana

Two courses of emergency action are called for in the face of the decline of U.S. agriculture and rise of marijuana production: the restoration of a federal farm policy based on meeting national food supply goals, and an effective drug eradication program. The essential foundation for these initiatives to work is an economic growth campaign, involving infrastructural, industrial, and agricultural development, with opportunities for education and full productive employment.

Emergency agriculture program

The new five-year farm law, "Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990," should be scrapped, and a set of emergency measures initiated based on the following guidelines:

1) Prices. Farmers must receive fair or "parity" prices (80-100% of standard parity calculations) for their output. Anti-trust and related actions are needed to dismantle the food cartel companies' control over food prices, flow, and availability.

2) Debt relief. A moratorium on agricultural debt is required, with rescheduling and debt forgiveness, pending resumption of a healthy farm economy with the ability to repay just debts. Low-interest credits must be advanced through the Treasury Department and local banking services to permit the doubling of current output.

3) Ecology policy. Sound resource management policies must be reinstated based on required levels of energy and technology to begin to make land, water, and soil

improvements for the national agriculture resource base. The current low-energy, low-tech programs, called "sustainable" or "alternative" agriculture—programs which are impoverishing farmers and actually degrading the environment—must be stopped. Suspend the activities of the Environmental Protection Agency, pending critical review of its conduct.

4) Infrastructure. Projects for creating and maintaining water supplies, power, and transport for agriculture inputs and commodities must be initiated.

Emergency dope eradication campaign

1) Stop drug-money laundering. Enforce transparency in banking transactions; seize the drug traffickers' assets; jail the drug bankers.

2) Stop drug production. Use satellite detection of all production and processing sites. Use modern equipment for herbicide spraying, and other means to kill the crops. Heat-sensing snooping devices have successfully sought out the locations of underground marijuana grown in southern California and Arizona.

In 1990, the Operation Wipeout raids in Hawaii used a locally designed herbicide spray rig that dangled from a helicopter, to spray targeted patches. As the craft hovers about 100 feet overhead, a ball-shaped steel drum sprays the plot with glyphosate (a common weedkiller). For extensive tracts, aerial spraying of malathion are in order.

3) Stop drug distribution. Use modern technology, like nuclear magnetic resonance and X-rays, to detect suspicious shipments and to search likely illicit cargo.

4) Stop drug consumption. Defeat the legalization campaign. Enforce severe jail terms for all traffickers and dealers.

5) Stop pornography and satanism. Make them illegal, and jail violators. Promote classical culture among youth.

Muslims inflamed against Bush's 'New World Order'

by Joseph Brewda

When the U.S. Pentagon finally reported on Jan. 28 that some 80-100 Iraqi warplanes had flown to Iran over the previous few days, U.S. propaganda mouthpieces such as the *New York Times* could only term the deployment a "puzzle." Just hours before, the media and U.S. government spokesmen had been gloating that Iran, which fought a bitter eight-year war with Iraq which ended in 1988, supported Anglo-American war policy. Despite some subsequent clumsy attempts to depict the organized flights as a "defection," even Pentagon spokesman Lt. Gen. Thomas Kelly admitted that day that "it could be a plan to save these aircraft. . . . I don't know what kind of arrangements Iraq has reached with Iran."

In fact, the war is spreading, just as *EIR* said it would. It is already clear, as we go to press on Jan. 31, that even if Iran does not enter the war, it will aid the Iraqis against the Americans—whom the Iranians denounce as the "Great Satan"—over the coming days. "There will be many surprises coming in this regard," one well-informed Arab in the region reported, chuckling, "you will see."

On Jan. 29, as Pentagon spokesmen were scratching their heads, the Iranian Parliament overwhelmingly passed a resolution demanding that U.S. forces immediately evacuate the Gulf as part of a comprehensive peace plan. The resolution had been submitted by Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karrubi, who had been one of Iraq's fiercest enemies in the Iran-Iraq war.

Earlier, on Jan. 24, Ayatollah Khomeini, the successor to Ayatollah Khomeini, denounced the United States for committing war crimes against the Iraqi people. "They have no qualms about dropping thousands of tons of bombs over cities and on the heads of children, the sick, the defenseless, and innocent civilians," the Ayatollah stated, "and yet they consider the showing of a pilot of a downed plane on television to be against that or this convention and they resort

to sensationalism and a hue-and-cry over this." Iranians of various political persuasions believe that if the United States were to decisively win the war against Iraq, Iran would be the next target.

In projecting these kinds of developments on Jan. 17, just after the war began, political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche emphasized, "To win a war you must be able to contain it. George Bush has started a war, and by starting it, has unleashed a spread of war, which he can no longer contain. Therefore, there is no possible way, in the present constellation of forces, that the United States could win the war against Iraq—because the war is not against Iraq. The war involves that which has not been contained, and could not be contained."

Shock effects throughout the world

America's bombardment of Iraq, which as of Jan. 30 has totaled some 30,000 sorties, is spreading hatred against the Anglo-Americans throughout the Arab and Muslim world—including in those states which are officially part of Bush's 28-nation coalition.

- In Turkey, now on the verge of an official war with Iraq, tens of thousands of pro-Iraqi protestors took to the streets after Friday prayers on Jan. 25 in 17 cities, despite an official ban on demonstrations. Ten thousand protested in Batman, the site of a major air base, while a 15,000-person demonstration in Tatvan, near the Iraqi border, led to the Turkish military firing on the crowd. Popular slogans included "Down with the U.S.," "Down with Israel," and "No Muslim blood for oil." President Turgut Özal, whose pro-war policy is in overt contradiction to Turkish national security concerns, might be in big trouble with Turkey's military, some sources say.

- Turkey's collaboration with the United States also

helped spark a 30,000-person demonstration in Athens, whose population fears that the U.S. has promised to support Turkish claims to various Greek territories as a reward for entering the war. Many Greeks are demanding that Greece also quit the coalition.

- In Pakistan, Chief of Staff Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg praised the “resilience of the Armed Forces of Iraq” in an address to the Pakistani officer corp in Rawalpindi on Jan. 28. Beg has repeatedly accused the U.S. of sabotaging a peaceful solution to the crisis. Under pressure from Beg, the Pakistani Senate has called for an immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities.

- In Indonesia, the Nahdlatul Ulama, the country’s largest Islamic organization, condemned the United States on Jan. 22, stating, “We deplore the action of America and its allies against the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait. The actions are out of balance with their attitude toward Israel’s annexation of Palestine territory in the 1967 war.” T-shirts featuring Saddam Hussein are already a hot sales item in this, the world’s most populous Islamic country.

- In Malaysia, where 90% of the population is against Bush’s war, Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed stated on Jan. 24, “We agreed that Kuwait should be freed, but never agreed that Iraq should be destroyed.” The Malaysian government had supported the U.N. resolution.

Heat is on coalition-member governments

Meanwhile, it is already clear in the Arab world proper that America is finished in the region, as state after state—their capitals filled with anti-American demonstrators—denounce Bush.

- In Egypt, whose current government has sent some 40,000 troops into the Gulf to do U.S. bidding, sentiment against the war is rapidly increasing. On Jan. 29, more than 300 journalists staged a brief strike in protest of the destruction of Iraq, in which even writers for the two government newspapers participated. As an interview with Egyptian Parliament opposition spokesman Rifaat el Saeed shows (see page 40), U.S. claims that all of Egypt adores George Bush are an exaggeration.

The situation in the Maghreb—Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco—is developing very quickly, where calls for war against France, a coalition partner, made in the Algerian Parliament on Jan. 30, are just one example.

- In Morocco, a nationwide general strike against the U.S. war on Jan. 28 called by the country’s two labor federations, was officially endorsed by King Hassan II, despite the fact that Morocco has 1,500 troops in the Gulf under the Anglo-Americans. The government urged citizens to “observe this day of solidarity with the brother Iraqi people in contemplation, discipline, and responsibility.” High on the list of the strikers’ demands were calls for “a sign of solidarity with the Iraqi people,” and a Moroccan pullout from the coalition.

- In Tunisia, President Zine Abidine Ben Ali on Jan. 28 denounced the U.S. “destruction and devastation of Iraq” as “intolerable,” adding that the intent of the war was to ensure that Iraq “remains forever condemned to foreign dependence with no proper place in this so-called new world order.”

- In Algeria, a 400,000-man demonstration on Jan. 18 has pressured the government into further support of Iraq. On Jan. 24, the Algerian People’s Assembly issued a resolution denouncing U.S. actions as a “threat” to “not only the destiny of the Arab and Islamic peoples, but that of peoples in the whole world. The framework of the U.S. plan aims at imposing a new political map which only serves the interests of the mighty. . . . We will act with all determination to halt this diabolical plan which aims for total destruction.”

Europe will pay heavily

While most of the Arab and Muslim reaction has initially focused against the United States; it is also clear that the governments of Britain, France, and Italy—and Western Europe generally—will not be able to evade their responsibility for the imperialist war.

An editorial in the Jan. 24 *Jordan Times* entitled “Deep wounds, long memory,” is evidence of the feeling in the Arab world.

“Much hope was pinned during the run-up of the Gulf crisis to the explosion of the war on Jan. 16 that the European countries, particularly France and Italy, would somehow break free from the American-inspired move toward the war option and would have the guts to stand up and tell Washington that the use of force was not the answer to the problem. As it turned out, the hopes were ill-founded. . . .

“While one can understand the European approach, which rules out the acquisition of territory by force . . . it is indeed very difficult to comprehend the apparent vengeance with which the European allies in the anti-Iraq coalition are battering an Arab country. If that is not enough, then one only has to look at some of the gleeful war communiqués issued from Paris, Rome, and London. . . .

“It may be naive at this point to issue a fresh reminder to the Europeans that they would indeed be the net loser in the bargain if the U.S. were to achieve its strategic, military, and economic objectives in the Middle East: that of acquiring total domination of Arab oil resources, output, and international prices as well as doing away with Arab military power. . . .

“No matter which way the Gulf war turns out, the wounds inflicted by the Europeans on the Arab mind and heart will not be easily healed. And the Arabs do not have a short memory.”

Of course, the fact that the entire Arab and Muslim world will be inflamed for generations against the United States and the European NATO countries will not ease the strategic disaster facing the West, which, while engaged in this genocidal war, has left a militarily stripped-down Western Europe wide open to Soviet domination.

Iraq charges U.N. with war crimes

On Jan. 24, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz sent a communiqué to U.N. Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar holding him personally responsible for war crimes committed by the United States in the name of the United Nations and the "new world order." The indictment concludes with a listing of numerous civilian facilities bombed by the U.S.-led forces, including food storage warehouses, medical clinics, residential areas, and poultry farms. Excerpts follow:

Since the imperialist United States, NATO, and Zionist aggression began at 2300 hours on 17 January 1991, the attacking forces have been committing heinous premeditated crimes against Iraqi citizens and against the economic, cultural, scientific, and religious assets of our great people, which is one that has made a centuries-old contribution to human civilization.

On all occasions—in the course of our meeting at Amman on 31 August 1990 and during your visit to Baghdad on 11 and 12 January 1991—we have constantly indicated and have explained to you in a clear and detailed manner that the basic fact with regard to the events which preceded and followed 2 August 1990 is that the imperialist United States, NATO, and Zionist alliance and its treacherous adherents among the regimes of the region have had the objective, as they continue to do, of destroying resurgent Iraq, which is pursuing a free and independent policy and which proudly rejects imperialist and Zionist hegemony over the region and over its resources. Everything that has happened has taken place within the framework of a conspiracy hostile to the hopes of peoples for freedom, sovereignty, independence and relations of equality, which are the very principles and objectives for the achievement in defense of which the United Nations is supposed to have been established. . . .

The deliberate and brutal attacks launched on behalf of the United Nations by the forces of the criminal Zionist-imperialist alliance on civilian, economic, humanitarian, medical, cultural, and religious targets and on citizens and their families in all parts of Iraq—documented examples of which are provided to you in the present letter—give cogent proof of the fact that the governments participating in this alliance have the sole objective of taking vengeance on the proud people of Iraq and its militant leadership because of their opposition to the imperialist goals of those governments.

It is indeed shameful for the United Nations that these premeditated crimes should be committed under the cover pro-

vided by resolutions adopted by the Security Council. . . .

Hundreds of millions of people in the world, in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, who have suffered from the oppression and the crimes of the former colonialists and the new imperialists, are today finding the so-called new international order of which the arrogant former colonialists and the new imperialists are speaking to be a dark age of intimidation and threats against those peoples aspiring to freedom and independence and fighting for relations of equality. The removal of the balancing role formerly played by the Soviet Union opens wide the way for the arrogant former colonialist and new imperialists once again to impose hegemony and intimidation, not only by the use of new and innovative methods, as is well known, but also by the old methods, namely aggression and open military occupation. What is new is that the colonialist technique as witnessed in past centuries has this time been used under the cover provided by iniquitous resolutions fabricated in the name of the United Nations which the governments of the imperialist colonialist alliance succeeded in having adopted by means of pressure, intimidation, blackmail, and bribery.

The states that endorsed those resolutions did so for the motives indicated and you, personally, bear responsibility to history and to mankind for the heinous crimes being committed against the free and militant people of Iraq.

Interview: Rifaat el Saeed

Bush blocked road to peaceful solution

Rifaat el Saeed is a member of the Egyptian Parliament and the official spokesman for Egypt's seven opposition parliamentary parties. These parties, in addition to his own Democratic Alignment, include the Labor party, the Liberal party, the Green party, the Young Egypt party, the Muslim Brotherhood, the Communist Party, and the Nasserite party. He was interviewed by telephone by Joseph Brewda on Jan. 29.

EIR: According to the statements of George Bush and the U.S. media, the Arab world stands fully behind the U.S. Persian Gulf policy. The Egyptian people, Bush claims, support what the U.S., France, and Britain are doing right now against Iraq.

El Saeed: It is a big lie to say that Egyptians support what is going on in Iraq right now. I just returned from a city where hundreds of journalists at their club were announcing their

condemnation of the dirty war that Mr. Bush has launched against Iraq.

Many Egyptians were against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. I am one of them—I condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. But at the same time, I am one of those that know that the invasion could have been solved by peaceful measures and that Mr. Bush blocked the road to reaching a peaceful solution. What is going on now is a monstrous war against Iraq—it is not the liberation of Kuwait. It is a war designed to destroy an Arab country, its manpower, its war machine, its economy, and so on.

As for the opposition in Egypt, I can tell you that all the opposition parties, except the Waqf party, are against what is going on in Iraq. I think that millions of Egyptians are supporting us, not because they are Arabs, or Muslims, but simply because Egypt has 1 million Egyptians living in Iraq. This means that 5 million Egyptians have a husband or a brother or a father in Baghdad. It means that one-tenth of the Egyptian population has relatives working in Iraq and Kuwait. And of course they are worried about this Nazi and monstrous war launched against the Iraqi people.

EIR: What percentage of the population is against the war?

El Saeed: In the beginning there were very few who supported Saddam Hussein. But when this monstrous war launched by Mr. Bush and his alliance began in such a severe way, it showed that Bush was not implementing the decision of the U.N. Security Council, but just carrying out his revenge, to destroy the man who said “no” to the Americans and to him. I think the opposition to the war will increase more and more.

How did Gamal Abdel Nasser gain all his charisma in the Arab countries? Because he once said “no” to the Americans. And now Saddam Hussein is gaining this charisma because he also said “no” to 28 countries trying to force him to accept what he does not want.

Most of the Muslims and Arabs in many places consider Saddam Hussein as a person who can stand up against the Americans, who are just trying to plant themselves in the region in order to control its petroleum and to force its people to accept all of the American illusions. The percentage of the population against the war is very difficult to say, because no one has calculated it scientifically, but millions of Egyptians are against this monstrous war.

EIR: It’s our conclusion that the war that Bush launched has nothing to do with Kuwait and is simply a pretext for the U.S. and the British to carry out a war against the entire Arab people, and more broadly against the Third World, in order to prevent industrial and scientific development. What do you think the Bush administration’s motives are, and those of British Prime Minister John Major and French President François Mitterrand?

El Saeed: First of all, no one believes that Mr. Bush had come to this region to implement the Security Council resolu-

tion, because we as Arabs know very well that the Security Council and the United Nations had issued hundreds of resolutions which no one is interested in implementing—especially all the resolutions relating to the Palestinian problem. At the same time, we see that the U.N. Security Council had delegated these powers to implement its decision, but that now the Americans are preventing the Security Council from holding a meeting. It is a very strange thing to block a meeting of the council which had delegated you to implement its decision.

Bush and his allies say they are fighting for withdrawal from Kuwait. But at the same time they said “unconditional withdrawal.” It was so simple to have reached a peaceful solution. When Mr. Saddam Hussein tried to have linkage between the Iraqi-Kuwaiti problem and the Palestinian problem, I think he was trying to find a face-saving solution. Why refuse a face-saving solution? The Security Council said “by all means,” and didn’t say “by war means.”

Bush closed all roads for a face-saving solution. He is sacrificing the future of an Arab people and all of its achievements, and is sacrificing the lives of many Americans—simply because he is so arrogant as to refuse to give a face-saving solution to Saddam Hussein. This is a high price to pay.

What is going on now is destroying all the credibility of the United States in the region, and if the U.S. does not know that it is now losing the sympathy of the Arab peoples and the Muslim peoples, it will know later when it finds that all its friends have been swept from the region.

EIR: Why did the current Egyptian government agree to send Egyptian troops to Saudi Arabia and to carry out actions which seem to be very servile and compliant with U.S. demands?

El Saeed: Our government made a big mistake in sending our forces to Saudi Arabia. At the same time, it is an old mistake. Since the government began to destroy all the productive elements in our society and depend on parasitic activity, and built all its hopes—mainly—on getting financial support from the U.S., it has put itself under the hammer of the U.S. State Department and its instructions.

It was a big mistake for the Egyptian government to send its forces to Saudi Arabia—and not only because Egypt is the biggest Arab country, and had a Nasser, and has duties not to give an umbrella for foreign existence in the region. But also, as I said, we have 1 million Egyptians in Iraq. Many people have one son who is in the Egyptian Army in Saudi Arabia and another son in Baghdad. It means they are asking a brother to kill a brother.

I think it is very difficult for the Egyptian Army to participate in this war. The Army is there, so the blame for what is going on in this dirty war can be put on the shoulders of the Egyptian government. But it is impossible for the Egyptian Army to participate physically in this war.

