

been lured by the MAD deterrence doctrine, which has made the beam-weapons debate the centerpiece, directly or indirectly, of European foreign and military policy debates at this time. The accompanying articles give a more reticulated idea of the form this debate takes in the strategically decisive European countries.

The controlled environment which existed prior to the President's March 23 speech was radically broken at that time, a fact whose potential has been increasingly realized in the intervening months. The question of whether to go with President Reagan's policy or risk the only alternative—Finlandization or worse—is cutting across party lines in Western Europe. One dramatic example of the political upheavals beginning to take place on the continent was the recent speech given by Bavarian Governor Franz-Josef Strauss at the Hanns

Seidel Foundation. Strauss, the head of the highly conservative Christian Social Union, roundly chastized his government for refusing to back President Reagan's action against Soviet-directed operations in Grenada. In the process, Strauss cut through the arguments being posed by some among the President's detractors, who sanctimoniously raised the issue of national sovereignty as an excuse to continue, in fact, their practice of condemning any signs of strength in American policy.

Strauss pointed out that in the 1930s, had the allies acted from a standpoint of a true understanding of the meaning of national sovereignty, they would have been morally bound to interfere in the "internal affairs" of Germany's Hitler regime. The world would then have been spared the necessity of undergoing the trauma of World War II.

ROME CONFERENCE REPORT

Political and military leaders deliberate on beam-weapons potential

A conference in Rome titled "Beam Weapons: The Implications for Western Europe," sponsored on Nov. 9 by the *EIR* and the Fusion Energy Foundation, turned out to be a milestone in American-European strategic deliberations. More than 120 persons, representing the military, major industries, research and development centers, and the media, as well as diplomats from more than 20 European and Third World embassies, gathered to follow the debate of military and scientific experts on beam weapon technology.

The goal of the conference, part of a series of such events in Western Europe and North America organized by the *EIR* and FEF, was to get to the heart of the controversy over the new strategic doctrine announced by President Ronald Reagan on March 23, 1983, when he called upon U.S. scientists to develop new technologies capable of rendering nuclear missiles "impotent and obsolete"—beam-weapons.

Never before has such an informed and distinguished panel on the subject been assembled for public discussion by any private group. Along with former U.S. Ground Forces Commander Gen. (ret.) Volney Warner, the panel included space warfare expert Gen. (ret.) Giulio Macri of the Italian army, a former commander of the Tank Warfare Training school in Sardinia and head of the Italian delegation at SHAPE; Gen. Antonio Pelliccia, a fighter pilot and president of a working group at NATO's SHAPE, as well as vice-commander of NATO War College; Col. (ret.) Marc Geneste, currently an engineer at the Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique; Gen. (ret.) Revault d'Allonnes, a Compagnon de la

Libération, and one of the closest associates of the late Gen. Charles de Gaulle; Col. Hans (ret.) Seuberlich of the West German army, a vice-president of the European Organization of Military Associations; Dr. Piers Wooley, economist and military expert from Great Britain, who worked for the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London and has advised the Conservative Party on security and economic affairs; *EIR* Executive Director in Europe Michael Liebig; and physicist Prof. Giuseppe Filippini, president of the FEF in Italy.

A featured speaker and moving force in organizing the conference was the American political figure Lyndon LaRouche, who has campaigned for the development of defensive beam technologies since 1977.

As Fiorella Operto, the chairman of the European Labor Party in Italy, asserted in her opening remarks, the governments of the Western Alliance face the challenge of cooperation in a rapid crash-program for the development of beam systems before the end of the 1980s. She invoked the great tradition of the European Renaissance, challenging the audience to revitalize the research and development capabilities of Italy, the nation of Dante and the great Leonardo da Vinci, as a model for the allied partners.

The conference itself was the occasion of an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation between pro-beam forces and the Italian government of Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, a creation of Henry Kissinger and the Trilateral Commission. Ferocious counter-organizing by Kissinger-allied circles aimed at stop-

ping the conference proved a dismal failure. The success of the event was assured by the intervention of high-level political, intelligence, and military circles internationally.

LaRouche, *EIR* founder and the only opponent of the nuclear freeze contending for the Democratic Party presidential nomination, described his role in organizing for the new U.S. strategic doctrine, including "back-channel" discussions with Soviet representatives conducted with the knowledge of the relevant U.S. authorities prior to President Reagan's March 23 announcement. "The Soviet government has no serious technical disagreement with any part of the strategic package I have outlined," LaRouche declared. Yet Moscow rejected the President's generous offer to negotiate on beam systems. "The Soviet Union has made purely cosmetic offers of willingness to negotiate with the U.S.A., including back-channel discussions with Henry Kissinger, but has never made any substantive negotiation effort with the President," said LaRouche. It has been consistent Soviet policy, "never to negotiate with President Reagan since Andropov succeeded Brezhnev."

