

National News

State Department defends Moscow's honor

In an attempt to counter the efforts of Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to expose Soviet arms treaty violations, private congressional testimony by State Department officials has been made public, claiming that the Soviets have in fact honored their treaty obligations.

According to press leaks, Lt.-Gen. John Chain, then director of Politico-Military Affairs at the State Department, told a closed session of the Senate Armed Services Committee in February 1985, that Moscow has complied with the vast majority of important arms-control provisions. Chain warned that the United States would risk starting an arms race that it might lose, if it responds to "purported" violations by breaking out of SALT II's restraints.

In his report, "U.S. Response to Soviet Treaty Violations," leaked to the press the week of Jan. 6, Weinberger urged Reagan to do just that. Chain claimed that if the United States abandoned even some treaty limits, it could be at a severe disadvantage, since the Soviets do not need public support for a military buildup.

Weinberger attacks Gramm-Rudman law

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger blasted the Gramm-Rudman law during a news conference on Jan. 15, saying that sweeping cutbacks forced on the Pentagon by the budget-balancing law will have an adverse impact on the military buildup and the nation's security. Although the Pentagon exempted the Strategic Defense Initiative and military personnel from the cuts, Weinberger said, "My worry is that everything else will have a loss of momentum, will be slowed down, will be managed less effectively and will cost more in the long run. We'll be less ready now, less ready in the future. It [the cuts] will have an adverse effect on national security. We have to be

ready . . . for contingencies that come up from day to day."

"Literally every aspect of the defense budget has been affected by Gramm-Rudman," said Pentagon comptroller Robert Helm. "The practical effect of the reductions under Gramm-Rudman is that we have underfunded the budget that Congress approved." Military cuts of \$13.3 billion under Gramm-Rudman translate into down payments for ships, planes and other items authorized this year and spent later. The mandated reductions of at least 4.9% cut across all the branches of the service and major weapons programs, including the MX missiles, the Trident missile submarine, and the B-1B bomber.

Gov. Lamm sneers at U.S. traditions

Gov. Richard Lamm of Colorado, who attracted national revulsion in 1984 by calling for the old and sick to die as a cost-cutting measure, showed up at Georgetown University Law School in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 13 to boost his latest book, *The Immigration Time Bomb*. The book deals with the issues underlying the debate on the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration law.

Lamm said he agreed with bill's premise—that the U. S. must end its historic role as a "temple of liberty and beacon of hope" for mankind. Limited resources, limited jobs, but first and foremost, the Gramm-Rudman budget-slashing amendment, will now force the United States to close its doors, according to Lamm.

In the question period, a man in the audience pointed out that each of the statistics Lamm used to support the contention that we are in an age of scarcity is false, and the real purpose Lamm has in citing them is to support his attack on the American ideal. He asked Lamm "if, in fact, it is not *your* ideas which are the oldest of all, ideas which our country was created to correct?"

Losing his grip on himself (and also on his audience) a bit, Governor Lamm answered such charges: "Hey, I've been named Humanitarian of the Year by the Colorado Civil Rights Association. . . . You can't get

me for not being humanitarian. . . ."

Members of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), who called for Lamm to be tried under the Nuremberg statutes for promoting Nazi euthanasia, were shoved out of the room by the Dean of the Law School, who made the surprising admission that he would "rather defend Adolf Hitler than Lyndon LaRouche," a leading NDPC supporter.

Post-Mondale Dems are going broke

Fundraising for key national Democratic Party entities "has been bleak as hell" this year, a top party fundraiser has admitted. Roger Craver, whose firm Craver, Matthew and Smith, handles direct-mail fundraising for the Democratic Congressional and Senate campaign committees, and, until recently, the Democratic National Committee, moaned to to the *Washington Post* on Jan. 15 that "I have never seen that much drop-off after an election," as he has in the post-1984 election period.

Episcopalians get a new head

Bishop Edmond Lee Browning, 56, was named the 24th presiding bishop of the U.S. branch of the Episcopal church, and immediately promised to adopt a "pastoral" and compassionate attitude towards homosexuals in the church, and to make the church "more of a multicultural body."

As head of the worldwide Anglican Communion, he declared: "There will be no outcasts. The hopes and convictions of all will be listened to and respected and honored. Do not ask me to honor one set of views and disregard the other."

Browning was the spiritual leader of the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii from 1975, and will serve a 12-year term as presiding bishop.