Civil liberties are latest war casualty

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Iraq is not the only victim of the Strangelovian nightmare which George Bush has unleashed in the Middle East. Accompanying the war in the Middle East has been an ominous clampdown on civil liberties in many of the anti-Iraq coalition countries, including the United States itself. Since Bush gave the order to attack, wholesale violations of democratic rights have been committed in the United States, Britain, France, and elsewhere, and there is every indication that this pattern will increase as the war proceeds, and domestic opposition to it rises. Bush's war to defend democracy in non-democratic Kuwait is fast turning into a war against democracy on the home front. Just how far the "pro-democracy" coalition is prepared to go was demonstrated by Her Majesty's government. Authorities have rounded up a group of Iraqis studying in Britain and interned them in a prisoner-of-war camp set up for that purpose in Salisbury Plain. So far, 33 Iraqi visitors have been summarily declared POWs and placed in the camp, without recourse to any judicial proceeding.

Along with France and Italy, Britain has expelled as many as 200 Iraqi diplomats, and numbers of others, primarily Arabs, have been booted out on the grounds that they support the Iraqi cause. France has kicked out more than 15 pro-Iraqi activists, claiming they *potentially* represent a support network for terrorist activities.

Britain has arrested a number of Palestinians, and, in true British "democratic" fashion, refused to give them access to the courts to defend themselves. One, Abbas Cheblak, a top official with the Arab League who has lived in England for more than a decade, has been incarcerated, despite having signed a letter attacking Iraq for invading Kuwait. British judges have refused to review Cheblak's case, on the grounds of "national security."

"National security" has also been invoked in the U.S. to cover for such grossly unconstitutional actions as the FBI's two-month-long campaign to question Arab-Americans, with the purported aim of developing intelligence on possible Iraqi terrorist actions. The questioning has brought charges of intimidation and harassment from civil libertarians, congressmen, and even some Jewish organizations. Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), who was interned because of his Japanese ancestry during World War II, has already warned on the floor of Congress that Arab-Americans could face widespread internment due to "government overreaction" to the Gulf crisis. He noted

that plans are already on the books, dating to 1987, for the roundup of Americans of Arab descent.

Despite the protests, the FBI has no qualms about its unconstitutional actions. The agency's head, William Sessions, told a congressional committee Jan. 28 that the FBI had decided to halt the questioning, not because it was an unwarranted violation of civil liberties, but because it had obtained all the information it needed. The administration's harassment of Arab-Americans is backfiring, causing many who previously supported Bush to have serious second thoughts. At an emergency meeting in Washington Jan. 27, Arab-American leaders representing various organizations and areas discussed how to counter the harassment, and decided to secure resolutions from city councils and other groups calling for a ceasefire in the war and an international peace conference.

It's not just the FBI which thinks it can use the war to discriminate against specific ethnic groups. Private institutions are following suit. Pan Am Airways announced in late January that it would refuse boarding rights to anyone with an Iraqi passport, period.

Hiding behind terrorism

Much of the crackdown is being justified on the grounds that Iraq has a vast terrorist capability. State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler declared Jan. 24, "We have clear evidence that Iraq is supporting terrorists around the world who are planning to mount attacks against coalition member countries." Yet relatively few actual terrorist incidents have taken place since hostilities erupted. And, despite efforts by the U.S. government to claim that they can be traced to Saddam Hussein, little hard evidence has been proffered. How much of the terrorist activity is conducted by *agents provocateurs*, or by groups activated by either Western or Soviet intelligence organizations, remains an open question.

That has not stopped Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) from introducing a new bill which will plug up supposed loopholes in existing legislation, but which extends the definition of terrorism to include such things as counterfeiting U.S. currency, and then mandates the death penalty for a wide range of "terrorist" actions.

The real target of the assault on civil liberties is not terrorism, but the potential for mass-based resistance to the war policy. That is why France, Britain, etc. are either imprisoning or expelling any foreigner who might harbor sympathy for Iraq. It is also why the various coalition governments are attempting to wreck the burgeoning anti-war movement. In France, for example, the government has actually prohibited anti-war demonstrations from taking place—although that has not deterred thousands from turning out to protest. And in the U.S., the FBI and other institutions are working closely with the Anti-Defamation League to monitor and infiltrate anti-war groups (see p. 66).

Violence continues against Baltic states, ordered by Moscow center

by Konstantin George

On Jan. 13 in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, Soviet paratroopers murdered 15 Lithuanians. On Jan. 20, in the Latvian capital of Riga, an elite unit of the U.S.S.R. Internal Affairs Ministry Troops killed four Latvians.

Contrary to the delusions retailed by most Western media, the bloodshed was not caused by "local acts" by "break-away" units of the Army or Internal Affairs Troops. Both Bloody Sundays were conducted by elite units of the Army and "Black Beret" Internal Affairs troops, the most professional, disciplined troops. Their commanders would do nothing without orders from Moscow—and not merely orders, but signed orders, approved by President Mikhail Gorbachov, and passed down through the Defense Ministry or Internal Affairs Ministry.

Gorbachov delivers ultimatum

Gorbachov held a "press conference" at the Soviet Foreign Ministry briefing room on Jan. 22, in response to events in the Baltic republics. The Soviet dictator read a statement, and then departed, allowing no questions.

Gorbachov began by blaming the "parliaments of the governments" of the Baltic republics, and not the Army or Moscow, for the "tragic events" that had occurred there, because they had passed "illegal laws," in "defiance of presidential decrees . . . discriminated against members of other nationalities," meaning the Russians, stripping them of their "citizen's rights," and "showing disrespect for the armed forces." All this had "heightened tensions and caused the loss of human lives," which he "regretted." He made a vague pledge to "investigate" the "tragic events," as he had also done after the April 1989 massacre in Tbilisi, Georgia, a pledge which never materialized, but, as in the Tbilisi case, he did not even hint at eventual punishment of the Defense or Internal Affairs Ministry.

Gorbachov declared that there can be "no further tolerance of the escalation of tensions in the Baltic republics," giving their parliaments an ultimatum to repudiate "unconstitutional laws," i.e., an ultimatum to capitulate and remain in the U.S.S.R., or else. He ordered "political organizations, committees, and fronts" to obey the Soviet Constitution.

This passage was misinterpreted in many Western press

accounts as a warning to the Russian chauvinist Interfront and Committee of National Salvation organizations that have sprung up in the three Baltic republics to unseat the legal republican governments. The main warning in this passage was directed not at Interfront, but at the three Baltic Popular Fronts, which, by demanding the end of illegal Soviet occupation, are operating in "violation" of the Soviet Constitution.

Finally, Gorbachov stated that the three Baltic republics are "free to leave the U.S.S.R.," on the basis of "referendums," and, after the referendums, "in accordance with the provisions of the U.S.S.R. Constitution." What these words mean in reality, as every Baltic citizen knows, is the theoretical possibility of achieving independence after a mandatory five-to-six year "transition period" following a "referendum."

'Creeping' state of emergency

The stage for a protracted crackdown, and more important, an evolving, "creeping" state of emergency, eventually embracing most if not all of the U.S.S.R., was set in a joint announcement by the Defense and Internal Affairs Ministries on Jan. 24, that, starting Feb. 1, units of the Army and Internal Troops would be patrolling "all major cities" in every part of the Soviet Union. Corresponding instructions were issued to all military district and garrison commanders. The announcement made it explicit that the troops on such patrols had a blank check to make use of earlier decrees in late November by Defense Minister Yazov and President Gorbachov, authorizing military forces to "defend themselves" and "return fire if fired upon." Both in the Vilnius and Riga massacres, the military's actions were "justified" as the troops having "returned fire."

A Jan. 30 presidential decree by Gorbachov instructed the Defense and Internal forces to conduct patrols to "maintain public order in the streets and public places." A sharp protest was issued by the government of the Russian Federation denouncing the decree as a "crude violation" of human rights and the "state sovereignty" of Russia and the other republics. Neither the U.S.S.R. Federation Council, consisting of the republic leaderships, nor any republic governments or parlia-

ments had been consulted or informed in advance of these threatening decrees. The Russian Federation government demanded the immediate revocation of these "unconstitutional measures." The Georgian republic's protest declared the decree "null and void."

The Russian protest stated that Moscow's decision to enact these patrols was an act one small step short of proclaiming a state of emergency. The Russian government disclosed that already on Dec. 29, secret instructions to patrol all major Soviet cities had been issued by the two ministries to all Army and Internal troop units. The Dec. 29 date is instructive. It was only two days after the U.S.S.R. Congress of People's Deputies session had closed, granting Gorbachov full presidential dictatorship powers.

The facts presented so far, as opposed to the confetti of "troop withdrawals" from the Baltic now grabbing the headlines, are the crucial ones. If Moscow were intending any other course than escalating repression and, then it could prove this by simply revoking these quasi-martial law decrees.

The fullest details of the troop withdrawals were presented Jan. 30 by Internal Affairs Minister Boris Pugo in an interview to the daily *Rabochaya Tribuna*. Pugo disclosed that the paratroopers sent into the Baltic during January would be leaving, as well as two-thirds of the Internal troops' elite units sent in during January. Here was a very carefully formulated piece of psychological warfare. Let's put Pugo into plain English:

Fact 1: The Baltic republics already had a heavy presence of permanently stationed elite Internal troops, i.e., the hated "Black Berets," before January. They will remain, as will one-third of the additional "Black Berets" sent in January. The net result of the "withdrawal," is that there are *more* Internal troops in the Baltic for operations in February, than were there in December.

Fact 2: Concerning the paratroopers, the one regiment deployed to Lithuania in January will return to neighboring Belorussia. However, as Pugo said, the "withdrawal" does not affect Soviet troops permanently based in the Baltic. For Lithuania, this means, *inter alia*, that the elite 76th Guards Airborne Division outside Kaunas will remain. Overall in the Baltic, "permanently based" Soviet troop strength is more than sufficient to execute any scale of crackdown.

Fact 3: As noted by Lithuanian President Landsbergis and other Baltic leaders, the "withdrawal" does not include Soviet troops abandoning *any* of the buildings and other facilities they have occupied in Vilnius and elsewhere.

Repression continues

- On the night of Jan. 24, according to reports relayed directly from Vilnius to *EIR*, Soviet soldiers occupied a building stocked with paper, confiscating all the paper needed to print the independent newspapers, and kidnaped a young student. Six Lithuanians, members of a government institution, were shot at by Soviet soldiers, then taken to a

military installation and tortured in the presence of three British journalists.

- Near Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, on the morning of Jan. 24, two Swedish unionists were found murdered. Bertil Winberg, national chairman of the construction workers association, and Ove Fredriksson, national chairman of the woodworkers and carpenters trade union, were on a mission to set up collaboration between Baltic trade unions and their Western neighbors.

- On Jan. 25, the London *Independent* reported that "Soviet troops have been drafted to the Lithuanian-Polish border, barbed wire fences and floodlights erected, and air and ground patrols increased, in what could be preparations to seal off Lithuania from the outside world."

- On the night of Jan. 27, Soviet soldiers stormed into two posts of the Lithuanian border guards on the border with Belorussia, armed with automatic rifles, which they shot into the air. They smashed windows and furniture, took out a pile of documents, and left.

Triad consolidates power

Gorbachov's Jan. 22 ukase reflects the continuing consolidation of power in Moscow by a triad of Army, KGB-security forces, and the Russian national political, ecclesiastical, and cultural policy-shaping elite. This combination started openly lobbying for a presidential dictatorship last November. Spearheading these demands were the Soyuz group of parliamentarians, with two Army colonels, Viktor Alksnis and Nikolai Petrushenko, as its leaders, and the Army-backed Russian-chauvinist "fronts" and Committees for National Salvation active in the Baltic republics, and in Russian-inhabited regions of Ukraine, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and other republics.

In fact, a presidential dictatorship was rubber-stamped by the Dec. 17-27 session of the Congress of People's Deputies. The new, "presidential cabinet" government appointed by Gorbachov is a government under the complete control of a coalition representing Russia's military-industrial complex. Now, the same Soyuz Group and the Committees of National Salvation have presented Gorbachov with a new ultimatum: "Go ahead and smash these republics, or else you will be gone from the scene."

The lobby for the crackdown has taken its brief to the Western media. In an interview to the German daily *Frankfurter Rundschau*, published Jan. 23, Alksnis declared that the Army-backed Lithuanian Committee of National Salvation, which has called on the Army to overthrow the legal government of President Landsbergis, told him: "We did everything Gorbachov asked of us, after this he was to have imposed a presidential regime, but he has betrayed us." On the same day, the Danish daily *Berlinske Tidende* ran another interview with Alksnis citing a "discussion" with the Latvian Committee for National Salvation, which repeated, verbatim, the formulations against Gorbachov issued by its coun-

terpart in Lithuania.

Timed with this media campaign, the various committees announced the formation of an All-U.S.S.R. Committee for National Salvation, to take power in various republics and regions. The self-proclaimed committee head, one Vladimir Voronin, was quoted Jan. 22 in a new Moscow newspaper called *Independent* that the current policy of the Soviet leadership is "leading Russia into a dead-end street, into factional warfare and blood." Voronin declared that "in the coming two-three months," the various committees would "gain the confidence of the people and take power legally."

According to the French daily *Le Monde* of Jan. 23, Voronin's comments were actually made in late November, which would set his deadline between late January and the end of February.

Message to Ukraine

Since mid-January, though unreported in the West, Soviet airborne troops have been arresting hundreds of draft evaders in the western part of Ukraine. Indeed, a Baltic-style reign of terror has descended on Ukraine, the largest of the non-Russian republics. Leaders of last October's student hunger strikes have also been jailed.

Moscow has also activated a Russian-chauvinist anti-independence blackmail operation against Ukraine's territorial integrity. This was done through a Jan. 20 referendum in Crimea, on whether Crimea should become an "autonomous republic" that would "remain in the U.S.S.R." The referendum was a message to Ukrainian nationalists that any attempt to emulate the Baltic republics would mean large losses of territory to Russia, including the vital Black Sea littoral. The referendum had been set originally for February.

Crimea, with a 70% Russian population, is the main bastion of activist Russian chauvinism in Ukraine. A strong "yes" vote for Russia was assured, even with an honest vote. However, according to the official results, an incredible 93.26% voted for Crimea to become an "autonomous republic," with the future option of leaving Ukraine and joining Russia.

Future such "democratic" referenda are planned to truncate and strangle the Baltic republics and Georgia, should they not renounce their demands for independence.

A Lithuanian "Crimea" is already on the agenda. On Jan. 18, the day Lithuanian President Landsbergis was forced to meet with Gen. Boris Gromov, the number two man at the U.S.S.R. Internal Affairs Ministry, and then had to announce his formal agreement to a referendum in Lithuania on the independence question, the following "news" item was highlighted in Soviet TV and domestic radio: "In the city of Klaipeda only 17% of the population support Sajudis [the Lithuanian independence party, to which Landsbergis belongs] and want to leave the Soviet Union." Klaipeda, the former Memel, is Lithuania's main seaport and access to the outside world.

Interview: Maurice Goult-Liiv

Gorbachov is lying on Baltic atrocity

The editor of the Paris-based Les Nouvelles Baltes magazine was interviewed in Paris on Jan. 15 by Christine Bierre.

EIR: Following the Soviet intervention against Lithuania, Gorbachov declared that it was not he who had given the order to shoot, and pretended to be surprised about what happened. Could this mean that Gorbachov is no longer really ruling over the Soviet Union, that he has lost control of his troops? Or is he lying, because he doesn't want to lose all Western economic aid?

Goult-Liiv: It is a total lie, because had he not been informed, he would have immediately gone himself to find out what was happening, which he didn't do. The second thing, is that the forces which were sent over there were not the regular Army forces but those of the Interior Ministry, the KGB, the forces that Gorbachov controls. Besides, if I'm not mistaken, Gorbachov never pretended that he didn't deploy those forces, but only that he didn't give the order to shoot. He gave the order to send the military forces of the Interior Ministry to intervene militarily there, there were shots, there were several dead; therefore to say after that, that he didn't give the order to shoot, is a bit much.

EIR: What is the latest news you have from Lithuania, Latvia, and particularly Estonia, where Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin is still visiting, after having made a joint call with the three Baltic states for the U.N. to postpone the Jan. 15 deadline for the Iraqi evacuation of Kuwait, in order to bring in the question of the sovereignty of the Baltic states?

Goult-Liiv: I prefer to talk only about Estonia because I don't have direct news of the other Baltic states. In Estonia, demonstrations of the Interfront, the Muscovite reactionary movements, are being organized. As usual, these demonstrations are composed 50% by workers of the northwest industries of the country, and the other 50% are military men in plain clothes. Yeltsin is still in Tallinn, which is a very important point because he will be addressing by radio the soldiers in the Army, asking them to reflect and not to obey their officers. I hope that he is addressing the Russians who are demonstrating, to explain to them that their interest is the same as that of the Estonian republic.

EIR: Do you think that if Yeltsin puts all his weight on the

side of the independence of the Baltic and other republics of the U.S.S.R., that this could lead to a civil war in Russia, or do you think that the Soviet population will accept a re-Stalinization?

Goult-Liiv: If Yeltsin continues the action he has started in Estonia to its last consequences, Gorbachov will have to either retreat or else unleash a war which would indeed be a civil war. If he retreats now, he will find himself very much weakened. We should not forget that Yeltsin's aim is to eliminate Gorbachov politically, since he has been humiliated by the latter many times.

EIR: How do you evaluate the Soviet economic situation? Some sources report that the situation is dramatic, that it could drive as many as several million Russians outside of the Soviet Union to find food in neighboring countries or in Western Europe. Recently however, the organization Physicians Without Borders came back from a trip to Russia, saying that this situation had been largely exaggerated and that while there were shortages of food, one could not speak of a near-famine situation.

Goult-Liiv: I do not know what areas of the country the Physicians Without Borders visited. I can tell you there is no famine in the Baltic states. The shops are empty but people are not hungry. In Russia, the large cities are privileged, because they benefit from a whole system of colonial looting, but in the countryside, which is very depopulated, the situation is catastrophic and "famine" is the right term to explain this situation. It is not evident either that the food aid granted to the Soviets is getting to such places. I see it quite well being directed toward Moscow.

EIR: According to certain sources, Russians go over the borders to Estonia to steal food.

Goult-Liiv: Indeed, there are Russians coming over the border to steal food, and as soon as one goes over the border from Estonia into the Soviet Union, the difference in living standards between both countries is very striking. It's even more striking when you see the old Estonian cities which were annexed by Russia, which at the end of the war had the same living standards as Estonia, and to see how miserable they have become.