The Soviet leaders are waiting to negotiate with one of Reagan's eight pro-nuclear freeze opponents among leading candidates for the Democratic Party presidential nomination. "The Soviet leadership is fearful of the United States' potential to pull off an economic miracle of recovery through aid of a high-technology crash-program like the early NASA effort. By rejecting the President's offer, the Soviets have committed themselves to an early thermonuclear confrontation, seeking to accomplish a historically decisive humiliation of the United States.

"Therefore, Lebanon and Beirut are no isolated phenomena, but part of one package," said LaRouche. "The stubborn defense of the principle of sovereignty of nations in the case of Lebanon by President Reagan and his assistance to the threatened states of the Caribbean in the case of the Soviet military coup in Grenada, has won back lost credibility of the U.S. government from among growing portions of the citizenry and among portions of the United States' allies."

This new credibility, LaRouche said, must be used to mobilize Western Europe and North America to enter jointly into a cooperative economic mobilization modeled upon the U.S. mobilization of 1939-43. "Is it still possible to avoid thermonuclear war? No one on Earth knows. Perhaps it is already too late, but we have no available course of action but to try. Nothing can possibly succeed except negotiations on the basis of the strategic doctrine of March 23."

A new policy for the alliance

The implications of such a cooperation effort among the partners of the NATO alliance were debated by a panel of distinguished military and scientific experts. "Scientists got us into the nuclear system in the 1940s, now they have to get us out of it in the 1980s," said General Warner. He emphasized that what is needed now is an *organization*, to provide the needed financial, political, and scientific resources for an

American-European beam effort.

"We have to make sure that NATO does not oppose the beam weapon effort," he added, expressing his conviction that "there is nothing more important than beam weapon systems now. We went 'MAD,' if you will, some time ago," he said. "If the Soviets join our effort, it will be good; if they don't, we have to do it anyway; it doesn't make a difference." General Warner called on the assembly to help build the necessary organization for a joint beam effort in the U.S. and in Western Europe "to have a system in the heavens in the year 2000, when all other systems will have run out."

Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum of the Fusion Energy Foundation outlined the technical requirements of a crash program to provide a functioning beam-defense system in the 1980s. A corresponding European crash program in the strategic as well as tactical field, emphasizing ground-based chemical lasers as well as lasers launched from vessels or bombers, is the only way to defend Europe against nuclear missiles, whether ICBM or non-ICBM, within the atmosphere, he said.

EIR's Liebig reminded the audience that we are already in an ongoing beam ABM arms race, since the Soviets are building beams. "If we do not deploy beam systems before the end of the decade, the Soviets will have a first strike capability without having to fear a U.S. counterstrike, which they would see as a calculable risk," he said. "This will not fundamentally change through the MX and Pershings. Beams are a strategic must, the U.S. strategic triad and flexible response are no longer valid." Only the development of layered and nested complementary point-defense and area-defense beam weapon systems in Western Europe can supply the backbone of a credible strategic posture.

Gen. Macri challenged NATO governments to go for a crash program which could lead to the loss of Soviet superiority in beams within the next three to five years. Europe must be freed from the grip of fear of the Soviet threat. "It is European backwardness in beams R&D and the financial investments needed for such a program which necessitates close cooperation with the U.S.," he added, outlining how the technical expertise of the Italian Army as well as the nation's highly specialized defense-related industries makes Italy well-equipped to realize this goal. Chemical laser capabilities, in particular, exist in Italy, and, as Professor Filippini of the FEF added, the particle accelerators now under construction in Padua and Catania, together with the ENEA work on plasma confinement, place a special responsibility on Italian electronics and defense, as well as aeronautics and space-related industries. "And let us not forget that this will spark the badly needed economic recovery in this country. This is an opportunity we must not miss," Dr. Filippini concluded.

Dr. Wooley criticized the economic austerity policies of the Thatcher government as typifying the main obstacle to a beam weapon effort and defense planning in general. General d'Allonnes referred to the upcoming European summit in

Athens Dec. 5-6, where industrial policy is listed as a secondary topic on the agenda, and beam weapons will not be discussed at all. "Some countries might have an interest in exploding a sort of a 'bomb' in Athens," he hinted. The general reminded participants of the Bonn *EIR* seminar on beam weapons on Oct. 5, when "each one of us went back into his country trying to convince governments and the military of the urgency of such a policy." The recent admission by French Defense Minister Charles Hernu of a significant French R&D effort on beams is due to "our influence . . . it is a very great success for all of us here."

