

EIR

Executive Intelligence Review

September 2, 1988 • Vol. 15 No. 35

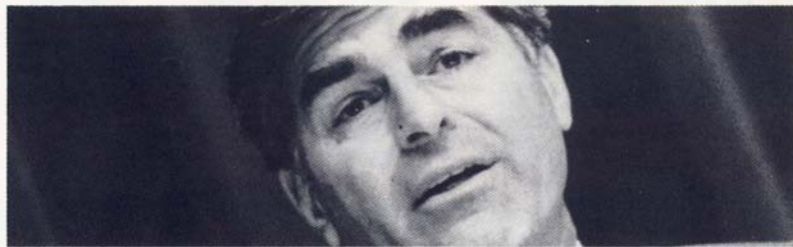
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Truth comes out about the x-ray laser
Dukakis picks on the mentally ill
Environmentalists saved Africa's locusts

**Russia's struggle to
seize the Holy Places**



What Michael Dukakis's personal physician did not report . . .



Pablo Escobar, the kingpin of the "Medellín Cartel," world's biggest cocaine trafficking ring, sent Dukakis a letter last spring praising his "very realistic" stand on drug control, according to the Colombian weekly *Semana*.

Daniel Ortega, the Sandinista President of Nicaragua, thinks "the victory of the Democratic candidate for the White House, Michael Dukakis, would improve the situation in Central America," according to the Italian Communist Party newspaper, Aug. 16, 1988.

Dukakis is "a very efficient governor, very active, with a healthy economic management, and big popularity in the state of Massachusetts," says **Radomir Georghevich Bogdanov**, vice-director of the U.S.A.-Canada Institute in Moscow, in an interview with Italy's *La Repubblica* newspaper on Aug. 15, which predicts that Dukakis will beat Bush in November.

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Dukakis's mental health: an objective assessment

EIR's 16-page supplement begins with Lyndon LaRouche's article, "I never claimed Dukakis had been cured." It includes: a profile of the historical parallel between Dukakis and Mussolini; the leaflet that started the controversy, and the full documentation to substantiate it; the case of Stelian Dukakis; and the story of Dukakis's official witch, Laurie Cabot.

EIR

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EIR/Executive Intelligence Review (ISSN 0273-6314) is published weekly (50 issues) except for the second week of July and last week of December by New Solidarity International Press Service P.O. Box 65178, Washington, DC 20035 (202) 457-8840

European Headquarters: Executive Intelligence Review Nachrichtenagentur GmbH, Postfach 2308, Dotzheimerstrasse 166, D-6200 Wiesbaden, Federal Republic of Germany
Tel: (06121) 8840. Executive Directors: Anno Hellenbroich, Michael Liebig

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

In Mexico: EIR, Francisco Díaz Covarrubias 54 A-3 Colonia San Rafael, Mexico DF. Tel: 705-1295.

Japan subscription sales: O.T.O. Research Corporation, Takeuchi Bldg., 1-34-12 Takatanobaba, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo 160. Tel: (03) 208-7821.

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Postmaster: Send all address changes to EIR, P.O. Box 17390, Washington, D.C. 20041-0390.

From the Editor

This week's cover story, tracing the history of the Russian blood-and-soil cult's designs on the Holy Land, is doubly important for understanding the breaking events of late summer 1988. Muriel Mirak's feature article sheds light on the unfolding tragedy in Israel and its occupied territories; it also puts into perspective the upheaval in the Soviet-occupied nations of Eastern Europe, at a point when all the liberal Establishment's efforts to shore up Gorbachov's fortunes may soon come to nought (see stories, pp. 44-47).

It is crucially important, in these circumstances, to understand the historical roots of the theocratic dream of Moscow "the third and final Rome," capital of a world empire fiercely opposed to all Western concepts of the the divine spark of reason inherent in each individual.

The fight for science and reason at this juncture is highlighted in two sections of this issue:

● **The food crisis.** In *Economics* is our exclusive table showing the worldwide picture of food shortages. The tragedy leads with a locust plague in Sudan described as the "worst in 1,000 years." An exclusive report from noted entomologist J. Gordon Edwards documents how the most effective and safest-to-humans pesticide against the locust was banned in the United States in 1974, not for scientific reasons, but for political ones. Millions of lives were saved in the 1950s and 1960s thanks to dieldrin.

● **The x-ray laser.** In *Science and Technology*, we present the first in a series of articles reporting on the total vindication of the most exciting component of the SDI—the x-ray laser—thanks to a declassification breakthrough that has enabled Dr. Edward Teller to back up his confidence in this technology, against all the liberal detractors. All "technical" arguments against a crash development and deployment program for SDI have fallen to the ground, exposing the program's foes as the political flunkies of the Ogarkov regime, which is far ahead of the United States in developing the x-ray laser.

In both cases, *EIR* was the first publication to campaign internationally for these technologies, against some of the greatest threats mankind faces. Our policies must be imposed now, before it is too late.

Nora Hamerman

EIR Contents

Interviews

14 Michel Lecoq

The head of PRIFAS, a French organization specialized in fighting locusts, discusses the use of the pesticide dieldrin.

Book Reviews

30 NATO is into chaos

Warren Hamerman reviews *Chaos in Biological Systems* by H. Degen et al. eds.

AIDS Update

16 German physicians fed up with 'condom education,' seek public health steps

70 AIDS victim awarded damages for 'slander'

71 Study admits twice as many AIDS victims

Departments

55 From New Delhi

India reacts to Pakistan tragedy.

56 Report from Bonn

Hostage to crime and terrorism.

57 Northern Flank

Abu Nidal's cells tolerated in Sweden.

58 Andean Report

No bailout for poor Venezuela.

59 Report from Rio

Citibank saves its finance minister.

72 Editorial

Congress and the drug issue.

Science & Technology

24 The truth comes out about the x-ray laser

Charles B. Stevens reports the declassification breakthrough that allowed Edward Teller to reveal the facts on a defensive super-weapon, on which, until now, only *EIR* has given accurate reports.

Documentation: Teller, *EIR* record on the x-ray laser.

Economics

4 Interest rates and prices skyrocket

The fiscal and financial expectations of the U.S. government have been shattered once again.

6 Nine million tons of food exports needed

EIR's calculation of the requirement to meet survival grain levels for 66 nations, even before the full effects of drought, floods, and locusts are known.

8 The dieldrin story: How U.S. environmentalists ensured the survival of locusts in Africa

Entomologist G. Gordon Edwards reports that, at a time of locust plague in Africa, the most effective weapon has been excluded from the fight.

15 Currency Rates

16 AIDS: German physicians fed up with 'condom education,' seek public health steps

17 Argentina: Alfonsín booed over IMF shock plan

19 International Credit

That European Central Bank plan.

20 Banking

Drought hits the farm banks.

21 Energy Insider

Two more utilities face bankruptcy.

22 Business Briefs

Feature



Stuart Lewis

The oldest Muslim shrine, the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. Inset: Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Filaret of Minsk, the Moscow Patriarchate official who recently went to Israel.

32 Matushka Rus and the fight to seize the Holy Places

The Soviet plan is to exalt the Russian Church into the hegemonic force within orthodoxy, and from there to bid for the leadership of Christendom as a whole. Muriel Mirak reports on this thousand-year-old Russian imperial dream, which has taken on new life in recent months under the aegis of the Reagan-Gorbachov summits and "regional peace accords."

International

44 Captive nations protest against Soviet oppression

The crisis of national unrest sweeping the Russian empire is rapidly coming to a head, in Poland, the Baltic republics, and the Ukraine.

46 Polish crisis: more unrest to come

48 Pakistan tensions are muted following the death of Zia

49 IRA sets off summer terror vs. Britain

The attacks on British soldiers are only an element of a continent-wide Soviet-backed wave of irregular warfare.

51 Kissinger, Abrams threaten Mexico

The international banking oligarchy wants to impose its presidential candidate—at all costs.

53 Dreams or reality: bidding for the Gulf

54 How the Nazis ruined musical tuning

Goebbels's Radio Berlin organized the conference which decided to tune the "Concert A" to 440 Hertz.

60 International Intelligence

National

62 U.S. allies 'horrified' at prospect of Dukakis

But spokesmen for the Soviet Union have made it abundantly clear that the Massachusetts governor is their choice for President.

64 Three suspects held in assault on EIR's Benton

65 Dukakis meat-axes funds for mentally ill

66 LaRouche Dem builds Oklahoma machine

68 Elephants & Donkeys

Vets jeer Democrats.

69 Eye on Washington

Bias threatens to undo media.

70 National News

Correction: Two errors crept into *EIR's* coverage of the global food crisis in recent weeks. In our Aug. 12 issue, on page 5, it was stated that "food riots have broken out throughout Eastern Europe." Although food has become a major political issue in unrest in the socialist sector, we have no reports of food riots there as yet. In the editorial of our Aug. 26 issue, page 72, we named India among the countries sustained by food imports from abroad. While there is no doubt that the worldwide food problem will affect India, that nation has been food self-sufficient for the last 15 years.

Interest rates and prices skyrocket

by Chris White

The U.S. government's fiscal and financial expectations have been shattered once again by the resurgence of what the financial crowd calls inflation.

Two sets of recently produced reports did the trick. The first, publishing the official version of price inflation, including food price inflation, for the month of July, makes a mockery of what the U.S. Department of Agriculture has repeatedly assured everybody would be the effect of the drought disaster on food prices. Running at just under 2% for the month, according to the Commerce Department, the July report portends a more than 20% annual rate of increase in the price of foods. This is more than a sixfold increase over what the USDA has projected to be the effect of the drought.

More substantial in its import was the subsequent release of the Commerce Department's adjusted series for the second quarter of the year. Though these numbers show the Gross National Product continuing to grow, and the trade deficit being reduced, numbers from which the foolhardy only take heart, again price inflation for the quarter was running at an adjusted 5.1% annual rate, more than double the 1.7% of the first quarter.

That rate of increase has set off a new case of the jitters among the financial boys. "Once you cross the 5% mark in price increases you have to start waving the red flags," Donald Ratajczak, a Georgia state economist, told the *Wall Street Journal*. "We are approaching our destination at too fast a speed, and there is a risk now that we may crash."

The official numbers on inflation aren't going to come as too much of a surprise for anyone who does their own shopping, spending their own money, and thus knowing how far it actually does go. In some supermarket chains, price tags are being replaced on perishable food products such as meats

two or three times before the "sell before" expiration tag expires. In some areas of the country, food prices increased by more than 7% in the last two weeks of July, setting a triple-digit rate of increase against the official double-digit rate.

'Greedy' farmers blamed

On the food side of these increases, the television and print media have begun to drum up a campaign to identify the "greedy" farmers and distributor chains, as responsible for the increases. The *Wall Street Journal* has promoted this line, arguing that such increases are not caused by the drought, but by farmers and distributors taking advantage of "uncertainty" about the drought, to jam through price increases while they can. To fall for this kind of garbage is to strain credulity too far.

The common so-called wisdom is that interest rate increases choke off inflationary growth in money and credit. Therefore, when price inflation threatens to take off, or does take off, slam on the brakes, cool off the overheating economy, and restrain the growth that's threatening to get out of control, by increasing borrowing costs.

The only problem with the conventional wisdom is, it's all wrong. Interest rate increases don't reduce inflationary tendencies, they increase the rate at which speculative liabilities are increasing against the collapse of the physical assets of the economy. The now-exploding wave of price increases is only secondarily related to such phenomena as the disastrous drought; the driver behind the price increases is, in actuality, the monetary and credit policy that has been followed since the Black Monday market meltdown of October 1987.

Over the intervening 10 months, the financial boys in the

backroom determined to act such that no repeat of last October's stock market crash would be permitted to occur, at least not before the November elections. They have therefore implemented a variety of financial and accounting tricks to preserve the usuriously and speculatively inflated book value of assets and liabilities in the economy at all costs. By so doing, they have increased the volume of claims against the assets of the economy, while simultaneously shrinking the actual assets.

Maintaining "stability" in this way has made matters much, much worse.

Now the combination of price increases, and the deepening international interest rate war, is pushing the financial system into a new zone of instability.

There was one sure way to prevent any recurrence of the shattering developments of last October. Admit the reality that the dollar credit system is bankrupt, that the dollar banking system, with earnings 0.13% of assets for last year, is bankrupt; put the financial system and banking system through top-down bankruptcy reorganization, modeled on the Chapter 11 procedures adopted for individual companies, and provide credit, in the form of gold-backed Treasury notes, to put idled productive capacity—in the form of plant, equipment, and labor—back to work producing the wealth necessary to reverse the crisis, not just in the United States, but globally.

Presidential candidate and economist Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. designed this kind of bankruptcy reorganization solution many years ago, but the Wall Street boys in the backroom, who insist that they know better, obsessively maintain that their way of doing things is better. "Look, it hasn't collapsed yet, we must be doing something right," they insist.

The savings and loan crisis

Well, take a look at the kind of thing they are doing, and it becomes clear where the inflation driver comes from. It's well known that technically, the thrift system, the savings and loan associations, are goners. One thousand of the more than 3,000 individual thrifts are bankrupt. The system as a whole lost \$13 billion last year. It was losing another \$1 billion a month through May. The Texas thrifts lost \$2.1 billion, on their own, in June. The system's insurance fund is empty. Against the losses, Congress, in its infinite wisdom, last year voted up a three-year "rescue" program, under which the bankrupt system could borrow a bit more than \$2 billion per annum for the next three years.

Now, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board is taking over failing thrifts on its own. In the 10 days from Aug. 15-25, nearly \$10 billion of notes have been issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and FSLIC, in multi-state so-called rescue operations. The notes provide the basis for recapitalizing the thrifts. They are collateral for borrowing, etc. But, the FHLBB and the FSLIC don't have any money. They are

simply issuing promises to pay, in the future, to permit their insolvent charges to keep borrowing so that the financial assets and liabilities of the system don't have to be written off. And these promissory notes are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, since the FHLBB doesn't have the power to issue debt, but by a "sense of the Senate resolution" rammed through by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) at the beginning of August, that they *should* be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

And thanks to the miracles of the credit system, these unsecured notes, backed by the threat that at some point taxpayers will have to make them good, then leverage in some further increases in paper claims.

Set to explode

Apply the same kind of approach to the banking system as a whole, as Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan and former Treasury Secretary James Baker have been doing for the last 10 months, and it becomes clear where the "inflationary threat" comes from. The rising U.S. interest rates of the period from early June through the present, have attracted perhaps as much as \$100 billion of speculative capital into the U.S. banking system, deployed on the calculation that more money can be made on the rate differential between the U.S. and European money centers, over any 90-day period, than in any other way. The inflow has permitted Baker and Greenspan to claim that they have maintained the stability of the banking system. That's like some crazy terrorist claiming that he's improved the stability of his bomb by fitting a better detonator to it.

So now, as the U.S. price explosion begins to get noticed by officialdom, the Europeans, in coordinated fashion, respond to Greenspan's latest shot in the interest rate war. Across Europe borrowing costs were increased by central banks, by 0.5-0.7%, and in the case of the British and Italians, by more. The increase was sufficient to send the dollar back down from its heights, undoing the effect of the rate increases in the United States the week before, and thereby signaling to the speculators who control the \$100 billion hot money pile, that for the next 90 days, there's more money to be made outside the United States.

For Greenspan and company, the alternatives will seem to be further increases in interest rates, to attempt to keep that speculative source of funds within the dollar system, or submitting to efforts to pull the money out. The alternative beyond that, is to unleash a hyperinflationary explosion of paper, which will set off a further increase in the volume of the paper claims outstanding against the economy as a whole.

Either way, Greenspan will still be expecting you and your family to surrender your standard of living in order to pay for the incompetence of himself and the financial crowd who back him. And either way, it won't change the end result: the aggravation of the worst financial collapse in history.

9 million tons of food exports needed

by Marcia Merry and Elizabeth Kellogg

Even before the 1988 harvests are completed in the northern latitude farm-export regions, and the full extent of drought damage is fully known, millions of people in Africa, Asia, and other points around the globe are desperately short of food. Over half of the 8.75 million tons of cereals needed for poor populations internationally is required in Africa.

Since the time of calculation of the accompanying table, the need has intensified. Following a dry period in the headlands of the Nile and elsewhere in Sub-Saharan Africa, floods have occurred—all the way from Senegal in Western Africa, through Chad and Sudan. In many locations, the rainfall and the floods are the worst in 50 years.

In addition to destroying vital crops, the succession of dry and wet conditions has created perfect breeding conditions for locusts. The agriculture minister of Sudan, Fatih al-Tigani, reported that they expected a locust invasion by Sept. 10. "This invasion will be the biggest in 1,000 years and exceeds our protection capacity. Unless we receive aid within 10 days, the entire Sudan could be turned into an arid land. . . . The floods have created an attractive atmosphere for locusts which now cover about 1.5 million hectares [about 4 million acres] of our land compared with 450,000 hectares [1 million acres] 1,000 years ago."

This, in a nation where flooding has already left thousands dead and an estimated 2 million persons homeless. Moreover, as one aide worker reported, "The worst may be yet to come," as the Nile continues to rise.

Meanwhile, the malthusian U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's Emergency Center for Locust Operations plans to do, it would appear, nothing. Its *African Locust Bulletin* reports "problems with aerial control due to lack of available aircraft and suspension of Desert Locust Control Organization (DCLO) activities." In fact, the DCLO for East Africa stopped operating Aug. 15 because it ran out of money. The Aug. 23 FAO bulletin makes no mention of any special effort to get funding to resume the spraying, or to get other organizations or donor nations to resume spraying, although aerial control is critical at this point.

Africa, however, is not alone in food import needs, as the table shows. As of mid-summer, grain trade reports

showed that even the most minimal cereals import requirements have not been met this trade year for dozens of nations. According to calculations based on "tracking" the fulfillment of minimum estimated import needs, an additional 9 million tons is required.

Not included at the time of preparation of these estimates, are the possible import requirements for China, because of this summer's devastating succession of drought and floods in the southeast. Thousands of hectares of crops were destroyed in the Yangtze Valley, and as much as 20 million tons of cereals imports may be required.

Criminal negligence

The table shows the tonnages of unmet import requirements for 66 countries most in need as of this summer. Because of the rise in world grain prices as the drought persists, and the worsening impoverishment under International Monetary Fund conditionalities, there is little chance of any nation in need increasing its commercial food purchases. In addition, the Soviet Union has made extraordinary rush-delivery grain purchases of millions of tons over the summer. Ironically, 9 million tons of cereals a year is exactly the annual flow of grain committed by the United States to the Soviet Union over each year of the last five years of the "Long-Term Grain Agreement" concluded between the two nations in 1983.

At the July 1 session of the 19th All Union Party Conference in Moscow, top Soviet diplomat Yuli Kvitsinsky admonished the Third World itself for not sending more food to the Soviet Union. He asserted, "Our help to them [military aid to Third World nations] has to be paid for. . . . We in the Soviet Union are experiencing a shortage of coffee and tropical fruits at a time when the markets of Western states are bursting with them. Yet, we are investing billions in aid to those developing countries that can produce, and traditionally always did produce, those products. It is our duty to offer developing states selfless [military] aid. This is indisputable. But the current situation is unnatural. It must be rectified in our own interests and in the interests of the states with which we cooperate."

Based on the reaction of leaders in the West to date, there is no movement to counter this Soviet demand for food tribute with a demand for an international mobilization to increase food production and allocation to needs worldwide. On Aug. 11, the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Economics, Ewen Wilson, told the international press corps that there

were adequate stocks of food to fulfill all domestic U.S. and PL-480 and other food relief needs, and in addition, to continue high rates of cereals exports to the Soviet Union. However, even the USDA and U.N. statistics, as well as the reality of starvation internationally, show how wrong Mr. Wilson is.

TABLE 1
8,750 million tons of unmet import requirements for 66 nations, as of July 1988

Nation	Est. import requirements, all cereals ¹ (1,000 metric tons)	Pledged ²	Unmet ³	Nation	Est. import requirements, all cereals ¹ (1,000 metric tons)	Pledged ²	Unmet ³
I. Africa				II. Asia			
Egypt	8,800.0	7,531.9	1,268.1	China	15,150.0	12,592.3	2,557.7
Morocco	2,421.0	2,103.7	317.3	Kampuchea	180.0	24.7	155.3
Chad	90.0	44.3	45.7	Laos	120.0	21.9	98.1
Niger	20.0	109.6	110.4	Vietnam	950.0	226.0	724.0
Mali	85.0	49.7	35.3	Indonesia	2,305.0	1,936.1	368.9
Mauritania	153.0	155.1	(2.1)	Subtotal	20,065.0	16,024.1	4,040.9
Sudan	570.0	574.1	(4.1)	III. Asian Subcontinent			
Somalia	359.0	201.4	157.6	Afghanistan	250.0	250.0	0
Djibouti	54.0	25.9	28.1	Bangladesh	3,000.0	2,920.0	80.0
Ethiopia	1,475.0	1,292.9	172.1	Bhutan	22.0	22.0	0
Burkina Faso	140.0	74.8	65.2	India	1,050.0	1,000.0	50.0
Cape Verde	45.0	37.2	7.8	Nepal	50.0	33.6	16.4
Gambia	30.0	60.9	(30.9)	Sri Lanka	877.0	877.0	0
Guinea	140.0	69.4	70.6	Maldives	40.0	7.5	32.5
Guinea-Bissau	15.0	9.9	5.3	Subtotal	5,289.0	5,110.1	178.9
Liberia	125.0	44.8	80.2	IV. Middle East			
Senegal	470.0	240.6	229.4	Yemen A.R.	740.0	732.2	7.8
Sierra Leone	95.0	24.9	70.1	Yemen P.D.R.	225.0	63.8	161.2
Benin	112.0	83.9	28.1	Subtotal	965.0	795.8	169.0
Ivory Coast	600.0	450.0	150.0	V. Oceania			
Ghana	138.0	169.9	(31.9)	Kiribati	7.0	0.0	7.0
Togo	75.0	43.7	31.3	Papua New Guinea	150.0	148.0	1.6
Nigeria	550.0	132.2	417.8	Samoa	8.0	0.0	8.0
Zaire	310.0	276.8	33.2	Solomon Islands	17.0	0.0	17.0
Rwanda	34.0	21.9	12.1	Tonga	6.5	0.0	6.5
Burundi	23.0	14.3	8.7	Vanuatu	10.0	0.0	0.0
Equatorial Guinea	8.0	1.2	6.8	Subtotal	198.5	148.4	50.1
Cent. Afr. Rep.	35.0	13.1	11.9	VI. South America			
Sao Tome	10.0	9.7	.3	Bolivia	362.0	310.4	51.6
Uganda	24.0	21.4	2.6	VII. Central America			
Madagascar	139.0	121.6	17.4	Dominican Republic	525.0	471.3	53.7
Mozambique	750.0	536.0	214.0	Haiti	235.0	243.5	8.5
Tanzania	105.0	94.2	10.8	El Salvador	320.0	297.2	22.8
Comoros Isl.	36.0	21.4	14.6	Honduras	208.0	172.3	35.7
Kenya	215.0	180.4	34.6	Nicaragua	130.0	93.6	36.4
Angola	340.0	218.2	121.8	Subtotal	1,418.0	1,277.9	148.6
Zambia	155.0	96.0	59.0	Total 66 nations	48,313.5	38,655.0	8,745.7
Lesotho	215.0	197.6	17.4				
Swaziland	60.0	54.0	6.0				
Subtotal	20,046	14,988.3	4,106.9				

1) Estimates of minimum cereals tonnages required to be imported this year, through either commercial purchases, concessional-priced food relief, or donated food aid.

2) Total cereals imports committed, either commercial contracts or food relief pledges, as of July 1988.

3) Unmet requirements for total cereals imports, as of July 1988.

Source: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations, U.S. Department of Agriculture and EIR News Service.

How U.S. environmentalists ensured the survival of locusts in Africa

by J. Gordon Edwards

J. Gordon Edwards, professor of entomology at San Jose State University in California, has taught biology and entomology there for 39 years. He is a longtime member of the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society, and is a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.

At a time when a locust plague of Biblical proportions threatens to wipe out the food supply of much of Africa, the most effective weapons in the war against the locust are excluded from battle because of environmentalist politics. We are told that wide-scale spraying will “harm” the environment, and in particular destroy the so-called natural organisms that allegedly might curb the locust population.

It is true that locusts are frequently decimated by natural external factors, such as weather. Other factors may destroy great numbers of them under some conditions, and these factors have been considered for possible use in control programs. Viral diseases sometimes reduce the numbers of locusts; however, producing sufficient numbers of them in the laboratory and releasing them in the field has not yet been successful. Three bacterial diseases were introduced into U.S. locust swarms in 1920, but without evident effects.

For 30 years, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entomologists have saturated small locust colonies with protozoan parasites (*Nosema locustae*), in hopes of establishing them in Montana locust populations. The results are called “encouraging”; however, this year, in July 1988, eastern Montana is suffering from 25 locusts per square foot, and the pests have eaten every green thing in large areas. They have even stripped the paint from houses, and have made roads

slick with their bodies. There, as in many areas of North Africa, the overwhelming numbers of locusts are responsible for increasing desertification, a condition which may persist for years.

Meanwhile, in the Fiscal Year 1988 AID budget, the country of Mali received \$651,000 in aid for *Nosema* research, while the Cape Verde Islands received \$75,000. Natural enemies such as birds, lizards, flies, and wasps are so scarce, relatively, that they can have no significant effect at all on locust swarms.

Chemical controls

The only effective control programs in the United States, as well as in Africa, to date have been those employing chemical insecticides. Chemicals, such as coal tar products, pyrethrins, naphthaline, and arsenic, were used before 1900, usually mixed with attractive baits that would be devoured by the advancing hordes of locusts. Some experimenters even added vinegar, orange pulp, or lemon juice as attractants. They all found it impossible to get enough poison into the field to really “control” the grasshoppers.

After airplanes became available, the baits could be applied much more quickly and over much greater areas, which greatly increased their effectiveness. In the 1940s, synthetic chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides were produced, and they soon replaced the more expensive, less effective insecticides—and were also generally less hazardous to non-target animals. Chlordane, BHC, and toxaphene were especially useful.