EIR: Over the last few days, the Bush administration made some statements against the Soviet invasion. Do you expect any significant move in your favor from the U.S. or Europe?

Goult-Liiv: From Bush, not too much. He will only ask from Gorbachov to act more discreetly, because what happened in Lithuania is nonetheless a stab in the Bush's back, so they must not have exchanged gentle words. It is in Europe that a mobilization can occur. The country most sensitive to what can happen in the Soviet Union is united Germany, which has the most to fear from a civil war in the U.S.S.R. Germany has an enormous weight in Europe.

Book Review

More about a true cultural hero

by Nora Hamerman

Filippo Brunelleschi: The Early Works and the Medieval Tradition

by Heinrich Klotz

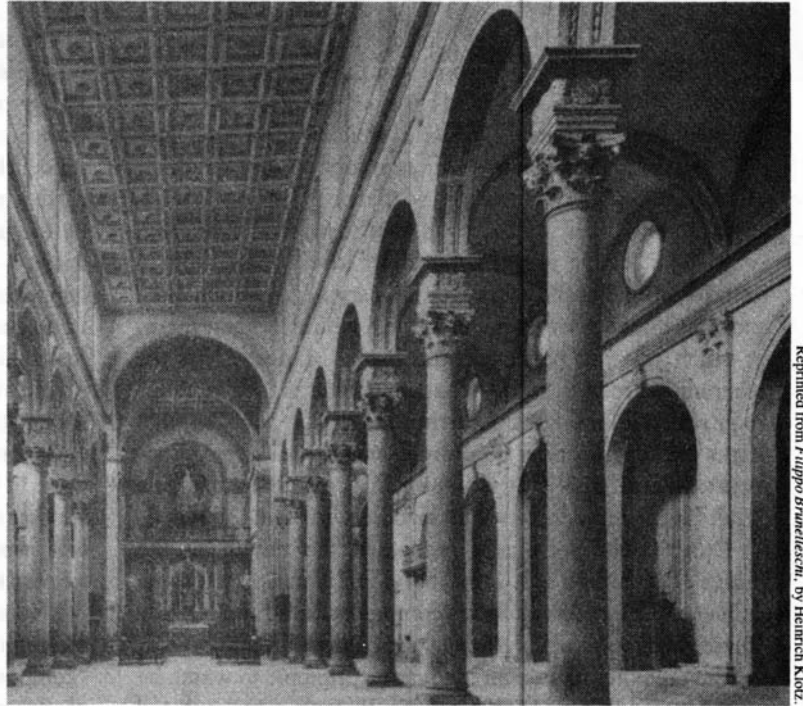
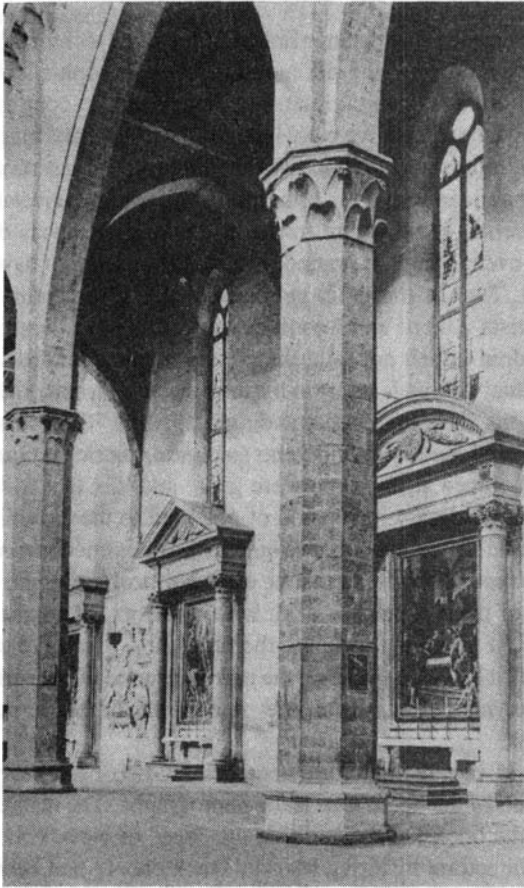
Rizzoli International Publications, New York, 1990

184 pages, illustrated, hardbound, \$45

At first glance, this appears to be the classic "coffee table book," but that's not what it is. Printed on heavy coated stock, the numerous illustrations are sharp and clear, the large typeface very readable. But this is actually quite an academic book, and for this reviewer, that speaks both for it and against it. For it, in the sense that it contains some real scholarship and not a pileup of opinions as too often characterizes books about legendary geniuses like Brunelleschi; against it, insofar as Klotz fails to touch upon some of the key issues in Brunelleschi, and presumes a surprisingly narrow readership. It was originally published from Dr. Klotz's post-doctoral thesis "on the recommendation of the Arts Faculty of the University of Göttingen," and has been translated, very ably by the way, by Hugh Keith.

All the hallmarks of the German school of architectural history are there, including the minute attention to detail, and unfortunately if you are a novice appreciator of the great Florentine architect, there are no concessions to those not initiated into the technical language and concerns of the trained architectural historian. Thus, this is not the book to buy as your family's "first" book on Brunelleschi. It does not repeat the famous anecdotes about Brunelleschi's hubristic personality, offers no particular theory about how the dazzling accomplishment which was the dome of Florence Cathedral (featured on the cover) was "really" built, does not situate Brunelleschi in the broad context of the history of the Renaissance as one of the seminal geniuses who made it all come about, and does not even cover all of his work.

Indeed, there are not even the normal courtesies to help the reader thread his way through Professor Klotz's often intricate arguments. For example: He develops at length the



Reprinted from *Filippo Brunelleschi*, by Heinrich Klotz

Left: Octagonal pillars in the 14th-century nave of Florence Cathedral. Note the “crystalline” sharp edges, and the high plinth and base, which no longer functions as a “foot.” Above: Nave arcade of San Lorenzo in Florence, by Brunelleschi, early 15th century. The column returns to the classical concept: “an Attic base on which there stands a full, rounded shaft tapering towards the top and to which the entasis gives a graceful upward movement, perceived by the eye as an ascending growth from the foot to the head, i.e., the capital.”

idea that Brunelleschi did not think of the architrave as a “framing” member but strictly as a horizontal element, and was therefore quite angry when a later architect, hired to modify his design for the Ospedale degli Innocenti (Foundlings’ Hospital) of Florence, “wrapped” the architrave around the corner and continued it vertically down the outer side of the wall. The aforesaid interloper, one Francesco della Luna, took as the “authority” for this design change, the Baptistery, a much-revered local building dating from several centuries earlier. To absorb this argument you have to know what an architrave is, and if that does not slow you down, you must hunt through the book to find the photographs of the relevant architraves of the Florentine Baptistery and of the Innocenti, so as to compare them. The photographs are not always close to their references in the text, but clumped together, and one has to go hunting for them. The reader has to work so hard figuring this all out, that you might come off with a feeling of accomplishment, but there is the danger that many will give up in the process.

Dr. Klotz’s conceptual point is actually a good one (he has more than one, but I will mention the one I most appreciated, personally). Through this painfully detailed account of Brunelleschi’s designing of each individual element of his buildings, he brings out a quality of the architect’s courage and heroism, his unflinching commitment to principle, which

ends up being more convincing and moving than all the famous anecdotes. Especially so as Klotz proves that the next generation of architects, exponents of the new Renaissance style that Brunelleschi developed, such as Michelozzo, the Medici family favorite, or Leon Battista Alberti, the humanist architect and great theorist of Renaissance art, were much more “flexible” about such details. Brunelleschi, Klotz convinces us, cared passionately about every single “note” in his compositions, and nothing could be accidental, nothing essential could be compromised. And thus like Beethoven, he left his indelible mark on universal history.

Take the example of the column, which was, as Klotz says in the first sentence of the book, “an architectural metaphor of the human form: The base is the foot, the shaft the trunk, the capital the head.” As demonstrated in the photographs, before Brunelleschi (who was born in 1377, and began building in the early 15th century) the Florentine supporting member was characteristically a sharp-edged octagonal pillar, which had a “crystal like rigidity.” It was Brunelleschi who restored the anthropomorphically defined proportions of the column of the classical Greek tradition, and restored the round column, to which the beautiful concept of “entasis” could be applied—the Greek principle of a subtle, almost imperceptible curvature instead of rigidly straight sides, which endows the column with an organic

quality and yet is perceived by the eye as optically straight.

Brunelleschi, Klotz demonstrates, revolutionized every part of the column, restoring its classical meaning as a “metaphor of the human form.” The base, which in the 14th-century Cathedral of Florence was almost as high as your shoulder, was brought back down to earth, so that no plinth in a Brunelleschi column ever stands any higher than your shoe. And every detail of the capitals, the decorative friezes, and so forth by Brunelleschi, wherever the carving was completed under his direct supervision, is imbued with an organic quality which was not present in the Gothic. Indeed, it is the coherent return to the unique human person as the “module” upon which all architecture and urban design is based, that marks the superiority of the Renaissance style—created, almost single-handedly, by Brunelleschi—over the great feats of the Gothic builders to which he otherwise owed so much.

Brunelleschi personally embodied the notion of the *unique* contribution of a great individual mind. In the same chapter on the column, Klotz comments on Brunelleschi’s simple innovation of having put the column on the ground, and then making it “into an innovative principle to which he consistently adhered” in all his work. Brunelleschi “replaced the decorative imagination of the 13th century with an extremely restricted range of virtually constant basic forms. What he sought was the essential rather than the free play of forms; and he had to ensure that the new language he created was sufficiently consistent to be mandatory. Despite its variety, his work, like everything revolutionary, has certain dogmatic features. But even if Brunelleschi retained his vocabulary as far as possible unchanged, once it had been established, he seldom repeated himself.” The lack of any theoretical work written by Brunelleschi is more than compensated by “the canonic tendencies which his buildings reveal.”

The Foundlings’ Hospital in Florence

One chapter of this book deals with the Ospedale degli Innocenti, the Foundlings’ Hospital in Florence, which was Brunelleschi’s first large-scale architectural commission, and involved the creation of not just a building but an entire square surrounding the Church of the Annunziata, and looking toward the dome of the Cathedral. This was not really a hospital, but an orphanage which took in, and raised, abandoned children. This was financed by the Arte della Seta, the silk guild. Klotz does not deal at all with the social context of this enterprise, but one can hardly grasp the significance of the project without situating it thusly. In the 1420s, the concept of the republic was being polemically elaborated by local thinkers in Augustinian-Platonic tradition such as Leonardo Bruni, who eloquently argued that in a republic, as opposed to a state ruled by a prince, every individual regardless of birth could potentially enter into the service of the commonwealth, the highest human calling, if that individual showed talent, industry, and virtue. The decision

by the economic power center linked to the most technically progressive industry—the silk industry relied on sophisticated agriculture and “capital intensive” machines, in contrast to the more labor-intensive wool industry—to build this magnificent building thus functions as a kind of practical assertion of the republican ideal. In principle a foundling, rejected by the parents, could aspire to rise to the highest levels of society—even though in practice this does not seem to have happened. Two of the great geniuses of the 15th century, Leon Battista Alberti and Leonardo da Vinci, were illegitimate children (albeit not foundlings) and the new emphasis on individual genius is attested by their success despite that social stigma. It is my understanding that some 70% of the children abandoned by their parents (including patrician families) in Florence at that time were girls, and this fact adds another extraordinary dimension of potential to the republican principle, in an era when women were not encouraged to learn to read and write, let alone exert political leadership.

None of these aspects is dealt with by Klotz, of course. Therefore, if you want to know the real story, you have to “compose” it by cross-gridding the narrowly conceived work of various historians, from the standpoint of universal history.

I should like to mention, nonetheless, two other very useful facets of the book. One is the photographs. The instant I opened the book I suspected that the “eye” of New York-based architectural historian Marvin Trachtenberg had been involved in the photography, and indeed he played a role in taking some of the “non-standard” views of Florentine buildings which contribute to making the book different, in a useful way, from the coffee-table genre of book on Brunelleschi. Klotz warns us that all photographs of architecture are false, because they are partial views of three dimensional buildings which we experience in space and in motion; yet just as “frozen” slices of organic material under a microscope will yield some useful information to the biologist, these new photos “freeze” parts of Brunelleschi’s work in a way very useful for the kind of analytical work Klotz likes to do.

Another fascinating window is opened by Klotz on an “outside” influence on Brunelleschi, outside of Florence, and that is Padua, the university town in Northern Italy (neighboring Venice) which had close intellectual and apparently, economic, ties to Florence in the early 15th century. When you consider that Alberti, Nicolaus of Cusa—the great German religious leader and scientist—and Paolo Toscanelli, who reputedly taught Brunelleschi mathematics, were all young students in Padua in the early 1420s; that Petrarch, the poet who was in many respects the father of the humanistic Renaissance of Florence, had lived there in the late 1300s; and that the scheme which later blossomed as the Council of Ferrara-Florence must have been partially first discussed in Padua, the idea that Brunelleschi found a source for his architectural innovations in Padua is most suggestive.

Narcos and IMF declare joint war on the Colombian economy

by José Restrepo

On Jan. 25, journalist Diana Turbay de Uribe, daughter of former Colombian President Julio César Turbay and editor of the magazine *Hoy por Hoy*, died in a Medellín hospital. She had been held a kidnap victim for nearly five months by the cocaine-trafficking Medellín Cartel, and was shot three times in the back by her kidnapers at the moment an elite police unit raided the hideout, in hope of capturing cartel chieftain Pablo Escobar.

The murder occurred in the middle of a full-scale war of the narco-terrorist groups against the Colombian economy, and at the same time that the government of President César Gaviria, following orders from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), has adopted austerity measures designed to deliberately induce recession and unemployment. Although Gaviria argues that these steps are necessary in order to “fight inflation,” the result is that he is eliminating the last obstacles to the takeover of what remains of Colombia’s productive economy by a combination of drug-runners and foreign financiers.

The damage which this war against Colombia is causing is staggering: 40 people are being killed *daily*, and nearly \$100 million of economic destruction has occurred just in the first month of 1991, according to the Jan. 22 *El Espectador*. And yet the Gaviria government remains committed to the insane policy of negotiating power-sharing with the very narco-terrorists at war with the nation, and the equally crazy policy of imposing the free market economic policies that are shattering the economy, and driving even honest businessmen to turn to the drug cartels for cash.

After attempting to justify these policies, President Gaviria closed his first presidential address in mid-January with the words, “Welcome to the future.” But as the head of the National Federation of Grain Farmers (Fenalce), Adriano Quintana, angrily put it in comments to the press, the President’s words were addressed only to “repentant” outlaws and all those others who have caused so much damage to Colombia’s economy, its citizens’ morality, and its international image. As things now stand in Colombia, the future is only theirs.

President Gaviria, rather than ordering an investigation of the murder of Diana Turbay and reversing the “peace” agreements his government has been negotiating with the

drug-runners, argued instead that he had not authorized her attempted rescue, and that the responsibility therefore rests entirely with the police. As a result, the Attorney General’s office has opened an investigation *against the police* for having dared to search out cocaine kingpin Pablo Escobar, and for having attempted to rescue the journalist. An investigative team of three public order judges will investigate the responsibility of the police in the murder.

More concessions to the narcos

Gaviria also rushed to announce that the government will issue a new state of siege decree to make it easier for Pablo Escobar to “turn himself in” to Colombian authorities (that is, the country’s laws will be further weakened). In exchange for a guarantee of no extradition, a reduction by half of any sentence that is imposed, and a guarantee that his sentences for all his crimes will be served concurrently, Escobar only has to confess to any one crime, even the most minimal one, and turn himself in. Meanwhile Escobar’s partners, the Ochoa brothers, Fabio and José Luis, are enjoying “five star” jail accommodations near the city of Medellín, under government protection, after having “surrendered” to authorities a few weeks back.

“The drug-runners will be in jail for at most three years, and they are going to come out with all their economic power intact and legalized,” an industrialist told *EIR*. “My only hope is that the children of these mafiosi spend everything that their fathers made through crime. But before that happens, many people will have been murdered,” he said, and they will take over everything with their threats and their money.

Despite all of the government propaganda in favor of “peace” with the drug-runners, the drug-runners have kept up their terrorist actions. They still are holding Francisco Santos, the managing editor of *El Tiempo* newspaper; Maruja Pachón de Villamizar, the sister-in-law of slain presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galán; and various other journalists. They have not stopped kidnaping people either; for example, on Jan. 11 they kidnaped Iván Gómez Osorio, a Liberal senator who entered Congress as an alternate for Federico Estrada Vélez, who was assassinated by the narcos at the beginning of 1989.

Narco-terrorist war against the economy

As if all of this weren't enough, the narco-terrorist groups yet to be legalized through the "peace process," the ELN and the FARC (which is also known as the third cocaine cartel), are carrying out a devastating war against the national economy, especially against Colombia's infrastructure and productive sectors.

Bridges on the most important passenger and cargo roadways have been dynamited, forcing the Army and the Ministry of Public Works to install provisional metal bridges (which will remain in place until the government withdraws its prohibition on new infrastructural investment, imposed in the name of fighting inflation). Daily, the FARC and ELN burn buses, tractor-trailers, and trucks, and destroy mining camps, factories, and ranches.

On Jan. 11, for example, they attacked and destroyed an Army communications base, producing a high number of casualties. That same day, they burned three intercity buses, a truck, two tractor-trailers, and dynamited a bridge. They also kidnaped 16 soldiers, whom they later released, amid great fanfare, to an international and governmental commission on Jan. 28, in a show of "good faith."

On Jan. 15, they attacked a mining camp in the department of César, completely destroying the company's installations and equipment, including six trucks, two bulldozers, a tractor, and four dumpsters, causing \$2.6 million worth of damage. Following the attack, the company decided to suspend its coal-mining activities and laid off its 375 workers. That same day, in another region of the country, a helicopter was stolen, an Ecopetrol pumping station dynamited, and an electrical energy tower feeding power to nearby pipeline operations was blown up.

On Jan. 18, the ELN seized the workcamp of the Engineering Works Consortium in Antioquia, murdering the security chief of the company. On Jan. 22, they re-occupied the camp and proceeded to dynamite and burn every piece of equipment they could get their hands on. Damage was estimated at \$8.7 million. The FARC/ELN also dynamited the vital Caño Limón-Coveñas pipeline, the 142nd such attack so far this year.