The role of West Germany

A significant role in the required West European effort for these new defensive systems must be played by West Germany, all speakers agreed. Colonel Seuberlich reminded everyone of the precarious psychological situation gripping his nation, situated on the dividing line between NATO and Warsaw Pact and now plagued by the Soviet KGB-run peace movement.

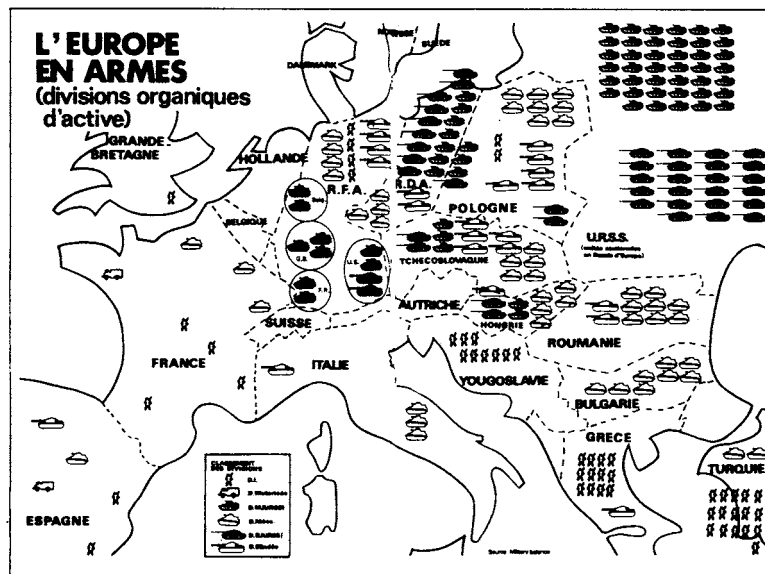
Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairman of the European Labor Party in West Germany and founder of the international Club of Life, gave a detailed briefing on the backers of the "peace movement, and explained how the cultural pessimism which pervades much of the western world today can be overcome as part of the broader cultural transformation which a beam defense policy must initiate."

"If we look at Western Europe from the outside today, we see a dying continent, a degenerating civilization. In West Germany this escalates into a collective psychosis called anti-industrialism." She called for a fundamental epistemological debate to once and for all root out the absurd thesis of the Club of Rome and its Malthusian offsprings, drawing enthusiastic applause when she advised Romans to expel this evil of the Club of Rome from this beautiful city, if necessary "by

medieval means." "Their philosophy brought us Hitler and Mussolini, the Third Reich idea of such irrationalists as Nietzsche and the national-bolshevist wing of the Nazi movement," she told the audience. "These people were anti-nation state and pro-separatist just as the peace movement is today, which is the exact replay of this irrationalist, fascist cult, now played by a corresponding irrationalist cultural matrix in Russia."

As a model for achieving world peace today, she cited the ontologically principled system of *concordantia* developed by the great Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa in the 15th century, whose Christian notion of evolution characterized human reason as guided by the same principles and laws as the evolution of the universe as a whole. Under Cusa, there arose a new conception of political society, of universal natural law, and an eruption of scientific progress unlike anything the world has seen since. This was exactly the purpose of the Council of Florence of 1439, when the friends of Cusa met with the representatives of the Paleologues to the purpose of uniting East and West under the common banner of the *flioque*.

Proceeding from Mutually Assured Destruction to Mutually Assured Survival, said Zepp-LaRouche, is not only a strategic-political necessity, but will serve the aim of uniting nations to a higher purpose and overcoming the flawed conception of military alliances which our nations have adopted during the past decades. At the same time, she concluded, the reversal of the gravest world economic crisis in history depends not only on scrapping the International Monetary Fund's genocide against the Third World and disintegration of the industrialized nations, but on introducing the needed technologies associated with directed-energy beams, a laser revolution. This is the secret of the new doctrine, a more fundamental approach to politics, which is expressed in the founding principle of the Club of Life: "Peace means development."



Europe in Arms: reprinted from Echec à la guerre: la bombe à neutrons, by Samuel T. Cohen and Marc Geneste. Col. Geneste, who used this map in a slide presentation in New York City on Nov. 1, commented that the artist has perhaps inadvertently captured a tragic irony: the Western tanks are all headed in the wrong direction!