The director of African Emergency Operations at the

U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), Robert Friedline, has favored the use of those insecticides that would not "bioaccumulate." He recommended non-persistent fenitrothion and propoxur in "wild areas" of Africa, and malathion near human concentrations ("due to its low mammalian toxicity"). However, what Mr. Friedline failed to realize is that such pesticides will not persist on foliage long enough to kill the necessary numbers of hoppers or locusts. The pests continue to emerge from the egg masses for many days, while the insecticides disappear and must be reapplied—a very expensive operation. (He also evidently failed to notice the extensive scientific literature refuting the myth of pesticide "biomagnification," which was exploited in the 1960s and 1970s by pseudo-environmentalists.)

Malathion costs more than 10 times as much as the more effective dieldrin and often disintegrates in two to three hours on a hot, humid day, so it will not be present in the foliage eaten by young locusts that hatch a few hours after the expensive spray application. In the March 27, 1988 issue of the French daily *Le Monde*, experts point out that after sprays with malathion (which kill on contact), normal life cannot come back the following year. This is not true when dieldrin is used, for dieldrin must be *eaten* by the insect to be fatal.

In the late 1940s, aldrin and dieldrin were developed and miraculous locust control was achieved from as little as 2-3 ounces per acre applied from the air—without harming crops or people. One small plane could spray dieldrin over 1,000 acres of infested land in 15 minutes, killing a half-billion grasshoppers and protecting thousands of tons of grain! This method of crop protection was soon being used in Africa and Asia, and hundreds of millions of humans were thereby saved from starvation during the 1950s and 1960s.

Most locust eggs hatch in remote regions where no control measures have been used. If the first food eaten by the young hoppers contains traces of pesticide, the insects die, obviating the necessity of feeding them much larger doses of poison later. After they have passed through their immature stages and develop functional wings, the adult locusts take to the air and can fly as much as 900 miles in 14 days, or 3,000 miles in a locust lifetime of four months. That brings them to cultivated regions with lush green crops. Each acre of hoppers *not* killed in their infancy matures to consume the agricultural crops on 200 acres!

In 1975, Dr. D.L. Gunn, a world authority on locust control, commented on the "crippling limitations on aerial application of pesticides and the prohibition of dieldrin usage" (*PANS*, 21:148-54). He warned that unless more than 97% of the immature locusts are killed, their populations will increase. It is essential that the applied insecticides be capable of retaining their toxicity for at least a week after being applied to the foliage upon which the locusts will feed. The insecticide must also be able to remain toxic for several months during storage in hot climates, so that it will be available for control applications as soon as needed. The

chemicals used against locusts and grasshoppers in Africa in 1986 and 1987 failed to meet either of these requirements. They were effective on plants only for three or four days! Also, those short-lived insecticides were many times as costly as dieldrin, and the most expensive part of any control program is the cost of *applying* the chemicals. Unfortunately, during the intervals between less-toxic chemical applications, hordes of hoppers continue their development, and adults produce millions of fertile egg-pods.

Dieldrin is the superior chemical for locust control in Africa, being more persistent than substitutes both in storage and on foliage. It is highly toxic to insects that ingest it, but safe to the people and other vertebrates that are exposed to it. It does not migrate through the soil, it does not "biomagnify" to any appreciable extent, and it is not toxic to vertebrate animals in the sprayed areas. Dr. Gunn concludes in the cited article that "dieldrin is indispensable as the agent for successful locust plague suppression."

The concentration of dieldrin needed to kill locusts that eat the foliage is not greater than 5 parts per million (5 ppm) on the foliage. Grazing animals are not harmed by eating foliage containing a hundred times that concentration of dieldrin. Humans are completely safe in the sprayed areas, even when they drink the milk and eat the flesh from exposed animals. It has been proved that the dieldrin ingested by vertebrates is rapidly depleted from their tissues and there is no indication of significant toxic, carcinogenic, or mutagenic effects resulting from environmental applications of dieldrin.

The current locust campaign reflects the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) 1987 "Locust Strategy Paper" in which someone, misinformed by radical elements in the United States, thought perhaps the principles of biological control, or integrated pest management (IPM) would work on the billions of swarming locusts. That "Strategy Paper," in accordance with FAO and World Bank policy, requires consideration of pesticide effects on insect predators, and encourages the funding of environmental research in order to "evaluate the potential of environmental effects of the pesticides and to select, implement, and manage effective environmental measures."

This integrated pest management approach was emphasized, despite the knowledge that millions of lives would likely be lost in Africa each year that such a capricious "environmental study" was being evaluated, and that even greater numbers of African natives would suffer malnutrition, disease, and debilitation as a direct result of conditions forced upon them by the far-fetched hopes of a few "environmentalists" in wealthy distant nations.

Admittedly there is another possible reason for the irresponsible behavior of the U.S. AID and U.N. Food and Agriculture authorities involved. Most of those individuals surely realized that a possible result of their actions would be a great reduction in the number of people surviving the locust plagues. Failure to reduce the swarms of locusts that would

How dieldrin was suppressed

The Environmental Defense Fund—an environmentalist legal group—filed suits against the Environmental Protection Agency on Dec. 30, 1970, just one day after that government agency had been created, saying that dieldrin was long-lived in the environment and was potentially carcinogenic in man.

Three months later, on March 19, 1971, EPA Administrator William D. Ruckelshaus stated that he had intended to cancel use of dieldrin, but did not do so because it could not be determined that an “imminent hazard” existed.

The Environmental Defense Fund then petitioned their apparently captive U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., which ordered Ruckelshaus to reconsider the dieldrin matter. He did so, and convinced the producer, Shell Corporation, that it should drop its legal registration of dieldrin for aerial applications, but continue registration for other uses.

The report of the Aldrin/Dieldrin Advisory Committee

was submitted to Ruckelshaus on March 28, 1972. The cover letter stated, “the Committee was unanimous in the views and recommendations we bring to you.” These views were *not* to ban dieldrin for agricultural uses in the United States, but to avoid using it near aquatic environments. The committee found that in rats, dieldrin at 20 ppm or more in the diet significantly *decreased* malignant tumors. In other animals, there were no adverse effects, except in one hypersensitive strain of mice. The committee said it “did not feel that the balance of data indicated a carcinogenicity hazard” and stressed that tumors did not form in other strains of mice, nor in any other animals, including primates.

The committee agreed with the conclusions of all other committees of experts who examined the evidence concerning dieldrin. Nevertheless, Russell Train, who succeeded Ruckelshaus as EPA administrator in September 1973, personally disagreed with all these conclusions, and took it upon himself to halt the hearings and ban the chemical as an “imminent hazard.”

The committees Train ignored were: the Pepper Committee (Food and Drug Administration, 1965); the Jensen Committee (National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, 1965); the Gunther Committee (FDA, 1967); the Committee of Agricultural Research Science

predictably destroy enough grain each year to feed 200,000 to 400,000 natives in each of a dozen African countries must surely please the advocates of human population reduction there. (Similarly, health officials who are now permitting malaria to kill more than a million African children every year—because of the ban on DDT—may take credit for effectively reducing the population of many African nations.)

Lukas Brader, a Dutch agronomist who is the director of FAO's Emergency Center for Locust Operations in Rome, told *EIR* in a March 1987 interview that “if you spray everywhere, you would really not allow the natural balance to reestablish itself and, in fact, you prolong the plague beyond the two or three years it would normally last” (*EIR*, April 8, 1988). Brader stated that he would not recommend spraying the developing billions of hoppers (immature, flightless locusts), “because the environmental impact would be such that you would just prolong the plague” since the spray “would kill the natural parasites of the locusts.” He claimed that “normally there is a 50% to 60% mortality from all sorts of other insects that eat these grasshoppers.” Brader neglected to name any of these insects, and apparently did not know that mortality rates greater than 90% are essential in order for the number of gravid females to be reduced to a level that cannot produce even greater numbers of hoppers the following year.

Some facts about dieldrin

Because the prohibition on the use of dieldrin in African locust control programs is so important an issue, that insecticide deserves further discussion. The Aldrin/Dieldrin Advisory Committee, which reported to the Environmental Protection Agency administrator on March 28, 1972, was composed of seven experts, including toxicologists, environmentalists, agriculturalists, and cancer researchers. They devoted two years to their study. While warning against extensive applications of dieldrin in marshes, where “measurable toxic effects in some fish” have been documented when one pound per acre or more was applied, the experts reported that the use of dieldrin applied directly to soil at one pound per acre over 16 years led to levels of about 1 ppm in a variety of insects and less than 0.02 ppm in a variety of seeds of plants grown in that soil. Such usage is unlikely to have substantial effects on wildlife, the committee concluded, and “There appear to be no reports that aldrin or dieldrin have adverse effects upon plant life.” Other pertinent points from their 100-page report are given below and in the accompanying box.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggested 10 parts per billion (ppb) as an acceptable water quality level, but the highest recorded level in the U.S., after decades of extremely massive applications, was only 0.4 ppb (in the

(USDA, 1969); the Wilson Committee (British Department of Education and Science, 1969); and the Mrak Commission (Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1969); and the 1970 Food and Agricultural Organization/World Health Organization Committee.

In August 1973, cancellation hearings began regarding dieldrin on food crops, after appeals to Judge Herbert Perlman were rejected. A year later, in April 1974, Alan Kirk of EPA asked Shell to stop production of dieldrin until the hearings ended. Shell refused, saying that to stop production "would be tantamount to a plea of guilty before the trial was complete."

Suddenly, on Aug. 2, 1974, tax attorney Russell Train issued a notice of EPA's intention to suspend dieldrin production, because he considered aldrin/dieldrin to be imminent hazards. He said 10 million pounds more would have been produced in 1974 and sold in 1975. Train ignored the 1972 panel report which had refuted his "hazard" statement in advance. (During the hearings so far, witnesses from EPA and EDF had produced 24,000 pages of testimony against dieldrin, but the defense witnesses had not yet testified.)

Train redefines 'carcinogenic'

Shell requested immediate, expedited hearings on the

matter four days later, but EPA rejected this request. Then a new and precedent-setting criterion for determining the carcinogenicity of a substance was proposed by Russell Train. He stated that, for purposes of "carcinogenicity testing, tumorigenic substances and carcinogenic substances are synonymous." This opinion was in sharp contrast to policies of toxicological groups, medical agencies, and the FDA, where carcinogenic substances were defined as those that cause *cancerous* tumors (which are malignant and capable of being transferred within the body). It was upon this basis, however, that Train deemed dieldrin to be carcinogenic, and banned it.

The ruling against dieldrin became final Oct. 4, 1974. No more dieldrin could be manufactured in the United States. The reason given was that there was "no great necessity for aldrin and dieldrin, since only 10% of the U.S. corn crop is usually treated with those chemicals, and effective substitutes exist for them." Shell Corporation appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans, seeking to overrule Train's decision. To prevent that court from ruling on the issue, the EDF appealed again to its captive U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., and succeeded.

Russell Train left EPA in 1977 and is now president and chairman of the board of the World Wildlife Fund.

Tombigbee River, Mississippi). Typical levels in the Mississippi River were only 0.015 ppb, which the committee stated "do not seem to be alarming." Analyses of aldrin/dieldrin in samples of soil, water, or animal tissues were not to be construed as definitive, they pointed out, because sulfur and polychlorinated hydrocarbons (PCBs) were often identified mistakenly as being aldrin or dieldrin residues. (The analytical methods misidentified many such artifacts, calling them aldrin, dieldrin, DDT, etc.) In 34 samples of soil that had been collected in fields and tightly sealed before 1910 (30 years before aldrin or dieldrin existed), 20 showed "apparent residues" of those nonexistent chemicals when analyzed in the 1970s! (*Pesticides Monitoring Journal*, 1970)

In the 1960s, the average human intake of aldrin/dieldrin was 5 micrograms a day (or 0.005 milligrams a day). Divided by 70 kilograms, the weight of a person, that equals 0.00007 milligrams *per kilogram* (0.00007 ppm). Primary intake included 0.05 ppm in dairy products, 0.03 ppm in fatty meats, and less than 0.01 ppm in cereals and vegetables. Those residues only averaged 0.15 ppm in human body fat after years of daily intake averaging 5 micrograms a day. What effects might that body residue have on mammals? The committee reported that there "were no untoward effects from aldrin or dieldrin, even among occupationally exposed humans whose intake was 50 times the average amount for 13

years." Such men "not only showed no signs of toxicity, but failed to show the minor effects upon liver function" (which are early signs of bodily changes produced by similar compounds in experimental animals when massive doses are ingested). In experimental rats, dieldrin at 20 ppm or more in the diet actually *decreased* cancer production (and the dieldrin-fed animals developed less than half as many tumors as did the "controls").

The possibility of harm to the environment, to beneficial parasites or predators, or to vertebrates exposed to aerial sprays of dieldrin in Africa is infinitesimal. The toll of human deaths in locust-ravaged regions of Africa is catastrophic. Hopefully, U.S. scientists will convince the EPA and AID officials that their attitudes are poorly considered and will result in the unnecessary deaths of hundreds of thousands of Africans and in severe malnutrition and suffering of millions of others.

Worst African swarm in 30 years

Given the refusal to use dieldrin in Africa, it was no surprise to read recently that "swarms of locusts migrating from northwest Africa threaten harvests in 15 African nations," and those nations will require \$300 million in aid to make up for destroyed crops. Lukas Brader, director of the Emergency Center for Locust Operations at FAO, noted this

year that the biggest swarm in 30 years was sweeping across North Africa. This was the result of locusts being allowed to breed uncontrolled in the Sahel and elsewhere the previous year. Meanwhile, a U.N. conference was debating whether to use effective pesticides to combat the locusts. The director-general of the FAO, Edouard Saouma, acknowledged that after two years of permitting locusts to develop, "The invasion is of unprecedented dimensions and will move through the sub-Sahara region from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea." And U.S. AID Administrator M. Peter McPherson warned that recent African rains set the stage for the worst locust infestation there in 60 years.

What this means in terms of crop destruction is frightening. The swarms of locusts now beginning to migrate will eat 80,000 metric tons of vegetation a day. AID officials estimated that 15,000 metric tons of cereal grains can supply 1 million people with a pound of food per day for a month. In 1958, locusts destroyed crops in Ethiopia which would have been sufficient to feed 1 million people for a year. In Somalia, one swarm of 40 billion locusts ate over 40,000 tons of grain each day—enough to feed 400,000 people for a year.

Due to their extensive surveillance program, the discovery of dieldrin insecticide, and the availability of aircraft, officials in Africa eventually became able to kill the young locusts shortly after they hatched, and to prevent the flying swarms of locusts from destroying crops. The desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*) was not as easily controlled as the migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria*), because it swarms more extensively and breeds wherever and whenever rains occur. The desert locust can fly for 17 hours non-stop, and migrations of 1,000 to 3,000 miles are not uncommon. In 1978, they bred near the Red Sea and devoured over 8,000 tons of crops per day in the horn of East Africa (43 swarms were in Ethiopia and 17 in Somalia). Aerial sprays eventually controlled them, otherwise grain and other crops as far away as Pakistan, Morocco, and Tanzania would have been ravaged, as well as those of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

In 1986, the eggs of four major species of locusts were hatching simultaneously in 15 countries. The ineffective actions of officials during this unprecedented destruction of crops, and the FAO forecast that 50 million humans may starve to death in Africa and Asia by 1988 indicates their awareness of the severity of the situation. Even those who survive such a plague will not be untouched. Survivors will suffer malnourishment, resulting in reduced mental capacity and great susceptibility to diseases. Also, people who eat grain that is infected by certain fungi may become cancerous or develop gangrenous infections.

The role of the U.S. environmentalists

There are several reasons for the present threat to Africa and Asia. First, there is the refusal of appropriate African agencies to take effective action in 1986 and 1987, despite

warnings from entomologists around the world that indolence would result in devastating swarms of locusts developing. Another contributory factor was the deliberate action of the U.S. EPA, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), and the AID. Despite their awareness of effective control procedures, nations attending a conference in Africa last year were still debating whether to use dieldrin sprayed from the air to combat the locust swarms. In view of the tremendous loss of life that would ensue if the locusts were not halted, it seems incredible that there was any doubt as to the desirability of taking the most effective actions possible.

Because the 1986 locust program was so late getting started and used non-persistent and relatively ineffective insecticides, enormous numbers of locusts and grasshoppers were able to lay eggs that year. It is noteworthy that in one West African country where the government insisted on a crash program to eradicate the plague, there was success. In 1987, Senegal requested aid from the United States and received the loan of four DC-7 planes to spray 2 million acres of that country. More than 95% of the young grasshoppers were killed by that operation, but billions elsewhere in Africa were spared, and, because of the actions of recalcitrant FAO entomologists, these locusts were able to mate and deposit enough eggs to produce another generation 10 times as large the following year. Senegal was the only African country that eliminated locust devastation in 1987, and unless overwhelmed by billions of grasshoppers or locusts produced elsewhere (due to FAO ineptitude), Senegal will again escape severe damage in 1988.

At least 15 African nations were terrorized by migrating swarms of four species of locusts in 1987, as the uncontrolled pests continued to multiply exponentially. FAO authorities shirked their responsibilities to the African countries, prattling about possibilities that spray programs in the breeding areas of locusts "might harm beneficial predators and parasites of the locusts." The unrealistic hope that "natural parasites and predators" might significantly decimate the residual masses of locusts led the FAO to deliberately shield the pests from effective control measures during the last two years. As a consequence, the burgeoning hordes of migratory locusts will be more destructive than ever this year.

Shirking responsibility

As *EIR* documented at the time, it was political chicanery that prevented the use of effective control procedures in Africa in 1986 and 1987. The United States must be considered the major culprit in this crime against humanity in Africa, because it was there that the myth that natural enemies might control the migratory locusts was promulgated. EPA attorneys banned dieldrin and aldrin in 1974, despite the advice of its own Scientific Advisory Commission, after two years of investigative research by that group of scientists (see box). The EPA then coerced the agencies responsible for funding overseas health programs to prevent dieldrin (and other

chemicals) from being used in Africa, even when millions of human lives hung in the balance.

Unfortunately, many Third World authorities—like much of the U.S. population—are quite gullible. They often do not respect the opinions of research scientists, but instead may embrace unsupportable claims made by EPA attorneys, and by amateurs, engaged in fundraising for neo-Luddite pseudo-environmental groups. When they hear it said that “natural enemies can control all insect pests,” or that the environment will be harmed by insecticides properly applied, many of them believe it. They do not recall that their countries have been almost continuously ravaged by locusts for at least 2,000 years *despite* the abundance of “natural enemies.” They seek no confirmation of unproven U.S. claims and make no surveys of the abundance and efficiency of natural enemies of locusts. Nevertheless, some have recommended that the use of insecticides be avoided, “because the chemicals would kill the natural enemies of the locusts.”

Worse yet, even after trained scientists in devastated areas realize how far-fetched the claims really are, and seek to chemically control the “hoppers” before they develop wings and migrate, they find that a few North American radicals thwart their efforts.

African leaders were influenced by the bias of Russell Train, who headed the EPA (1974-77), and perhaps did not know the nature of his “kangaroo court” hearings on dieldrin (see box). Many still respect decisions made by government agencies in this country. They may have thought that if the United States banned dieldrin, it must be dangerous, and therefore, should not be used in Africa, even to save millions of lives.

A British science attaché pointed out (*Science*, 196: 1182, 1977) that “there is a limit to the number of times even the greatest country in the world (U.S.A.) can afford to appear ridiculous in international affairs.” (He was applauded by over 600 specialists at a meeting called by the EPA to discuss the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act.) He suggested that the EPA “should not presume to legislate for the Universe and the whole human race.”

The U.S. AID responded to the U.S. “National Policy Act” by issuing “Regulation 16 Guidelines,” in 1986. Secretary of State George Shultz, relying on that as his authority, telegraphed orders to U.S. embassies in Africa in March 1986, stating that “The U.S. cannot, repeat cannot, as a matter of longstanding policy, participate in programs using any of the following pesticides: (1) lindane, (2) BHC, (3) DDT, (4) dieldrin.” Countries that cannot support their pest control programs without U.S. financial aid have therefore been unable to use the only really effective insecticide in combatting the locusts, namely dieldrin!

The FAO’s malthusianism

The FAO officials also appear to have been completely fooled by U.S. integrated pest management propaganda, even

to the point where some of them actually think parasites and predators might eradicate locust swarms. The FAO ignores the fact that migratory locusts have devastated Africa repeatedly since Biblical times whenever moisture conditions were favorable—*until* dieldrin was discovered and used there. Biological control of insect pests may work on certain pests under certain conditions; however, even if natural enemies can kill 70% of the locusts, the survivors will leave concentrations of egg masses hundreds of times greater than the previous year (assuming of course that the weather remains favorable). To effectively reduce the potential of the following year’s devastation, more than 90% of the hoppers must be killed, either by direct human action or by natural weather conditions.

During the plague conditions of 1986, after months of delay, the FAO finally met in Rome on Aug. 19, 1986, knowing that the “window” for emergency spray programs to halt the explosive spread of the locusts throughout West Africa and in millions of acres of crops in the Sahel would be less than three weeks in September (before the locusts developed the power of flight). Nevertheless, the FAO decided to use only small planes, and to spray only around croplands rather than in the vast breeding areas where future generations of locusts would be festering in billions of egg-pods buried in the ground. Surely it would be much cheaper to control the locusts (at a cost of less than \$40 million) than to ship food to the devastated countries (at a cost of more than \$200 million a year!)

Rafink Skaf, senior officer in the FAO Emergency Center for Locust Operations, was interviewed for *EIR* by Marjorie Hecht in September 1986. He stated, “We want to take advantage of this year to assess the result of the [bio-control] campaign, because it’s never been done on such a large scale.” He must have been infatuated with the dreams of pseudo-environmentalists, or influenced by the malthusians who consider fatal starvation of millions of Africans a necessity in reducing the black populace there. Hecht noted in *Fusion* magazine (January-February 1987, p. 44), that “the response from the U.N. FAO was slow—in keeping with their stated policy of reducing the population of Africa and restricting the diet of those people left to subsistence-level cereal crops.” (Interestingly, although Skaf, who just retired from FAO, opposes wide-scale pesticide spraying, he supports the use of dieldrin and blames the U.S. ban on dieldrin for the present plague.)

Why is an organization ostensibly dedicated to protect food and agriculture so slow in fighting a plague? *EIR* has referred to the FAO as an organization “which is dedicated to the genocidal idea that Africa is overpopulated,” and appears to be guaranteed to fail in the war against locust swarms. Three past deputy directors of FAO are on record in interviews by *EIR* saying that “people are the problem in Africa” and that “it would not have such problems if it had fewer people.”

Dieldrin best to prevent locust plague

This interview with Michel Lecoq of PRIFAS Acridologie Opérationnelle Ecoforce Internationale, the French organization that specializes in the fight against locusts, was conducted in June by Garance Upham Phau.

EIR: PRIFAS gave a press conference April 12 in Paris, where they discussed the locust threat in Africa. Where are we today with this menace?

Lecoq: What we can say at present is that the menace is not in the least bit strangled. We have the onset of invasion of the desert locust; this is a story that goes back now about a year; there were swarms of locusts that began to appear on the coast of Ethiopia and Sudan, then in what is called a gregarious breeding area of the desert locust. Since then, the swarms have progressively invaded West Africa, throughout the winter and a part of the spring; there were significant swarms in Morocco, in Algeria, in Tunisia, finally in the entire Maghreb region.

We have led an extremely important campaign to fight this, but in spite of it all, there are numerous swarms that have frankly escaped. The counteroperations are presently continuing in the Maghreb, but there are swarms that have already begun a migratory movement toward the Sahel zone. It is probable that a certain number of swarms are going to escape treatment operations in the Maghreb and are going to be reproducing themselves in the Sahel zone. That is why it is necessary to distrust the victory bulletins announced a bit too hastily [last year], since they were claiming to have mastered the situation, when the swarms had simply been abandoned in Ethiopia and Sudan. . . . At the moment, the situation remains relatively critical. . . .

EIR: What is the history of this menace?

Lecoq: Let's say that the last great invasion of our locusts was stopped in the neighborhood of 1961-62; it had begun in 1949-50. Thus, taking off from 1962, a period of remission began during which there were almost no swarms. There had been small beginnings of invasion—in particular in 1968-78—which, at each point were brought under control. This year, and since last year, we have witnessed anew the risk of the onset of invasions, and we are presently in a critical

period. Thus the onset of invasions corresponds to especially favorable rains, abundant over large surfaces in certain regions of the range of habitation of the locust, which are the ranges where this species becomes gregarious. One of the principal gregarious ranges for the locust is the waters that immediately border the Red Sea, from the coast of Arabia and Yemen from one side, to the coast of Sudan and Ethiopia on the other. The favorable ecological conditions for such beginnings of invasions arise, let's say, on average about every 10 years—maybe 8, maybe 15 years.

Currently, the problem is that we are in a critical period: If we apply the means now, we can eventually control this phenomenon, as we did in 1968 or 1978; but, if we intervene too late, if we do not bring the phenomenon under control in this phase of the onset of invasion . . . the invasion will be locked into gear. Two or three years after the onset of invasion, we will have locust populations that are much more gregarious, whose physiological and ecological characteristics have been modified. We also will have some populations that are more resistant; the invasion becomes self-sustaining. . . . So, it is completely fundamental that we be able to control matters in this present critical period.

EIR: Rafink Skaf, former head of the anti-locust operations of the FAO, last March 30 denounced the fact that the United States and other industrialized countries, as well as the FAO, had banned dieldrin.

Lecoq: . . . The debate is currently a bit beside the point, because dieldrin is an insecticide that had been essentially recommended for a preventive effort. It was supposed to be used solely in a desert area, far from cultivation, far from inhabited areas, in order to have rapid control during the onset of breeding and hatching. Because of its long residue, it permits a large desert area to be treated very rapidly, so that the entire contaminated surface can be treated. . . .

Now, the problem is superseded, because we are no longer in a period of preventive effort: We already have the onset of invasion and we have swarms that are presently migrating into populated regions. Hence, we are obliged to use something other than dieldrin. Nonetheless, so long as we don't have a replacement, it would appear reasonable to be able to continue to use at least existing stocks under very strict conditions against the locust in desert areas.

All the other insecticides—malathion, for example—are short-lived. We are obliged, eventually, to treat the same area several times progressively, and as soon as there are successive infestations, we must completely blanket the entire contaminated surface. Finally, this causes a toxicity vis-à-vis the environment which risks being at least equal to dieldrin. In particular, with these [other] insecticides, we are unable to spare the auxiliary animal life. With dieldrin, in contrast, by making only borderline treatments, we were able to spare a great part of the auxiliary animal life, in particular, those organisms which are parasitical or predatory toward locusts. . . .