On Jan. 25, in Casabe, Antioquia, the FARC destroyed the control and power rooms and the computer systems of the state-owned oil company, Ecopetrol, as well as the pipe-cleaning facility. The attack has paralyzed Ecopetrol's secondary recovery program in the region.

In the face of this economic blood-letting, the Gaviria government has refused to mobilize the country behind a military campaign to defeat these criminals, and instead is unabashedly seeking a new pact with the FARC/ELN which would grant the narco-terrorists substantial representation in the Constituent Assembly.

A congressional commission has already spoken by radio-telephone with the leadership of these groups. They reported that the social democratic President of neighboring

Venezuela, Carlos Andrés Pérez, was prepared to back a "peace effort" with the narcos, and President Gaviria agreed on Jan. 29 that an "international oversight" group be established to supervise the peace process. Of course, the "peace process," as is now traditional, begins by demobilizing the nation's Armed Forces.

Gaviria's war against the economy

What the narco-terrorists haven't gotten around to destroying, is being taken care of by the Colombian government itself, through its economic policies of "trade opening" and austerity. The Gaviria government is implementing a brutal shock program that has paralyzed productive economic activity, and replaced it with the narco-economy. Rudolf Hommes, the finance minister, has issued an order through the Monetary Council that virtually all new bank lending must cease, by requiring the banks to place 100% of all new deposits as reserves with the central bank, so that no credit transactions at all can occur with that money. The measure will lead to the reopening of the only other source of liquidity in the country, the "extra-banking" credit market (i.e., the drug runners), at interest rates far above those of the commercial banks.

Hommes also ordered the elimination of all development credits for the agricultural sector, as well as the massive importation of agricultural goods from abroad at subsidized prices, measures which will undermine the food security of the country.

Hommes also ordered Ecopetrol, the same company under narco-terrorist assault, to freeze \$95 million that it was planning to invest in the construction of a refinery, which is so necessary for the energy security of the country, and to use the entire surplus coming from oil exports at rising international prices for the purpose of paying the foreign debt of other state companies.

Speaking at a meeting with top representatives of the country's trade unions, Hommes proudly predicted that "there is going to be an economic recession that will affect everybody" as a result of these policies. This may well be the first case in which a government not only imposes an economic policy designed to provoke a recession, but openly brags beforehand that it is going to increase unemployment, reduce domestic consumption, and drive producers into bankruptcy.

It would appear that Gaviria's economic policies nicely complement the narco-terrorist actions. Further evidence of this was his announcement on Jan. 25 that he was approving a foreign exchange law which allows drug runners to launder illegal dollars, and that he intended to issue a decree changing Colombia's foreign investment laws in order to encourage the entry of "dollars of obscure origin" into the country under the guise of "foreign investment." The operant policy, then, is to bankrupt the legal economy, while strengthening the underground economy.

Welcome, Rambos, to Peru's jungle

Peru's President Fujimori unveiled an "anti-drug" plan aiming to please the sovereignty-be-damned crew in Washington.

Alberto Fujimori's presidential adviser Hernando de Soto finally presented the government's "new" comprehensive anti-drug plan to U.S. officials on Jan. 25. The two governments had been scrapping over whether military or economic means are more useful in controlling the drug trade, with the Bush administration threatening that if Peru didn't come up with a plan to its liking soon, on March 1, Peru could be declared non-cooperative in the anti-drug fight, and cut off from all U.S. aid.

The De Soto plan resolved the debate by combining the worst economic and military policies possible: Set up free trade zones in the coca-growing areas of Peru's Amazon which U.S. special forces will police. In the military realm, the De Soto plan calls for the United States government to "feed, equip, train, outfit, and adequately remunerate the police and armed forces who will be fighting drug trafficking and those who support" the traffickers, the *New York Times* reported on Jan. 25. This elite force would carry out counterinsurgency efforts against the Shining Path terrorists (who control a good portion of the drug trade in Peru these days), blow up drug laboratories, and seize narco assets, the *New York Times* specified.

This is nothing less than an offer to place part of Peru's Armed Forces and police under direct U.S. command—and pay. And since the narco-terrorists now control or dominate an estimated one-third to one-half of Peru's national territory, to hand command of narco-terrorist strategy in Peru to the United States, is to de facto

hand control of *all* domestic military strategy to a foreign government.

It also means U.S. soldiers deploying in Peru's jungles. To carry out the program, the small number of U.S. special forces who have already been involved in jungle "training" missions for over a year, would have to be increased rapidly. This may indeed already be under way, if a report in *El Comercio* on Jan. 25 is true. According to the Lima paper's sources, when the head of the U.S. Southern Command, Gen. George Joulwan, met with President Fujimori on Jan. 24, the general told the President he plans to personally inspect the coca-growing Upper Huallaga Valley soon, in order to draw up a military plan of action.

On the political front, the core of the De Soto program appears to be copied from the Colombian government's disastrous "peace" pact with the M-19 narco-terrorists. There, the M-19, its organizational structure left intact, was invited into the government and handed vast policymaking powers, in exchange for playing politics.

In Peru, the coca-growers associations appear to be about to receive the same guarantees, and powers. According to the Lima daily *Expreso* of Jan. 25, President Fujimori sent a letter to President Bush on Jan. 22, outlining the government's plan to grant legal recognition to the coca-growers associations, and to channel all "anti-drug" programs through them.

All this is to be combined with a global free-trade agreement with the U.S., and a rural development pro-

gram based on handing out land titles to the coca-growers, and funding for unproductive "microeconomic" projects cooked up by the informal economy kooks at De Soto's Institute for Liberty and Democracy (ILD).

The package just might satisfy Washington: After all, it was drawn up by U.S. policymakers in the first place! President Fujimori handed Peru's drug policy over to the Bush administration when he named De Soto to draw up the program. Although Peruvian by birth, his allegiances certainly are not. After receiving his advanced schooling in Switzerland, De Soto established himself as a prosperous Swiss-based businessman, returning to Peru only a few years ago, in order to set up an institute to promote radical free-trade ideology. That outfit, the ILD, receives much of its funding, and a great deal of international publicity, from the U.S. government's National Endowment for Democracy.

The first thing De Soto did as drug adviser, was to hire former U.S. State Department official Anne Wroblewski and former Pentagon consultant Edward Luttwak to write the program. De Soto, who argues that the only truly productive sector is the underground economy, reserved for himself the task of drawing up the economic side of the package.

De Soto's plan feeds straight into Washington's current drive to demolish Ibero-American national military institutions, so they cannot interfere with "free trade," and has nothing whatever to do with crushing the drug trade. The drug trade, which functions as an integrated military-economic-political machine, wielding more power than any other "institution" in Peru today, will never be defeated by the "special forces" approach which obsesses Washington's adherents to the illusion of low-intensity warfare.

Bush's New World Order under attack

Brazilians are making the connection between Bush's war aims abroad and his imperial designs closer to home.

When the fantasy of a "brief" Anglo-American war against Iraq collapsed, Brazil's elites began to issue public condemnations of George Bush's fascist "New World Order," as the most serious external threat yet to confront the Brazilian nation.

Beginning a year ago with the U.S. invasion of Panama, fears began to surface within the Brazilian Armed Forces and among an influential group around the Foreign Ministry, that Bush's actions had now legitimized the concept of intervention; and with it, the possibility that attempts would be made to limit Brazilian sovereignty over its Amazon region. The ecological pressures the Bush administration has directed against Brazil were proof positive. From then on, the Armed Forces established defense of the Amazon as their strategic priority.

With the outbreak of the Persian Gulf war, this danger to Brazil is breaking into public consciousness.

On Jan. 21, Brazil's most important financial daily, *Gazeta Mercantil*, published an analysis entitled "The New International Order," asserting that "in the view of the Planalto Palace, the Foreign Ministry, and parts of the military structure which influence the country's foreign policy actions . . . Washington's postwar diplomacy will be characterized, at least in the beginning, by an offensive against such peripheral countries as Brazil, in areas . . . vital to preservation of their newly won hegemony.

"Within this perspective," it continues, "the Middle East is seen as the first real focal point of North-South conflict in place of U.S.-Soviet conflict, im-

plying serious consequences for Brazilian foreign policy. It is believed that once the war is over, a very likely reflection will be the acceleration of U.S. diplomatic action toward Brazilian environmental policy. . . . The Amazon will begin to be considered 'the common patrimony' of humanity."

Gazeta quotes George Bush's description of his "Initiative for the Americas" as an effort to link environmental protection to debt relief. "Not as a challenge to national sovereignty, in this case Brazil's," says Bush, "but as an affirmation of international common interest." Writes *Gazeta*, Bush "was insistent on repeating this proposal of swapping foreign debt for nature, whose rejection has been one of the pillars of Brazil's position."

The journal concludes that "if the current direction of the war continues, countries like Brazil will probably end up paying a very high price for the imposition of [Bush's] New World Order."

Retired Brig. Gen. Hugo Piva, who has been the victim of a slander campaign because of his work in Iraq's space program, gave a radio interview Jan. 16 in which he identified the Gulf war as a war over resources. U.S. presence will not end with the Iraq conflict, said Piva. "The United States went to the Gulf to remain there and guarantee its oil supply. . . . The situation is complex, for if the U.S. remains in the Gulf, other Arab countries could rise up."

"Make no mistake! The Persian Gulf war is the new face of an eternal battle between the idea of Empire and the idea of national freedom," com-

mented *Gazeta Mercantil* columnist Mauro Santayana, who is associated with Brazil's foreign policy networks. "The real U.S. adversary is not Saddam Hussein, but its own allies which encroach on its space: Japan and Germany. . . . Today, the U.S. is moving to guarantee its oil supply at low prices. If the U.S. is not stopped, it could show up tomorrow, armed with the same pretexts, to guarantee the oxygen of the Amazon—so in demand—or the fertility of our countryside."

Another commentary revealing the nature of Bush's interventionism was published in *Tribuna de Imprensa*: "What, in the end, is Bush's New World Order? Could it be a pact among the Western powers not to pass technology on to the Third World, under the pretext that they might use it to build weapons?"

This perception that Bush's "new order" would target Brazilian sovereignty has re-ignited the national debate that has raged among Brazil's elites for more than a century, over turning Brazil into a sovereign and technologically developed power, versus a "Brazilian Empire" administered in concert with the Anglo-Americans.

It is no surprise that spokesmen for the world financial elites are pressuring Brazil to formally endorse Bush's war aims in the Gulf. Thus, Brazilian banker and oligarch Herbert Levy criticized Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek Jan. 22 for defending the idea of an international conference to address the Palestinian problem. Wrote Levy, Rezek "is ceding to [Argentine] President Carlos Menem the leadership of the nations of Latin America in the free world. Menem had the vision to place himself among the 28 nations which are backing the United States, to a greater or lesser extent."

Gulf war also a proxy East-West war

Moscow is pursuing military as well as diplomatic objectives in the U.S.-Iraq war.

Why haven't the Soviets committed troops to the multinational Gulf expedition? Is it simply the much-referenced "Afghanistan syndrome"? Or is there more to it?

This is a question that has been posed by Arabists and Sovietologists in Germany whom *EIR* talked to in the early phase of the Gulf crisis late last summer and again after the outbreak of the war. Back in October and November 1990, several of these experts warned of the potentially "grave strategic miscalculation of the Americans."

"Bush believes that his accords with Gorbachov are stable enough to allow him to act unrestricted in the Gulf, but he tends to overlook that the Soviet interests in that region are different from the American interests," warned one Arabist.

A retired senior German military man, formerly assigned to NATO operations, warned in mid-November that Gorbachov was pursuing a policy of watching the Americans move into a quagmire from which they would escape only at the cost of profound humiliation—as in Vietnam.

This expert said the strength of the Iraqi military was underrated by the Americans, who would be faced with a bloody war of attrition. "Iraq is not in the position compared to the United States, that Poland was in compared to Germany in 1939. Air raids alone won't suffice, as the Americans should know, having tried it at Dresden" in February 1945. "Gorbachov is watching what Bush is doing, and what is going to happen to the U.S. expedition force—after all, that's half of the total firepower the Americans

have down there, leaving aside the nuclear arsenals, naturally," he said.

"Gorbachov knows he is presiding over a bankrupt country, and Bush may not know yet what his country will look like after a Gulf war. The U.S. can't even pay the costs of their expedition corps down there now, before the war has even erupted—some quarter-million dollars per day. Real combat will drive the costs sky-high. The war will ruin the Americans. Why should Gorbachov do anything to prevent that? It will bring his main adversary down, so he's giving verbal support to Bush, but doesn't do anything beyond that, otherwise."

This was said in November. It is interesting to report what German experts think about that crisis, now that a shooting war has broken out.

"The Soviet military is keeping its ties with Iraq, and maybe more than that," a senior Sovietologist told *EIR* one week after the first U.S. bombs had been dropped on Baghdad. The interest of the Soviets is not to get directly involved in the Gulf war, but to analyze the performance of the most modern U.S. military technology, with emphasis on the air-war potentials, under live combat conditions, the source said.

The Gulf war provides the Soviet military with a unique opportunity to document for Moscow why there has to be increased funding of research projects in air and missile defense, and where exactly the improvements of Soviet air defense would have to occur, the source pointed out.

Another Sovietologist with some insight into Soviet operations in the

Mideast, said it could not be ruled out that Moscow encouraged Saddam Hussein to walk into this war, giving him guarantees of military supplies. The interest of the Soviets was to supply the Iraqis with the matériel and intelligence required to cause ultimate damage to the American forces in a way that would fit Soviet strategic interests. In any case, the Americans were using up their expensive, modern weapons systems in a showdown with relatively outmoded, less costly Iraqi systems. This source mooted that Iraq was serving as a "guinea pig" for the Soviets to test out what kind of primitive weapons could neutralize the highly developed U.S. war potentials in future conflicts.

Two recent statements from Moscow reported on German media seem to corroborate that evaluation.

Elfie Siegl, a German newspaper correspondent in Moscow, reported Jan. 22 that "Soviet military view the Iraq war as a proxy war: the multinational troops fighting with the most modern Western arms against the predominantly Soviet military technology of Iraq." She added that there was a strong pro-Iraqi lobby in the Soviet military-industrial complex.

On Jan. 27, German media quoted Soviet general of the artillery Vladimir Mikhalkin as saying that "Iraq has a sufficient supply of missiles to carry out this war also over an extended period." Mikhalkin confessed that the Soviets had supplied Iraq with "many missiles in the 1970s," and that these missiles, the Scud-Bs, had been much improved by Western technicians in the 1980s so that their range had been doubled or almost tripled.

Mikhalkin omitted any mention of U.S. firms like Hewlett-Packard, which had, during the thaw in American-Soviet relations, supplied Iraq's missile industries with modern computer and electronic components.

Mexican march backs Iraq

The Salinas government's effort to whitewash its own servile image backfired in the National March for Peace.

On Jan. 25, a National March for Peace was held in Mexico City, starting at the famous Monument to the Revolution and ending at the Zócalo, or Plaza of the Constitution, where the presidential palace is located. Estimates of numbers participating range from 20-30,000.

The strangest aspect of the event, as opposed to the dozens of anti-war demonstrations that have already been held both in the capital and other cities throughout Mexico, is that this "multi-party" event was in fact surreptitiously convoked by the ruling PRI party, and was conceived as "an event that would be observed internationally," that is, by Washington, D.C.

The PRI's Organizational Secretary made a flood of telephone calls and held numerous lightning meetings to get the party ranks to move with a campaign of statements "for peace and against war." Later came the calls and meetings with the opposition parties, to try to get them behind the PRI campaign.

The result of this flurry of PRI activity was the publication of an ad on Jan. 23 calling for a National March for Peace. The ad, edited by PRI officials at the highest levels, presented the sad spectacle of trying to reconcile the anti-war Mexican population with the degrading and servile position of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's government toward Bush's war. For example, the ad reads: "Solutions based on force endanger the very principles that inspire them. . . . Solutions based on force do not guarantee in and of themselves an

effective solution to the conflict's underlying problems."

Translated into plain language, the ad states that the use of force by the U.S., in "defense of international law and democracy" (and backed by the Salinas government), would have worked just fine, but for some missing ingredient that could have justified the employment of war in pursuit of peace.

In this paragraph as elsewhere, one can clearly see the hand of Mexican officialdom defending the one-world philosophy that has inspired all of the Salinas government's policies to date. For example, the ad urges all Mexicans to commit themselves to "jointly restate the concepts and contents of international security based on a new collective morality . . . through a renewal of international norms and institutions in the terms demanded by new geopolitical and technological realities, as well as the corresponding new risks of world predominance."

"New collective morality," "new geopolitical realities," "new risks" and other such Newspeak only serves to avoid defending Mexico's sovereignty, so clearly under attack, and to "send a message" that the Mexican government is indeed in favor of peace—a *Pax Bushiana*.

Also on Jan. 23, national leader of the Democratic Party of the Revolution (PRD), Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, publicly denounced the National March for Peace, in which many members of his own party were participating, as a cover for "popularly

supporting Bush's "peace." In an insightful assessment of the PRI-sponsored march, Cárdenas charged that it was just a maneuver to whitewash the servile image of the Mexican government: "We cannot believe that those who launched this initiative from the official side . . . are acting on their own initiative and with independent criteria. . . . We cannot believe that such deep splits are occurring within ruling circles . . . regarding the decision to increase oil production to supply the North Americans . . . or regarding the servile offer to send Mexican troops to the Arabian Peninsula."

The Jan. 25 event took place without Cárdenas's presence, and thus without the only political leader who has been able to fill the Zócalo since Mexicans turned out en masse to back President José López Portillo's 1982 bank nationalization. Traditionally, filling the Zócalo has been considered the barometer of popular support for one or another policy or political leader. The Plaza of the Constitution can hold 1 million.

So, the National March for Peace was held with a visible nervousness and disorganization on the part of its organizers, headed by PRI national head Luis Donaldo Colosio, and by Miguel Alemán Jr., plenipotentiary ambassador for special international affairs.

The disorganized thousands in the Zócalo began to organize, however, around precisely those points which the PRI rallying call had so carefully left off the agenda: Mexican nationalism and condemnation of U.S. imperialism. In the end, the march began to take shape around such specific slogans as "Long Live Saddam Hussein, Long Live Iraq!" and "We Will Kick Satan Out of the Middle East!" But, most prominently of all, "No Mexican Oil for the U.S. War Effort!"