This spring Browning will meet the church leaders in Canada and will push for

women bishops. The Episcopalians, who have always had a high percentage of American "blue-bloods" and political and corporate elite among their ranks, now plan to move into the poor, southern, black regions.

The cost of AIDS to the United States

AIDS has cost America \$6 billion so far, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), speaking of the first 10,000 deceased victims.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health and the CDC estimate of the national financial burden includes hospital expenses and lost work time. CDC expert Ann Hardy said, "We as a society should be concerned about potential losses from disability and premature death."

So far 1,677,900 hospital patient days at an average total cost of \$147,000 per patient have been expended, although the San Francisco hospital reported an average cost of \$23,000. (The inflated figure may be an effort to justify euthanasia, since it came from the insurance companies.)

Average patient survival time is 56 weeks, with one month in the hospital. The financial burden for all infectious diseases is \$10 to \$20 billion a year nationwide; AIDS could increase this by half.

Corrupt court upholds LaRouche v. NBC ruling

The case of *LaRouche v. NBC* will go into a new phase of appeal following another corrupt ruling, this time by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

On Jan. 9, a three-judge panel for the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals ignored the weighty constitutional issues in the case, and affirmed the rulings of Judge James Cacheris in *LaRouche v. NBC*, the suit initiated by presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche in 1984 after he was libeled by the network. The case will be appealed either as an *en banc* appeal to the entire Fourth

Circuit or, a more likely possibility, to the United States Supreme Court.

On whether NBC's unnamed confidential sources could be accepted as evidence in court, the panel skirted the issue, adopting the lying arguments of NBC, that there was no need for the court to order disclosure, since an article in a LaRouche-associated newspaper, which NBC entered into evidence, claimed that these sources were already known to the plaintiff. In fact, the article in question said no such thing.

On the issue of the mistrial due to prejudicial articles in the *Washington Post*, the panel claimed that the district court followed the correct procedure for interrogating jurors, and that it was satisfied that the jury had not been tainted. This point is an incredible assertion of procedure over substance, since the scandalous *Washington Post* articles in question clearly tainted the entire jury, not just the two individual jurors who were questioned.

On the issue of NBC's counterclaim, the panel acknowledged that while the "harm" (allegedly created by the cancellation of an interview with Daniel Patrick Moynihan) to NBC was "slight," the jury could "have found some injury." On the basis of this trivial and speculative evidence, the court upheld a quarter-million-dollar judgment against LaRouche.

U.S. airport security said inadequate

Security at many U.S. airports is inadequate and a "sure invitation for trouble," Rep. Mario Biaggi (D-NY) said on Jan. 14, in calling for immediate changes in existing airport security procedures. Biaggi said he would push to have airport security operations exempt from deep budget cuts required by Gramm-Rudman, which he said would slash FY86 spending at the Federal Aviation Administration by \$55 million and threaten FAA plans to hire additional security inspectors. A new congressional report released on Jan. 14 found the FAA police force at National and Dulles airports are understaffed, inexperienced and suffering severe morale problems.

Briefly

● **JEWISH COMMUNITY** Council President Barry Ungar of Philadelphia denounced radical Zionist Meir Kahane's most recent demand that all Arabs be thrown out of Israel. Ungar said Kahane's proposal is "a dangerously short step" away from the Nazis' efforts to rid Germany of Jews.

● **CARTER-ERA CIA** chief Stansfield Turner has called for dismantling the Navy, Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps intelligence organizations and centralizing their functions in the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), created by Robert S. McNamara.

● **MASSACHUSETTS** Gov. Michael Dukakis signed legislation in January to curb acid rain, citing a state study of 400 damaged lakes, based on water samples from any lake mailed in by anybody who cared to do so. None of the sources were checked by the government, and no questions raised about possible tampering.

● **AIDS** will be contracted by many more people exposed to the disease than originally thought, according to Dr. Harold Jaffe of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Jaffe told a conference in Martinique in mid-January among the CDC's 1982 test group of 80 people, "more than six years after the start of follow-up, those exposed are still coming down with AIDS."

● **GEORGE SHULTZ** for President? Zbigniew Brzezinski is predicting that Secretary of State Shultz is preparing to run for President. As evidence, Brzezinski cites Shultz's objections to the polygraph test, his "strong stand against terrorism," and his recent conversion to the use of a prompting device to improve his speaking style.