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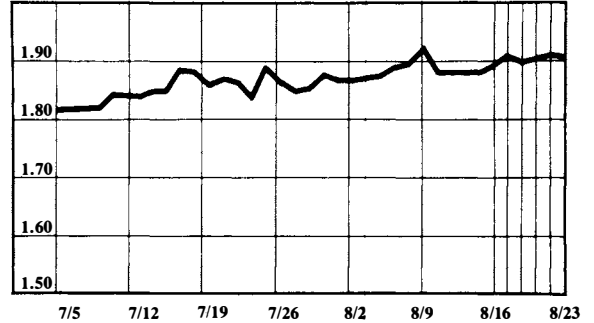
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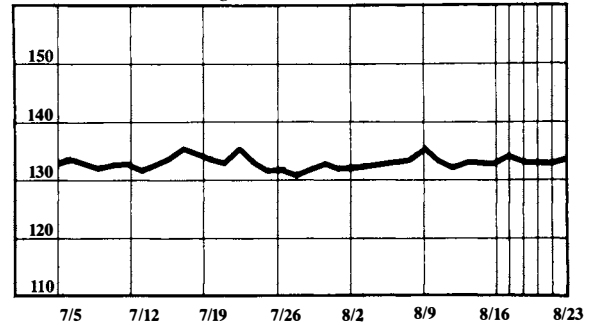
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



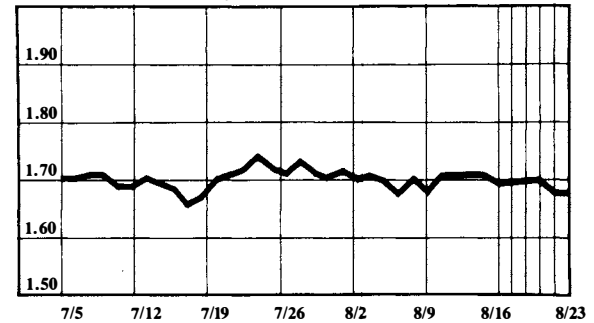
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



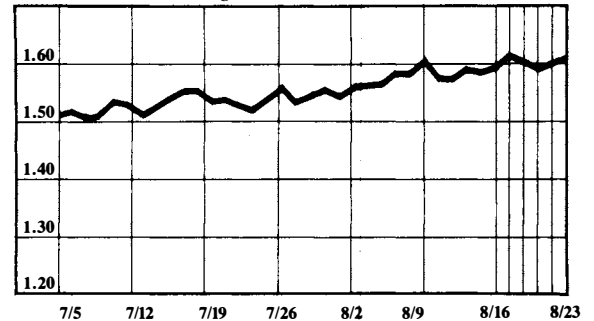
The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing

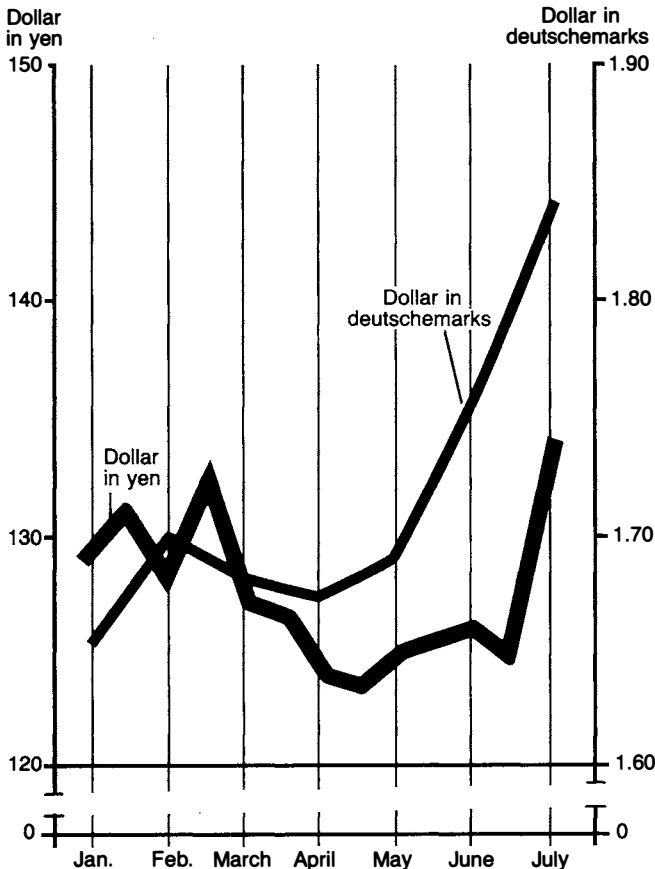


The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



The rise of the dollar in 1988



German physicians fed up with 'condom education,' seek public health steps

by Jutta Dinkermann

In a minority special report issued by Christian Social Union representative Deis, some West German medical experts have issued a broadside attack on the AIDS policy of German Health Minister Rita Süssmuth and called for serious public health measures to curb the spread of the fatal disease. The recommendations of this special report show that the parliamentary AIDS commission is slipping out of the control of the World Health Organization, whose see-no-evil, spend-no-money policies are behind the Süssmuth line.

Prof. H.-U. Gallway, Doctor of Law, and Wolfgang Spann and Prof. Nepomuk Zöllner, Doctors of Medicine, were the experts who drafted the special report picked up by Mr. Deis of the Bundestag, the lower house of the West German federal parliament.

The minority report dissents strongly from the interim report, "Dangers of AIDS and Effective Means for Their Control," of the Bundestag's AIDS Inquiry Commission, which was passed by a majority of the Christian Democratic Union, Free Democratic Party, and Social Democratic Party deputies. That majority document not only fully supports the present Süssmuth line, but also gives directions for the future, such as allowing the addictive heroin substitute methadone to be distributed in "justified individual cases" as a "preventive means" against AIDS (supposedly because methadone is not injected); and abolishing Paragraph 175 of the penal code, which makes homosexual activities with youths under 18 years old a crime, in order to eliminate the alleged ideological discrimination against homosexuals.

Needless to say, the majority document got all the press coverage. Yet, it is precisely the minority report that deserves attention, first because all three professors played a key role in shaping the public health policy on AIDS of the state of Bavaria, and, second, and not least, because one of the three Munich professors, Professor Zöllner of the University of Munich's Medical Polyclinic, treats AIDS victims on a daily basis and is therefore a clinician who knows what he is talking about.

The most important statements of the special report are quoted here verbatim under the relevant heading:

Federal Epidemic Law. "A venereal disease in the sense of the law for control of venereal diseases, but also an epi-

dem in the sense of the federal epidemic law. . . . The Federal Epidemic Law enjoins public health offices, when there is a suspicion of infection, to carry out the necessary inquiries, especially as to the type, cause, source of infection, and propagation of the disease . . . protective measures such as observation, prohibition of occupational activities, and isolation can be put into effect so long as is necessary for prevention of the spread of the disease."

Obligatory reporting. "Since there is, in accordance with the law presently in effect, no obligatory reporting for HIV infection, health officials are presently dependent on accidental discovery. This makes systematic tracing of contacts impossible. In order to use the potential for prevention through contact tracing, the obligatory reporting of names should be introduced for all cases of HIV infection. To that extent, Paragraph 3 of the Federal Epidemic Law should be supplemented. That would simultaneously solve the problem of gaining necessary epidemiological data."

Propagation. "In the Federal Republic of Germany, 74% of the known cases have occurred with homosexuals, 10% with dope addicts, and 8% with individuals who received medically indicated blood or blood derivatives. These numbers obtained from AIDS patients must not be viewed as a measure of the infection, because they say nothing of the number of those who are infected with HIV but are still without symptoms. . . . In Central Africa, where there is the longest history of AIDS, the disease is a matter of infection of the heterosexual population. Whether this will be also true in our country within the foreseeable future remains to be seen, since sufficient epidemiological data does not exist. For the sake of a comprehensive prevention campaign, it should be assumed that AIDS has already passed over into the heterosexual population."

Education. "To the same extent that it is useful to impress upon certain target groups, for example, those who live promiscuously on a habitual basis, that proper use of condoms has a risk-reducing effect, it is that misleading to give such information to the general population. The impression must not be created that AIDS would not be a problem if only condoms and sterile needles were used."

Transmission. "Transmission by means of other bodily

fluids that contain the virus, such as tears or saliva, is conceivable when these come into contact with mucous membranes or open wounds. What is not clear is the question of whether transmission can result from coughing. . . . It must always be borne in mind that, in view of the insufficient information on HIV infection, most statements are still subject to new scientific findings. Above all, it should be not be forgotten that no positive conclusions can be drawn from negative discoveries. A contact by means of which, according to all that is presently known, a risk cannot be excluded does not become risk-free through the fact that, up to this point, no case of a transmission is documented. The formula 'No case proven' creates a possibly tragic, deceptive security."

HIV testing. "Testing has a preventive potential, on the one hand, as a result of the fact that those who know that they are a source of danger will, as shown by experience, behave differently from those who know only that they could be a source of danger. On the other hand, the knowledge that an individual is infected leads obviously to the question of where he became infected. Here is an important beginning for contact tracing. . . . If the pros and cons are considered, the point of view advocating testing prevails, especially if we follow the maxim that each additional infection is one infection too many. The concerns of those who oppose testing can be addressed through appropriate education and counseling of those tested, when there is no alternative of equal value for avoiding further infections in individual cases."

Legal obligations. "The general civil and penal obligation exists for those in risk groups or for infected individuals not to harm anyone's health. Additionally, supplementation of the Federal Epidemic Law or the mandate to a specific AIDS law seems unavoidable. . . . What needs to be investigated is, among other things, whether behavioral standards are created by force of law, for example, the legal obligation to use condoms for those who frequent prostitutes and those who are infected, the legal obligation for those who are infected to inform their partner when behavior involving a risk contact is involved. Individuals with sufficient reason to believe that they represent a concrete risk of infection for others are obligated, as a result: to make clear what their infectious condition is; to do the utmost to avoid what can lead to a transmission of the infection; to appropriately inform the contact partner in contacts involving risk. They are obligated to give information as far as possible on the relevant source of their infection as well as obligated to tolerate having the data concerning their infection passed on, insofar as this seems indicated for the avoidance of further infection."

Protection for medical personnel. "Even with the use of the utmost in hygienic care, medical aid personnel cannot sufficiently eliminate the risk of an infection; all precautions must be made to keep this risk as low as possible. For that, sufficient information of the risk in individual cases is necessary, and, consequently, information on whether a patient is infected."

Argentina

Alfonsín booed over IMF shock plan

by Cynthia Rush

Each August, the cream of Argentina's agricultural oligarchy joins other producers, government officials, and political leaders in the fashionable Palermo section of Buenos Aires to attend the annual agricultural exposition sponsored by the Rural Society. The exposition is one of the year's major social events, in which producers show off their prize cattle and livestock. As he has done each year for the past five years, President Raúl Alfonsín arrived on Aug. 13 to personally inaugurate the exposition, and use his speech to expound on his government's policies.

But this year, things were a little different. The ceremony which normally surrounds the President's appearance and inaugural speech was broken up by shouts of protest and waving of banners in the viewing stands which read "Alfonsín Liar." Protesters whistled and booed at Alfonsín's entourage, and interrupted his speech, as well as that of Agriculture Minister Ernesto Figueras. As one observer put it, "everything short of throwing tomatoes" was done. Members of the ruling Radical Civic Union (UCR), placed in the stands to support the President, then proceeded to interrupt the speech of Rural Society president Guillermo Alchouron.

The incident was unprecedented in the exposition's history, and scandalized the nation. Things turned particularly ugly when hecklers in the stands called Alfonsín a liar, and shouted that the country had been better off under the previous military dictatorship. Red-faced, the President called the protesters "fascists." Why the insults to the President and other public figures at such a prestigious event?

In its efforts to prove itself worthy of a \$1.3 billion standby agreement with the International Monetary Fund, Alfonsín's government has declared war against the agricultural sector and against the nation's entire productive apparatus and working population. The misnamed *Plan Primavera* or Spring Plan, the anti-inflationary shock program announced on Aug. 1, raised public utility rates by 30%, guarantees further contraction of domestic consumption by gouging

wages, and promises to "balance the books" by cutting state sector costs. The government's economic team, led by Finance Minister Juan V. Sourrouille, has promised the IMF that this plan will bring inflation, estimated at over 30% for August, down to a single digit by September.

The "quick fix" aspect of the plan is the indirect tax it imposes on the agricultural sector, in an effort to raise revenues that can be applied to the fiscal deficit as the IMF demands. Currently at close to 10% of GNP, the deficit must be lowered to 2 or 3% to be acceptable to the Fund. The plan's establishment of a two-tier exchange rate obliges agricultural exporters to liquidate the foreign exchange they earn at 12 australs to the dollar. The Central Bank then sells those same dollars on the open market for 14 australs each, appropriating immediately almost \$1.4 billion. In the first few days of the Spring Plan, the Central Bank reported that it had garnered over \$2 billion in free dollar reserves.

Battering production

Leaders of Argentina's agricultural sector argue that they, and not the "privileged" industrial sector, have been singled out to bear the brunt of the new anti-inflationary plan. While the newly imposed indirect tax quickly fills the Central Bank's coffers with funds from the agro sector, offsetting the windfall they expected as a result of the U.S. drought, the new measures will leave every sector of the economy, particularly consumers, in a decidedly unprivileged position.

Thus far, a faction of the national Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) has offered lukewarm support for the plan; but the alliance of the 17 largest business associations, known as the "G-17," is rife with dissension over the plan's measures and threatens to break apart. New measures which oblige importers to purchase dollars at the higher financial exchange rate raise the cost of imports by 30%. With an import bill of \$5 billion annually, the industrial sector will be hit particularly hard. The agricultural sector's annual import bill is \$600 million.

The combination of the exorbitant cost of credit, monthly inflation rates hovering around 25 to 30%, the continual increase in public utility and fuel costs over the past year, and now a ceiling on prices, has meant that the industrial sector grew by only 0.3% for the first quarter of this year.

Government officials admit that the Spring Plan's success depends on the working population accepting wage gouging and lower consumption. The finance ministry has made it clear to the nation's trade union leadership that they must not expect to recuperate lost purchasing power, but rather adjust wage demands to the lower inflation rates expected for September.

The past months' inflation, 60% for July and August alone, has eaten away at purchasing power, such that August wages are now 22% below the 1987 average. Real wages have dropped 40% since January of 1984. A 25% wage increase granted to state-sector workers at the end of July has

been made virtually meaningless by inflation. In the ten-day period between July 27 and Aug. 8, the prices of 55 key food and supermarket items rose by 50%; and over a period of a month-and-a-half, beginning at the end of June, the price of butter rose by 115%, eggs by 70%, and flour by 125%. And, in anticipation of price controls, many businesses engaged in a significant mark-up of their products both before and after the Spring Plan's announcement.

Where's the beef?

Alfonsín's reward for further gutting both production and living standards, is supposed to be a \$1.3 billion standby loan from the IMF, and additional fresh funds from U.S. and foreign commercial banks. But for all its bowing and scraping before the banks, the government has yet to see a penny of new money.

After Central Bank president Luis Machinea and finance ministry official Mario Brodersohn carried out frantic negotiations in Washington at the end of July, the IMF reportedly gave the okay for the new standby. But at the last minute, the word was that the Fund wanted to see "how the Spring Plan worked before we release a single dollar."

Now Brodersohn must return to Washington in early September to negotiate with the Fund once again, in the hopes that a standby agreement will encourage commercial banks to hand over \$3.5 billion in additional funds. However, it will be late November or early December before any new IMF money reaches Argentina. Finance ministry officials hope to use a \$500 million bridge loan from the U.S. Treasury to meet interest payments on its \$55 billion foreign debt. Argentina must make a \$400 million interest payment by Aug. 26.

In the meantime, the population is not in a very tolerant mood. Following the announcement of the new measures, leaders of the four major agricultural organizations announced a series of national actions beginning on Aug. 22 and 23 to protest "discrimination" against the sector. During these mobilizations, producers will not market any agricultural products.

The Argentine Industrial Council (CAI), representing small and medium-sized industry, has issued a call to convene local and sectorial assemblies to protest the economic measures. The crisis, CAI says, originates in the fact that the government "does not contemplate with these measures a policy of growth which encourages and rewards the generation of resources."

Strikes over wage demands are widespread, and there is no indication that unions intend to limit their wage demands as the government desires. The powerful Metallurgical Workers Union (UOM) just negotiated a 47% wage increase with the industry's leaders; and the Peronist-led General Confederation of Labor (CGT) has announced a general strike for Sept. 9, in defense of wages and living standards and to protest price mark-ups and utility rate increases.

That European Central Bank plan

The EC technocrats have a name for their plan for a supranational bankers' dictatorship: "creative destruction."

A heated policy battle is being fought out in Europe, over the issue of whether, and how, to create a new supranational European Central Bank, autonomous from any national political "interference." The purpose of the bank would be to oversee a regime of austerity and deindustrialization for Western Europe as a whole.

On June 28, European Community heads of state named EC Commission president and former Bank of France official Jacques Delors, to head a committee to recommend proposals for creation of a new European Central Bank in context of the 1992 market liberalization. The Delors committee includes 12 Bank for International Settlements (BIS) central bankers from the EC countries; Niels Thygesen, a Trilateral Commission economist from Helmut Schmidt and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's Committee for European Monetary Union; BIS Executive Director Alexandre Lamfalussy; and Bank of Italy director Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa.

This bankers' elite wants to decide matters which were hitherto questions of national sovereignty: a nation's right to print currency and control its credit and interest rates.

The chairman of the BIS, William Duisenberg of the National Bank of Netherlands, told the American-Dutch Chamber of Commerce in Amsterdam on June 2 that the fundamental aim of the European Central Bank must be price stability, and that in order to ensure this, the central bank must be fully "autonomous," divorced from any national or other political influence: in

short, a central bank dictatorship over the 320 million people of Western Europe.

The Delors Commission is made up entirely of bankers. There is no representation of industry, agriculture, organized labor, not to mention elected political officials. The same policy circles who have wrecked long-term industrial growth across the globe over the past two decades, and created the "global financial markets" that led to the "Black Monday" crash of Oct. 19, 1987, are the sole interest group entrusted to "clean up" the mess that their own policies have created. It is more than a little analogous to allowing the fox to guard the hen house.

The proposals of the Delors Commission are outlined in a 1987 report by Padoa-Schioppa, titled "Efficiency, Stability, Equity." Delors wrote the report's preface, and insisted that Padoa-Schioppa be named executive secretary to his group, which was drafting the central bank scheme for "Europe 1992."

Rather than try to impose the new bank from the top, Delors calls for what he terms "creative destruction." His Nietzschean idea is that out of chaos will emerge a New European Order. The economic deregulation measures embodied in Europe 1992, he foresees, will unleash wild speculative gyrations and economic anarchy across Europe. National governments will realize they have surrendered sovereign powers to control this chaos, but that no other power yet exists to reestablish order.

This is the setting in which the Eu-

ropean Central Bank advocates believe their plan will be implemented "by popular demand."

Delors correctly foresees that the planned 1992 "liberalization of capital flows will diminish the capability to control internal and external shocks." Therefore, he says, to "ensure maintenance of stability, national economic policy will have to be more closely coordinated."

Padoa-Schioppa cleverly argues that because the liberalization of Europe's internal market will clearly create more wealth in the Community, "We must handle this new wealth from a central standpoint. This means that the EC must be given more power for regulation. The EC must control the overall budget. . . . The European Commission must coordinate macroeconomic policies."

Commenting on the progress toward the super central bank on June 23, columnist Samuel Brittan wrote in the City of London financial daily, the *Financial Times*, "Few people realize how far the governments of the European Monetary System have already committed themselves." Already on Feb. 3, a West German cabinet resolution declared, "The longer-term goal is economic and monetary union in Europe, in which an independent European Central Bank, committed to maintaining price stability, will be able to lend effective support to a common economic and monetary policy."

Brittan concludes, "The key issue is the abolition of exchange controls and the freeing of capital movements by 1992 as part of the unified market. *By then it will be almost impossible for EMS countries to pursue independent monetary policies, or even to impose different reserve requirements on their banks* [emphasis added]."

This is the point at which Padoa-Schioppa and Delors plan to make their bid for supranational control a reality.

Drought hits the farm banks

The Southwest oil patch has hitherto borne the brunt of the banking collapse, but now the farm states are hard hit too.

As the list of bank failures published by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) came off the wires in August, in addition to the failures in California and other oil states, there appeared occasional failures in places like Iowa and South Dakota, farm states which were hit hard by this year's drought.

This, as the federal government continued to wrangle with the problem of keeping the nation's bankrupt savings and loan institutions afloat.

Most of the new failures were banks with relatively smaller holdings than those banks bearing the brunt of the collapse in the Southwest region. Nevertheless, these failures signal a steadily growing problem, in an area which has been on the brink for some time.

Farm banks have just gone through a period of reconsolidation, in the aftermath of record farm failures during the last few years. The number of imperiled U.S. farm banks had shrunk from a peak of 230 on June 30, 1986 down to 126 on Dec. 31, 1987. But the unexpected drought this year forced banks in some farm states to accept charges against earnings as they rebuilt the loan loss reserves that had been allowed to shrink last winter. While 1987 had been billed as a recovery year for farm banks, the "recovery" was more than wiped out by the drought.

The situation is most serious in the Midwest corn belt and spring wheat areas of the Upper Plains states. Ironically enough, many of the farmers

who were in the weakest financial situation at the beginning of the year were among those most hurt by the drought.

Rural banks are experiencing a dual problem. Not only are farmers having problems keeping up their loan payments, but the demand for new loans is fast disappearing. Many farmers scrapped plans to buy more land or new equipment as the drought worsened. Nobody has any idea as yet how many farmers are going to miss their loan payments, as they pocket less money from their shrunken crops.

Much will depend on the effect of the \$3.9 billion federal drought relief package signed by President Reagan. Some details of the package, however, will not be worked out until the fall. According to some estimates, a farmer who lost 30% of a corn crop to the drought would receive about two-thirds of his normal income under the relief program. State officials in Iowa are estimating that farmers will have trouble making payments on roughly 20% of their loans.

In the other major problem area of the financial spectrum, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board agreed on Aug. 23 to provide \$565 million in financial assistance to an investor group that intends to merge two California savings institutions. The group, DP Holdings, Inc., headed by former Treasury Secretary William Simon, will invest \$207.5 million.

Under the agreement, the Bell Savings and Loan Association, an insolvent savings institution based in San Mateo, California, which has assets

with a current value of \$953 million, would be merged with the Western Federal Savings and Loan Association, a healthy savings unit based in Marina del Rey, California, with assets of \$2.5 billion.

Bell was one of the most notorious of California's fast-growing savings institutions. By aggressively soliciting \$100,000 certificates of deposit, the company grew from \$400 million in assets in 1982 to \$1.9 billion by 1984. Bell managers then issued loans on a number of commercial construction projects, many of which eventually went into default. In March 1986, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) filed a lawsuit in federal district court in San Francisco against Bell's top officers and directors for fraud and misappropriation of funds. The case is still pending.

Questions are being raised as to how long FSLIC can continue its bailouts of the S&Ls without overriding its present financial limits. Many people fear that Congress will have to increase FSLIC's funds considerably, if it is to keep ahead of the game.

On Aug. 25, Danny Wall, chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, the organization responsible for FSLIC, predicted that Congress would extend a key tax benefit for acquirers of failed thrifts that expires at the end of the year. Wall expects Congress to extend the tax benefit provisions for at least six months, and perhaps for as long as three years.

So far, the Bank Board has not succeeded in getting the extension included in any legislation moving through the House of Representatives. But Wall remains confident, and probably rightly so; for Congress knows that if it plays hardball on the tax benefit issue, it may be forced to foot the entire bill as the S&Ls start tumbling down.

Two more utilities face bankruptcy

Sabotage by state regulators is throwing Ohio's utilities into financial chaos.

On July 29, the Centerior Energy Corporation filed a brief with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) of Ohio stating that if its two utility companies do not receive an emergency rate increase, they are in danger of defaulting on debt obligations.

In January of this year, the Public Service Company of New Hampshire went into Chapter 11 bankruptcy, becoming the first utility to do so since the Depression. Now, Toledo Edison and Cleveland Electric Illuminating companies, held by Centerior, are facing a similar future.

What has characteristically made power companies financially vulnerable has been a combination of stretched-out periods of nuclear power plant construction, and actions by state regulators which make it impossible for the company to operate.

In 1974, a group of utilities began construction on the two Perry nuclear units in Cleveland, Ohio. The two units, 1,250 megawatts (MW) each were projected to cost \$1.234 billion together. When Perry 1 came into service in November 1987, it had cost \$5.6 billion. Unit 2 had construction suspended in 1984, when it was 50% complete, after \$1.7 billion had been spent.

Why did the cost escalate? First, the plants were midway through construction when the accident occurred at the Three Mile Island plant in nearby Pennsylvania. Construction was halted, systems were redesigned in midstream, and sections of the power plant that were finished were torn out, to meet new requirements laid down

by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Originally, the plant was scheduled to be operational by the end of the 1970s. When the construction started, state statutes read that, once the plant was 75% complete, the utilities could add some of the construction cost into their rate base to raise the funds to finish the job and retire debt that had been incurred.

According to a Centerior official, a couple of years ago, state law was changed, requiring that a plant be 90% complete before costs could be added to the rate base. Even then, very little of the actual cost could be passed on to customers.

However, the Perry plant, and the Beaver Valley 2 plant, also partly owned by the same two utilities, have both been *operating* and producing power since November, and the cost of building and operating them is *still* not in the rate base.

According to opponents of the rate increase, the utility does not "need" the money. They state in a brief filed with the Public Utilities Commission that the companies should "improve accounting practices" and institute dividend reductions. But if dividends are cut, the companies will find their bond rating devalued—another step toward financial insolvency.

According to the utilities, they have had to borrow money at interest rates as high as 20% to build the nuclear power plants. A full one-third of the "cost" of the Perry plant is financing charges.

The utilities found themselves

running out of funds last fall, and because the PUC would not move on phasing in rate hikes, they decided on a desperate route to raise money. In September, the largest sale-leaseback deal in history was concluded.