Iraqi diplomat expelled in frameup

The dirty tricks of the Australian intelligence service may be a paradigm for anti-Arab operations elsewhere.

The wartime campaign to label all Arabs as terrorists and to expel Iraqi diplomats from countries around the world went into high gear at the end of January, and Australia was no exception. There is widespread Australian concern about the divisions that are being created within the country, as a result of Prime Minister Bob Hawke's decision to embrace the Anglo-American war.

High-level Iraqi diplomats had not been perceived as terrorists prior to a Jan. 19 explosion in Manila, the Philippines, in which one Iraqi was killed. A subsequent investigation, the press claims, showed a high level of diplomatic involvement, which "shattered the earlier impression," according to the *Washington Post*. Within a few days, Britain and Australia kicked out Iraqi ambassadors and other diplomats for alleged involvement in terrorist incidents.

In the case of the expulsion of Australia's most senior diplomat on Jan. 26, it was a rigged deck, which leads one to wonder about the validity of the "investigations" elsewhere.

The Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO)—run by the CIA, Britain's MI-6, with a dash of Israel's Mossad—"played a major role" in the Iraqi diplomat's expulsion, the *Herald Sun* of Jan. 28 acknowledged. The paper noted that ASIO had been monitoring the Iraqi embassy in Canberra closely and was instrumental in the move. However, there are strong indications that the intelligence agency was doing more than that.

The envoy, Saad Omran, was given 72 hours to leave the country, after Australian police uncovered a plot by Hamid Taoube, a Lebanese-born Muslim, to take a bomb aboard an America-bound plane and hijack it to Iraq. Police prosecutor Sgt. Raff Del Vecchio told the court that Taoube had telephoned the Iraqi embassy in Canberra and offered his services. It was this call that resulted in the expulsion.

Taoube, who circulated on the fringes of the Arab community in Sydney, is known to have been under psychiatric care. In court it was revealed that he had discussed hijacking a plane with "an undercover policeman." Taoube then set up the Iraqi embassy by calling in and describing his intentions on the tapped line. Is it possible that Taoube was a programmed *agent provocateur*, and the embassy set up by Australia's CIA? One wonders if a similar scenario may have been behind the incident in the Philippines.

Sources in Manila had a few things to say about the investigation in the Philippines that followed the Jan. 19 incident, in which a bomb exploded prematurely, killing one Iraqi man and wounding another. The incident resulted in the expulsion of Iraqi Consul General Muwafak al-Ani on Jan. 24. Although the investigations resulted in the claim that Iraqi embassy officials and Iraqi nationals in Manila were involved in the bombing, those individuals were not given any chance to prove their innocence. Military intelligence agents said that al-Ani was in the car that drove the two

Iraqis to the scene of the explosion, the U.S.-owned Thomas Jefferson Library in Makati. Denials by the consul general were blacked out by the press.

Our sources note that a large Muslim organization in Mindanao denounced the shabby legal treatment, but that, too, was given no press coverage.

The wartime anti-Arab propaganda, which has been accompanied by fire-bombings of Arab cultural facilities, has created a climate in which some Arab-Australians are afraid to leave their homes. The *Herald Sun* on Jan. 31 quoted a leader from that community, Joe Wakim, noting that people who had contributed to Australian society for decades have now been forced to "resume a life underground," to ensure their safety.

MPs from Prime Minister Bob Hawke's ruling Labor Party and several MPs from the opposition Australian Democrats think that Australia will suffer if it does not break ranks with the United States and Britain and get out of the Gulf. "We must get a majority within the Labor Party saying that they disagree with Mr. Hawke's policy in the Gulf," MP George Crawford explained, in an interview with *The Age* published Jan. 29. Crawford noted that Labor Party MPs from the Australian state of Victoria have formed a group called Labor for Peace in the Middle East.

Leader of the Australian Democrats, Sen. Janet Powell, and seven other senators from her party argued in a parliamentary debate the third week of January that the "death and destruction now being wrought was avoidable."

"It is possible at any time for our commitment in this obscene war to be reversed, and for the Australian government to begin working for an immediate ceasefire and a just resolution of the conflict," Powell said.

International Intelligence

French general: Soviets 'ambiguous' on Gulf war

Since the beginning of the Persian Gulf crisis, the Soviet position has been characterized by "ambiguity," wrote France's Gen. Jeannou Lacaze, former head of the French Army, in a commentary in the Paris newspaper *Le Figaro* on Jan. 26.

The Red Army "sees in this war an interesting laboratory to test the comportment of Soviet military materiel," especially since 90% of the Iraqi military arsenal is of Soviet origin, he wrote. Also, there are still Soviet military advisers in Iraq, although the number is not known. "One may also ask if the U.S.S.R. has really respected the embargo on the sending of spare parts." What is certain, is that the Soviets are "very attentive to the evolution of the situation" in Iraq, and have insisted on maintaining diplomatic relations with Iraq.

It is also noteworthy, according to the general, that "the entire defensive strategy of Saddam Hussein is inspired by theories developed over decades by the U.S.S.R."

He concluded: "The generals of the Red Army, supported by conservative circles, have besides made no secret of their pro-Iraq proclivities and of their distance from the United States. Clearly, the Red Army, for which Iraq has always been a traditional ally, is politically reluctant in the face of the official Soviet policy of benevolent neutrality toward the United States."

Will the U.N. dismantle El Salvador's army?

A spokesman for El Salvador's government announced on Jan. 24 that U.N.-sponsored talks between the FMLN insurgents and the government are so close to success, that a peace agreement could be reached before the mid-March elections. Both sides have agreed to let the U.N. secretary general set up two commissions to oversee the "cleansing" (read, dismantling) of El Salvador's army, the *Los Angeles Times* reported the same day.

U.N. negotiator Alvaro de Soto stated one year ago, at the opening of the negotiations, that his goal in the talks was to achieve "progressive and complete demilitarization, the final objective of which is the abolition of the armies."

This amounts to the application of the "Panama model" to El Salvador. Following the U.S. invasion of Panama, the Army has been turned into merely a constabulary force.

To facilitate such a goal, the FMLN has announced that it is setting up its own army, for the purpose of dismantling it! In a Dec. 4, 1990 interview with *Diario Latino*, just published in the State Department's translating service FBIS, FMLN Commander Ana Guadalupe Martínez announced that the FMLN has created its own separate military structure, called the National Army for Democracy. Martínez stated that in order to be able to negotiate "the parallel dismantling of both armies" without relinquishing FMLN power, the government must recognize that "two powers exist which are going to negotiate on an equal footing. . . . What is going to be dismantled in the negotiations is the military structure of the FMLN, but not ourselves as a political movement."

This restructuring is part of a combined military/diplomatic offensive launched by the FMLN on Nov. 20, 1990, whose goal, according to Martínez, is "to wear down the Salvadoran Army, which continues to be the principal obstacle to a negotiated settlement of the conflict. The operations had a clear objective: to wear down and punish the Army. . . ."

Opponents of Bush's war are not 'anti-Semites'

The label of "anti-Semitism" is being thrown around in Mexico in order to stifle opposition to Bush's war in the Middle East. According to Mexico City press accounts, Colegio de México professor Enrique Krauze asserted in the January issue of *Vuelta* magazine that anyone who opposed Israeli objectives was an anti-Semite.

Manu Dornbierer, a respected author

and intellectual, responded in the daily *Excelsior* Jan. 25 that "to be an anti-Semite is to be against the human race." But, she asks, "What is and was Zionism? It was and is a deplorable position, according to which, in memory of the Holocaust and on the pretext of defending Israel, Jews have the right to do whatever they want against the Palestinians, whom they forced out, and against all who disagree with them, do not share their interests or support them. They sometimes act like real fascists. . . . Zionism uses anti-Semitism as a weapon, and few realize the damage this does to the Jews themselves. Zionists try to make people believe that anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism are synonyms, but they are not."

Leftist journalist Gregorio Selser also responded angrily to Krauze's name-calling, citing several Jewish authors who protested against Israeli massacres of Palestinians, concluding, "under Krauze's criteria, these people would also be anti-Semites, although they are Jewish."

Jordanian MPs denounce betrayal by France

Jordanian Members of Parliament are furious with France's support for the U.S.-led coalition in the war against Iraq. The Paris daily *Le Monde* on Jan. 23 published an interview with "the very popular independent Islamic parliamentarian" Leith Shubeilat, who said that if Gen. Charles de Gaulle were still in power, French participation in the war together with the Anglo-Americans would never have occurred. "The general had put an end to the submission of Paris to the dictates of the United States," stated Shubeilat. "It is especially for this reason, that the Americans detested de Gaulle more than Nasser."

The president of the Jordanian Parliament, Abdel Latif Arabiyat, sent a telegram on Jan. 20 to the president of the French National Assembly, expressing regret over the deterioration of Franco-Arab relations, relations which, "since the era of President Charles de Gaulle, were based on friendship, understanding, and mutual interest."

Briefly

The Jordanian people and its deputies, wrote Arabiyat, reacted "with great astonishment to the active participation of France in the military operations in the Gulf and to the aggression against Iraq, a Muslim Arab country. The bitterness of our people and the Jordanian Parliament is all the greater, as the gathering of the French National Assembly approved the decision of its government to participate in this aggression."

Israeli veteran doubts U.S. pilots were tortured

Gidon Dror, a retired Israeli Air Force pilot whose plane was shot down in the war of 1967, was quoted in a Deutsche Press Agentur release from Tel Aviv on Jan. 23, expressing skepticism that there was much to the story that Iraq tortured the U.S. pilots they shot down. He said it is much more likely that the bruises and other injuries seen on the pilots' faces were caused by emergency ejection under combat conditions and the shock of the charges the war planes received from Iraqi air defense. Glass splinters from the bursting cockpits could have caused the cuts seen on the pilots' faces, Dror said.

With a few exceptions in Germany, Dror's assessment, which does not fit with the overall propaganda line on "torture," is blacked out of the media.

Berlin conference will plan European 'Triangle'

The Schiller Institute is sponsoring an international conference in Berlin on March 1-3, titled "Peace Through Development: The Infrastructure for a Free Europe." The meeting will build support for Lyndon LaRouche's program for a European development triangle, as the core of a worldwide economic reconstruction program.

Presentations will cover:

- The importance of the "Productive Paris-Berlin-Vienna Triangle" for the economic development and integration of East and West Europe;

- Neither Marx nor Adam Smith: the financial and economic-political structural requirements for a pan-European "economic miracle";

- The struggle for freedom and economic reconstruction after the collapse of the socialist system;

- The agricultural question: key to reform in Eastern Europe;

- The struggle for privatization: reports from Poland, Czechoslovakia, the former German Democratic Republic, and other countries;

- The state of agriculture in the United States and the countries of the European Community;

- Family farm, corporation, or collective: Where do we go from here?

British Parliament told Iraq will keep fighting

Speaking before the British House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs at the end of January, Dr. Yezid Sayigh, a foreign policy expert from Oxford University, stated that, despite the reported success of American and British bombing, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would consider the war as going "reasonably well."

He said that Iraq had expected a very heavy air assault and was even prepared for nuclear attack. "I don't see any signs of shock and panic in terms of the management and the command of the war on Iraq's side." He went on to say that "even if they are driven from Kuwait still fighting, it will be a victory in the eyes of the Arabs because a Third World country was not expected to defeat the U.S." Comparing Iraq's army with the German army of 1939-45, which fought to the last man, he said the "cohesion and initiative" of Iraq's army should not be underestimated.

Dr. Sayigh expressed the fear that as casualties grew, there would be an "immense danger" of the West "using harsher and more indiscriminate bombing," and pressure would mount "in certain quarters" for the coalition to use tactical nuclear weapons.

- **EUROPEAN COMMUNITY** sanctions against Israel, enacted one year ago, were lifted on Jan. 25. The EC had imposed the economic sanctions in protest against the Israeli government's closure of all Palestinian universities in the occupied territories. The universities were closed at the beginning of the Palestinian uprising, the Intifada, in December 1987, on the grounds that they provided leadership to the uprising. The schools remain closed to this day.

- **THE CANADIAN** Supreme Court issued a unanimous ruling on Jan. 25, giving the Party for the Commonwealth of Canada, political co-thinkers of Lyndon LaRouche, the right to organize at airport terminals. In what has become a landmark freedom-of-expression case, the judges declared that the terminals are "extensions of streets, parks, and other public places [that] are traditionally viewed as public fora."

- **MALAYSIAN** Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamed on Jan. 24 blasted the United States for trying to destroy Iraq, "We agreed that Kuwait should be freed, but never agreed that Iraq should be destroyed," he said. "Our stand is clear: We don't agree with the conquest of one country by another. We opposed Vietnam for trying to conquer Cambodia; we opposed the Soviet Union for trying to conquer Afghanistan; and we also oppose the U.S. for over-running Panama and Grenada."

- **FRENCH** President François Mitterrand looks today like Henry Kissinger, wrote the French financial daily *La Tribune* on Jan. 22. "He's appearing both as a tightrope walker and a poker player." The article quotes a French foreign policy expert: "The United States doesn't trust us, England detests us, Israel hates us, and the Arabs are appalled by us. We are wrong all down the line and we risk losing on all grounds."

Can Bush survive his Persian Gulf war debacle?

by Kathleen Klenetsky

George Bush is about to suffer badly for his delusion that the war against Iraq would prove an easy victory, one that would bring him the global obeisance he thinks he deserves.

His obsession with the Gulf—and it is an obsession, even in the eyes of such close colleagues as Republican Party official Mary Matalan, who recently described Bush as a “man obsessed by his mission”—is becoming his political undoing.

On Jan. 24, the administration was forced to concede officially what by then had become apparent to all but the blindest: that the President’s war against Iraq will last far longer than anticipated, with far greater losses for the United States and its coalition allies.

“There are going to be ups and downs, there are going to be enemy victories, there are going to be days when we’ll see allied losses, and . . . we need to get into a frame of mind that allows us to accept those reverses and surges,” chief White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told the press corps. “We need to get on kind of an even keel in terms of our public psyche.”

Faced with an adversary who is refusing to turn over and die, just because Bush told him to, the administration is being forced to backtrack rapidly on its promise of a short, swift conflict.

Another broken promise

That broken promise threatens to bring a rain of serious political penalties down on the President’s head. Although popular sentiment in favor of Operation Desert Storm remains strong, there are plenty of signs that people are having serious second thoughts. And those second thoughts can easily translate into outright opposition once the reality of the war—measured in broken limbs and dead bodies—starts to hit home.

Over 100,000 people turned out in Washington Jan. 26—

nearly triple the number who had turned out for an anti-war demonstration just one week earlier—to demand an immediate end to the war. Thousands more participated in smaller demonstrations throughout the country expressing the same sentiments. In Europe, Ibero-America, and the Muslim world, millions of people have taken to the streets to register their opposition to what is now perceived as a war by the U.S. and its allies against the developing sector as a whole.

In the event of a prolonged conflict, Bush will almost certainly have to resort to reinstating the draft, which will trigger a political explosion in the ghettos and on middle-class white college campuses.

Even public opinion polls have begun to pick up deepening concern about the way the war is going. A new CBS-*New York Times* poll released Jan. 29 found that only 34% believe that the conflict is going “very well” for the U.S., down from 50% just a week before.

“People here at home are finally beginning to find out that the war isn’t a video game; real people are getting hurt, and some of them are their relatives,” commented one Washington observer. “As more and more people are personally affected by the hostilities, a lot of anger will be turned on Bush. He shouldn’t have started out saying it would be so easy. Now he runs the risk that nobody will ever believe anything he says again.”

On Capitol Hill, the handful of congressmen, most of them members of the Black Caucus, who voted against a House resolution supporting Operation Desert Storm, say they have received an overwhelmingly positive response to their anti-war stand. Aides to Rep. Major R. Owens (D-N.Y.), who represents a district in Brooklyn, New York, report that letters from constituents are running 100 to 1 against the war.

Rep. Charles Hayes (D-Ill.) is getting a similar reaction. Only one out of 200 letters he received about his anti-war vote

was negative. "Everybody's supporting him," says Hayes's spokesman Bruce Taylor. "This is one of the best positions he's held."

Bush under the gun

The initial euphoria which greeted the opening salvos of the conflict has noticeably dimmed, including in Congress, where even some of Operation Desert Storm's biggest boosters are glumly admitting that, "It's not going to be a short war," as House Minority Leader Rep. Robert Michel (R-Ill.) put it after a briefing by Defense Secretary Richard Cheney Jan. 24.

Beyond this, some influential members of Congress are raising questions about U.S. war aims. In a speech to the National Press Club Jan. 24, Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), chairman of the House subcommittee on Mideast affairs, sharply criticized the Bush administration for changing its war objectives from pushing Iraq out of Kuwait, to subjugating Iraq.

Bush has made the U.S. role in the Gulf "more difficult" by expanding its war aims, Hamilton charged. "It is not clear to me what winning this war means. The President has stated limited objectives" centered on complete and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and complete compliance with the U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"But his recent statements and our military actions suggest that our goals are expanding to include the surrender of Iraq and the destruction of its military," he added. "To the extent that we expand our objectives, it will make more difficult the diplomatic task when the fighting stops."

A chorus of "I-told-you-so's" is also gathering, among them, William Odom, a retired general who once headed the National Security Agency, and who had published extensive warnings in the months leading up to the U.S. attack, about the military and political folly of going to war with Iraq.

In an interview televised Jan. 27, Odom declared that he could not do otherwise but support the President now that hostilities had broken out. But he nevertheless reiterated several times that the massive problems of which he had warned, were now unfolding. "The President is taking a huge gamble," he said.

Less polite was Edward Luttwak, a geopolitician based in Washington. In a scathing critique published in the French newspaper *Libération* Jan. 24, Luttwak mocked Bush's entire Gulf strategy. Exchanging insults with Saddam Hussein has demeaned the American presidency, while Bush has made himself look ridiculous by comparing Saddam to Hitler, wrote Luttwak.

Bush has shown virtually no understanding of what kind of total war he has provoked, and what the consequences could be for the United States itself, much less the rest of the world. To claim that the threat to Saudi Arabia's water supply through the massive oil spill is "militarily insignificant," simply shows the President's infantilism. Bush keeps com-

plaining that Saddam Hussein is not playing by his rules, even as the U.S. violates one tenet of international law after another. In the sense of trying to impose his own unworkable New world Order on the world, Bush is indeed clinically insane.

While Bush fiddles . . .

The status of the war itself is only one aspect of the President's vulnerability. While Bush has pursued his obsession with destroying Saddam Hussein and bombing Iraq back to the Stone Age, the collapse of the U.S. economy has proceeded at a record pace. Since the crisis first erupted, three U.S. airlines have gone bankrupt, more banks have failed, and hundreds of thousands of Americans have lost their jobs.

The conflict itself is causing major economic disruption at home. The call-up of hundreds of thousands of reservists for duty in the Gulf has created huge economic problems for their families and communities. Hospitals in rural and inner-city areas have had to implement drastic cutbacks in services, because so many of their medical and nursing staffs were reserve members deployed to the Mideast. Police and fire departments in many areas have been placed in similar positions. How long people will put up with these hardships, especially if the war drags on for months and the body count rises, is an open question.

With official administration estimates of the war's cost now passing \$50 billion—a figure based on the most optimistic projections of the length and cost of the conflict, and one which does not include such side expenses as Israel's demand for \$13 billion in exchange for its "restraint"—there is a mad scramble going on to figure out how to finance the operation.

Talk of a "war tax" is buzzing through Washington—an initiative guaranteed to provoke an angry reaction from the electorate, but which is almost certain to be proposed in some form or another, especially since the administration claims that the FY 1992 budget, which it will submit in early February, will keep the growth in spending to less than the rate of inflation. The only way Bush could possibly hope to accomplish that would be through huge increases in taxes and bone-deep cuts in spending—both loaded with political explosives.

Recognizing his vulnerability on the economy, Bush made a pathetic attempt to use his State of the Union address Jan. 29 to reassure the country that he hasn't totally forgotten home-front concerns.

He talked about a new national highway program, paid lip service to increasing investment in research and development, made another bid to cut the capital gains tax, talked about affordable housing. But the note that rang truest was his frantic appeal to the banks to start pumping out new credit. Bush hopes that a hyperinflationary binge will stave off the mantle of Herbert Hoover for a little longer, but that will backfire almost as surely as his great adventure in the Persian Gulf already is.

Army study warned against Bush's insane Gulf war; authors silenced

by Leo F. Scanlon

EIR has learned that the authors of a U.S. Army study, which counseled against a foolish and dangerous confrontation in the Persian Gulf, have been forbidden to discuss their report and its recommendations. A spokesman for the U.S. Army War College said that the decision is in line with the Pentagon practice of not providing background discussions about policy issues while hostilities persist. The gag-order is not surprising, since the publicly available study, "Iraqi Power and U.S. Security in the Middle East," by Stephen C. Pelletiere, Douglas V. Johnson II, and Leif R. Rosenberger, published by the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, is a virtual point-by-point refutation of the propaganda themes used by George Bush to drag the nation into war.

The report was released last spring during the congressional debate over sanctions against Iraq, and recommended against an "unfortunate and unnecessary" confrontation with the Ba'ath regime. "The root of the problem appears to be Washington's inability to appreciate the intensity of Iraq's determination to overcome its present economic crisis," the authors say. They accurately predict the outcome of this miscalculation: "There is, we conclude, the possibility of a major military blowup, in which case the United States would almost certainly have to intervene."

The broader forces which threatened war in the region were analyzed independently by Lyndon LaRouche, who warned of an outbreak of war in the region beginning in June 1990, and presented his Oasis Plan for economic development of the region as the only basis for peace. LaRouche's thesis was ridiculed by intelligence community officials and journalists who rely on the "gossip" school of analysis. The Army study has not fared much better.

The study, while less comprehensive in its purview and recommendations than the proposals put forward by LaRouche, stands in contrast to the vast outpouring of propaganda which has inundated the airwaves, print media, and the Congress about Iraq since September 1988. The facts and analysis in the Army report are irrefutable, and for that reason we present lengthy excerpts. *EIR's* interpretative remarks do not necessarily reflect the thinking of the authors of the Army report.

Disaster rooted in Iran-Contra scheme

Not since the time of Joseph Goebbels has a national news media addressed issues of war and peace in such a cartoonish, one-dimensional, and hate-filled manner as the U.S. media has in the case of Iraq. Since about Aug. 5, the charge has been led by Bush who, unable to grasp what shapes events in the region, has become "obsessed and possessed" by his personal demon Saddam Hussein. Tragically, Bush has entered a war against the national interests of the United States.

The Army report shows that the U.S. confrontation with Iraq has its roots in events which antedate the occupation of Kuwait—and is intertwined with the infamous "Iran-Contra" gambit in the great game played by imperial powers in the region. The underlying cause of conflict, as this report shows, is the economic warfare conducted by the developed countries against the underdeveloped countries in the region—and the U.S. has entered that war on the wrong side. George Bush's "New World Order" is simply the old imperialism.

The authors explain that their investigations began in response to the inadequacy of existing explanations for the stunning turnaround in Iraqi military fortunes during the eight-year war against Iran. The popular but facile hypotheses explained the events either as a result of foreign intervention on behalf of Iraq, or relied on the unproven assertions that chemical weapons were widely used. The authors rejected these explanations, examined the documentable social and political changes which occurred during the war, and drew their conclusions.

The elements of the conflict between Iraq, Iran, and Kuwait are contained in the geographical boundaries established by the British partition of this segment of the Ottoman Empire after World War I. Iraq's outlets to the Persian Gulf are the cities of Basra, located on the Shatt al Arab river, the lower portion of which forms the border with Iran, and the city of Um Qasr, which is blocked by the Kuwaiti islands of Warbah and Bubiyan. Provocations in this area are *casus belli* for Iraq, and conflicts are easy to start, as was shown in the war with Iran, and, more indirectly, in the occupation of Kuwait.

The Republican Guards and the legitimacy of the regime

"The report begins with a discussion of the Iranian capture of Al Faw in 1986, the act which, the authors believe, galvanized the Iraqis to make the bold changes in their military doctrine, which led to their ultimate victory in the war."

Iraq had been pursuing a strategy of "static defense" against Iran for several years prior to this point—a strategy which had as its greatest attraction the promise of limited casualties. The economic costs of this war were another matter however:

"Iraq had been funding itself since at least 1983 with borrowed cash—principally from its rich Arab neighbors. By 1986, an estimated \$20 billion had been received from the Saudis and Kuwaitis. . . .

"As long as Iraq appeared to be winning the war, the Gulf states were amenable to financing the effort. After Al Faw, perceptions changed markedly. . . .

"Iraq also had a large non-Arab debt problem. Aid from the Gulf states was not enough to cover Iraq's expenses, and so it had borrowed from international banks as well. By 1986, Iraq owed Soviet, European, and Japanese bankers nearly as much as it owed to the Arabs. . . .

"As had been the case with the Saudis and Kuwaitis however, the loss of Al Faw caused uneasiness within the international banking community."

Saddam Hussein ordered the capture of the city of Mehran, in an attempt to break the stalemate, and failed. These events led into the Extraordinary Congress of the Ba'ath Party in July 1986. The problem confronting the Ba'athists was that the Iranians were massing hundreds of thousands of troops in preparation for capturing the city of Basra in the fall, and the Iraqi Army had become moribund as a result of the prolonged static campaign. New blood and a reorganization were called for:

"The Ba'athists appear to have hit upon an effective scheme for luring the youth into the service. . . . Shortly after the Extraordinary Congress ended, the regime announced a further call up for the regular army. . . . Having done so, it next began to turn the screws ever so subtly on the students.

"The Ba'athists announced that schools would not reopen in the fall. Instead, the students would be required to attend summer camp where they would undergo basic military training. . . . The Ba'athists did not specify when the schools would reopen, creating the impression in the minds of the students that their deferments were about to be phased out. At this point the Ba'athists unveiled their snapper, so to speak. They announced that the Army would accept volunteers for the Republican Guards, and that youths from anywhere in Iraq could serve—previously only young men from Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, were eligible. In a country like Iraq, where practically all power is vested in the President, a Palace connection is extremely useful, and thus service in the Guards was an attractive proposition. . . .

"The fundamental point to keep in mind, we feel, is that Iraq won the war with Iran because of its greater sacrifice. . . . The Ba'athists in 1986 ordered what amounted to a total callup—knowing that their order could backfire on them. The Iraqi people might have refused the regime's demand, which, under the circumstances, would likely have caused the downfall of the Ba'ath. By complying—that is, by going along with the regime's appeal—the Iraqi people in effect gave the Ba'athists a vote of confidence. The regime now has a broader political base than at any time in its history. . . . There is virtually no sign that the Iraqi Army is estranged from the regime; if anything it appears to be its mainstay."

The expanded recruitment laid the basis for tackling the next problem, to shift from a static defense to an offense, and "get the nation to go to war in the midst of war." For the first time, the threat of Iraqi attack on Iranian infrastructure became a possibility.

Perfidy of Kissinger's Iran-Contra caper

"The Iranians had threatened to retaliate against Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for any such damage done by Iraq. There seems to have been a condition tied to the monarchs' aid: They paid as long as Iraq observed certain restraints; chief among them was to go easy on Iran's infrastructure.

"At the same time Washington appears to have been pressuring Iraq on this same point," and sold the Baghdad government on the theory that "the moderate" Rafsanjani represented a "peace party" in Teheran, which would emerge if no drastic measures were pursued.

"Until the summer of 1986, the Iraqis were generally amenable to cooperating with the United States . . . then with the revelation of 'Irangate' the atmosphere changed. . . . The Iraqis quite clearly were shocked. The revelations undercut their whole strategy for bringing about a negotiated truce. . . . The leader of the peace faction—as the Iraqis believed—was Hashemi Rafsanjani. When Irangate revealed Rafsanjani as the principal negotiator for arms, the Peace Party Theory collapsed. . . . Once the Ba'athist leadership determined that a peace party did not exist, they opted for total war.

"Iran had been the first, in 1985, to attack civilian targets with Scuds when it rocketed Baghdad," and the Iraqis began their push to develop a long-range version of the Scud. The 1988 missile attacks on Teheran shocked observers, since "few had anticipated that Iraq possessed this capability."

Simultaneously, the Army began preparing a series of offensive drives, beginning with an attack on the Iranian occupied coastal city of Al Faw.

Leadership, not chemical weapons, won the war

The Iraqi Army attacked with overwhelming force, and made use of its air power: "The effectiveness of the Iraqi Army's attack helicopters was so great that the Iranians im-

mediately charged that the United States had intervened with its helicopter forces. . . .

“Although surprised, the Iranians offered stiff resistance initially. . . . This resistance must be cited as evidence in refutation of the oft-repeated allegation of massive use of chemicals. Iraq, consistently sensitive to casualties, apparently wanted the Iranians to flee, as it left one pontoon bridge over the Shatt untouched. . . .

“It is significant what the Iraqis *did not* do next. There was no great celebration, no excessive propagandizing over the great victory. Instead, in a businesslike fashion which is becoming characteristic of this army, they moved to mock battles over similar terrain to that of their next objective.”

The Iraqis achieved their greatest territorial gains in the battle at Dehloran/Zubiadat, which resulted in a 45 kilometer penetration along a 130 kilometer front. “Massive quantities of equipment were captured. . . . The Iraqis then withdrew declaring they had no territorial ambitions. . . .

“It was apparent in 1982 that the Iraqis were not mentally or organizationally prepared to deal with the Iranian ‘human wave’ attacks. Given the initial success of the Iranian tactics, and combined with the unlimited nature of Iran’s stated war aims, the Iraqis—in a manner that was militarily understandable—reached out for every weapon possible. Chemical weapons offered a nearly perfect solution. . . . The allegations of their massive use, however, during the 1988 campaign are suspect. . . . We would also like to stress that we have seen no convincing evidence that gas was used to recapture Al Faw.”

Economic development a postwar priority

“In the author’s view, Iraq’s military policies [in the period following the war with Iran] will be restrained. Baghdad should not be expected to deliberately provoke military confrontations with anyone. Its interests are best served now and in the immediate future by peace. Iraq is a resource-rich country; revenue from oil sales could put it in the front rank of nations economically. . . . Iraq has vast reserves of oil, an adequate river system and a largely literate population. It has a battle-tested army, and great pride in its accomplishment in the war. This adds up to a powerful state, if Iraq can ever solve its economic problems. . . . Force is only likely if the Iraqis feel seriously threatened.

“At the same time Iraq has enemies. . . . Indeed, some formerly not-too-active foes—such as Israel—have now come to constitute a much greater threat. . . . Israel backed the Iranians throughout the war. It practically initiated the Irangate conspiracy whereby it supplied Teheran with TOW and Hawk missiles, and had the Israelis their way, they would have tipped the balance of power to the Iranians.

“Despite the tensions, however, it is our belief that Iraq is basically committed to a non-aggressive strategy, and further that it will, over the course of the next few years, considerably relocate the size of its military.”

Additionally, an uneasy truce with Kuwait was facilitating the development of a port at Um Qasr, potentially removing the source of conflict with Iran.

At this point, it must be asked if subsequent events have proven the authors to be hopelessly naive in their assessment, and George Bush to be correct. The authors are forbidden from answering that question, but the internal evidence of the report leads to the conclusion that the United States deliberately intervened to sabotage the postwar recovery of Iraq, slowing efforts to develop new ports, halting the demobilization of the army, and increasing economic tensions with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. War debts were the time bomb under the economy.

“Now the piper must be paid; the bankers want their money, or at least the interest payments. The Ba’athists argue that they should be allowed to invest in economic recovery and industrialization so that they can become productive again and then pay off their debts. The banks want their money now.

“The failure so far to find a solution to this problem has put Iraq into a classic bind. It cannot easily bear the burden of so many men under arms, but neither is it able to return them to civilian life as long as there are so few jobs awaiting them. And, of course, every day that passes in which this situation is perpetuated only aggravates Iraq’s problem.

“Iraq appears to be trying to resolve the situation on a piecemeal basis. By bargaining hard with its creditors, it has been able to reschedule some of its debts. Money freed in this fashion has been invested in industrial projects. As areas of industry are built up, Iraq demobilizes a portion of its troops.”

This is not the picture, painted by George Bush, of a nation bent on conquest. How Iraq was provoked into military actions, which the Army study *predicted*, is the subject of the next section of the report.

The chemical weapons issue, again

“United by a common interest, Iraq and the United States restored diplomatic relations in 1984, and the United States began to actively assist Iraq in ending the fighting. . . .

“In September 1988, however—a month after the war had ended—the State Department abruptly, and in what many viewed as a sensational manner, condemned Iraq for allegedly using chemicals against its Kurdish population. . . . Significant numbers of Kurds had launched a revolt against Baghdad and in the process teamed up with Teheran. As soon as the war with Iran ended, Iraq announced its determination to crush the Kurdish insurrection. It sent Republican Guards to the Kurdish area, and in the course of this operation—according to the U.S. State Department—gas was used. . . . The Iraqi government denied that any such gassing had occurred. Nonetheless, Secretary of State [George] Shultz stood by U.S. accusations, and the U.S. Congress, acting on its own, sought to impose economic

sanctions on Baghdad. . . .

"Having looked at all of the evidence that was available to us, we find it impossible to confirm the State Department's claim that gas was used in this instance. To begin with there were never any victims produced. International relief organizations who examined the Kurds . . . failed to discover any. The claim rests solely on testimony of the Kurds who had crossed the border into Turkey, where they were interviewed by staffers of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. . . .

"It appears that in seeking to punish Iraq, the Congress was influenced by another incident that occurred five months earlier in another Iraqi-Kurdish city, Halabjah. In March 1988, the Kurds at Halabjah were bombarded with chemical weapons, producing a great many deaths. . . . Iraq was blamed for the Halabjah attack, even though it was subsequently brought out that Iran, too, had used chemicals in this operation, and it seemed likely that it was the Iranian bombardment that had actually killed the Kurds. . . ."

Economic war against Iraq

"The whole episode of seeking to impose sanctions on Iraq for something that it may not have done would be regrettable but not of great concern were this an isolated event. . . .

"Iraq suspects the motives behind repeated attempts by the United States to interfere in its internal affairs. . . . Moreover, the interference is hardly benign. The aforementioned economic sanctions proposal could prove to be devastating to the Iraqis. For example, under one of its provisions, the United States would withdraw support for International Monetary Fund loans to Iraq, virtually killing its credit rating. Along with this, trade is to be halted, which would interdict tons of grain currently being exported there from the United States. And the proposed sanctions would also have halted all technology transfers.

"Of immediate concern to the Iraqis is the fear that the United States will abort their economic recovery. . . . Were the United States to impose sanctions at this crucial juncture the recovery might be doomed, which obviously would turn them against us. Rather than accept this passively we believe they would try to hurt us where we are most vulnerable, in the Gulf" (emphasis added). Such sanctions were imposed in April 1990, long before the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"The United States seems to be on a collision course with the Ba'athists. This is unfortunate and unnecessary. The root of the problem appears to be Washington's inability to appreciate the intensity of Iraq's determination to overcome its present economic crisis.

"The regime in Baghdad is committed to rebuilding Iraq after the war. It will do whatever is necessary to accomplish this. If the regime perceives that it is being blocked by the United States, it will lash out, using whatever means it has to retaliate."

From war to peace

The analysis presented by Pelletiere, Johnson, and Rosenberger, is the background necessary if one is to understand the grim determination shown by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz during his Geneva, Switzerland meeting with U. S. Secretary of State James Baker, and in the press conference which concluded that fateful meeting. Events have proceeded exactly as the Army War College predicted they would, and for the reasons spelled out by Aziz.

The great tragedy is that in spite of the record of perfidy by the United States, and up until the imposition of sanctions by the Congress in April, the Ba'athist regime had made every effort to accommodate to the legitimate goals of U.S. policy in the region.

"Within the past decade we have seen remarkable diplomatic and military versatility on the part of Iraq. For example . . . midway through the fighting they . . . agreed to recognize the existence of Israel and to renounce terrorism." Contrary to inflammatory propaganda about Iraqi nuclear capabilities—a threat which is discounted in the near term by military scientists who have inspected Iraqi research facilities—the Iraqi government has agreed to open its missile sites, chemical weapons plants, and its nuclear facilities, if Israel agrees to open its nuclear weapons facility at Dimona. It is Israeli intransigence, backed by the U.S. State Department, which has prevented a solution to this problem.

The limited recommendations presented by the War College study are prudent, and supported by the analysis. Unfortunately, Bush was not prevented from beginning the bombings of Iraq on Jan. 16, but the study may yet help get out the truth of Bush's lunacy and contribute to achieving a cease-fire and negotiations. The only basis for a durable regional peace remains the "Oasis Plan" promoted by Lyndon LaRouche.