The two companies sold all of their shares of the Bruce Mansfield coal-burning plant and Toledo Edison's shares in the Beaver Valley 2 nuclear plant, both in western Pennsylvania, to private investors for \$1.7 billion. (CEI still owns a 24.4% share of Beaver Valley 2.) Cash from the sale was used to cover day-to-day operating expenses, and to refinance some of the debt at a better rate. The highest interest rate loans, however, could not be refinanced. Now, the utilities are leasing back the capacity of the power plants *they built*, from the private investors.

The sale-leaseback agreement includes a proviso that the companies show a net income over the preceding 12 months of any period, that is a "coverage ratio" or multiple of the amount of interest component that is paid in the semi-annual lease payment. The companies are not in danger of defaulting on their lease payment, but on the "coverage ratio" part of the agreement. According to Centerior, the interest rate component of the lease rental payment is 80%.

In other words, the two utilities, which are \$4 billion in debt from having built power plants without recovering the cost, are now also paying off the debts a private firm has incurred to buy their assets.

At the end of August, the PUC was to decide how much the utilities can raise their rates to bring in more revenue. But perhaps, they would prefer to wait a little longer, until the companies are forced into bankruptcy, and there is no one to run the state's power plants.

Business Briefs

Credit

Democrats' 'economist' says: Loot population

The Democratic Party's economic "expert" has authored a *New York Times* commentary which warns that foreign creditors will soon cease supporting the United States, and that the "recession" faced in 1981-82 will therefore be nothing compared to the "recession" faced by the next President. His recommendation is: austerity, austerity, austerity.

Under the headline, "A Briefing for the Next President," Lester C. Thurow said that it is likely that foreign investors will cease keeping the U.S. afloat at the rate of \$200 billion a year. The next President will have to find ways to make ends meet.

He recommends a gas tax and a move to "a high savings, high investment society."

For non-economists, "high savings" means high interest rates, and, therefore, low investment. "High investment," on the other hand, means drastically reduced consumption and standards of living for the American people. In other words, sustain the banking system by cannibalizing the country.

Consumption, Thurow says, should be held at least 1% below GNP increases. He, however, wants this done in a "progressive" manner; "the rich" will pay more.

Inflation

Cheese prices break record

The largest one-day price rise in U.S. wholesale cheese took place in trading Aug. 19 at the Green Bay Cheese Exchange in Wisconsin, the center of the U.S. dairy industry. The price for barrel cheese, a wholesale commodity, rose by 4.75¢ a pound in one day.

The wholesale increase will translate into an increase in the price paid to dairy farmers to \$12.42 per hundredweight (cwt) of fluid milk—still only about half the parity price level of \$24/cwt.

To produce one pound of cheese requires about 10 pounds of fluid milk; therefore, there will be an approximate 47¢ rise in the price of milk used to produce one pound of cheese.

Milk cows have expired in Wisconsin dairy herds at the rate of one per hundred head, because of the extreme heat. The total dairy herd in Wisconsin has dropped 33,000 animals from July 1987 to July of this year, and now totals 1.752 million cows. The state's rendering plants have reported receiving large numbers of carcasses, which are being processed for pet food.

Meanwhile, a record volume of Wisconsin milk is being trucked to the country's Southeast to meet school needs. In mid-August, 92 semi-trailer loads—4.5 million pounds—of fluid milk left Wisconsin, destined for southern Illinois, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Milk is also being shipped to the Southeast from Michigan and other northern points.

These amounts represent an all-time high volume. The need results from the decline in Southeastern milk output under federal dairy reduction programs, depressed farming conditions, and drought. For several years, the entire Southeast has been a fluid-milk deficit region, and the situation has grown acute as school openings approach in September.

Energy

Midwest industries facing blackouts

An inadequate supply of electric power in the American Midwest may result in temporary cutoffs to large industrial customers, according to a spokesman for one of the region's largest utilities, American Electric Power Company.

"It's getting close to the point where we're going to have to interrupt those contracts to have enough electricity for our residential and commercial customers," a utility spokesman said in mid-August.

Contracts with industrial customers include agreements "to be interrupted in peak winter and summer periods." Total demand reached a new record of 17,164 megawatts

on Aug. 17, exceeding last summer's peak by about 10%.

Agriculture

Maryland is fast losing its farms

A Department of Agriculture report issued in early August states that the State of Maryland has lost 1,000 farms in the past two years, and that 350,000 acres have been taken out of farming in the state since 1984.

There are now 16,000 farms in the state, and total acreage is down to 2.35 million from 2.8 million in 1981.

According to Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., State Agriculture Secretary, one in seven people in Maryland are in farm or farm-related employment.

He warned that the elimination of farms has a tremendous impact both on the availability of food, and on the state's economy. As farms close, local implement dealers and other support services shut down, making it more difficult for farmers to operate.

Poor profits to farmers, as well as expansion of housing and other development, were cited as chief reasons for farm loss.

Farmers under financial pressure are selling their land to developers, often for \$10,000 an acre, far higher than the \$2,000 per acre price prevailing for farmland.

Europe 1992

German coal facing deregulation before 1992

The anti-trust agency of the West German government appears to be moving toward adoption of a policy urged upon it by the European Commission, the "deregulation" of the German coal industry. Deregulation, which primarily means elimination of price subsidies, will cause massive bankruptcy and contraction in the industry for which Germany's Ruhr region is famous.

The bureau's director, Werner Kartte,

Briefly

● **TAIWAN'S** Securities and Exchange Commission cut the permitted level of margin loans from brokerage houses to their clients by 10%, effective Aug. 27. The move was described by the *New York Times* as "aimed at damping investor enthusiasm." It worked: The stock market index dropped sharply.

● **ARGENTINA'S** highly fertile *pampa húmeda* region is suffering an unprecedented drought, press reports there say. Since March, it has rained an average of 3 millimeters per month, as compared to a month-of-July record of 72 millimeters. The National Meteorological Service is calling this one of the most prolonged droughts of the century, with severe effects on food output.

● **PRATT & WHITNEY**, the aerospace firm, will lay off 303 salaried workers by Aug. 31 at its jet engine plant in Palm Beach, Florida. In July, the firm announced the elimination of 1,009 salaried jobs at its main facility in East Hartford, Connecticut. Pratt & Whitney's plant in Palm Beach has plans to eliminate 600 more jobs.

● **DREXEL BURNHAM Lambert** is orchestrating the emergence from two years of bankruptcy of one of the largest shipbuilding and tugboat companies on the West Coast, under the ownership of its union. Unimar International, Inc., the company's new name, once employed 1,500 workers; 400 remain. Drexel Burnham will control 5% of the Washington state firm's stock, and receive an additional 5% after a year.

● **BANK FAILURES** in Texas are now so frequent that the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* has started a new contest: To win, you match the new name of a failed bank with its name before it failed, or pick the new name that a bank being rescued will adopt. The paper promises a grand prize "more valuable than a certificate of stock from River Plaza National Bank (or just about any other bank, for that matter)."

informed the state-owned mining complex, Ruhr Coal Corp., and the government in Bonn that he is investigating whether "the coal price guarantee system" is "in conflict with anti-trust and European laws." Apparently, the anti-trust bureau doesn't want to wait until the European Community treaty governing the industry expires in 1995, but intends to have it dumped before the liberalization of 1992.

Under the "Single Europe 1992" act adopted by the European Commission, all economic barriers between the 12 member-nations of the European Community will be eliminated that year.

The deregulation would represent a windfall for the Swedish and South African coal firms, which could flood Germany's market with cheap imported coal. The German deregulation is also being demanded by the state-owned French EDF utility, which hopes to sell electricity from the French nuclear power sector to German users after the 1992 liberalization. Upon a special motion by the French government, the European Commission in Brussels recently urged the German government to "deregulate in time."

Biological Holocaust

Worst may be yet to come in Sudan

"The worst is still to come" in Sudan, according to an aid worker quoted in the Paris daily *Le Monde*. "We fear there will be more rain, and the Nile could rise for another two months."

The danger of epidemics will be greatest once the water level starts to fall, according to experts quoted. There are already rumors that the whole country will be put in quarantine, because of the threat of cholera and typhoid epidemics.

The head of the local Red Crescent organization is quoted saying, "What we have experienced in the past is nothing compared to the disaster we are living through today. Out of Khartoum's 2.5 million inhabitants, about one million have been seriously affected by the floods. More than 500,000 have no shelter."

The worst situation is in the north of the

country, where more than 100 square kilometers of land have been totally inundated. No details are known on the loss of life there.

Science

Reagan hails space funding legislation

President Reagan has placed emphasis on the aspect of a new appropriations bill that will provide funding for the nation's space programs.

The President signed the \$48.5 billion appropriations bill the weekend of Aug. 20. The bill includes \$900 million for space programs, part of which will fund the development of a manned space station.

"The space station will advance the frontiers of scientific knowledge and strengthen cooperation in space among the United States and its allies. . . . The act also provides important funding needed to restore the nation's space shuttle capability," the President said.

Of the \$900 million, however, \$515 million is being withheld until May to allow the next President to determine priorities.

Commodities

Hunt brothers found guilty of trust activity

A federal jury in Manhattan ruled on Aug. 19 that the Hunt brothers of Dallas conspired to corner the world silver market in 1979 and 1980.

The three brothers were ordered to pay \$130 million in damages to the Peruvian government-owned Minpeco S.A., which had sued the Hunts for losses it sustained because of their manipulation of the silver market.

Merrill Lynch and E.F. Hutton, which had advised the Peruvian firm to make the investments, had agreed to pay the company \$64 million in damages prior to the lawsuit.

The Hunts are already in grave financial difficulty, and face more lawsuits over the same matter.

The truth comes out about the x-ray laser

Charles B. Stevens reports the declassification breakthrough that allowed Edward Teller to reveal the facts on a defensive super-weapon, on which, until now, only EIR has given accurate reports.

If any analyst after 1945 had seriously proposed to discuss strategic military capabilities without taking nuclear technology into consideration, one would have recommended that this analyst have his head examined. If the same analyst simultaneously proposed shutting down U.S. nuclear weapon capabilities and turning them over to the Soviet Union, it would have been said that this analyst was a traitor. But that is precisely what Michael Dukakis is proposing from the standpoint of contemporary technology.

This has been demonstrated by the release of a U.S. General Accounting Office report, *Strategic Defense Initiative Program: Accuracy of Statements Concerning DOE's X-Ray Laser Research Program*, and associated, previously top-secret letters by Dr. Edward Teller and his critics, with clarifying statements by Dr. Teller on CBS-TV national news on Aug. 10. These show that the United States is developing a nuclear-powered x-ray laser, a single module of which could destroy the entire inventory of Soviet missiles.

These startling revelations not only completely justify President Reagan's prediction that nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles could be rendered "impotent and obsolete," but also demonstrate that only *Executive Intelligence Review* and other publications associated with Lyndon H. LaRouche have accurately reported on the status of developing missile defense science and technology. Or, to put the matter more bluntly, Dr. Teller's public statements and this most recent GAO report categorically demonstrate that all other non-governmental public pronouncements and analyses have been "whistling in the dark" compared to *EIR*.

Despite some technical underestimates and flaws, which, it has been learned, leading defense scientists will shortly correct with further public revelations, the GAO report and

these other materials essentially provide complete documentation of the situation. Therefore, *EIR* will publish the GAO report and related materials in future issues.

The Teller interview

During his interview on CBS on Aug. 10—a fuller version of which will appear in October on the "60 Minutes" show—Teller states that he is now in a position for the first time to publicly defend the SDI and the x-ray laser with the scientific facts. This is an historic first. For more than four decades, Teller has complained that overly stringent secrecy rules have prevented him and other scientists from telling the American people the truth about Soviet capabilities and developments. Teller has argued these many years, quite cogently in the opinion of this reporter, that secrecy rules generally keep little secret from the prying Soviets and everything secret from the American people, particularly the great dangers that we actually face. Teller now says that, suddenly, he is free to talk. What happened? Dr. Teller and his close colleague Dr. Lowell Wood met with President Reagan at the beginning of August.

Dr. Teller and his closest collaborators have been attacked for supposedly misrepresenting the success of x-ray laser research. This, for example, was the subject of a major piece in the *Los Angeles Times* on July 17, 1988, by Robert Scheer. Actually, the *Los Angeles Times* has been trying to prop up this story for the past three years.

Previously, Teller was in a no-win situation. He couldn't reply in any detail to these critics. The information was being kept top secret. It didn't matter that the Soviets already had all of this information. (In fact, the Soviets pioneered much of the science of the x-ray laser; U.S. researchers were shocked

to find out how well the Soviet projections actually worked.) The rules say that this material must be kept top secret. But the issues involved in judging the status of the x-ray laser are complicated. It is literally on the frontiers of science and technology. But how could it be otherwise, if the x-ray laser were to have any substantial impact on the existing arsenal of weapons, those monsters of mass destruction, nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles?

Teller's antagonists thought they were protected from any substantial counterattack by the impenetrable shield of classification. And then Teller met with President Reagan.

'As many as you wish'

What Teller said during the interview was really quite simple. Based on experiments through 1984, Dr. Teller and his leading collaborators at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California had concluded that it was possible to realize an x-ray laser which would have a firing range greater than several thousand miles. Furthermore, this hydrogen bomb-powered x-ray laser could develop virtually as many beams as desired, and fire each of them at a separate target over thousands of miles. That is, a single weapon could produce more than 100,000 separate beams and destroy all Soviet missiles; all Soviet warheads, and all Soviet decoys over a range of several thousand miles.

This is quite an astounding claim. Teller was directly asked if he stood by his 1984 projection. He replied with an adamant, "Yes!" And it should be emphasized again, that Teller began by stating that, for the first time, he is in a position to publicly defend his assessment of the x-ray laser.

One does not have to be a general or a leading nuclear physicist to recognize that if the United States has a weapon so powerful that a single module costing less than a few million dollars can readily destroy every missile, every warhead, and every decoy in the Soviet inventory in one shot, that Soviet ballistic missiles are well on the road to being "impotent and obsolete."

Dukakis's petard

When skating on ice, always make sure it is firm. Anti-SDI Reps. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and George E. Brown (D-Calif.) have just discovered that they have been skating on the thinnest ice. It was at the request of these congressmen that the latest GAO report and associated documents were issued.

In carrying out their campaign of slander against Teller and the SDI, Markey and Brown thought that they were safe from serious retaliation, given the way security classification had muzzled Dr. Teller and his friends. Their most recent effort against Dr. Teller and the x-ray laser was supposed to be the spearhead of the Dukakis campaign's mobilization to bury President Reagan's SDI missile defense program. The secondary flank was being taken up by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), who is proposing a so-called Accidental Launch Pro-

tection System (ALPS) to replace the SDI with what, in effect, would be a limited missile defense for Washington, D.C.

From the beginning, the critics of the SDI have zeroed in on the most secret element of the effort, the nuclear bomb-powered x-ray laser, and Dr. Teller, because they believed that the administration would never release sufficient hard data on this secret program; that is, sufficient data to categorically rebuff their attacks. Without explaining in any substantial way the actual potentials of the nuclear-powered x-ray laser, or the fact that the Soviets had almost a decade's lead in developing the system, these critics thought that the x-ray laser would make the perfect target—obscure and mysterious—a mad project associated with that mad-looking Hungarian physicist



Edward Teller

with the Bela Lugosi accent.

Their line of attack was to say that the x-ray laser didn't work at all; it was a pure fantasy conjured up in the mad scientist's imagination. With the demonstration of unclassified laboratory versions of the x-ray laser, this became difficult to maintain. But then, a turncoat appeared. Roy Woodruff was a leading program manager working on x-ray lasers at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, who began providing "hard information" on how Dr. Teller and his colleagues had "misrepresented" the x-ray laser: "The Man Who Blew the Whistle on Star Wars," to quote the *Los Angeles Times*.

The Woodruff tragedy

Teller's leading internal critic was Roy Woodruff, a relatively competent technician and weapons designer who was able to rise to the highest management ranks at Lawrence Livermore based on his clever design work since 1968. But, when he found that a job title did not necessarily equal scientific stature, he let himself become jealous of the influence which Dr. Teller and other leading scientists exerted, without imposing job titles. This small flaw was manipulated by the anti-SDI forces associated with the *Los Angeles Times*, to convert Woodruff into an opponent of the entire program.

It may be that a key role was played by Woodruff's wife Mary, who was a top assistant to former Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger. Schlesinger is a science-hater, a malthusian nut, and a notorious advocate of using psychological, as opposed to technical, means in military affairs—"aura of power." He was one of the chief architects of the entire MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) policy. Schlesinger will always be remembered as the Secretary of Energy who tried to destroy the magnetic fusion energy program in 1977, pre-

cisely because it was on the verge of major breakthroughs.

Woodruff himself, when he saw that Teller was serious about replacing this "traditional" MAD policy with the SDI's mutually assured survival concept, reports, "That's where everything . . . turned sour."

Did Teller misrepresent the potential of the x-ray laser to the President and other American leaders, as Woodruff claimed? Both the declassified Teller and Woodruff memoranda reveal that the x-ray laser was indeed demonstrated. And that with sufficient resources, starting in 1985, a system with tremendous firepower capabilities could be realized within 5 to 10 years, and that the Soviets were as much as 7 years ahead of the United States in developing this capability.

From a military standpoint, the x-ray laser would appear to fulfill President Reagan's objective of making ballistic missiles "impotent and obsolete." In any case, even the existence of the x-ray laser as a *viable potential* undermines the military certainty of success with a massive ICBM first strike. Given that the West has no interest in such a first-strike policy, possession of x-ray laser capabilities by both the United States and Soviet Union would not be undesirable.

In this context, who, or what, is Rep. George Brown (D-Calif.)? When announcing the release of these materials, he bragged of the success that he and other Dukak-eyed Democrats have had in emasculating the x-ray laser budget, "with the SDI program this year requesting less than half as much for continued x-ray laser research as it projected two years ago. Funded through the Department of Energy's Nuclear Directed Energy Weapons (NDEWs) program, the lion's share of which is for the x-ray laser, the request for FY 1989 was \$285 million. This compares to a projected request two years ago of \$707 million for fiscal 1989. Congress has cut the request to \$255 million, putting it below the 1986 level of support."

Within the highly technical and frontier scientific areas involved in x-ray lasers, there is certainly a lot of room for debate and differing analysis. But with regard to competence in the field of nuclear weapons, making rational projections of capabilities and time-frames when these capabilities will become practicable, it should be noted that Dr. Edward Teller has a rather good track record. His critics have cited the Manhattan Project of World War II as a framework in which to compare the x-ray laser program, citing attacks on his H-bomb work at that time as allegedly "incompetent." They should be warned that there are still many crucial aspects to that effort which have remained secret even today. And Teller's critics have, for the most part, only read about the Manhattan Project in history books. Teller initiated the Manhattan Project when he helped get Albert Einstein to send a letter to President Roosevelt in 1939.

Fusion and the potential of the xraser

The fusion-powered x-ray laser, otherwise known as the xraser, is not a solitary capability, but rather, is characteristic

Teller, EIR record on the x-ray laser

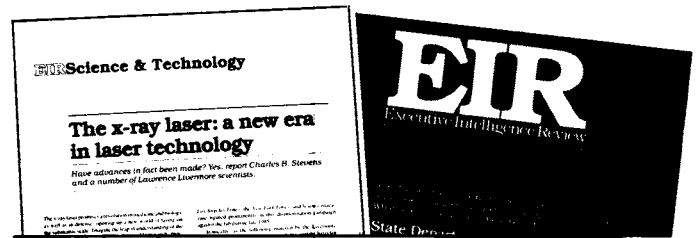
1982

Teller

"In the fall of 1982 . . . he wanted the lab to go to a meeting in La Jolla [probably the super secret defense science organization called JASON] and say that within five years we could produce an x-ray laser that would . . . defend against submarine-launched missile attack." (*Los Angeles Times*, July 17, 1988.)

EIR

"These scientists have privately called for an accelerated research program in x-ray laser defense systems. . . . Such a program could prove the feasibility of an x-ray laser defense system in two to three years, and lead to a deployable ballistic missile defense . . . within five to eight years." (August)



1983

Teller

"I agree that science cannot be sped up by throwing money at it. But we are now entering the engineering phase of x-ray lasers. . . . We have also developed the diagnostics by which to judge every stage of engineering progress. . . . Since there is evidence that the Soviets have started sooner and in fact may have anticipated the President's speech of March 23 by a few years, it seems to me that we are facing a potentially dangerous situation." (Letter to Dr. George A. Keyworth, Dec. 22)

EIR

"X-ray lasers: Current information indicates that the United States is months to a few years away from perfecting the nuclear-bomb-pumped x-ray laser. . . . The first-generation x-ray laser could be quite effective against short-range missiles." (April)

1984

Teller

"The technology employed in this demonstration appeared to be capable of generating a beam of x-rays which, at great distances, would be as much as [deleted] Bright as the bomb itself. One example of its utility would be the ability to kill a target at a distance of 10,000 km which would not be killed unless it were no more than 10 km from the bomb itself; another would be the ability to kill 100 such targets at distances of 1,000 km. This advance is thus comparable in magnitude to that involved in moving from chemical to nuclear explosives. . . . As a result of work done by Lowell's team during the past two years, there appears to be a real prospect of increasing the brightness . . . of x-ray lasers relative to the hydrogen bombs which energize them, which may thus be as large as a trillion, when directed against sharply defined targets. . . . This technology might be devastatingly effective in the mid-course and terminal phases of strategic defense, as it might be possible to generate as many as 100,000 independently aimable beams from a single x-ray laser module, each of which could be quite lethal even to a distant hardened object in flight." (Letter to Ambassador Paul Nitze, Dec. 28)

EIR

"This means that anything within the cone defined by the laser beam will be hit by a beam that is a trillion times brighter than the H-bomb. . . . An x-ray laser beam of this brightness could destroy a missile booster from as far away as the Moon, and much harder targets, such as warheads within reentry vehicles, could be destroyed within a range of 10,000 miles. In fact, it is well known in directed-energy theory that the number of targets a laser weapon can kill increases as the inverse square of the ratio of different ranges. For example, if one x-ray laser module could kill a booster from 100,000-mile range, theoretically it could destroy 10,000 boosters within a range of 1,000 miles. And as was demonstrated in the case of mobile cannons with grapeshot against infantry two centuries ago, targeting problems rapidly disappear in the face of such gigantic firepower potentials." (May)

1985

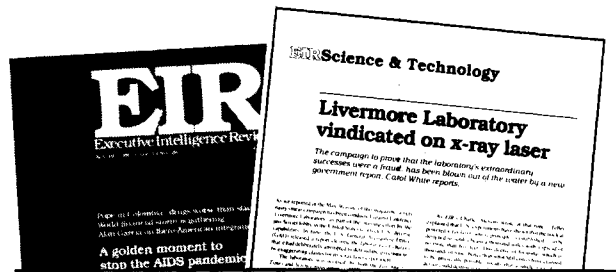
Lowell Wood

"Dr. Wood's April 23, 1985, briefing to William Casey, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and Stanley Sporkin, CIA's General Counsel. . . .

"In one part of his briefing, Dr. Wood stated the x-ray laser can have 'as many as [specific number of] independently aimable beams.'" (GAO Report, June 1988)

EIR

"1) Firepower. The x-ray laser is extraordinarily energy-dense; The first x-ray laser weapon deployed will have the capability of destroying more than a score of offensive missiles. But even today, the scientific basis for far greater firepower potentials is being developed. The basis for projecting the development of a single x-ray laser weapon with the firepower to destroy the entire Soviet missile fleet with a single shot already exists." (December)



1986

EIR

"Given sufficient resources, the U.S. x-ray laser could now be developed within two years.

"The tremendous potential firepower of the nuclear bomb-energized x-ray laser, underscores the insanity of focusing U.S. missile defense efforts on obsolete systems. As Dr. Lowell Wood of Lawrence Livermore stated in testimony to Congress in early 1985, 'One contemplates the functional (and perhaps physical) destruction of entire fleets of ICBMs, with a single weapon module lofted by a single defensive missile. Each of these primary prospects has significant, albeit early, experimental results behind them at the present time. They are not dreams, nor are the corresponding applications studies naive.'

"With the plasma lens utilized to focus x-ray laser beams, a single x-ray laser bomb, in the megaton total output range, popped into space on a single missile could generate enough beams to destroy 10,000-100,000 hardened warheads over ranges of several thousand kilometers. In other words, one x-ray laser bomb could destroy all of the Soviet ICBM warhead and decoy capability, and do it during the 20 minutes of flight through space which the reentry vehicles, carrying the warheads, traverse on their way to the United States.

"Alternatively, Soviet x-ray lasers could easily destroy High Frontier's kinetic energy weapons and anti-missiles." (April)

of an entire range of new, directed energy technologies which combine the inherently large energy densities of thermonuclear fusion processes with the coherence manifested by relativistic, high energy particle and laser beams. In fact, this combination provides the means for an entirely new capability for mastering the spectrum of electrodynamic action.

Nuclear-explosive directed energy weapons (NDEW) are only the first, apparently crude and overly cumbersome working models for this new frontier of technology. For example, U.S. scientists have already been able to "miniaturize" the H-bomb by igniting thermonuclear reactions in microscopic quantities of fusion fuel. Thus, the scientific principles for harnessing the virtually unlimited potentials of inertial confinement, or so-called laser pellet fusion, have been demonstrated. In this case, a micro-pellet of fusion fuel is irradiated by either intense laser or particle beams. The action of the incident beams causes the fusion pellet to be compressed to the super densities and temperatures otherwise only found in the cores of stars. This generates the conditions for igniting thermonuclear fusion.

The resulting microscopic explosions can be readily contained and transformed into either useful mechanical or electrical impulses. The process has been described as the internal combustion engine of the 21st century. But instead of burning gallons of oil, laser fusion burns micrograms of readily available hydrogen. Instead of generating carbon dioxide and other potential pollutants, laser fusion generates the valuable element helium.

But inertial confinement fusion (ICF) is not limited to simply generating a cleaner and cheaper gross substitute for prevailing forms of energy consumption. The inherently high energy density of fusion processes also makes it possible to directly transform the output to useful forms, such as electricity, at very high efficiencies—in some cases approaching 99% and better.

But as the xraser demonstrates, this inherently high quality of energy deriving from high energy densities is not limited to existing forms of coherent energy, such as high voltage electricity. The xraser and other NDEWs demonstrate that coherent pulses capable of being focused to even higher energy densities than those originally found in the generating thermonuclear process can be achieved. And, as Leibniz first showed, energy density correlates with productivity.

How the xraser works

In principle, the workings of the xraser are quite simple. A primary H-bomb generates a burst of intense, incoherent x-rays. If this intense x-ray output is properly tailored, then it will generate x-ray lasing action when incident upon material containing the appropriate chemical elements. The appropriate chemical elements are contained in rods or cylinders which are geometrically placed to properly receive the pulse of x-rays deriving from the detonation of the primary fusion fuel of the H-bomb.

Within a few trillionths of a second, the incident x-rays convert the rods into plasmas. That is, the incident x-rays ionize the rod atoms. The x-ray output from the H-bomb thermonuclear plasma is not totally incoherent. It is possible to tailor this x-ray output both in terms of intensity and wavelength through the proper placement of intervening jackets (what are technically called "tamper") around the thermonuclear fuel. The essential requirements are that the incident x-ray pulse be tailored such that it generates a uniform plasma column and uniform distribution of the desired ionization states in the atoms making up the plasma.

To put the problem in more descriptive terms, a plasma has to be generated in which its atomic and electron elements are as well organized as those found in a perfect crystal. This must be done while the energy-flux of a hydrogen bomb explosion passes through the plasma. The time spans involved, though, are very short; the configuration must be achieved for durations lasting from only trillionths of a second to possibly a billionth of a second. But all of the conditions must match up during this short time span. If not, the plasma will not generate the desired xraser pulse. Furthermore, any nonuniformities could prevent the pulse, if generated, from escaping or being directed along the path desired.

Such tailoring calls for a very advanced comprehension of energy-dense plasmas and their nonlinear interaction with electrodynamic radiation.

A more detailed analysis shows that most other laser defense systems must deliver millions of joules of energy if they are to assure the destruction of hardened warheads. Because of its high energy density, the xraser can achieve the same result with as little as a couple of joules of incident energy. When a sufficiently intense xraser pulse hits the surface of a target, the interaction generates highly focused particle beams. The resulting high-energy particle beam will then penetrate to the interior of the target and will further focus the energy pulse during the process of absorption within the interior of the target.

This internal, high-energy particle energy deposition is of such a form that it guarantees the destruction of all electronic elements and circuits when a deposition level of greater than a few joules per gram of target is achieved. Furthermore, the nuclear explosive-powered xraser can generate laser pulses in excess of billions of joules. This provides a more accurate picture of the ultimate potential firepower of the xraser against nuclear warheads. It can kill billions of warheads, in principle. The essential determinant in this example is our ability to achieve the required initial level of xraser beam focusing.

It is clear in stark military terms that the xraser and other NDEWs represent a general transformation in the meaning and performance of firepower. This was the central method of the SDI policy presented by Lyndon H. LaRouche in 1982. Furthermore, this LaRouche criterion asks, "What level of productivity increases would result from applying this tech-

nology to the economy as a whole?"

The same self-focusing properties of the x-raser and other NDEWs which make them such powerful potential weapons, also give some indication of the vast increases in productivity which will accrue from applying these techniques to "civilian" pursuits. The x-raser, for example, is currently being perfected at Livermore for making *in vivo* atomic-scale microholograms—three dimensional pictures—of living cells. These microholograms promise to revolutionize every aspect of biological, medical, and chemical science and technology.

In the simplest case, atomic-scale microholograms taken with a time resolution measured in billionths through trillionths of a second could provide a "motion picture" of the way catalysis works in living biochemical processes. Insight gained from this alone could increase the productivity of the chemical industry many orders of magnitude.

On the broader horizon, the mastering of the microscopic plasma and electrodynamic processes implicit in the technology of x-raser development can provide the essential means for revolutionizing science itself. Some x-raser experimental results on the interaction of intense x-raser beams with "perfect" crystals indicates that we may be directly observing the relative curvature of space-time, in the sense that Bernhard Riemann first called for making such measurements in his 1854 paper, "The Hypotheses which Underlie Geometry."

Mastering of these measurements could lead to a new comprehension of what "matter" represents in terms of electrodynamic-physical processes—an understanding of the electrodynamic processes of subnuclear processes, for example. Mastery of such processes could enable us to construct new types of "crystalline" states of matter, such that controlled thermonuclear fusion between the lattice nuclei could be provoked by the simple introduction of the appropriate sound wave. The resulting fusion energy output appears as a pulse of electricity or other desired coherent energy form. In principle, we would have a new type of battery, as small or as large as desired, which would be millions of times more powerful, thousands of times cheaper, and capable of operating for years or decades, depending on the application.

Research and development

The first unambiguous demonstration of an x-raser took place in 1980 in an underground Nevada nuclear test. The experiment's design was highly speculative at the time, and surprised most scientists—including Dr. Teller—with its success. The initial weapon specifications deriving from this first-generation theoretical demonstration of x-rasing, projected a crude device developing a few x-raser beams whose poor optical quality and low efficiency in converting H-bomb energy into x-raser beam energy limited them to relatively short ranges of less than 500 kilometers against relatively soft targets, such as thin-skinned rockets during their boost phase, or satellites.

But then, further tests demonstrated that scientists had

underestimated the rate at which the nuclear x-raser could be improved. This developed along two lines. First, the dynamics of the x-raser lasing medium proved to be highly nonlinear. Much higher efficiencies and optical quality levels were achieved than were originally expected. Second, innovative techniques were uncovered for developing x-raser optics. Many scientifically esteemed critics of the SDI made the projection that optics, such as mirrors and lenses which direct and focus ordinary light, would be technically impossible to realize for intense x-ray laser beams. Experiments quickly demonstrated that to be false.

With the development of insight into the potential for improvements, as the GAO report and Teller's CBS-TV interview document, Dr. Teller and his colleagues began to radically increase their projections for the firepower of the

X-ray laser: reality comes out

The letters of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory official Roy Woodruff were ballyhooed by the press as "debunking Edward Teller" about the x-ray laser and the Strategic Defense Initiative; claims about these letters led to congressional investigation, scandalized Livermore, and unleashed blundering FBI agents upon laboratory personnel. Now finally revealed, the Woodruff letters, written in 1984, state that:

- 1) "The production of strong x-ray energy beams that are unmistakably the result of lasing action, is an accomplished fact";
- 2) "I fully expect that these . . . experiments will establish that the x-ray laser could be an effective weapon";
- 3) "With the successful completion of the [experiments] outlined above, the development of a full x-ray laser weapon system would require an additional 5-10 years and would cost several billion dollars, depending on the number of weapons required. Of course the schedule could be accelerated if, in parallel to the x-ray laser research, we were to execute a weapon engineering development program."
- 4) "We are also working on several other methods for directing the energy of a nuclear explosion. It is only prudent to assume the Soviets also are actively pursuing other methods for directing the energy of a nuclear weapon, and it could be very dangerous if they are successful first."

X-ray laser funding has, since 1984-85, been cut to \$250 million per year.

xraser and reduce the estimated time it would take to perfect the system.

Then, in 1985, a Nevada test demonstrated the effectiveness of a plasma lens for focusing and directing xraser beams. This test blew the lid off even the most optimistic previous projection. While there is still a significant scientific debate on the interpretation of the 1985 results, Dr. Teller stands by the projections he made at that time. Moreover, there are indications that new information on these results will shortly be released.

In any case, the projection for the xraser improved, such that instead of envisaging the development of a system only capable of intercepting slower, submarine-launched ballistic and intermediate-range missiles in their boost phase, the accepted estimate was that a single xraser module could generate upward of 100,000 individual beams, each capable of functionally disabling, if not physically destroying, the hardest targets, such as reentry vehicles and warheads.

Vindication: the GAO report

The June 1988 GAO report, "Accuracy of Statements Concerning DOE's X-Ray Laser Research Program," presented the following "Summary of Findings":

"We found that the LLNL official channel, which included Mr. Woodruff, had made statements about the status and potential of the x-ray laser, which were similar to most of the statements identified by Mr. Woodruff as being 'overly optimistic and technically incorrect.'

"Mr. Woodruff prepared letters to send to [presidential science adviser] Dr. Keyworth and [arms negotiation] Ambassador Nitze clarifying the statements made by Dr. Teller. However, Dr. Batzel said that he preferred that Mr. Woodruff's clarifying letters not be sent [because Woodruff's letters included funding projections which Batzel did not think it proper to present to Keyworth and Nitze before sending these funding proposals through proper channels, as later detailed in the GAO report], and they were not. We found that Mr. Woodruff presented his opinions on information that had been provided by Dr. Teller to Dr. Keyworth and Ambassador Nitze. Mr. Woodruff told us he did not have opportunities to present his views to Mr. McFarlane and Mr. Casey.

"In addition, we asked selected LLNL scientists, who had specific knowledge about the x-ray laser program, for their opinions as to the accuracy of the statements challenged by Mr. Woodruff. From these interviews, we concluded there was no general agreement among these scientists regarding the accuracy of the statements. . . ."

The GAO report also quoted a Department of Energy (DOE) review of the statements of Drs. Teller and Wood:

". . . In summary, they found that Drs. Teller and Wood were optimistic about the potential of the x-ray laser. They concluded that the views of Drs. Teller and Wood were presented as views of individual scientists and not represented as the official position of LLNL."

Book Reviews

NATO is into chaos

by Warren J. Hamerman

Chaos in Biological Systems

ed. by H. Degn, A. Holden, and L. Olsen

Plenum Press, New York, N.Y. 1987

323 pages with index, \$62.50 hardbound

For four days in December 1986, the NATO military alliance sponsored an "Advanced Research Workshop" at Dyffryn House, Cardiff, Wales on the seemingly unlikely theme of "chaos" in biological systems. In this volume of the proceedings of the NATO seminar, one can read papers of some 75 scientists which prove, among other things, that:

- the dynamics of a healthy heart beating is pure chaos, while disease and arrhythmias are orderly;
- the oscillatory water transpiration in plants is governed by pure chaos;
- platelet production in the healthy person is random and chaotic;
- "chaos" runs everything from cell behavior and nerve impulses to the ecology and epidemics.

At the workshop, NATO reviewed "chaos models" in the following organisms: man, rabbits, plants, squids, and mollusks.

While the reader will have no trouble accepting that "chaos" took over our foreign policy and economy, he or she may be startled to learn that scientists around the world in every conceivable discipline are trying to elevate "chaos" to the level of a full-scale universal theory of all natural processes.

Recently, science journals in every field—from physics and meteorology to mathematics and biology—have been flooded with articles and reports which claim to prove that "chaos" explains everything.

Teams of computer programmers are racing to outdo each other in showing "chaos" on the screen in full-color graphics. A newspaper reporter has written a popular nonfiction best-seller which explains to the ordinary man just how important chaos is, and how, in a few years, it grew from being the pet project of a few crankish computer scientists to the fastest-spreading religion since Islam.

The chaos model promotes itself *falsely* as the *only* alternative to static, equilibrium systems characterized by linear dynamics. It maps complex physiological structures and pro-

cesses with multiple scales of length and time. The chaotic model is everywhere unstable and everywhere unpredictable. Against a background of pure turbulence, random and irregular "bifurcations" are provoked. Chaos "accumulates" in certain areas. Out of this mess, therefore, computers generate points of "strange attraction" around which patterns form. The complex and irregular shapes which appear on the screen look like a computer's Rohrschak Test which the experts can interpret. Some of the chaos-salesmen modestly call their projects the "New Art" as well as "the" universal scientific theory.

There is an alternative to both the static equilibrium model and the chaos model.

The classical scientific tradition of Leonardo da Vinci and Johannes Kepler through Karl Gauss and Bernhard Riemann in the last century intensively studied and "modeled" nonlinear complex processes. What is present in their work and absent in the chaos models, is that the process is characterized by *self-development*, not statistical randomness.

Just as computer simulations of "artificial intelligence" are intrinsically incapable of replicating human creative mentation, the chaos models are a crude simplification of self-developing living processes.

The alternative to chaos and linearity alike is the beauty embodied in the common geometry and tuning system of the heavens, classical music, and living processes. The human singing voice, the harmonies of the planets, and the harmonies of the biosphere, are all tuned to the well-tempered musical scale based on $C = 256$. We have recently demonstrated, for instance, that one can study the harmonies of living processes by organizing their interactions with light—their nonlinear optical spectra—into three octaves: a "pre-biotic" octave, a "higher life" octave, and a "lower life" octave. When the characteristic wavelengths associated with fundamental biological processes such as photosynthesis, mitosis, vision, and growth (e.g., the absorption bands of chlorophyll, DNA, and proteins) are normalized to a tuning system of $C=256$, they correspond precisely with the tones of the musical scale out of which all great music has been composed. Beauty is the fundamental characteristic of our universe. Without classical proportion and creative self-development, there is merely chaos.

Books Received

The Overview Effect: Space, Exploration and Human Evolution, by Frank White, Forward by Gerard O'Neill, Houghton-Mifflin, New York, 1987, \$18.95 hardbound, 304pp.

Spy-tech, by Graham Yost, Facts On File, New York, 1985, \$10.95 paper, 288pp.

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Matushka Rus and the fight to seize the holy places

by Muriel Mirak

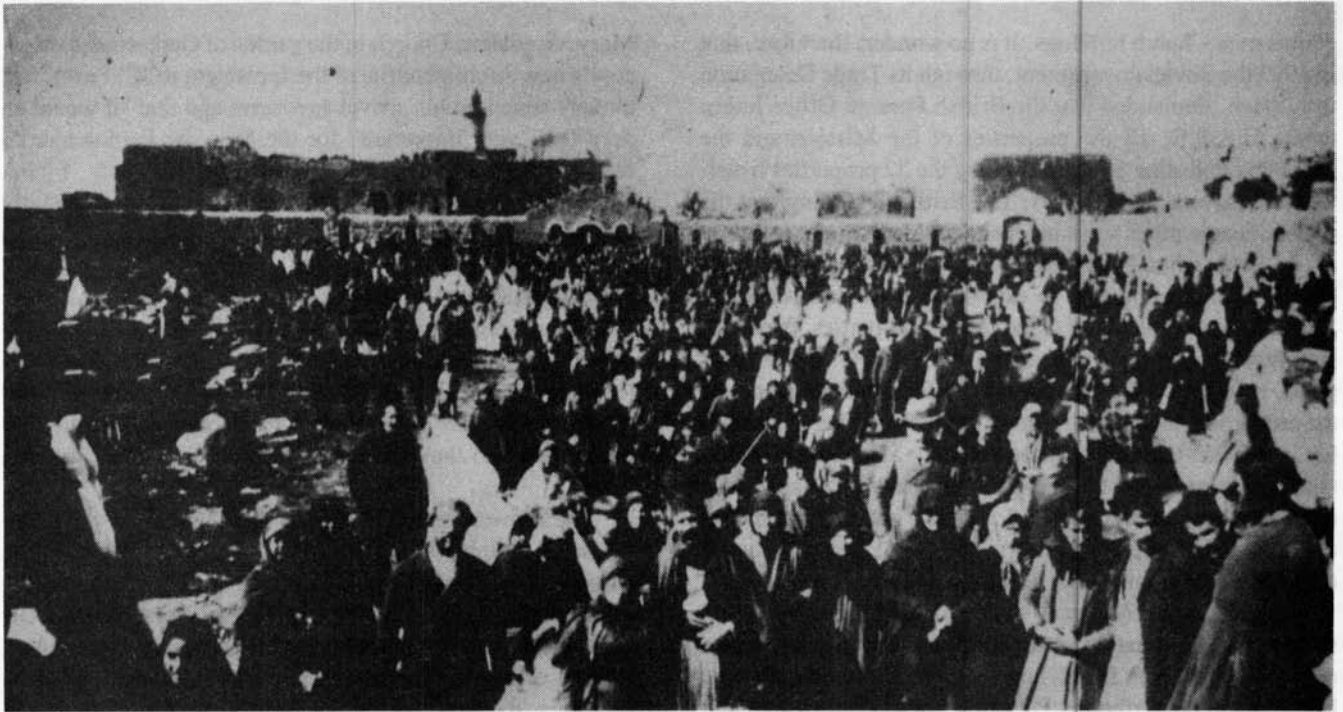
At the celebrations held in Moscow this summer, to commemorate the millennium of the alleged Christianization of Russia, the Church hierarchy, together with Gorbachov's political apparatus, made no secret of their intentions to exalt the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) as the hegemonic force within orthodoxy. From that vantage point, they further plan to make a bid for leadership over Christendom as a whole. During the Moscow celebrations, the ROC, in fact, announced it would convoke a Synod of Orthodoxy, something which, by historical right, is the prerogative of the Greek Orthodox Church. Not surprisingly, the Greeks boycotted the millennial festivities.

Then, in August, news broke in an Italian Catholic daily (*L'Avvenire*) that a secret arrangement was being worked out by Max Kampelman (of the Geneva arms reduction talks delegation) and the Soviets, whereby both superpowers would present a joint fait accompli, by recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. This would be done by building embassies in the city, then "opening" them more or less simultaneously. Michael Dukakis is said to have organized Democratic Party support for passage of an amendment, presented by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), providing funds for the United States' building project.

A further aspect of the Jerusalem deal, according to *Avvenire*, lies in the Russian-Israeli arrangement embedded therein. Russia would re-establish diplomatic ties with Israel, in return for the right to repossess Church properties in historic "Palestine."

Foreign Minister Peres, who started the rapprochement with the Soviets almost two years ago, and current Prime Minister Shamir, who received the ROC's Metropolitan Filaret in July, think they are engaging in "clever diplomacy." Instead, they are playing with fire, of the sort that could engulf the entire region in the flames of religious warfare.

The larger picture, of which the Soviet-Israeli rapprochement is but one piece, features, from Moscow's standpoint, an overhaul of the religious status quo in the Holy Land. Its control over the Holy Places, especially in Jerusalem, would effectively crown the hegemony which it has declared in its millennial celebra-



Russian "pilgrims" in Jerusalem, ca. 1898. The massive influx of such travelers to the Holy Land, which peaked with 11,000 in 1900, was key to the Russian plans for political domination.

tions. The Greek Orthodox Church, historically the first, would be pushed into second place. The Vatican's minority position in Jerusalem would be further undermined within Christianity as a whole, in that the Protestant fundamentalist sects organized around the "Temple Mount" project to raze the Al Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's principal shrines, would build up an imposing presence in Jerusalem, in tandem with their Israeli fundamentalist counterparts. The Holy Land—which should be an international site of ecumenism—would become the world capital of irrationalist cults, poised to set off religious strife leading to "Armageddon."

Jews in exchange for churches

The game began last August, when an Israeli Foreign Ministry delegation met with two Soviet consular officials in Helsinki to probe the possibility of re-establishing diplomatic relations, which the Soviets had cut in 1967. The Soviet delegates requested permission to visit Israel to inspect their property, to which the Israeli acquiesced, on condition that they be permitted to visit the U.S.S.R. to inspect their property. When asked what their "property" in the U.S.S.R. consisted of, they replied, "The Soviet Jews." At that point, the negotiations broke down.

In the renewed contacts recently, Peres has upped the ante, demanding the Soviets release 30,000 Jews. The Soviets, while officially denying that any agreement has been reached, are keeping the bait of the possible emigres dangling. On the other hand, it has been confirmed that a Soviet delegation will visit Israel soon to inspect its property.

Who owns what in Israel

Just what "property" do the Soviets claim to have in Israel? This is a complicated, yet fascinating question. Particularly in the nineteenth century, the ROC set up the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, acquiring extensive property including religious sites of inordinate material and spiritual value. Simultaneously, during the last century, the Orthodox Palestine Society, a government proxy organization, bought up land and holy sites. In accordance with Ottoman law, all such purchases were recorded in the Russian government's name.

When, after the 1917 revolution, the Soviet state separated formally from the ROC and nationalized its properties inside Russia, the Church beyond the national borders underwent a transformation. In 1920, Patriarch Tikhon issued a decree, together with the Holy Synod and the Supreme Church Council, granting "temporary autonomy" to the extra-territorial ROC. In the following year, that external Church declared itself the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia (ROCOR). This entity took over the Jerusalem Mission, and was duly recognized by the British administration in Palestine. That the Church, both inside Russia and without, was never really divorced from the Russian state, became official in 1923, when the same Tikhon declared the regime no longer to be the enemy. In the 1930s, Stalin completed the formal reintegration of the ROC by granting its clergy civil rights and, in 1943, by authorizing the election of a Patriarch. Thus, by as early as 1923, the Church had been reintegrated into the state apparatus, and that apparatus wanted to secure its

claims over Church holdings. It is no wonder, therefore, that in 1923 the Soviet government, through its Trade Delegation in London, demanded that the British Foreign Office return to the U.S.S.R. all the properties of the Mission and the Orthodox Palestine Society. Among the 32 properties listed, 24 were revered Holy Places. The British, claiming that the two Russian entities were independent of the State, refused.

In 1948, when Israel gained official statehood, the Soviets were among the first to establish diplomatic relations. They demanded the return of the Church properties, this time, significantly, openly in the name of the ROC! Israel complied, recognized the ROC/Moscow Patriarchate, declared the properties “abandoned,” and handed them over. The hitch lay in the fact that much of the property Moscow wanted to take over was in East Jerusalem and the West Bank, then under Jordanian control. The Jordanian government recognized the ROCOR on its territory, and that “external” Church continued to administer the holdings.

In 1967, with the Israeli occupation of these Jordanian territories, the situation changed again. The Soviets broke relations with Israel. Israel, however, recognized the Russian Mission and the Orthodox Palestine Society, allowing them to administer their holdings, and bought back from the Russians the lands and buildings it had delivered in 1948. It therefore gained juridical possession of some properties and exerted sovereignty over the others. In 1971, Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe of the ROCOR took the Israelis to court and won a demand that all those properties, formally owned by the Mission, which had been handed over to the Soviets in 1948, be returned to the Mission.

Such is the situation currently: Virtually all of the ROC and ROCOR properties, along with those technically belonging to the Mission and the Palestine Society, are within the borders which Israel drew in the 1967 war, mainly in East Jerusalem and the West Bank cities (like Bethlehem). It is their formal status that Moscow seeks to renegotiate. Patriarch Pimen brought the question up during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1972, in talks with Israel’s Minister of Religious Affairs. Now it has become the concern of the imminent delegation. And with renegotiation, Moscow intends to bring the ROCOR back into the fold of the ROC, this time officially. When asked whether Moscow’s aim were to retake the ROCOR in time for the 1988 millennium, the new Archimandrite of the ROC/MP in Jerusalem, Pavel replied, “Yes, that would be very fine.”

Such is the situation currently . . . in talks with Israel’s Minister of Religious Affairs. Now it has become the concern of the Soviet delegation which has been in Israel for nine months. Although the ROCOR has received assurances from the Israeli government that none of its properties will be subject of bilateral negotiations, the recent trip by Metropolitan Filaret pointed precisely in that direction. After holding his own millennial celebrations there, Filaret broke all precedent, and met with leaders of the ROCOR, at the latter’s St.

Mary Magdalene Church in the garden of Gethsemane. Moscow’s new Archimandrite of the Jerusalem ROC, Pavel, had already stated on his arrival two years ago that “it would be very fine, very important” for the Moscow Patriarchate to reassert control over the wayward ROCOR. Now, Filaret entered the “exile” church’s quarters, and announced proudly that he was seeking “harmony” with the ROCOR.

The Jerusalem crusade

When dealing with the intricacies of the Israeli-Russian property dispute during the last 40 years, one tends to overlook a much more fundamental and telling question: How did the Russians gain a foothold in the Holy Land in the first place? Why do they have so many churches and holy sites there?

The answer, supported by massive historical documentation, is simple. Since the 1439 Council of Florence, the Russian Church has been on a rampage to break the union, re-establish “Orthodoxy,” then proceed to take over the Orthodox camp, and, from that position, destroy the Western Church of Rome. Through this operation, which has taken centuries, the ROC would install itself in Jerusalem, in the words of Patriarch Pimen, “the Holy Church of Jerusalem—the Mother of all Churches” (*Journal of the Patriarchate*).

For imperialist Russia, Jerusalem is the “Mother Church.” In the context of the Russian policy to establish its capital as the “Third Rome,” Jerusalem is viewed as the religious shrine of the new empire.

The Council of Florence

The Russian claim to Palestine was first shaped in the wake of the historic Council of Florence, where a humanist current of the Western Church had succeeded in forging a principled Union with the Churches of the Orient on the basis of the *Filioque* doctrine. It was in reaction to this historical achievement that Russia inaugurated its drive in Palestine.

The wrecking operation against the Union proceeded along two lines, the religious and the military. Within the religious realm, the Metropolitan of Kiev, who had endorsed the Union with conviction, was rebuked and ostracized on his return to Moscow in 1441. The Grand Prince Vassily ordered him arrested and put in a monastery under charges of heresy, and only with luck was he able to flee to the papal court in Siena, where he took up his work with the Unionists. Meanwhile, the other Eastern Churches which had entered the Union were persuaded to denounce it. Just a few years after the Council, in 1443 the Patriarchs of Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Antioch (the three Patriarchates following the Ecumenical Patriarch in Constantinople in importance) met in Jerusalem to condemn the Union. They were soon followed by all the Churches of the Byzantine rite: Tribizond, the Serbs, the Wallachians and the Georgians. This left the Greek Church dangerously isolated, and, after the death of John VIII Paleologue in 1448, tremendously weakened. The anti-Union forces, led

by Demetrius and Lukas Notaras, under the influence of the wretched Scholarius (Gennadios), moved hard and fast to pressure the new emperor, Constantine (1448-1453), to capitulate and force the Greek Church to dissociate from the Union.

The fall of Constantinople

Simultaneously, the anti-Union forces were regrouping militarily, to take by force what they could not convert by persuasion. The Turks were the battering-ram which the anti-Unionist elites of Venice and Genoa prepared to throw against the Greeks.

On Dec. 12, 1452, as the basileus in Hagia Sophia, flanked by Cardinal Isidor and the Patriarch Gregory Mammias, solemnly pronounced the Union of the Greek Church with the Roman Church of Cusa, the Turkish troops were already encircling the city. They bombarded the city for six weeks, aided by the Venetian and Genoese communities in Constantinople, which rallied to the war cry of Lukas Notaras: "Better to see the turban of the Turks reign in Constantinople than the mitre of the Latins." This was an attitude which was to be embraced throughout the centuries continuing to the present, as the Orthodox repeatedly would ally with the Muslims, Druze, and other tribes, against the common enemy of Roman Catholicism.