'From the prison in which the politician's career expires, the influence of the statesman is raised toward the summits of his life's providential course. Since Solon, the Socratic method has become the mark of the great Western statesman. Without the reemergence of that leadership, our imperiled civilization will not survive this century's waning years.'

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

IN DEFENSE OF COMMON SENSE by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

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Virginia withheld evidence that may prove Joe Giarratano's innocence

February 22 has been set as the date for the execution of Joe Giarratano in Virginia. Giarratano was convicted of the February 1979 rape and murder of Michelle Kline and the murder of Barbara Kline and was sentenced to death. The case has become a cause célèbre internationally for three reasons: There is substantial evidence that Giarratano is innocent of the crimes; Virginia Attorney General Mary Sue Terry has willfully withheld evidence which exculpates Giarratano; Giarratano has become a model prisoner, doing groundbreaking legal work on behalf of other inmates. Gerald T. Zerkin of Richmond is a private attorney for Mr. Giarratano. He gave this interview to Marianna Wertz.

EIR: Can you say something about Mr. Giarratano?

Zerkin: He is extraordinary. In my number of years of representing many prisoners and many criminal defendants, both on and off death row, I can say that he is unique.

You have to understand this in the context of the time that he was convicted of these crimes: Although only 19 or 20 years old, he was a long-term drug addict, alcohol abuser, school dropout, and petty criminal. He is now extremely well-read—politically, philosophically, legally, generally. His legal opinion is highly respected by scholars in the field of capital punishment and habeas corpus law, among others—genuinely respected.

He has enormous concern for his fellow human beings, including those on death row, and is very perceptive of the issues of poverty and race. He's an Italian-American, but he is very conscious of the issue of racism and poverty as it affects the criminal justice system and the death penalty in particular. To give you some glimpse, Joe initiated the litigation to try to force the Commonwealth [of Virginia] to provide counsel in post-conviction proceedings in capital cases. He started this *pro se*. He did it at a time when he *had* counsel, but did it because others on the row did not. And he was aware of the extreme difficulties in getting counsel at that point. . . .

Perhaps even more significantly than that, Joe has developed an extraordinary ability to live his life with integrity in an environment which is designed to do the exact opposite. Clearly, prison in general and death row in particular are not intended to make people live according to their beliefs and

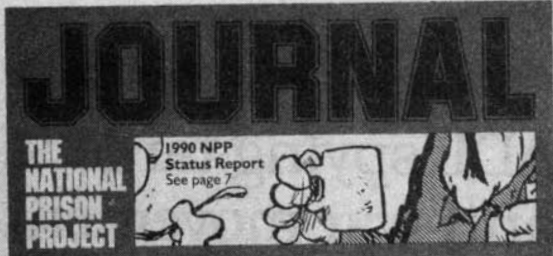
principles. Joe in fact lives his life with integrity. When he thinks the administration does something wrong, he stands up to them nonviolently, but on principle. He takes the consequences of that. He fights the consequences of that, within the legal means that are available to him. But he ultimately is prepared to take the consequence of what he does. . . .

EIR: According to the statement by the Virginia Coalition on Jails and Prisons, which lists you as staff attorney, "additional evidence has come to light which strongly suggests his innocence and shows that not a single piece of evidence ties Mr. Giarratano to the rape and murders." The statement also charges that the Attorney General's Office has "persistently fought a new trial and refused to disclose evidence in the possession of the state which could further exonerate Mr. Giarratano." Could you elaborate on that?

Zerkin: Certainly. As to the latter, the state is in possession of a driver's license found at the scene of the crime, which is not Joe's nor that of the victims, and which was never turned over to the defense. In addition, they refused to turn over the forensic expert's notes or anything else in her file, other than the reports that were actually provided to the defense, which are incomplete. They refused to provide photographs of the crime scene that were not introduced into evidence. All of those are things which they have which they refused to turn over. The crime scene photographs are of particular importance for a couple of reasons. One is that we think that the body in fact was moved in a significant manner and that the other photographs might in fact show that.

Perhaps more importantly, a videotape of the crime scene has been removed from the court file, which was introduced into evidence. It disappeared from the court file at the time we started making our allegations as to Joe's innocence and specifically focusing on some things in the crime scene. That has disappeared. Apparently no one has a copy of that. But that makes the other photographs of the crime scene of particular importance. . . .

The other important thing about these lab notes is that they show this is idle speculation. What happened is that, to tie Joe to the crime scene, they lied on the two drops of blood on one of his boots, which we now know, number one, were not there at the time he was arrested. Number two, they used



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Support Grows for New Trial

Doubts Raised In Virginia Death Row Prisoner Case

Jan Elvin

Capital punishment: the ultimate, the irrevocable penalty. At least 23 people are believed to have been wrongfully executed in this country since the turn of the century, according to an article published two years ago in the *Stanford Law Review*.

Doubts abound regarding the use of the death penalty, its morality, its constitutionality, and its fairness. But surely there is one thing upon which all people will agree: for the state, operating under "color of law," to take the life of an innocent man or woman, would be a monstrous thing which would ill serve the cause of justice.

In the case of Joseph Michael Giarratano, an innocent man may well be executed, unless the Commonwealth of Virginia reverses its rush towards "finality." Giarratano is now on Virginia's death row, having confessed to a crime he does not remember committing, and to which no physical evidence links him.

Background

Ten years ago Joseph Giarratano, then 22 years old, pleaded guilty to a rape and the double murder of Barbara Kline and her teenage daughter in Norfolk, Virginia. A drug addict and alcoholic, Mr. Giarratano suffered from frequent blackouts, delusions and hallucinations. A victim of serious child abuse, he was addicted to drugs by age 11, and first attempted suicide at age 15.

Joe Giarratano had lived with the

moved out around February 3, then visited the home a few nights later. He awakened from a drug and alcohol-induced blackout to discover their dead bodies. Although Giarratano had no memory of having committed the crimes, in his daze and panic he thought he must have, and fled to Jacksonville, Florida.

"While on the bus," he recently recalled, "I remember feeling like I was going out of my mind. By the time I got off the bus in Jacksonville I had decided I

New evidence has been uncovered in 32-year-old Joe Giarratano's case which could prove his innocence, but so far the Attorney General's office in Virginia has refused to grant a new trial.



By Franklin Photography

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could not be right. . . . After going back and forth several minutes the detective began asking me, "Could it have happened . . ."
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Stuart Lewis

Left: A newsletter highlights the Giarratano case. Virginia Attorney General Mary Sue Terry (right) has willfully withheld evidence which exculpates Giarratano.

that to infer that Joe's boots had made some bloody shoeprints that were found at the scene. We now know from the serologist who testified at the trial that she knew that Joe's boots did not make those prints. She had no idea that they were attempting to draw that inference, because she had tested his boots and clearly they did not make those prints.

What's important is that the Attorney General's response to all of this is to say that the blood could have gotten onto him from Michelle Kline (who wasn't the stabbing victim, she was strangled), that she bled vaginally and that that could have been the source of blood on his boots. But, for example, the sheet that she was found on was put into the lab. No report ever came out. If she had bled vaginally, obviously there would be blood on the sheet. It's real important for us to be able to see the forensic notes from the lab in order to debunk the Commonwealth's rationalizations.

EIR: Has the Attorney General made any statement with

respect to the case outside of her rulings?

Zerkin: Her assistant has written to me saying that he won't give us the stuff because we've raised absolutely no question as to guilt and innocence that would justify it! The Attorney General has made public statements at political meetings saying that she has absolutely no question as to guilt or innocence and, quite frankly, in those speeches, misrepresents in fact what the evidence is. She told a group of Northern Virginia Democrats some time ago that just walking by the body you wouldn't have known that Barbara Kline had been stabbed because there was no blood. In fact there was this enormous pool of blood that came from her right there. This is gross misrepresentation. . . .

I think it's . . . a sign of a system unwilling to concede that it could possibly make a mistake. I think it's a really perverse notion. Rather than taking the position that the Attorney General's office remains a safety net in capital cases, such that when legitimate questions of guilt or innocence are

raised, they will take a responsible position, and therefore reduce the risk of executing innocent persons; instead, they seem to abide by the philosophy that if we admit that it's possible for a mistake to have been made, then that will undermine people's faith in the death penalty. . . . We're the only state in the country that makes no exception for what's called the contemporaneous objection rule in capital cases. The only one. We apply it absolutely strictly. If there's no contemporaneous objection, no objection at the time of trial, then you can't raise the issue [on appeal], no matter how fundamental it is. We make no exceptions in capital cases. . . . Their great tool and their whole theory of litigation is never, ever let the court reach the merits of an issue if you can possibly help it. Get everything knocked out on procedural grounds. And so if you loosen the procedural rules even a bit, you're taking away one of their weapons and you create the possibility that courts might actually reach the *merits* of a claim. And they don't want to see that.

EIR: Let me go back to the merits on this case. Joe Giarratano actually confessed to the killings on five separate occasions in contradictory testimony, and subsequently asked to be killed through the death penalty. How does he feel today about those confessions?

Zerkin: Joe is convinced, as anyone would be, that he essentially made them up, that he was trying to make things make sense. On the first four confessions, he had convinced himself pretty much that he had done it. That's before he discovered the drops of blood on his boot, which really convinced him of it. But he recognizes that he was trying to make all of that make sense. He clearly felt an enormous amount of guilt, because these people were his friends. The fifth confession, the only one with any details, is the one given after the police basically told him what they knew about the crime scene and had a long discussion with him. Then they took down this very detailed confession. Joe recognizes them for what they are, which is that they reflect in his delusional, drug-induced state, what he thought at the time, and recognizes they're a product of his then-mental illness.

EIR: What would you ask the public to do in the remaining month and do you hold out any hope that Governor Wilder will respond?

Zerkin: Yes, indeed, we do hold out hope that he will. But the critical factor from the public's standpoint is to continue the extraordinary demonstration of support, by writing and calling to the governor's office, to demonstrate the fact that they consider this unacceptable, that Joe deserves a new trial, because that is what we're asking for; that he deserves a new trial and the state deserves for him to have a fair trial; that that's what justice requires; and that people are very conscious of the governor's responsibility for what happens here. People need to continue to let him know that.

ADL spying targets anti-war movement

by Herbert Quinde

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is playing an aggressive role in support of the Anglo-American war effort against Iraq by targeting persons and organizations opposed to the war for police state-style repression.

The ADL has provided the CIA and FBI the excuse for opening a 1990s "Anti-War Suspects File," similar to the Vietnam-era COINTELPRO operation, by demanding an investigation of "potential terrorists" and "anti-Semitic" organizations, using the ploy of concern for U.S. national security or civil rights.

The tactic includes the use of *agents provocateurs*, including ADL-financed "counterterrorism" specialists, who are assigned to whip up, largely through media interviews, hysteria over the threat of Iraqi terrorism in the United States. The use of paid ADL operatives infiltrated into neo-Nazi and right-wing sectlets, which are controlled by the intelligence community, to spout anti-Jewish and isolationist propaganda, is also part of the ADL's repertoire of dirty tricks.

FBI Director William Sessions has announced that his agents are on the search for terrorists, although he admits that the possibility of a terrorist incident in this country is "low." Arab-American groups are already charging that FBI activity is harassment.

Who is John Rees?

John Rees of the Maldon Institute is one such agent who has surfaced as a so-called terrorism expert with a Jan. 22 "Counterterrorism" White Paper that is making the rounds of the intelligence, law enforcement, and business communities. The theme of the White Paper is that Saddam Hussein, who plans to make America "swim in its own blood," probably has a terrorist in *your* backyard. The report points out that numerous terrorist groups, including Abu Nidal, have "had infrastructures in the United States and Canada for years." The report targets numerous Palestinian groups based in the U.S., as well as the Nation of Islam, led by Minister Louis Farrakhan, as potential terrorists or terrorist sympathizers who should be targeted for repression.

Besides receiving monies from the ADL, the Maldon Institute gets funding from the Allegheny Foundation and the Carthage Foundation. Both are creatures of Richard Mellon

Scaife, a neo-conservative philanthropist who was a major funding conduit for the "public diplomacy" apparatus exposed during the Iran-Contra scandal.

The Maldon Institute's president is Lawrence Sternfield, identified in their brochures as a retired "senior officer of the Central Intelligence Agency." Sternfield was one of the late William Casey's right-hand men and former CIA station chief in Mexico. Their advisory board includes Raymond Wannall, former number two at the FBI, and British intelligence operative Robert "The Spike" Moss.

Since the late 1960s, the British-born Rees has been a professional informant for U.S. intelligence agencies. Rees was partly to blame for the embarrassing exposé of the FBI's illegal targeting of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES). The *Boston Globe* reported in March 1988 that Rees operated through private right-wing groups to obtain intelligence later used to justify the FBI's illegal surveillance of CISPES.

ADL has long history of spying

According to documents obtained by *EIR* through the the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the ADL is a regular "intelligence source" to the FBI. During the Vietnam war era, the ADL spied on the anti-war movement and civil rights groups. An ADL research and evaluation report dated Oct. 22, 1968 entitled "The Meaning of the SNCC-Black Panther Split," co-authored by then-ADLers Carl Gershman and Jerome Bakst, was prepared for J. Edgar Hoover and conducted through the Los Angeles office of the FBI. Today, Carl Gershman is a member of the Bush administration and serves as the head of the National Endowment for Democracy, the public arm of the Project Democracy network identified as a "secret, parallel government" in the Iran-Contra scandal.

A March 18, 1985 internal FBI memo from the Chicago office reveals that the ADL has continued its spying and provocateur activities into the 1980s. The memo reports a meeting between an ADL representative—the name is deleted—and a Chicago special agent. "The purpose of the meeting," reads the memo, "was to . . . establish a liaison as well as a line of communication so as to receive any allegations of civil rights matters from the ADL." The memo continues, the "ADL is an organization that has conducted extensive information gathering on certain hate groups in America such as the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), neo-Nazi organizations, the Aranian nations [sic], Posse Comitatus [sic], the Lewis Farakan group [sic] and numerous other related groups in America."

The "numerous other" groups include the left wing of the political spectrum, and "progressive groups" have refused to challenge the ADL for fear of being labeled anti-Semitic. During the mid-1980s, the Washington office of the Fact-Finding Division of the ADL, in cooperation with its New York City headquarters, spied on groups critical of the Reagan administration. A by-product of the ADL's spying

was Emory University professor Harvey Klehr's 1988 book, *Far Left of Center: The American Radical Left Today*. The book is an attack on the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador; Clergy and Laity Concerned; Mobilization for Survival; National Lawyers Guild; The Rainbow Coalition; and the Institute for Policy Studies, among others. It was written under a grant from the ADL.

ADL in bed with drug lobby

The ADL is also receiving help from Chip Berlet, a principal with Political Research Associates of Boston, in disrupting the work of anti-war activists by circulating a memo aimed at dividing the broad-based movement, according to an article by Ross Gelbspan in the Jan. 22 *Boston Globe*. The article highlights the role of the "Lyndon LaRouche organization" in anti-war activities across the country and raises the canard of concern about "anti-Semitism" infiltrating the anti-war movement. Gelbspan, who seems to have lost his civil liberties credentials with this piece, also smears former Attorney General Ramsey Clark for opening the door of the movement to "anti-Semites." Gelbspan, who has previously written about First Amendment cases, publishes statements by Leonard Zakim, director of the Boston ADL, commenting on the anti-war movement. But nowhere does Gelbspan state that the ADL was publicly at the forefront of lobbying for a military strike against Iraq.

Berlet, a drug lobby scribbler in the civil liberties community, has previously admitted to having taken money from John Rees to cooperate in a National Security Council-directed attack on Lyndon LaRouche and associates for his opposition to the Contra policy. Berlet has reported that he and Rees worked together as anti-Vietnam War activists in Washington, D.C. in the late 1960s.

Within weeks of Iraq's move into Kuwait last August, the ADL used the antics of a Las Vegas-based cell of the "Christian Identity Skinheads" to open an anti-war suspects file. The Nov. 8 *Las Vegas Sun* reported that the "cell," composed of five women, had written more than 7,000 letters to troops involved in Operation Desert Shield. The letters alleged "Jewish control of America" and warned that if "Aryan" soldiers die "fighting the war for the Jews in Israel, white women in the U.S. will marry non-whites."

Abraham Foxman, national director of the ADL, wrote Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney asking that the letters be identified and intercepted. The FBI was called into the case. The skinhead group seems to be phony. According to Danny Welch of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Klan-watch Project, there is no evidence that skinheads in the Las Vegas area are "strongly organized."

Political prisoner and intelligence expert Lyndon LaRouche has charged that the Klu Klux Klan and related right-wing extremist groups are "front operations for various intelligence services: the FBI and CIA running a lot of it," reported the Feb. 21, 1989 *Village Voice*.

FBI harassment of Arab-Americans attacked

Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) introduced House Concurrent Resolution 56 on Jan. 29 to stave off illegal FBI harassment of Arab-Americans. Many Arab-Americans have been called in for "interviews" by the FBI as an alleged part of their counterterrorism operations, and the Dymally resolution is the first attempt to block moves towards police-state measures being implemented in the U.S. under the pretext of the war in the Gulf.

At a meeting of the Arab-American Institute on Jan. 27, Dymally commented, "These interviews are frightening. This ought not to be taken lightly. We are talking here about Americans, not visitors or foreigners."

The resolution states that "neither the FBI nor any other agency of government shall engage in any investigation or other activities which threaten the civil liberties of citizens and/or other persons of Arab descent, who are legally residing in the U.S."

Noting that Arab-Americans "are the likely victims of hate violence," the resolution encourages agencies "to work with the community leaders in reporting suspicious activities or hate-violence to the FBI."

Earlier in the week, Rep. Dale Kildee (D-Mich.) had warned of the danger of FBI harassment. "By interviewing such a broad range of Arab-American community and business leaders to determine their knowledge of any potential terrorist activities in the United States, the FBI could not but help cast aspersions on all 2½ million Arab-Americans and heighten fears within the Arab-American community of possible reprisals against members of their community.

"I appreciate the difficulty of the FBI's task to fight terrorism in a democracy such as we have here in the

United States," said Kildee. "However, the foundation of our democracy is our respect for and strict enforcement of our civil rights as provided in the American Constitution."