The fall of Constantinople was not, therefore, the "fall of the Byzantine empire"; it was the defeat of the Union to which the Greek Church had adhered. After the fall, the Greek Church became a puppet of the Ottoman Sublime Porte; Mohammed II filled the Patriarchal throne (vacated by Gregory Mammias who had fled to Rome) with none other than the treacherous Gennadios, the leader of the anti-Unionists. Enthroning his new puppet, the Sultan offered Gennadios the voile and the high red hat, ceremonial vestments, a gilded silver cross, a horse and pieces of gold. He arranged for the new Patriarch to be accompanied to the Holy Apostles Church (the new seat of the Patriarch, since the Hagia Sophia had been turned into a mosque) by his court dignitaries. Although half the churches were turned into mosques, the rest were left free for worship, and the places and persons of the Greek Orthodox Church were inviolable. The clergy was even accorded tax-exempt status.

The Sultan's aim, which was to be pursued in Ottoman church policy for at least 350 years, was to make the Patriarch into a satrap, responsible for keeping the peace among all those within his purview. Thus, by imperial decree, he accorded Gennadios power over all the Christians in the empire, which meant the Orthodox as well as the Nestorians and the Monophysites. Later, the community was divided in two, with Gennadios controlling the Orthodox (Greeks, Bulgarians, Serbs, Albanians, Wallachians, Moldavians, Ruthenes, Croats, Karamanians, Syro-Lebanese, and Arabs) and the Armenian Archbishop Hovaghim controlling the Monophysites and Nestorians (including Armenians, Syrians, Copts,

Ethiopians and Chaldeans). This system, known as the "millet" system, divided church communities into "millets" or "nations," and still exists in essence in the Muslim world today. The Sultan demanded his share of loot from the Patriarchs and from their monasteries in Athos and Mt. Sinai, and the latter exacted payment from their impoverished flocks. The Greek Orthodox also depended on substantial funds from the Russians.

The Ottomans extended their empire by conquering Syria and Palestine in 1516. After taking Egypt in 1517, the Sultan Selim I (1512-20) gave special privileges to the Patriarch of Alexandria. Constantinople exerted control over the Patriarchate of Antioch and placed Greek, rather than Arab, candidates in place as bishops of Syria and Lebanon. In Jerusalem, the Constantinople Patriarch held sway through the Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre. It is said by Greek writers that, right after the fall of Constantinople, the Jerusalem Patriarch traveled to Constantinople, to request Greek Orthodox Church prerogatives in the Holy Places, which indeed were granted through the Greek-controlled Brotherhood in the religious center, the Holy Sepulchre.

Thus the Orthodox, organized in four Patriarchates (Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem—in that order), were all firmly within the grip of the Sultan. The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople was the head of the "Roum Orthodox" millet, "Roum" meaning Greek. As for the Christian churches and communities spread throughout the Holy Land still faithful to Rome, they found themselves divested of any power.

The birth of the fifth patriarchate

In Moscow, the Russian ruling class looked on with a mixture of satisfaction and greed at what transpired in Constantinople after the fall. Rejoicing at the Turks' military and political victory and hailing it as a "divine punishment" against the Greek Church, whose leaders had committed the sin of uniting with Rome in the Florence-Ferrara councils, they reacted to the definitive fall of the "second Rome" with joy, but hastened to establish themselves as the "third Rome."

Ivan III (1462-1505) was the first to adopt the paraphernalia of the would-be emperor of the empire-to-be. Marrying the niece of the last emperor Sophie Paleologue in 1472, Ivan III adopted the symbol of the two-headed eagle of Byzantium, with St. George and the dragon. This "new Constantine," as he was called by the Metropolitan Zosima, drew architects to Moscow to build cathedrals, and officially named himself "czar" (from Caesar, emperor). As Zosima declared in 1492, "Two Romes have fallen, the third Rome will be Moscow and there will be no fourth."

The problem remained to assert this self-proclaimed authority outside of Moscow as well, to force the Ottoman-controlled Orthodox Churches, as well as Europe's national monarchs, to accept the primacy of Moscow.

Ivan IV "the Terrible" (1533-84) took significant steps in

this direction, by having himself officially crowned Czar by the Metropolitan Makary (1543-64), and by launching an ambitious canonization project which swelled the ranks of official saints. An important part of Ivan IV's policy to take over Orthodoxy involved handsome bribes. During his reign, priests, bishops and even patriarchs traveled the long way from the Ottoman Empire to Moscow in search of financial aid, which was rumored to flow bountifully.

It was during one such visit, by an emissary of the Constantinople Patriarch to Moscow, that the Metropolitan Makary demanded he convoke a synod, to confirm Ivan's claim as Czar. The next step was to force the Eastern Orthodox Patriarchs to elevate the Russian Metropolitan to the authority of Patriarch. Boris Godunov (Ivan's son-in-law) officially made the proposal to the Patriarch of Antioch, Joachim, during his visit to Moscow in 1586. When Joachim hesitated, Boris opened the coffers of the state. Prelates flowed in from all over the Orthodox world, among them, the Ecumenical Patriarch himself, Jeremy Tranos, in July of 1586. Tranos tried to argue that such a momentous event as the elevation of a Patriarch would require the ruling of a synod of Greek prelates, but Boris would not take no for an answer. With threats and promises, Boris insisted that his guests would not leave Moscow until Tranos had fulfilled this request. Thus, on Jan. 21, 1589, Tranos officially consecrated the Metropolitan Job as Patriarch of Moscow. Significantly, as he created the Moscovite Patriarchate, Tranos cited the words of Philotheus of Pskov declaring the third Rome! One year later, back in Constantinople, Tranos had succeeded in establishing Moscow as the fifth Patriarchate.

From this new position within Orthodoxy, the Russian Church began its drive to move up the ladder in the hierarchy, until it would replace the Greek Church and the Constantinople Patriarch as the hegemonic figure for the Orthodox. In this process, the Moscovite Patriarchate came to assume inordinate power, as the primary instrument of Russian imperial policy.

It is known that Peter the Great, aware of the danger the Church represented for his Westernizing campaign, did all possible to stem its growing power. Crucial to this was destroying the Patriarchate as an institution, and placing the Church under top-down political control of the Czar. After Peter's death, however, it re-emerged, in the form of the Procurator of the Synod, and eventually, after centuries, was reestablished as the Patriarchate.

Russia, protector of all Orthodox

The Procurator of the Synod was the imperial tool, wielded throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, to gain recognition of the Russian Church's "right" to protect all orthodox believers in the Holy Land.

The first explicit statement of its right to a protectorate came in the wake of Catherine the Great's military campaign against Turkey, which led to the Treaty of Kucuk Kaynarca in 1774. The relevant passage of the treaty, on which Russia

was to base its claims in Palestine and Syria, read as follows in article 7:

The Sublime Porte promises constant protection to the Christian religion and to the churches of this religion. It permits the Imperial court of Russia on all occasions to make representations to the Porte, both in favor of the Church constructed in Constantinople, and in favor of those it serves, and it promises to give attention to these observations, as coming from a respected personage, and belonging to a Power which is near and sincerely friendly. (Nouradounghian, G. i. p. 323).

Russia's claim to protection over the Orthodox was further strengthened in the course of the Greek war of independence from 1821 to 1830. The Russian secret police supported the Odessa-based League of Friends (1814), made up of anti-Turkish Greeks. After the bloodbath that lasted years, taking the lives of the Greek clerical hierarchy (which led the independence drive) and massacring the remaining intellectual elite, the Turks acknowledged Greek independence. Mother Russia then stepped in to pick up the pieces: Since the Greeks, who for centuries had collaborated with the Sublime Porte as loyal satraps, had now made themselves synonymous with treachery and insurrection, the predominant role the Greek Orthodox Church had played as custodian of the Orthodox community was discredited, and the Russians were quick to capitalize on it.

But Moscow was not unopposed in its ambitions. As Russian Foreign Minister Nesselrode perceived, the French, whose claims to protect the Latin Christians in the Holy Land went back to 1535, were themselves engaged in a consistent push to outweigh the Orthodox and Russian presence. As Nesselrode put it, "We want to avoid general European interference in the Christian East and the collective protection of Christians. We believe that the protestations of brotherly love from the other European powers have ulterior motives and therefore we cannot cooperate with them." (Soob. 22 p. 21)

Nesselrode, therefore, was wary of plunging into an all-out siege against the Ottoman Empire, for fear that Russia would not be able to determine the post-dismemberment situation. He opted for a policy of keeping Turkey weak and manipulable. Meanwhile, to gain better insight into how Russian expansionist aims could be pursued in the weakened Ottoman empire without risking losing the game to Europe, the Russian Synod sent an envoy to Palestine.

The upshot of the 1838 reconnaissance mission of the Holy Synod to Palestine was that the Czar should provide special protection over the Orthodox Holy Places, and that, to fulfill that aim, a Russian Mission should be established in Jerusalem. Russia had already set up consular representatives in Aleppo, Latakia, Beirut, Sidon, and Jaffa in the 1830s. In 1839, after considering the implications of their



Flemish Engraving, 16th century

Mohammed II (left), after the fall of Constantinople in 1453, fills the patriarchal throne with the treacherous Gennadios, who had labored to force the Greek Church to break with the Council of Florence. From Moscow, the Russian ruling class looked on these events with a mixture of satisfaction and greed.

envoy's findings, they transferred their Jaffa consulate to Beirut, and named it the Russian Consulate of Syria and Palestine. Their Consul Vasili projected such a high profile that the Europeans were immediately suspicious. As the British Consul Young wrote in a letter to Palmerston in April 1840:

The Russian Consul from Beirut has been up at the Easter ceremonies. His presence gave a character to the Greek and Armenian ceremonies. He appeared in his uniform and was attended by the Russian pilgrims, many of them old soldiers in their regimentals. . . . *The pilgrims from Russia have been heard to speak openly of the period when this country will be under the Russian government.* (emphasis added)

And four years later, the same British Consul wrote, "Jerusalem is now become the central point of interest to France and Russia. . . . It is no doubt the object of Russia to subjugate the primitive churches of these countries."

Russia felt pressed to act quickly, for the influence of France was being felt throughout the area. Beginning in 1840, the Catholic converts were on the rise, and the French, by setting up schools and educating the population, were making significant inroads among the Catholics, Maronites, and Lebanese, over whom they held a religious protectorate.

Porfiry Uspensky

Until this point, Russia had exercised its prerogatives in the Ottoman Empire through Great Power politics, from a distance. Their actual presence in the area, was limited to consular offices. After 1840, they shifted tactics, and began to use Church personalities to build up an on-the-ground

presence.

It began in 1841, when the Procurator Protasov proposed sending a Russian Orthodox Archimandrite, accompanied by a couple of monks, to Jerusalem to build a school and monastery for Greek and Russian nationals. Nesselrode accepted the proposal and recommended that Archimandrite Porfiry be sent as an agent, to contact the Arab clergy and lay the basis for a more effective Russian intervention.

Porfiry, born Konstantin Aleksandrovich Uspensky, had studied at the St. Petersburg Ecclesiastical Academy and taught at Odessa. Described as a rash "eccentric of peculiar propensities," Porfiry was the first Russian Church leader to penetrate Palestine. That his mission was not purely spiritual, was made clear in the briefing he received from the Foreign Ministry's Asiatic Department before departing:

Perform faithfully the duties of a pilgrim. Do not surround yourself with any mystery but do not on any account reveal you have been sent by the government. Try to gain the trust and love of the eastern Clergy . . . and try to discover their real demands, and the aims, successes and spirit of the Catholics, Armenians and Protestants. Do not commit yourself in any way. Your main task is to collect information. (Porfiry, Diary)

Porfiry performed the task of an intelligence agent, contacting every important church representative in the region, including the Patriarchs of Jerusalem, Constantinople, Antioch, and the local priests throughout Palestine and Syria. When in Beirut, he already noted in his diary that the Orthodox Church was in terrible decay and, attributing the fault to the Greek hierarchy, pledged to expose it: "I am an

axe lying at the roots of a rotten tree.” His aim was to lobby for the advancement of the Arabs against the Greeks.

When, in 1844, the frocked Russian agent reported back to Titov of the Foreign Ministry, through Constantinople, he stressed the conflict which certainly did exist between the corrupt, lax Greek hierarchy and the illiterate, poor Arab clergy. The other point he drove home to the government authorities was that the French were making inroads, particularly among the Uniates, and that the Anglicans were also on the move. Porfiry’s concrete proposal was that a Russian Mission be established in Jerusalem. After a year’s sojourn in the monasteries of Sinai and Athos, the intelligence centers of the Church, Porfiry reached St. Petersburg in October 1845. Once there, he added that he thought an Arab, not a Greek, should be elected the next Patriarch of Antioch.

From Porfiry’s reports, it is clear that Russian strategy would be shaped around promoting the Arabs against the Greeks, on condition that the Arab Orthodox obey Russia. Furthermore, Russia would seek to break the several Orthodox Churches away from the Greeks, foster their autocephaly, and then bring them into the Russian fold. This latter policy would be applied not only to those Orthodox once controlled under the Constantinople Patriarch, but also the so-called Monophysites, as will be seen in an account of Porfiry’s activities in the Holy Land.

Key to fulfilling such desires, was an institutionalized religious presence in the Holy Land. With Nesselrode’s support, Porfiry’s proposal for a mission was accepted by the Czar, and Porfiry himself was chosen to head the small delegation to break ground.

Porfiry and the non-Chalcedonian churches

Simultaneous to his efforts to exert Russian hegemony within Orthodoxy, Porfiry was busily engaged in co-opting the non-Chalcedonian Churches as well, to bring the Armenians, the Copts, and the Ethiopians into union with Russia. Such a reunion would not only allow Russia to extend its territorial sway into Egypt and Africa, but also consolidate its control over the crucial Holy Places, in which the non-Chalcedonian Churches had exercised certain traditional rights.

Porfiry’s diary provides the frankest testimony to Russia’s ambitions. He wrote, “Russia from eternity has been ordained to illumine Asia and to unite all Slavs. There will be a union of all Slav races with Armenia, Syria, Arabia and Ethiopia and they will all praise God in Hagia Sophia.” (*Us-penski Kniga*. iii p. 588). The idea for this reunion went back to “the time when he was the Rector of the Theological Seminary in Odessa.” (*Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate*, p. 57) Once in the Holy Land, he met with the Armenian Bishop Nerses (later the Supreme Catholicos of All Armenians, from 1843-57), as well as with other leaders of the Armenian Church. He used documents which he had unearthed at the Iveron Monastery on Mount Athos, concern-

ing twelfth century attempts to unite the Armenians and the Orthodox, to further his cause. In 1848, he met in Constantinople with the Armenian Patriarch Gregory, and informed him of his finds on Mount Athos. The relevant documents, he said, showed that the Armenian Patriarch Nerses of Echmiadzin had agreed to accept orthodoxy in the 12th century. Porfiry further informed him that the accounts had been translated into Russian and published in 1847. Porfiry expounded on his theological studies, which allegedly showed that the only reason the Armenians had split from the Orthodox was that their Church representatives had been prevented (by the Persians) from attending the Third Ecumenical Council (which condemned Nestorianism) and the Council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D. Despite their absence, Porfiry maintained, the Armenians had no principled theological distinction from the Orthodox. Any conceptual distinctions in the view of the Godhead and Christ could be attributed to “faulty translations.”

Porfiry visited Cairo in 1860 and met with the Armenian Bishop Gabriel. As he records in his diary:

The Armenian bishop in reply to my question as to the number of his flock in Cairo (1,200) and Alexandria (much less) mentioned that the Copts and Armenians in Egypt had joined hands to stand firmly against the attacks of the Roman Catholics and Protestants.

Porfiry seized upon this comment, to lay his cards on the table:

“And amicably renew union with us,” I put in, “for we do not consider you heretics.” Here, by the way, I told him that I had published a book in which I explain that the Armenians and Copts confess the same Faith as we do and that they are our brothers in the Lord. (*JMP*, p.60)

Porfiry reported to his interlocutor that, due to his publishing efforts, the Holy Synod and the entire ROC had recognized the Copts as “brothers.” He deepened his contacts with the Copts in Cairo in the following years, indefatigably researching its history to “prove” that there were no significant doctrinal differences which could justify its separation from Orthodoxy. By 1853, he had succeeded in having a “bosom friend” of his elected as Patriarch of that Church, and in 1860, recorded in his diary, “It is time to see the Coptic Patriarch Cyril and begin talks with him on a covert or overt reunion of the Orthodox Church with him and all his flock.” (*Ibid.*, p. 62). Unfortunately for Porfiry, his friend Cyril died before the reunion could take place. Furthermore, the Russian diplomatic corps in the region, in his view, did not grasp the importance of religion and its influence on politics:

If one should ask any of our diplomats, whether chief or subordinate, in St. Petersburg, Constantino-

ple, Beirut or Cairo, about these principles, faith, and doctrines; about the political weight of Nestorians, Jacobites, Copts, Yazidis, Kurds, Ansaries, Druzes, he would most likely waste his questions. (*Ibid.*, p. 64)

And, precisely due to this ignorance on the part of the politicians, the Copts in Egypt were alienated from the Russians. Porfiry complained bitterly of what had been lost:

To what has this error led? The head of the Copts in Egypt with five million Christians in Abyssinia and Shoa, would have come to the bosom of the Russian Church, but he was repulsed from her in Cairo as an infectious, uninvestigated, unknown and incomprehensible ulcer. (*Ibid.*, p. 64)

Porfiry's efforts continued undaunted, and broadened to include study of the history and liturgy of the Ethiopian Church. During his frequent visits to Athos and Sinai, he sought proof, in documents and icons of the identity between the Ethiopian Church and the Russian. He even proposed that the Sinai Monastery be used as "a cloister for establishing a school for preachers, who could revive Orthodoxy in Egypt, Abyssinia and further on. . . ." He published several tracts laying the basis for rapprochement with the Ethiopians, and was extremely sensitive to what he termed "the aspiration for autocephaly . . . dawning in the Ethiopian Church."

The Crimean War

Although the chronicle of Porfiry's "ecumenical" efforts may read innocently enough, the outbreak of the Crimean War dramatizes the great power conflict that was maturing as a result of this relatively small-scale Russian intervention. As if to confirm Porfiry's thesis that religion was the key factor in the politics of the region, the real background to the Crimean War documents that it all arose, initially, out of strife over control of the Holy Places.

In 1847, the silver star, which had been placed to designate the spot in the Grotto of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where Christ was born, disappeared, along with the Latin inscription identifying it. The Latins, supported by the French, accused the Greek Orthodox of having removed it. The French demanded that the Sultan assign them exclusive rights to the Church of the Nativity and to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre as well. The Sultan issued a firman reasserting the joint possession of the keys to the Church (on the part of the Greeks, the Armenians, and the Latins), but the Jerusalem governor refused to read the firman. Each foreign power demanded supremacy. Russia seized the occasion to put forth its demand for special rights over the Holy Places, as well as to reassert its right to a protectorate over the Orthodox throughout the Ottoman Empire. Although the Turkish authorities placed a new star in the Grotto, the conflict was far from solved. Russia demanded special privileges for the

damage done, and when the Sultan refused, the Russians invaded the Danubian province, opening war against Turkey. Thus began the Crimean War.

To the entire religious community in the Holy Land, it was clear that Russia saw the war as a kind of crusade, aimed at taking the Holy Places; Russian soldiers, marching through Armenia, were overheard to be asking directions, "Which way to Jerusalem?" and the Jerusalem population did not hide its fear that the Russians were coming. Russian apologists were explicit on this point:

Russia's name has been made known throughout every country by her statesmen and politicians. It is quite different in Palestine *which is our native land and in which we do not recognize ourselves as foreigners*. The Participation of Russia in the affairs of Palestine and the Christian East has not been the result of temporary and transient political factors but from the beginning has been an affair of the people, *who instinctively and enthusiastically claimed the Holy Land as their own just as much as Holy Russia.*" (M.P. Solovyov. Soob. 5.p.286)

Russia did not win the concessions it demanded in the Treaty of Paris (1856); nor did it relinquish its pretensions to hegemony. The policy thrust remained unaltered, but the form changed. The end of the Crimean War coincided with a change in the Russian leadership; after Czar Nicholas I's death, Alexander II took power in 1855 and, a year later, Gorchakov replaced Nesselrode at the Foreign Ministry. At the same time, Protasov died and Count A.P. Tolstoy replaced him as Procurator of the Holy Synod.

This new guard, in the wake of their Crimean failure, plotted a new strategy for taking Palestine and Syria. What emerged was a two-track policy, one religious and the other secular.

The Foreign Ministry, in a report issued in 1857, identified the political problem in the Middle East to be the cause of Europe, not of Turkey. The aim therefore was to move in, not politically, but under the cover of the ROC; it was recommended to send a Bishop of the ROC to Jerusalem. As the report stated, "*Jerusalem is the center of the world and our mission must be there.*" (emphasis added)

The religious intervention, backed by the Czar, appointed Cyril Naumov (1823-66) to become the Russian Orthodox Bishop of Melitopol "in" Jerusalem (but not "of" Jerusalem, to avoid antagonizing the Greeks). Cyril was instructed by the Foreign Ministry and Synod to cultivate good relations with everyone and to arrange to have an Arab elected Bishop of Jerusalem.

As Cyril set out for his mission as the first Russian Bishop to the Arab world, the Grand Duke Constantine pursued his own, second, commercial track. Constantine's plan was to use the Russian Company of Steam Navigation and Trade, which had been founded in 1856, to take over the pilgrim

traffic to the Holy Land, which the French and Austrians had controlled up until that time. The Grand Duke sent his agent, the commercial envoy Mansurov, to Palestine in 1857, to assess the situation. Mansurov reported the situation to be critical, because of the French, as well as English, American, and Italian proselytizing, which was converting masses to the hated Catholic religion. Mansurov's proposal was to set up a non-governmental, "private" company to help pilgrims set up a consulate, hospitals, churches, hostels, and a mission, all in one compound. Mansurov explained, it was "necessary to introduce our intervention in the East in such a non-political manner as to disarm our opponents and abandon for the time being thoughts of political and religious propaganda." (Dmitrievski, p. 19) Porfiry supported the plan with enthusiasm: "Orthodoxy will triumph eventually. Constantinople will be ours. We must have . . . our representatives throughout the Arab East. We must have the shipping company, consuls and large amounts of money. All these are necessary to support and uplift Orthodoxy. Everything else is a half-measure." (*Diary*, December 1857)

The upshot of this discussion process was the Palestinian Committee, presided over by the Grand Duke Constantine himself, and directed by Mansurov. To finance the venture, the Church was mobilized in 1859, and by 1864 had collected one million rubles from the Russian church-going population, to buy up land. Mansurov bought mainly in Jerusalem: Outside the walls, he bought a piece of land for the mission complex; inside the walls, he purchased a plot next to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and also bought land on the Mount of Olives. Thus, by 1863, the Russians could boast their own Mission house, hospital and hostel all together in one compound. This rendered them completely independent of the Greeks for the first time.

Once the Committee had established itself, the Russians began in earnest to extend hegemony over the region. The ideological arm they wielded was Panslavism; the main warrior, Count Ignatiev (1832-1908), who directed the Asiatic Department of the Foreign Ministry from 1861 to 1864.

Ignatiev's dream was to push Russian expansionism to include all of Palestine, and he was fanatically determined that Russia should take the strategically located and religiously important Constantinople, gateway to the Straits. Control over the Straits had whetted Russia's military appetite since at least the time of Catherine the Great. By the nineteenth century, the area stretching from the Dardenelles to the Sea of Marmora and through the Bosphorus, was the gateway for Russia's immense Ukrainian grain trade. A full 60 percent of Russia's outborne trade went through the Straits. Control over Constantinople meant control over the Straits, as Napoleon had already realized. (When told of the prospective Russian takeover, he had screamed, "Constantinople! Never! That means the empire of the world!")

Which is precisely what Ignatiev dreamed of. He was prepared to foment Arab upsurges against the Ottoman Em-

pire to further its crumbling, and posited the principle of decentralization or "local control" for Christian sects, against the centralizing thrust of the Catholic French. He also campaigned and intrigued to detach the Bulgarian Church, making it autocephalous, in keeping with Russian policy throughout the century.

The European powers were not pleased. Fully aware of what Russian designs for the region were, the French, who jealously fulfilled their role as protector of the Catholics in the Holy Land, made demonstrative actions. In 1869, the French Empress Eugenie visited Egypt, on the occasion of the opening of the Suez Canal, and demanded that the Porte grant concessions for the Christians loyal to Rome. Archbishop Antonin Kapustin, Ignatiev's agent in the Church, made clear that he opposed concessions to "the Catholics, that is the French." Franz Josef of the Austrian Empire and Prince Albert joined in the protest. But Ignatiev had the Sultan's ear, and succeeded in nullifying any and all promises that the Ottoman leader had made to the West European powers. "The Franciscans are receiving only the smallest part of what they wanted," he gloated, "and (the Austrian ambassador and even the French) are very disgruntled that I smelled out the secret affair before they succeeded in obtaining firmans for the Catholics and that I opened the eyes of the foolish Turks who were about to let a wolf into the sheepfold." (Letter, 4 March 1870, in Dmitrievski, *Ignatiev*, p. 72).

Ignatiev's agent Antonin, meanwhile, continued buying land. Using private funds, and utilizing Ottoman subjects as cover names for the land purchases (to outflank imperial bans on sales), he concentrated one million rubles' worth of land in Russian hands. Among the plots bought up were Bait Jala near Bethlehem (where schools were built for Arab girls), 'Ain Karim, the Byzantine Church of the Ascension, the bell tower on the Mount of Olives and a church in Jaffa.

Ignatiev's power over the Ottoman court was no secret; it was a diplomatic, political fact. In 1864, he himself assumed the post of Envoy at the Porte, a position he was to occupy until 1867, when he was to become the first Russian Ambassador to the Porte. In his years in Constantinople, he was to exert such overwhelming influence over the Sultan that the Grand Vizier Mahmud Nedim was dubbed with the Russian-sounding nicknames "Mahmudov" and "Nedimov!"