Kuwaitis' hedonism angers congressman

Rep. Romano Mazzoli (D-Ky.) expressed anger at the high-flying lifestyle of Kuwaitis while U.S. troops prepare for an invasion of Kuwait, which was reported in the Jan. 24 *Wall Street Journal*.

When the "allied bombers hit Baghdad last week," Mazzoli said, "Kuwaitis living in splendid exile in Cairo hit the discos. They hit the dance floors, in their hedonistic lifestyle which they have practiced for so many years in their oil-rich sheikhdom which is now called a nation."

Mazzoli noted that many of these Kuwaitis are draft-age young men, "who are boogying their nights away in Cairo, while our Americans and our allied forces are being shot out of the sky and tortured as POWs." The Kuwaiti ambassador, Mazzoli remarked, was trying to get them to "cool it."

Congress seeks sanctions for Baltic crackdown

Both the Senate and the House have voted to restrict credits and other forms of economic assistance to the Soviet Union until they ease their crackdown in the Baltic states.

The House resolution, passed on Jan. 23 by a vote of 417-0, while not calling for immediate sanctions, urges the President to review bilateral relations and to work out a coordinated program of economic sanctions with the Europeans.

The Senate resolution, passed Jan. 24 by a vote of 99-0, called for an immediate suspension of official trade credits to the Soviet Union until the Soviets relinquish control of political institutions in the Baltic states and enter into negotiations with the legitimate governments of those countries.

In a barb at the dirty deals of the Bush administration, Rep. William Lipinski (D-Ill.) said that "the price of Soviet cooperation in liberating Kuwait from the ravages of Saddam Hussein, should not be at the expense of the Baltic republics. . . . If the violence persists, we must take stronger measures to express our rejection of this Soviet behavior."

House GOPer moves to okay assassinations

Rep. Bob McEwen (R-Ohio) introduced a resolution on Jan. 17 to suspend legislation restricting assassinations of political leaders.

McEwen said he wanted to suspend section 2.11 of Executive Order 12333, which forbids such assassinations, "until Iraq has complied fully with all U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning the withdrawal of the Iraqi military forces from Kuwait."

McEwen complained that there was "a cocoon of protection that is placed around [Saddam Hussein] because he holds the position that he holds as leader of his country."

Reintroduction of the draft being considered

February hearings on the sufficiency of the All-Volunteer Force in light of an expected escalating casualty rate for American soldiers in the Gulf, have been indefinitely postponed be-

cause of the political sensitivity of the issue.

Sources on Capitol Hill indicate, however, that very little would have to be done to reintroduce the draft. One source indicated that it would only require changing the termination date of earlier draft legislation.

Although many congressmen were calling for the draft during the initial debate on the Gulf, nobody now wants to take up this politically explosive issue. One source indicated that the draft would become necessary if the war continued until June, as many of the troops would have to be rotated out of the Gulf. Other observers believe that it would have to be instituted even earlier.

Hamilton opposes Bush change in war aims

Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), chairman of the House Joint Economic Committee, complained that President Bush had changed the nature of the Gulf deployment without informing Congress, in response to a question following a presentation at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 21.

Hamilton said that both the President and Congress had been in agreement on the imposition of sanctions against Iraq, while at the same time holding out the possibility of the use of force if sanctions didn't succeed in forcing Iraq out of Kuwait. But, he added, "the President changed his position with regard to the use of force—not me." He said that sanctions were having an effect, and that no one had proven otherwise.

Hamilton said that the war powers authorization of the Constitution was put in the hands of Congress by the Founding Fathers since they "believed

that the decision to go to war was so grave that they would not leave it to one man. But I don't know if people worry about the Constitution anymore."

Hamilton said that the Palestinian problem had to be addressed if there were to be any solution to the Mideast crisis.

Moynihan bill would abolish the CIA

Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.) introduced a bill on Jan. 17 to abolish the CIA and place all intelligence operations under the Department of State. Under the pretext of eliminating the Cold War "secrecy system," the bill would make the Secretary of State the "official primarily responsible for coordinating and managing the gathering of intelligence."

Although much criticism has been leveled concerning CIA covert operations and the validity of its analysis of intelligence data, the transfer of its intelligence functions to the Department of State risks further subordinating intelligence functions to the momentary foreign policy and diplomatic needs of the administration in power, and further destroying independent intelligence-gathering potential.

Wishful thinking infecting some

Rep. Robert Dornan (R-Calif.) has spent a bit too much time in Washington, since he is beginning to believe that the average citizen will act with the same schlemiel-like behavior as the U.S. Congress.

In floor remarks on Jan. 23, Dornan commented that "a lot of decent

people who have been out on the street demonstrating over the last week are starting to pack it in and go home. They realize, as honorable people, that this debate has ended. After an initial round of protests since the House debate and for about a week thereafter, the wind has gone out of the anti-war protesters' sails. That is it for disagreeing with the President's policy."

On Jan. 26, over 200,000 U.S. citizens participated in the anti-war demonstration held in Washington, D.C., with thousands more protesting in other cities throughout the U.S.

No place for Saddam in Bush's new world order

As the United States continues to drop daily more tons of bombs on Iraq and Kuwait than were dropped on Hiroshima, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution to try Saddam Hussein for war crimes.

A resolution passed unanimously in the House on Jan. 23 and in the Senate on Jan. 24, called on the President to recommend to the U.N. Security Council to establish "an International Criminal Tribunal for the purposes of reviewing and prosecuting charges brought by High Contracting Parties regarding violations of the Geneva Conventions resulting from Iraq's illegal invasion and occupation of Kuwait."

Rep. Bob Clement (D-Tenn.) recommended that allied forces shorten the war "by making Saddam a target, by having him arrested if that is possible, and having him tried for the terrorism, for the crimes that he has committed. . . . As we move toward the new world order," said Clement angrily, "it is clear that Saddam has no place in it."

National News

Poverty ignored by Bush, Americans believe

The Jan. 27 *New York Times*, citing a poll which it recently conducted, noted that the majority of people not only think that poverty is getting worse, but that President Bush is doing little or nothing about reversing the trend.

The *New York Times* suggests that a new phase has been entered, with many of the homeless becoming hardened to the grinding poverty, no longer have any hopes of rising out of their misery, and are becoming a permanent underclass. Comparison with conditions in the underdeveloped nations is now commonplace, the paper reports.

H. Ross Perot, an independent Texas multimillionaire commented that if President Bush were so concerned about rape, plunder, and pillage, he should do something about conditions in New York City or Chicago, and not be preoccupied with the troubles of Kuwait.

Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), who was an early leader of the civil rights movement, said, "It's not just this administration. . . . In the Congress or in the private sector, the problems of the poor are just not on the agenda. They're becoming more visible and yet invisible."

Bush buddy too insane even for the USIA

U.S. Information Agency (USIA) director Bruce Gelb has accepted a White House offer to become ambassador to Belgium, the Jan. 26 *Washington Post* reported, amid revelations over his paranoid behavior. Gelb is a longstanding friend of George Bush.

Gelb tells and retells the story of how his classmate George Bush saved him from bullies when he was 14, and has been at the center of a continuous fray since he took office.

Gelb has repeatedly tried to fire Voice of America (VOA) director Richard W. Carlson, a Reaganite who is protected by congressional patrons, and has also moved to subordinate

VOA and Radio Free Europe to his control. His feud with Carlson became so bizarre that at one point, over 1,000 USIA employees were ordered to attend a debate between the two held in the USIA auditorium.

In January, Gelb had his offices virtually torn apart by security agents who had been ordered to look for bugging devices. Several months ago, he called his top staff into his office and announced that he had discovered "evidence" that two staffers had trysted on his office couch after hours, and threatened them with lie detector tests unless the culprits confessed.

Bush caused crackdown, Baltic-Americans charge

George Bush is responsible for the ongoing Soviet crackdown in the Baltic states because of his failure to act last spring, the Estonian-American National Council has charged. The group has documented how Bush and his National Security Adviser Gen. Brent Scowcroft had been personally warned since last spring on steps that might have helped avoid the present crackdown.

"When we met with Bush in April [1990], he explained his lack of support for the Baltics as based on a fear of a repeat of Hungary 1956. Yet Bush's message to Gorbachov has been so mixed and so weak, that, tragically, it has resulted in the very outcome the President feared—Baltic blood in the streets. You can be sure Gorbachov also studied very closely the lack of meaningful U.S. reaction to the massacre of students in Tiananmen Square," council president Juhan Simenson said.

Baltic-American leaders met again with Bush and Scowcroft on two occasions this January and urged Bush to stop "appeasing" Gorbachov.

On Jan. 21, the day before the second meeting, Mari-Ann Rikken of the Council issued a release warning, "We warned the NSC [National Security Council] a week ago that if the U.S. does not punish the Soviets for what they did in Lithuania, they would attack again. Unfortunately, all we heard was rhetoric from the administration—and now Latvians have died at Soviet

hands. How many Balts must die for the U.S. to say 'stop!' in a way the Soviets can understand? . . .

"The President shouldn't worry about losing Soviet 'help' in the Gulf war—the Soviets are only pretending to support the coalition against Saddam Hussein. In reality they continue to aid Iraq's war effort."

After a meeting on Jan. 22 where Baltic-American leaders publicly charged Bush with "appeasement," several leaders who attended the meeting reported harassment to *EIR* that is believed will be traced to the Bush administration.

Farrakhan charges assassination plot

Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, says that the U.S. government plots to assassinate him. "I don't believe that they plan to send me to jail because too many of my people are in there. They know if they leave me out there to talk, more and more people will come to me," he said, the Jan. 23 *Washington Times* reported, citing the *Washington Afro-American*.

According to the *Washington Times*, Farrakhan told a selected group of black reporters that he has decided not to make any more public speeches until the Gulf war is over. The reason for the public silence, he said, are the threats against his life and because he has issued enough warnings. "There is a war coming that will engulf the whole planet, he said," the paper reported.

Judge will not modify Billington sentence

Roanoke County, Virginia Circuit Court Judge Clifford R. Weckstein has refused to schedule argument on motions filed by Michael Billington's attorneys that request modification or suspension of the 77-year sentence Weckstein imposed on Billington on Dec. 1, 1989. An associate of Lyndon LaRouche, Billington was convicted of "securities fraud"—i.e., taking political loans.

Briefly

In a Jan. 14, 1991 letter to Billington's attorneys, Weckstein wrote that he would "decline to reinstate the cause upon the pending docket."

In their papers, Billington's attorneys argued that the disproportionality of the 77-year sentence flies in the face of all federal and state efforts to end sentencing disparities, and "certainly raises the specter of vindictiveness in response to the exercise of a fundamental constitutional right," the right to be tried by a jury of one's peers. As a result, the brief states, Billington received a sentence twice the maximum number of years considered in Virginia's own voluntary sentencing guidelines for the most egregious type of fraud, committed by a five-time prior felony offender.

Judge Weckstein's latest outrageous ruling is expected to be appealed to a higher court.

Fifty thousand march for life in capital

The March For Life reports that 50,000 people converged on Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22, the 18th anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade* that proclaimed that unborn children have no constitutional protection.

Concern over the war in the Persian Gulf and the possibility of terrorism kept thousands of pro-lifers from participating in the march. The National Right to Life Federation reports that more than a dozen expected buses did not travel from Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey for these reasons.

Speakers included U.S. Reps. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.), Robert Dornan (R-Calif.), Barbara Vucanovich (R-Nev.), and Chris Smith (R-N.J.), Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), and Sheriff Ruben Rodriguez of the National Association of Officers for Life. President Bush urged the crowd via telephone hook-up to keep up the fight to reverse *Roe v. Wade* in the Congress, state legislatures, and the courts.

Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.) referred to the "volatile events unfolding in the Persian Gulf," saying we can draw lessons from the

war for those who struggle "to end the holocaust that destroys 4,000 babies every day. . . . The first is the lesson of cost—what are we willing to pay to achieve protection for the unborn." He said it was about time that those in journalism, medicine, education, religion, social services, and politics "who know the truth about abortion faced up to the cost—and take a bold stand for life." The second lesson, Smith said, is the "crafting of a prudent strategy coupled with total commitment."

While the majority of marchers carried signs emphasizing "life is the natural choice," others opposing the President's war were evident. It is conservatively estimated that about 27 million lives have been taken through abortion in the U.S. since *Roe v. Wade*.

War puts no claim on loyalty, says Sobran

"No, I don't consider that Mr. Bush establishes a sudden claim to my loyalty by pulling the trigger," writes conservative intellectual Joseph Sobran in the Jan. 29 *Washington Times*. George Bush "is the sort of politician our Founding Fathers were trying to prevent. I love this country enough to keep trying to protect it from him."

Sobran ridicules the idea that now that an unjust and crazy war has started, everybody must rally around the President. This is a polemic against his colleague Pat Buchanan, who opposed the war before shooting started, but is now acting as the "loyal opposition," recently stating that the United States must now win the conflict decisively.

"Dan Quayle wants the peace movement to be treated as an eccentric fringe. . . . But the anti-war movement this time is distinguished by its evident patriotism," Sobran writes.

"If there were any chance that Hussein could light up the skies over Washington as we are lighting up the skies over Baghdad, Mr. Bush would not be taunting Saddam and calling him a Hitler; he would be negotiating and posing for photographers with him and calling him 'our partner in the peace process.'"

● **U.S. PILOTS** who fly the F-117A Stealth bombers listen to heavy metal rock music to prepare for assaults on Iraq, according to a Reuters wire from Saudi Arabia. The pilots, who sleep during the day and fly at night, call themselves the "Ghostly Horsemen."

● **OSCAR WYATT Jr.**, chairman of Coastal Corp., told the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Jan. 22, "I have five sons, and I don't want them or any of your sons to be the white slaves of an Arab monarch." Wyatt said that "The mentality of the people we are defending is that they think they can buy their liberty with our blood."

● **THE ANTI-DRUG** war in Boston, Massachusetts, was dealt a setback in 1990 as leaner police budgets resulted in a sharp drop in drug seizures by state and local police, the Jan. 21 *Boston Globe* reported. The State Police laboratory in Boston reported a drop of 19%, or 850 fewer cases, in 1990.

● **REP. EDWARD** Madigan (R-Ill.), the ranking Republican on the House Agriculture Committee, has been nominated by President Bush to become the new secretary of agriculture. There is no indication that the food cartels' control of the USDA will be changed.

● **HANDS OFF**, a group assisting in the legal defense of conscientious objectors, reported that there are around 1,000-2,000 CO applications in from all the services, at a Jan. 25 press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

● **A COMMENTARY** by Lyndon LaRouche associate Steve Douglas was published by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on Jan. 26, in response to the paper's "Norplant" editorial calling for forced birth control against the poor. The commentary was headlined, "We Need Steel Plants . . . not Norplants!"

The United States needs more patriots

Recently Lyndon LaRouche quipped to a friend, "If the United States had more patriots, I would be in the White House."

The ironies in his little joke are manifold. First there is the fact that the stocks of Patriot missiles are so low, that European defenses are being stripped in order to support the Bush-Thatcher Gulf war. This, while the Soviets are reestablishing their military occupation of the Baltic republics and the other Soviet republics, and implicitly threatening the newly liberated nations of Eastern Europe as well.

The bloom has worn off the Bush-Thatcher romance with Mikhail Gorbachov, and even the worst fools in London and Washington are being forced to recognize unmistakable signals from the Soviets that the Cold War is by no means over, and the series of blunders which have characterized Anglo-American policy is being mercilessly exposed.

There is another irony. The Patriot missile is manifestly not a good tactical defense weapon with which to guard a populous area from missile attack. Had the United States adopted LaRouche's program for the development of a laser defense system based upon the most advanced physical principles—the initial conception of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative—this problem would never have arisen.

This is so, not because the "coalition" would have had an appropriate anti-missile defense system on hand, one which could have provided a virtually fail-safe defense (which is true), but because the present war would not be being fought. A United States which would have gone with a crash program to develop the SDI along the lines specified by LaRouche would now be benefiting from a massive infusion of technology to its civilian economy.

It would have no need to view the more productive German and Japanese economies as rivals—to be destroyed. It would not need to use oil and food as weapons in such economic warfare. It would not be aligning with the British to impose Anglo-American imperial rule over the rest of the world.

Over the past decade, LaRouche has been warning

that while the Soviets attacked any moves by the U.S. to implement the SDI, they themselves were developing advanced defense systems along these lines, as well as highly mobile radio frequency devices which could be used under battle conditions. Now it appears possible that the Iraqis have been provided with such weaponry.

The Brazilian newspaper *O Globo* carried an article on Jan. 24 reporting that Marco Bini, a professor at the Electromagnetic Wave Research Institute in Florence, Italy believes that the Iraqis have been creating artificial magnetic storms which have been used to down Tornado aircraft. He claims that this technology has fooled the radar of the planes and also has been used by the Iraqis as a substitute for radar detection of incoming targets.

The problems with the Patriot missiles as an area defense system are coming to public notice. According to Pentagon releases, Scuds cost on the order of \$400,000 apiece, while Patriots have a \$1 million price tag. Apparently, under present battle conditions, it takes two Patriot missiles to down one Scud.

Not only does debris from the strike rain down on the civilian populations in Israel and Saudi Arabia, but a Patriot which does not hit its target will return to earth to do damage. It is also the case that Scuds have released their warheads despite the fact that they were destroyed by a Patriot.

The problem lies in the fact that the Patriot was designed for a particular, restricted mission. It was intended to defend missile sites which usually are situated in isolated areas. In such a case, if the incoming missile is deflected from its target and then hits the ground, this is counted a success. Obviously, just the opposite is the case in an urban setting.

However, Iraq is not really the issue. We are presently in the early stages of a global war, which could involve 800 million members of the Muslim faith—and this is only the beginning. Now, if ever, is the time for real patriots to come to the fore: Americans who, like George Washington, are willing to risk all, to fight to defend republican principles, and defeat the evil British oligarchy and its domestic supporters.

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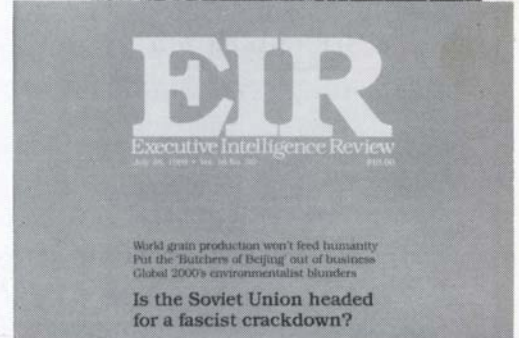


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