The Russo-Turkish War of 1877

Between 1875 and 1877, the Russians used their persuasion with the Sultan, pushing him to accept Constantinople as a free city, enjoying Russian protection, and forwarding the claim that the "Christian" states of European Turkey should be granted independence. Ignatiev was reportedly willing to cede Syria to France and Egypt to Britain. When the Sultan did not oblige, Russia declared war on Turkey in 1877. The Treaty of San Stefano foresaw a greater Bulgaria de facto under Russian control, which the European partners

balked at. They therefore convened the Congress of Berlin, a farcical repetition of the Congress of Vienna and worked out the terms of division of that part of the world. The result was that Montenegro, Serbia, and Romania gained independence. Russia gained control over Bessarabia and a part of the Caucasus (Armenian province), but Bulgaria, which Russia had coveted, was split up into bits and pieces.

The Berlin Congress settlement predictably infuriated the Panslavs of Ignatiev's camp, and Ignatiev himself, defeated, was dismissed. In the wake of the Russian debacle at the Congress of Berlin, the fate of the Palestine Committee and its successor organization, the Palestine Commission, were to undergo further mutations, as a shift in policy was effected in Russia.

After the assassination of Czar Alexander II in 1881, came Alexander III, a convinced autocrat who held supremacy in the Holy Land to be of paramount importance. Like his predecessors, he had his eye on the Straits; in a letter to General Obruchev in 1885, he made clear his determination to prevail in Constantinople: "In my opinion," he wrote, "we ought to have one principal aim, the occupation of Constantinople, so that we may maintain ourselves once and for all at the Straits and know they will remain in our hands. That is in the interests of Russia and ought to be our aspiration." (*Krasny Arkhiv*, 46, p. 181)

Under Alexander III, a new impetus was given Russian pretensions in the region, and the religious question again provided the cover for a massive intervention. After Vassily Nikolaevich Khitrovo, a collaborator of Porfiry's, had returned from an 1871 trip to Palestine with the report that Orthodoxy was untended, he proposed the foundation of a lay society to protect and further the cause of Orthodoxy. His proposal was welcomed by the new Czar Alexander III, by Foreign Minister Nikolai Karlovich de Giers (1882-95) and by the key individual in the late nineteenth-century Panslavism drive, the racist Procurator Pobedonostsev (1880-1905).

What they hatched was to be called the Council of the Orthodox Palestine Society, a private body which was not responsible to the Foreign Ministry or to the Synod officially, but which enjoyed the official patronage of the Czar. Presiding over the new body was the Grand Duke Sergei. Significantly, the new Society stressed that it was not interested in "race" (i.e. Slavs per se) but in religion, and thus that it regarded the Arabs in Palestine as "Orthodox brothers." Its motto made clear its intentions: "For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest" (Isaiah 62).

The Orthodox Palestine Society went far beyond any previous Czarist scheme for Palestinian hegemony in that it recruited top names of the Russian elite, while at the same time broadening its base as a mass organization in Russia among the faithful. Working together with the Russian Mission in Jerusalem and the Consulate in Palestine, it went through the motions of setting up schools, hospitals, hostels,

and providing conveniences for pilgrims as well as the local population. On its roster, it boasted the names of the Imperial family, Ignatiev, the ubiquitous Mansurov, Porfiry, Antonin, and Leonid. The fanatic racist Pobedonostsev served as its secretary from 1889 until his death. Membership rolls swelled among the masses in Russia, who were being filled with accounts of the Society's good works in the Holy Land. In 1885, the first branches were founded in the empire. By 1896, 20 branches had sprung up, and five years later, there were 43 groups, who would meet and read about the Holy Land. It is estimated that 5 million people in Russia were involved in this process, an estimate which is supported by the fact that these pious souls were donating 1,300 million rubles for the enterprise, no small sum for the time. By 1905, 5,000 million rubles were made available to the Society through Russian Orthodox Church offerings and a government loan. The new Society proved its strength when, in 1889, the old Palestine Commission was closed and taken over by the Palestine Society. The Society devoted significant resources to building up its physical presence in the area, and erected a number of churches in this period, including the Church of Gethsemane (in memory of Czarina Marya Alexandrovna), the Russki Dom near the Holy Sepulchre, and the Church of Alexander Nevsky. These moves, though apparently architectural, were eminently political, and the Greek Church, which opposed the channeling of funds through the Society, saw the construction efforts, particularly within the old city walls of Jerusalem near the Holy Sepulchre, as a move to take over that crucial site. The late nineteenth-century developments in building, under Alexander III and later Nicholas II, were accompanied by a massive influx of Russian "pilgrims" to the Holy Land, which peaked in 1900 with 11,000 arriving in Palestine.

This was the same period in which Pobedonostsev was promoting Zionism, deporting large numbers of Russian Jews to Palestine.

Late in the century, the Society was making an extraordinary push for domination, underlined by its assuming control over the Jerusalem Mission in 1896. The French, who were struggling to maintain their presence as an assurance for the Roman Catholic community, had no difficulty in identifying the Society's aims, though they were less successful in thwarting them. Writing in the publications of the Augustinians of the Assumption, M. Deplaissan wrote in the *Echos d'Orient*, "Supported by the consuls in Syria, by the ambassador in Constantinople, by the government in St. Petersburg, it [the Society] has established itself as an instrument of conquest put into action with a purely political aim, by the men of state who dress up in the robes of religious zeal!" (*Echos d'Orient*, iv, 1901, p. 205). The British were no less anxious at what they saw to be an ambitious drive by the Russians, among other things, to infuse the native Russian population with the crusader's zeal to protect the Holy Land.

Zionism

The deal among the great powers to sort out power relations in the region, was struck through the secret diplomacy during the first World War break-up of the Ottoman Empire. The name of this game was Zionism.

Britain had supported the Zionist idea already in the mid-nineteenth century, when Palmerston envisaged a British protectorate for the Jews parallel to the Russians' protectorate over the Orthodox. By 1914, a Zionist grouping favoring the British annexation of Palestine and the creation of a Jewish state, had formed within the British elite, including Herbert Samuel and Lloyd George. As Asquith noted in his diary, March 13, 1915,

. . . the only other partisan of this proposal is Lloyd George, who I need not say does not care a damn about the Jews or their past or their future, but thinks it will be an outrage to let the Holy Places pass into the possession or under the protectorate of "agnostic, atheistic France."

Lloyd George had been won over to the Zionist cause by the Russian-born British citizen Weizmann, who worked under him at the Munitions Ministry and War Ministry, producing explosives for the British during the war. In 1925, Lloyd George was to comment, "Acetone converted me to Zionism." George, Samuel, Weizmann, and *Manchester Guardian* editor C.P. Scott had determined by November 1915, that if they could satisfy the French with Syria, then they could make a deal with the Russians who would prefer to have the Protestant British hold the Holy Places, rather than the Catholics. Poincaré, too, showed in a diary entry, that he realized Russia would never agree to a Roman Catholic protectorate over "Jerusalem, Galilee, the Jordan and Lake Tiberias." And they were right. The Russians wanted to keep the Vatican and their allies, the French, out, and were prepared to make a deal with the British in this direction, using the creation of a Jewish state.

The British clinched the Sykes-Picot Treaty in 1916, after consulting with the Russians, who agreed, on condition that the ROC and its establishments be given guarantees; specifically, they wanted an international regime to govern those parts of Palestine where the Orthodox institutions were located. The Russians, through Sazonov, voiced no objection to the idea of Jewish colonists.

That the Russians were an integral part of the British project for a Zionist state, is clear in the diplomacy of the anti-Semite-turned-Zionist, Mark Sykes. Like Lloyd George, for whom he worked in the War cabinet, Sykes embraced the notion that the Zionists could be used, not only to contain the Russians, but to thwart the Germans in post-1908 Turkey. He took this notion so far as to denounce the "Semitic anti-Zionists" as "undisguised pro-Turco-Germans . . . Rus-sophobe pro-Turks who have become pro-Germans and are

now definitely fixed in that camp." (Sledm., No. 59, July 29, 1917, cit. in Stein, p. 276). After producing the draft of the Sykes-Picot Treaty, Sykes traveled to Petrograd; although the actual nature of his talks there is not known, immediately after his return in April 1916, he presented some "new ideas" on Palestine: a French-British condominium and a Charter to the Zionists with English guarantees. Apparently this is what Sykes negotiated with the Russians.

It was after this trip that Sykes threw himself into the Zionist campaign. The Chief Rabbi of the Sephardic congregations in England, Gaster, referred to Sykes's diplomacy in his diary (May 2, 1916):

[Sykes] had seen Sazanov and whom he has won over to Zionist problem. . . . After long wrangle got his French colleague, George Picot, to see the point of Jewish help. He first dead against. Then agreed condominium. I put the case clearly. Warned him against the French. . . . Wants me to influence the Daily Telegraph and then to work on America. I advise fait accompli. He answers to occupy Jerusalem—I, not by Jews, but by English soldiers. . . .

Despite Gaster's warning against France, it was already clear in Sykes's first writings on Zionism, dating from June 1916, that his primary concern was to stop German influence. Contemplating the possibility that Turkey might come out of the war firmly anchored to Germany, he writes that this would give Germany "an international pawn in Palestine, which gives her a hold at once over the Zionists, the Papacy and the Orthodox" (Sledmere papers, No. 14, June 20, 1916, cit. by Stein, p. 280). That "pawn" the British wanted.

By 1916 the stage was set. The Zionists working in Europe had been organizing British support for their design for a Jewish state. The British used the Zionist movement to forward their ambitions in Palestine, by supporting the idea of a Jewish state which they would control. The Russians, who had produced the Zionist movement in the end of the last century, were in full accord, as long as their interests in Orthodoxy were defended.

Thus, in December 1916, the British government went through the motions of a "crisis" which put a totally "Zionist" Round Table cabinet in: Lloyd George as prime minister, Balfour at the Foreign Office, assisted by Lord Cecil (who described himself as "a Zionist by passionate conviction"), and Milner in the War Cabinet. The concept of a British Protectorate in Palestine was then officially launched in the new cabinet's literary organ, "The Round Table," signaling policy agreement on the option.

The British invasion of Palestine in spring 1917, which Lloyd George liked to refer to as "the one really interesting part of the war," was the military vehicle through which the protectorate would be established. It was meticulously or-

chestrated. Sykes had told Weizmann that the Zionists “should be prepared . . . to have men on the spot, when the English entered Jerusalem, so as to take effective part in the administration of at least the Jewish section of the population” (Gaster’s Diary, January 30, 1917). The Zionists stationed there would then speak out in favor of a British protectorate, as Lloyd George instructed Weizmann to arrange in April. With exquisite timing, on the same day Allenby captured Beersheba, the War Cabinet approved the Balfour Declaration, which pledged British government support for “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.”

As for the other powers involved in the accord, they were duly informed of British intentions. As Lloyd George had said, “the French will have to accept our protectorate; we shall be there by conquest and shall remain.” Sykes simply told his colleague Picot to break the news to the French government that the Jews preferred a British protectorate to any joint French-British condominium. At the 1920 London conference, the French fought for some special consideration of the Holy Places, on the grounds that they “had been in the hands of the French since the fifteenth century” and that “the Vatican had always recognized that fact.” But Lloyd George refused, he said, “to create an empire within an empire.” The French, in other words, were out.

The Russians, following the outbreak of the British-instigated revolution, drifted out of the war and did not contest the British occupation of Palestine. Britain recognized the ROCOR shortly after it was formed in 1921. Inside Russia, after the revolution, the Zionists were released from the religious restrictions imposed under the czar.

As for the Roman Church, it was not pleased. Nachum Sokolow, Weizmann’s senior in the Zionist movement in London, traveled to Italy to try to garner Vatican support for the Jewish state contemplated in the Balfour Declaration. Although Msgr. Pacelli (later to become Pope Pius XII) said he did not object to British patronage, he made clear that the Zionists would have to steer clear of the Holy Places. The Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Gasparri stressed the importance of the Holy Places so much that Sokolow later reported, “I felt a chill in my bones.” The Vatican wanted to assure its position in the Holy Places, particularly in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth and surroundings, Tiberias, and Jericho. When Sokolow met the Pope, Benedict XV, he assured him that the Zionists had no designs on the Holy Places, to which His Holiness replied with good wishes for the Jewish home. The Vatican’s hope was that, with the Russian revolution, the Orthodox in the Holy Land might be open to a reconciliation with Rome. When the Pope’s statement of good wishes was, however, presented at the next Zionist Congress, as “proof” that the Vatican was supporting Zionism, the Church answered, in no uncertain terms. In the publication *The Tablet* in 1919, the Vatican officially

registered its opposition, and followed this with a memo to the League of Nations in 1922 protesting the Balfour Declaration.

The ROC’s final bid for Palestine

During the period of the British Mandate in Palestine until the founding of the state of Israel in 1948, the Russian Orthodox Church, formally reintegrated into the Soviet state, continued its drive for hegemony within Orthodoxy. Already, the election of the Patriarch, sanctioned by Stalin in 1943, had involved the Patriarchs of Alexandria and Antioch, delegates of those of Jerusalem and Constantinople, and the Catholicos of Georgia, who had formed the Council for the election.

The carve-up of Europe effected at war’s end was complemented by the re-alignment within Orthodoxy. The Syrian Church (Antioch) was fully within Moscow’s fold; other Orthodox Churches which defined themselves in relation not to Constantinople, but Moscow, included the Bulgarian autocephalous church, the Georgian, the Polish Orthodox, the Albanian, and the Romanian. The only major church which remained strong and outside Moscow’s control was the Greek Orthodox Church. It has been only through the good graces of Soviet-puppet Andreas Papandreou that the ROC has come closer to its goal of replacing the Greek Church especially in the Holy Land. Papandreou’s takeover of Church properties in Greece two years ago may presage his extending control over the GOC holdings in Jerusalem. The seizing of Greek lands has already led to a crisis in the GOC, which is contemplating renouncing its independence, to re-align with the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. Once having given up its independence, it would have little power to counter ROC ambitions in the Holy Places now located in Israel.

To understand what is going on in the minds of the Russian leadership in the ongoing negotiations with Israel, one must reflect on the lessons of this sad history. And to grasp what concept will inform the approach of the ROC in its dealings with the Orthodox Church—and the Vatican—one has only to read what the *Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate (JMP)* wrote in a recent feature article dedicated to the infamous Porfiry:

And today when the Russian Orthodox Church is on the threshold of great jubilee—the millennium of the Baptism of Russ, one would like to express the hope that the ecumenical expectations of Bishop Porfiry Uspensky, though in another form, the one with a firm theological foundation, and with the inevitable difficulties that arise during a dialogue taken into consideration, will in time be crowned with a steady advancement to the blessed goal: That they may all be one (Jn. 17, 21). It can be stated with full conviction that the works of the scholarly hierarch of the 19th century may prove to be very useful for modern ecumenical dialogue. (*JMP*, 1985)

Captive nations protest against Soviet oppression

by Luba George

The crisis of national unrest sweeping the Russian Empire is rapidly coming to a head. Parallel to the late-August strike wave spreading across Poland, mass anti-Soviet eruptions broke out in the three Baltic republics and the Ukraine, the regions inside the U.S.S.R. bordering on Poland. Moscow's headaches are multiple: The Polish crisis has been joined by a full-fledged Baltic crisis, and a smoldering crisis in the Ukraine. On top of all that, the month-long deceptive "calm" in the Transcaucasus has been shattered. On Aug. 24, thousands of Armenians took to the streets in Stepanakert, the capital of Karabakh, the Armenian-inhabited region of Azerbaijan, demanding that Karabakh come under Armenian rule.

By far the most dramatic developments are occurring in the Baltic region. Well over 300,000 people gathered at mass rallies on Aug. 23 in the capitals of the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to mark the 49th anniversary of the 1939 Hitler-Stalin Pact, which led to the annexation of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union. Demonstrators carried flags of their previously independent countries, and banners denouncing the accord between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, and the continuing Russian occupation.

According to Lithuanian exile sources, 200,000 people demonstrated in the capital of Vilnius, and another 50,000 in Kaunas, the republic's second largest city. In Riga, the capital of Latvia, 30-50,000 gathered at a rally.

In the Estonian capital of Tallinn, some 10,000 people gathered in the city's Hirve Park, carrying black, white, and blue Estonian flags and placards with both the Nazi swastika and the Communist hammer and sickle crossed out. Lagle Parek, an Estonian activist and member of the Estonian Group for Publication of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the group which organized the rally, told the crowd, "It is not enough to recognize the Soviet occupation of 1940. We have to

restore our independence." At the demonstrations it was announced that a new Estonian National Independence Party has been founded. The depth of popular support behind the independence demand was shown by the fact that even a leader of the Estonian Popular Front (a "pro-autonomy mass organization" created through the Estonian Communist Party in June, in an attempt to coopt the rising ferment), Edgar Savisaar, in his address to the rally, employed the following rhetoric, "Either we remain the servant or become the sovereign master of our land."

Later, another large gathering of over 5,000 packed Tallinn's concert hall and 3,000 more crowded into a hockey rink next door. Thousands rallied and called for independence in the ancient university town of Tartu.

Erik Udam, one of the 100-plus founding members of the Estonian National Independence Party, addressing the Tallinn crowd, spoke against immigration of ethnic Russians to Estonia in recent years—part of Moscow's "Russification" policy. "The Estonian people is in great danger of dying out," he said. Estonia is the Soviet Union's least populous republic, where Estonians make up only 60% of the 1.5 million population. In Tallinn itself, half of the city's 500,000 inhabitants are ethnic Russians. With these demographic trends, the Russians hope that the goal of the Estonians to restore their independence will not be realized.

Call to repeal Hitler-Stalin Pact

Settling the Polish crisis is Moscow's top priority. For this, no means will be excluded, including military intervention. Moscow must now try to prevent, at all costs, an out-of-control situation from materializing in the Baltic and the Ukraine. This dilemma has produced a two-track counterinsurgent approach for the western regions of the Soviet Union.

In the Baltic, where the protests have already reached mass proportions, the policy for the short term is to “ride the wave,” to attempt to coopt and channel the mass movement, and (at least as long as Poland remains explosive) to avoid, if possible, harsh police measures. This apparent, and totally deceptive, leniency only holds true for the relatively tiny Baltic republics. For the Ukraine, with its 50 million population, and bordering on Poland, Moscow’s response to the first flickers of national ferment has been brutal. For the Baltic, particularly Estonia, the signs of the cooptation policy that began in June with the creation of the Popular Front, abounded during August.

Just two weeks prior to the planned rallies, an Estonian-language paper on Aug. 10 published, for the first time ever inside the Soviet Union, the text of the “Non-Aggression Pact” signed by the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, including the secret protocols. The rest of the Estonian press was soon to follow, with excerpts from the secret protocols. Revelations of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact are a particularly sensitive issue to Moscow, because the pact’s secret protocols fully discredit official claims that the Baltic states were incorporated into the U.S.S.R. in 1940 by their own volition.

Moscow sent to the Tallinn rally the “liberal” Russian historian Yuri Afanasyev, who told the crowd, “The signing of the pact resulted in the occupation of Estonia,” and added that the old version about the voluntary adherence of the Baltic countries to the U.S.S.R. was “not serious.” “We are speaking of historical injustices,” he said. “We have no right to be silent about it. In no other country has history been falsified to the extent it has been in the Soviet Union. . . . The secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact have been published in the West and all Western scholars know about it, but we continue to deny its existence.” He called for publishing the pact protocols.

That was in Estonia. Back in Moscow, nothing had changed in Russia’s position. That same day in Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov repeated that the Soviet archives contained no copies of the secret protocols, that the original did not exist, and that the only copies of the document were in the West. One week earlier, Valentin Falin, head of Soviet news agency Novosti and former ambassador to West Germany, denied that the secret protocols were held in the Soviet archives. This was Moscow’s answer to the Riga rally, where one person read out loud a letter to Mikhail Gorbachov, calling for repeal of the pact.

On Aug. 24, the definitive proof was provided that Soviet policy will continue to be a defense of the pact. One day after the demonstrations, the Russian Republic’s party daily *Sovetskaya Rossiya* published a detailed account of the secret protocols of the Hitler-Stalin Pact, the first time this had ever been done in Russia proper. The full-page article, written by Lithuanian historian Robertas Zhyuzhda, provided the first

opportunity for many Soviet citizens to learn details of the accord, which led to the invasion and partition of Poland, Moscow’s grabbing of the western part of the Ukraine, and the 1940 takeover of the Baltic republics. But he repeated the official line that Moscow’s actions and concerns were “understandable” in the tense atmosphere on the eve of World War II, allowing the Russians to “buy time” to prepare for an attack by Germany.

On the same day, the TASS news agency defended the pact as a “necessary measure” and, referring to the Tallinn demonstration, where “one could hear . . . nationalistic calls” that all non-Estonians leave Estonia, and for Estonia’s “secession” from the Soviet Union, warned that *glasnost* must not be used for “destructive nationalist passions.”

Moscow’s dilemma

Gorbachov’s attempts to coopt nationalist ferment is a very risky proposition, which must backfire, if not soon, then over the longer term. The most anti-Russian mood inside the U.S.S.R. has always existed among Poland’s neighbors, along the Baltic and in the Ukraine.

As we have seen, in the Baltic, and especially in Estonia, Moscow has been willing to take some risks by adopting a more “liberal” approach to the confrontation. Under Vaino Vyalyas, the new Estonian leader since June, the Communist Party has approved the holding of rallies by the government-sanctioned Popular Front, whose platform calls for a “sovereign” Estonia “inside a federated Soviet Union.” On June 25, Estonia’s government permitted the display of the blue, black, and white flag, banned since the annexation in 1940, to fly from public buildings. (On Aug. 24, a similar decree was announced concerning Latvia and Lithuania). Another Popular Front demand is that Estonian become the republic’s official language, and that Estonia be granted “full economic autonomy.”

Gorbachov’s phony “liberalism,” however, has never reached, and never will reach the Ukraine, with a population of over 50 million. Moscow’s brutal course during July against Armenian national aspirations has now been repeated in the Ukraine, where mass rallies and demonstrations have been met with arrests and brutal crackdowns.

On Aug. 4, over 5,000 protesters took part in a rally in Lvov, in the western Ukraine, in defiance of the Supreme Soviet decree calling for an end to street protests. As people gathered at the Lvov State University, demonstrating for national autonomy and an end to Russification, shouting “Freedom for the Ukraine,” van-loads of militia—drawn from the KGB and a new Interior Ministry unit called the Sixth Special Task Force, consisting of reservist *spetsnaz* troops—began to brutally disperse the demonstrators using dogs and batons. People shouted “Fascists! Fascists!” as militia set dogs on the demonstrators and dragged them off to cars by their hair or feet. Scores of young people and women were severely beaten and arrested. Not one word of this

outrage has yet to appear in any Western newspaper, except for a belated report in the London *Times*, although eyewitness documentation has been made available to the West in press release form by the Independent Press Service of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union, operating out of Lvov and Kiev.

These events mark the first confirmed use of Interior Ministry *spetsnaz* units, created late last year and composed of Afghan War veteran Army *spetsnaz* troops whose period of active service had ended. These units were created specifically to intervene against national unrest.

The events of August followed a series of arrests and intimidations by the KGB and police of Ukrainian activists, after mass demonstrations and a bus drivers' strike in June and July. On July 20, the KGB arrested one of the leaders of the Helsinki Union, Vyecheslav Chornovil, and warned him to stop "attempts to incite hostility among nationalities . . . supplying Western subversive centers with information which is used against the Soviet system, and organizing mass demonstrations which violate public order." Soviet and Ukrainian official press have been demanding that an end be put to "activities of extremists." They have named five dissidents: Mikhail Chornovil, Bogdan Horyn, Ivan Makar, and Yaroslav Putko. All fear that the same fate is awaiting them that happened to Armenian leader Airikyan, who was deported to the West.

These warnings were followed on July 24, by arrests of 16 members of a cultural club in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev. The club has been campaigning against Russification and petitioning for the release of "prisoners of conscience." On July 27, the newspaper *Lvov Pravda* announced that the Lvov Executive Committee had forbidden all meetings and demonstrations organized by the Lvov Initiative group which they accused of "anti-Soviet agitation and provocation."

Throughout late July and early August, dozens of Ukrainian national activists were seized by the KGB, thrown at gunpoint into waiting cars, and driven into forests outside Lvov and Kiev. There they were threatened with execution by pistol or drowning, and after being severely beaten, were left half-conscious in the forest, to find their way back to the city.

In Moscow itself, Interior Ministry *spetsnaz* units were used to break up an Aug. 20 demonstration. Five hundred protesters, members of the Democratic Union—the illegal opposition political party set up in May—gathered near Pushkin Square to protest the 20th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. They distributed leaflets denouncing the 1968 invasion as a "crime." Police with loudspeakers ordered the protesters to disperse or face "legal consequences." The police, KGB, and Interior Ministry *spetsnaz* units charged into the crowd with clubs and dogs. Passers-by, shocked by the brutality, shouted "Fascists!" at the police, as they watched about 100 protesters being dragged into police buses. Some women were pulled by the hair, while men were punched or kicked as they were bundled into buses.

Polish crisis: more

by Konstantin George

The course of the strike wave that began in Poland on Aug. 16 confirms that, no matter what happens in the immediate period ahead, the Polish crisis of 1988 is of a dimension far more grave than that of 1980-81. This was already *EIR*'s reading when the first strikes erupted in April and May of this year. At the time, we alerted our readers that the next explosion would likely occur in August.

In the current situation, anything can happen.

As of Aug. 25, the strikes had shut down at least 11 coal mines in Upper Silesia, and brought all activity in Poland's two main ports, Szczecin and Gdansk, to a halt.

The government cannot allow such a state of affairs to prevail much longer without taking direct and brutal action on a large scale, or else ending the strikes through successfully intimidating the workers. A showdown is inevitable, with two possible results: Either the strike is broken, or government violence triggers a nationwide strike and an all-out crisis, with a growing danger of Soviet military intervention.

Most knowledgeable observers expect the government to succeed, through the use of pressure and blackmail tactics, in stopping the strike wave. However, the strikes may end, but the crisis will not only remain, but intensify. It was only in May that the government had apparently "won" against the strikers, only to find itself confronted with a far worse eruption three months later. Should the government again "win" in August, it will only have ensured an even briefer interval of "calm" before the next and worse explosion occurs in the fall.

This is why both the opposition and the government agree on one point, the enormous gravity of the situation, comparing it to 1980 (when the crisis produced the fall of the Edward Gierek regime and the imposition of martial law by Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski).

Bronislaw Geremek, an adviser to Solidarnosc leader Lech Walesa, declared on Aug. 23, "The situation in Poland is exactly as explosive as it was during the strikes in the summer of 1980, and the dangers are also exactly as great." On the evening of Aug. 22, in a speech broadcast on Polish TV, General Kiszczak, the interior minister, announced that the wave of "illegal strikes . . . the open violations of peace and order . . . has called forth the specter of anarchy. . . . It's the duty of the leadership to prevent a return to the

unrest to come

situation that existed in the country on Dec. 13, 1981" when martial law was imposed and Jaruzelski took over power.

Timed with Kiszczak's threat of a return to martial law and mass repression, the Soviet media that evening broke its silence on the events in Poland. The Soviet news agency TASS denounced the "terroristic strikes" in Poland, and, referring to the coal strikes in the Polish region of Upper Silesia, a leader in coal and steel production, noted that they "threaten the entire region."

Kiszczak and the Soviets' threats followed a series of deliberations on the Polish crisis, which reveal how serious the situation is. The Polish National Defense Council, the country's supreme body, under the chairmanship of General Jaruzelski, met twice in 72 hours (on Aug. 20 and Aug. 22) to work out measures to crush the strikes. The first phase of a brutal crackdown against the strikers was subsequently launched:

- Already on Aug. 21, columns of vehicles carrying special police and Army units had moved into Upper Silesia, and began sealing off the coal mines on strike. As an added precaution against the spreading strike, large numbers of these units deployed just outside the Upper Silesian capital of Katowice, a large industrial city housing one of Poland's largest steel works.

- On the evening of Aug. 22, special police units known for their brutality, the notorious "Zomos," stormed three bus and tram depots in Szczecin, which were occupied by strikers. About 60 strikers were arrested and carted away from each depot.

- Starting on Aug. 24 and continuing into Aug. 25, police and troops begin storming some of the coal mines on strike, and in other cases, enforced a total blockade against the striking miners occupying the mines, to starve them out. By the end of Aug. 25, at least 3 and possibly up to 6 of the 14 mines on strike were again "working." But the post-strike "work" being conducted is slow and sporadic, with workers largely going through the motions of working.

How the crisis unfolded

The strikes began on Aug. 16 at the Manifest Lipcowy coal mine, near the town of Jastrzebie in Upper Silesia. Within four days, the coal miners' strike had spread to at

least 14 mines, and affected some 70,000 miners. In that same time frame, the Polish Baltic port of Szczecin was hit by a strike of its dock workers, shutting down the port, parts of the Adolph Warski shipyards, and the city's bus and tram drivers, knocking out urban mass transit. By Aug. 22, the Lenin Shipyard workers in Gdansk, led by Solidarnosc's Lech Walesa, joined the strike, to be followed soon thereafter by the Gdansk port workers. Also by Aug. 22-23, other strikes had broken out in various regions: at a turbine-producing plant in the western Polish city of Poznan; at a railway car repair plant in the Silesian capital of Wroclaw; at the Stalowa Wola armaments plant (which had also been struck briefly in April) in southeastern Poland; and partial strikes were occurring at the huge Nowa Huta steel works (one of the bastions of the April-May strikes) outside Krakow.

The workforce at other huge industrial facilities, such as the Huta Warszawa steel works in Warsaw, and the Ursus tractor plant outside Warsaw, warned the government that if violence were used against the strikers, they would then join the protests.

The dynamics of the strike wave provide the most stunning proof of how much the Polish economic situation has deteriorated since the spring. That the strikes are being led by the coal miners is a barometer of how far living standards have collapsed. Coal miners earn roughly double the average industrial wage in Poland. They also earn significant overtime pay, since bituminous coal, a prime export item to the West for hard currency, is produced seven days a week, around the clock. In April and May, the coal miners had not joined the strikes; now they are leading the strike wave.

Another critical qualitative difference between the current strike wave and that of April-May is that in the spring, in the Polish ports, only the Lenin Shipyard workers in Gdansk walked out. Their strike lasted nine days, but remained isolated and collapsed. This time, both ports, Szczecin and Gdansk, have been struck simultaneously, creating a national crisis with the paralysis of Poland's seaborne trade.

As of this writing, though there is an ebb in the coal strikes following the brutal interventions by the Interior Ministry's thugs, the two ports are still on strike and paralyzed, and new strikes cannot be ruled out.

Last, but not least, this time around, every single strike has made both economic demands—usually for a 50% wage increase—and political demands that Solidarnosc and other independent trade unions be legalized.

The government and the governing institutions are thoroughly discredited in the eyes of the population. General Jaruzelski can only survive through the use of force and bullying tactics, and it is noteworthy that now, as opposed to April and May, the Polish government is not even pretending to negotiate with any of the strikers. Jaruzelski's ability to survive through employing violence will not last forever, and the situation will inexorably evolve to the point where even that will not succeed, and a Russian invasion will be a live option.

Pakistan tensions are muted following the death of Zia

by Linda de Hoyos

The role of the Army in the present difficult situation is to help maintain law and order and to see that the promised Nov. 16 general elections become a reality, declared Pakistan's new Chief of Army Staff Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg on Aug. 19. Addressing the top echelons in the military in Rawalpindi for the first time, General Beg said it would be in the Armed Forces interests to strengthen the relationship between the federal and provincial governments and to create a conducive atmosphere to bring about a rapport between the masses and the political leaders.

Already new Pakistani acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has indicated that the government will accept to hold the Nov. 16 national elections on the basis of parties, and not simply individuals, as had been stipulated by former President Zia ul-Haq, who died in a suspicious airplane crash on Aug. 17.

The restraint on the part of the Army—even though rumors of an imminent military coup are rampant throughout the country—is being reciprocated by a calm within the general Pakistani population, despite its many religious, political, and ethnic fissures. Violence was expected, for example, on Aug. 23, when the nation's Shi'ite Muslim population parade through the streets in celebration of Muharram, the holiday of the lunar month. Last year, the Shi'ite celebrations had sparked riots in Karachi. This year, violence was all the more expected, given the murder in early August of Pakistan's primary Shi'ite leader Arif Hussain al-Hussaini. Violence has erupted only in the Northwest Frontier Province on Aug. 22, with Shi'ites reportedly celebrating the death of Zia and U.S. Ambassador Arnold Raphel.

The political opposition to Zia ul-Haq's military government, led by Benazir Bhutto and the Pakistani People's Party, has also been careful to use restraint in agitation against the military and for the elections. "The Army is seeking to extricate itself from politics," said Ms. Bhutto in an interview with the *Washington Post* Aug. 22. "Had they wanted to impose military rule, they could have done it when Zia died."

The condition of the Army's refraining from full martial law, however, is the maintenance of law and order. Since most political forces are united in their desires for elections, there will be a continued effort to ensure that tensions do not erupt into violence.

Pakistani neutralization

As of this moment, political observers believe that Bhutto and the Pakistani People's Party are slated to win the Nov. 16 elections. For one, the PPP is the only force with support across the country's four provinces. Former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was hanged in 1979 by Zia, had broad support, and that has been largely transferred to his daughter Benazir.

The PPP's fortunes will probably be bolstered by the bitter split in the Muslim League of former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. The League, according to press reports, split into two on Aug. 26, when a faction of Zia loyalists, including at least six current ministers, met to choose a new party president and secretary general. A meeting of the League in mid-August had ended in fist fights between the pro-Junejo and pro-Zia groupings. Junejo, whom Zia fired last May, declared the Aug. 26 meeting illegal. The breakaway faction includes the chief ministers of Pakistan's four provinces, who had been posted in their jobs shortly after Junejo's ouster.

There are numerous rivalries within the Pakistani military over position, power, and take in the illegal drugs-and-arms trade. On Aug. 22, Moscow's party daily *Pravda* noted that "the British with their imperial nostalgia . . . cannot fail to have known about the explosive political atmosphere now reigning in Pakistan. . . . To judge from reports, discontent persisted in Army circles, which did not want to continue sharing power with civilian circles. There was growing mistrust on the part of those political leaders and forces which had cooperated with the regime and had been deceived." *Pravda* specifically noted the *Financial Times'* explanation for Zia's assassination, stating, "The most likely explanation for the incident may be that discontented representatives of the country's Armed Forces placed a bomb on the aircraft."

However, aside from the internal problems, the key issue dividing Junejo and Pakistan was the implementation of the April 15 Geneva Accords. Zia had signed the accords under heavy pressure from the United States, centered on aid to Pakistan and the country's military program. Despite the signing, Zia had asserted his independence in aiding the Afghan Mujahideen to move in to fill the military vacuum left by the withdrawing Soviets. The removal of Zia at this

time is likely to result in a change in Pakistani policy toward Afghanistan and an effective neutralization of Pakistan.

Junejo was aligned with the State Department's line on Afghanistan, the delusion that the withdrawal of Soviet troops would bring peace to the region, despite the lack of any political settlement in Kabul. During his visit to Pakistan for Zia's funeral, Secretary of State George Shultz made a point of visiting Junejo.

There are also indications that the United States would be prepared to accommodate to a Bhutto government. U.S. intelligence sources say that if Bhutto were to drop her demands for an election based on parties, and reach agreements with some section of the military, then she would receive the backing of the United States. However, Miss Bhutto, since her 1986 return to Pakistan from exile, has been a favorite of the State Department's Project Democracy and has been likened to Philippines President Corazon Aquino. However, despite her "people's power" reputation, Mrs. Aquino came to power on the back of a U.S.-backed military coup, and even Bhutto told the *New York Times* Aug. 24, "No one in Pakistan is naive enough to believe that an opposition party could come to power without the Army's tolerance."

Miss Bhutto stated Aug. 22 that she and her party are "committed to the implementation of the Afghan accords, as they are widely interpreted." PPP strategist Syed Tariq Sohail was further quoted by the *Wall Street Journal* Aug. 22 as saying that if the PPP comes to power in November, it will try to find factions within the Kabul government that could be persuaded to work in coalition with the Afghan Mujahideen. "That notion," the *Journal* points out, "isn't likely to sit well with the Mujahideen commanders, who want to overthrow the Kabul government."

Afghan refugees a pressing problem

For all Pakistanis, the most pressing issue is the return of the 3 million Afghan refugees who have come into the country over the last nine years. One of Bhutto's big rallying cries has been her demand that Zia get the refugees out of Pakistan by reaching a settlement with Kabul (i.e., Moscow). But it is to be wondered how refugees, whose homes, cattle, and livelihood have been devastated by the Soviet scorched-earth policy in Afghanistan, are to return to a country under a hostile government or under an accord which has no provision for their economic survival or the rebuilding of their country. The more likely prospect, is that the Mujahideen, whose major protector was Zia and who will become increasingly desperate in their perceived betrayal, will turn on Pakistan itself. The Afghan accords will have created a "new Palestinian" population of millions of displaced persons, a key asset in making a new Lebanon of Pakistan. This is the eventuality which General Zia was committed to avoiding, and which it is believed the Pakistani military without him, will have difficulty withstanding.

IRA sets off summer terror vs. Britain

by Mark Burdman

During the month of August, the Irish Republican Army has dramatically escalated its 1988 terrorist offensive. Since February-March of this year, 27 members of the British Army have been killed by the IRA. For the entirety of 1987, only three British soldiers were killed.

The IRA's "Hot August" began on the morning of Aug. 1, with the bombing of an army barracks in North London, close to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's home election district of Finchley. Between that date and Aug. 19, the IRA struck several times in Northern Ireland. It also hit a British Army barracks in Düsseldorf, West Germany on Aug. 5, and shot and killed a British soldier the following weekend in the port city of Ostend in Belgium.

The peak of terrorist activity came early in the morning of Aug. 20, when Provisional IRA men blew up a British Army bus carrying soldiers returning from leave as it traveled along the main Belfast-to-Omagh road in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. Within 72 hours, 8 soldiers had been pronounced dead, and more than 20 wounded. The bomb device, set off by remote control, was reportedly composed of 200 pounds of Semtex, a high-powered plastic explosive made in Czechoslovakia and supplied by Libya.

Over the Aug. 20-21 weekend, the British cabinet was called into emergency session by Prime Minister Thatcher, to discuss new strategies against the IRA. The sessions occurred against the backdrop of faltering morale and increasing frustration in the British security forces in Northern Ireland, including the regular Army, the Ulster Defense Regiment, and local police, because of the inefficacy of actions taken so far, even though the identity of key terrorist "operators" is well known.

Following these meetings, British Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Tom King visited soldiers who had been wounded in the Aug. 20 outrage, and told them, "Violence cannot win. If it does, it is the end of civilization. As a democracy, the United Kingdom is not prepared to concede to terrorism and will take whatever steps are necessary."

In the next days, however, the terror continued. On Aug. 22, a British Royal Navy recruiting officer was killed in Belfast, by an IRA booby-trap bomb in his car. On the night of Aug. 23, two officers in County Londonderry narrowly escaped being blown up when a bomb went off in their parked van. On the morning of Aug. 24, police sealed off a 400-

pound bomb in a parked car that exploded in one of the busiest sections of Belfast.

The British daily *The Independent* warned Aug. 24, "The IRA is also assumed to be planning another attack on targets in England and on security forces personnel stationed on the continent." On the same day, King denounced Libya as the main weapons supplier to the IRA.

In an Aug. 23 discussion, an informed London source stated, "The IRA campaign seems to be a 'death-a-day' campaign. I wouldn't be surprised by something ghastly again tonight. I fear they'll regularly go on killing people, to create a political environment in which demands will be for British troops to leave Northern Ireland."

The Soviets and 'Europe of the regions'

In fact, the IRA's strikes on the continent, and its warning that it has declared "open season" on British forces in Europe, betrays the group as one element in a Soviet-backed "irregular warfare" offensive against NATO forces in Western Europe. British and continental security experts claim that the IRA is one part of an integrated "Euro-terror" command, that works closely with the German Red Army Faction, France's Direct Action, and the Basque secessionist ETA, among others. A base of operations and safehouses is Holland.

The IRA August offensive coincides with terrorist outrages in other parts of Europe by groups like the ETA and separatists in South Tyrol. All have one common characteristic: They are fanatically committed to breaking up nation-states and reorganizing Europe along ethnic-regionalist lines. Their aim notably coincides with that of the Western oligarchical elite that supports the "Europe 1992" project for a "Europe of the regions," that would be dictatorially run by a supranational bureaucracy based in Brussels, Strasbourg, and Luxembourg.

As IRA and other terrorism escalated, "Europe 1992" supporters stated, in private discussions, that they hoped that such actions would improve the climate favorable to a "Europe of the regions" restructuring. Said one such individual, who works with former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's Inter-Action Council, "We could see a solution for the Basque region in the context of 'Europe 1992.' It could be made an autonomous region between Spain and France. Some of these border problems are soluble only in the context of bigger entities. In a United Europe, there would be no fight between nations as now. I foresee a solution for Ireland in this context, too. Also for Corsica. In a broader Europe, where a lot of borders would disappear, some of these problems with no solution today, would find a solution in a multilateral, or regional, framework."

Mrs. Thatcher has become a prime target of the "Europe 1992" architects and their Russian allies, precisely because of her repeated attacks on "Europe 1992" as an "airy fairy" idea. The British prime minister is legitimately worried that

an outbreak of particularist unrest across Europe could lead to the break-up of Great Britain itself. At the end of July, as she expressed her opposition to the "Europe 1992" project, the French left-liberal daily *Le Monde* editorialized that Mrs. Thatcher is, "after all, not eternal." Soon thereafter, the "Hot August" of the IRA began.

The Dukakis factor

The "Europe 1992" factor in the IRA identifies it as a "joint stock venture" of Eastern and Western intelligence services. To combat the terrorists effectively, the British authorities would have to complement the necessary security, military, and legal measures with a political offensive penalizing the Russians and backers of "Europe 1992." This could mean taking on what might be called the "Dukakis factor" in the IRA.

Privately, many British influentials express horror at a potential Dukakis presidency. The IRA is a factor. Dukakis, as governor and presidential candidate, has made deals with foolish Irish-American political machines in Massachusetts and elsewhere who romantically believe the IRA to be an army of liberation for "Irish" aims. More fundamentally, Dukakis is heavily dependent on the powerful "Kennedy machine," whose support for the IRA was put on display during the trip earlier this year to Northern Ireland of Rep. Joseph Kennedy, Jr. (D-Mass.), who actually got into fights with British security forces. The July 17 edition of the British weekly, *The Mail on Sunday*, identified "the IRA sympathizer" Kennedy, Jr. as one of Dukakis's "closest advisers."

Mrs. Thatcher has recently taken an initiative which could prove quite embarrassing to Michael Dukakis and his backers, even if that was not her intent.

On Aug. 15, Mrs. Thatcher released a letter on behalf of her government stating, "Our intention is to broaden and strengthen the existing offenses in the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1984. They will apply to certain categories of international terrorism as well as Northern Ireland terrorism.

"The definition of the prohibited conduct will be expanded so that it will more clearly cover the sort of activities and transactions carried on by banks and other financial institutions, and accountants and other financial advisers. Facilitation of the retention or control of terrorist funds will also be an offense. . . .

"Linked with the new offense, will be new powers of investigation modeled broadly on those in the Drug Trafficking Act 1986 to enable the police to carry out investigations into suspect funds."

The immediate target will be various extortion rackets in Northern Ireland. But sooner or later, the spotlight must fall on the Kennedy machine and related Dukakis-linked circles. One British insider portrayed the Thatcher letter as a "coded warning" to Dukakis on the IRA question. Will messages in the future be so coded?

Kissinger, Abrams threaten Mexico

The international banking oligarchy wants to impose its presidential candidate—at all costs. By Hugo López Ochoa.

In an unusual and extensive article written for the Aug. 14 *Los Angeles Times*, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger called on the United States to “adapt to the new reality in Mexico,” and help bail out the bankrupt PRI government before it’s too late.

The article was reproduced Aug. 18 by the Mexican daily *Excelsior*, and in it Kissinger urges the U.S. government to put aside its “somewhat understandable” resistance to “involvement” in the debt problem. “The issue has gone beyond theory,” warns Kissinger, who insists that if Mexico’s creditors fail to provide the “outside help” that will enable PRI presidential choice Carlos Salinas de Gortari to revive economic growth in Mexico, “this failure can turn out to be a tragedy.”

Thus Dr. Kissinger joins the campaign of the international banking oligarchy in trying to save the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and its candidate Salinas who, by insisting on a fraudulent triumph at the polls, is driving the country into a constitutional crisis without precedent in the history of Mexico since the 1910 Mexican Revolution against the Porfirio Díaz dictatorship. Salinas is being challenged by nationalist Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, the candidate of the National Democratic Front (FDN), who has presented incontrovertible evidence of fraud against his candidacy.

On Aug. 18, Cárdenas culminated a dramatic tour of the country “in defense of the vote,” with an address to more than 120,000 students and professors at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). There, Cárdenas charged, “It is possible that [President] De la Madrid hears Kissinger’s voice, but in six years of rule he has not heard the voice of the Mexican people.” The combativeness of Cárdenas’s supporters was unparalleled. Their battle cry of “Hit ‘em hard!” constantly interrupted the FDN candidate as he said, “Unlike the current government, which listens more to the IMF and to Kissinger, the FDN proposes in its program that we stop paying the foreign debt under its present terms, and that a shift be made in economic policy, to recover growth and the living standards of Mexico’s majorities.”

Also on Aug. 18, the daily *Unomásuno* carried the statements of none other than Elliott Abrams, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs and champion of multiple

destabilization campaigns against Mexico. Said Abrams, “I know that people are saying Mexico is on the verge of collapse, and expect a revolution next week . . . but we, in the U.S. government, do not agree with these perceptions.” Behind his sugary defense of Mexico, however, was the threat: “The next President of Mexico should commit himself to following through the economic program of his predecessor, if he truly wants the country to progress. If this occurs, things will go well for Mexico. . . . We are optimistic and I believe that all this talk of chaos is crazy.”

Both Abrams and Kissinger praised “De la Madrid’s brave efforts,” a reference to the so-called Economic Solidarity Pact which has prolonged the economic shock measures that have plunged Mexico into an unprecedented economic depression. Kissinger did not fail to prescribe for Mexico precisely the same measures which have miserably failed to date: the Morgan Plan, which would have debtors buying up their own devalued debt, exchange of debt for equity in bankrupt companies (euphemistically known as “opening up the market place”), and integrating Mexico into the “U.S.-Canadian free trade zone.”

Salinas: more of the same

Encouraged by the likes of Kissinger and Abrams, Finance Secretary Gustavo Petricioli (“The Tiger”) stated on Aug. 23 that “Miguel de la Madrid has been very brave” in not adopting “populist, demagogic” measures in “an election year.” Petricioli predicted “an orderly transfer of power, with no fear of surprises,” so that Salinas de Gortari could “face up to the challenge of sustained growth.” That same day, former Finance Secretary Jesús Silva Herzog, a member of the pro-drug-legalization Inter-American Dialogue, also echoed Kissinger: “The next government should not begin its rule with a new political call to society to tighten its belt,” but rather should have as its number-one priority the “recovery of growth.”

Salinas de Gortari has already begun a series of frantic meetings with different sectors of his own party to prevent further desertions to the Cardenista ranks, meetings at which he has promised—according to well-informed sources—that “we will not ask for any more sacrifices,” since “the time for

growth has arrived.”

Silva Herzog himself acknowledged that the only way such growth could take place would be with “a reduction of [debt] payments abroad on the order of 40% to 50%, which would make available some \$5 billion for productive investments.” He lamented, however, that “the behavior of the creditors doesn’t permit this, and therefore the problem persists.”

The fact is that Kissinger and Abrams, and their local mouthpieces, are threatening to unleash a “tragedy” in Mexico if the country proceeds to follow the popular mandate of the July 6 elections: No to the IMF! “A too-sudden change might tear Mexico’s brittle social fabric and create a regional confrontation,” says Kissinger in the cited article.

Official obsession

While the mighty oracles of Wall Street sound the alarm, the mobilization headed by Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas is expanding daily, despite a stubborn and dangerous obsession by President De la Madrid to impose his successor, and to bog the popular mobilization down in interminable debates in the Electoral College.

The College was convened on Aug. 15, and is responsible for certifying senators and deputies elected July 6; it is also responsible for resolving all electoral challenges to the seating of those deputies and senators, to permit the Sept. 1 seating of the newly elected Congress, which will in turn certify the hotly contested presidential election.

The PRI has taken advantage of the fact that the Federal Election Code has left legal control of the elections in the hands of the government and the PRI, permitting it to “decree” who wins and who loses and thereby assure an eternal PRI majority in both the Federal Electoral Commission and the Electoral Colleges. For days, the Electoral College has been unable to discuss the certification of elected deputies, because the opposition parties have been driven to use of stalling maneuvers to try to contain the PRI’s “steamroller” tactics, including its systematic refusal to permit scrutiny of the results from 25,000 polling stations (nearly half the total polls), which remain sequestered by the secretary of the interior in the basement of the Legislative Palace, under military guard.

At the same time, a chain of provocations and assassinations has been set loose in an apparent effort to convince the opposition to back down from its challenge to the Salinas election. On Aug. 15, while the PRI-dominated media were attacking the opposition deputies in the Electoral College as “Jacobins,” extensive coverage was simultaneously given to the torching of the mayoral offices in Apatzingán, Morelos, “by FDN supporters.” Cárdenas immediately charged that the arson was the work of government “provocateurs” seeking to discredit the FDN, and he released details on how three days prior to the fire, all employees had received their wages and the building’s archives were removed by municipal au-

thorities, in anticipation of “trouble.”

The “trouble” was not accidentally prepared for Aug. 15, because that was the same date the FDN set up a “permanent sit-in” in front of the Congress, and ordered simultaneous demonstrations across the country to give backing to the FDN deputies inside the Electoral College. The PRI had also financed newspaper ads to fan political tensions, explicitly blaming the FDN for “inciting to rebellion.”

The heart of the Cardenista movement in the cities is the children of old supporters of nationalist President Lázaro Cárdenas (1934-40). It is against these layers that the fury of the De la Madrid regime has been directed. Four university students were found assassinated Aug. 21, their tortured bodies discovered in their own car, which was loaded with FDN literature and fundraising materials.

In the midst of general outrage at the incident, Cárdenas used the occasion of presenting condolences to the parents of the murdered youths to charge that “this is a political act committed by the dark, retrograde, and reactionary forces of the government, for the purpose of intimidating the youth . . . and their parents, so that we will prevent our children from participating in democratic actions.”

Constitutional crisis

Outrage against the government is such that desertion from PRI ranks has reached the highest levels. On Aug. 19, on the first page of the widely read daily *La Jornada*, Samuel I. del Villar, a former high-level official of the De la Madrid administration, charged that “on taking power, the President abandoned his campaign program, that of ‘Moral Renovation.’” Del Villar was the President’s chief adviser in that program. The priority of the first half of the current government was to arrange an “economic reordering . . . through a power structure protective of injustice and unproductivity.” Del Villar added that the Economic Solidarity Pact was designed to “safeguard the interests of the international banks regarding the debt.”

Del Villar wrote that “publicly available evidence on the result of the elections . . . does not enable one to reasonably conclude who became President.” He warned that the country was heading rapidly into a “constitutional crisis,” against which there remain but three options: 1) Declare Salinas President, but provide unequivocal proof that it was he who won the election; 2) Declare Cárdenas President, who, according to the results of approximately half the polling places which have been reviewed, won the majority; or 3) Annul the elections, and call new ones as the Constitution provides.

“Any other alternative will see the crisis degenerate into constitutional corruption . . . and into predictable chaos and violence.” Del Villar, who voted for Salinas, nonetheless says that “We are obliged to heed the will of the majority,” since otherwise, Salinas would become another Porfirio Díaz, the dictator against whom Mexico’s 1910 Revolution was fought.

Dreams or reality: bidding for the Gulf

by Thierry Lalevée

The first round of U.N.-sponsored negotiations between Iran and Iraq on Aug. 25, following the Aug. 20 ceasefire, is clearing the way for reshuffling the deck in the region. At center stage is the question of the relationship between Iran and the Western nations, and especially the United States.

International financial consortia have already begun informal but intense consultations to assess the feasibility of reconstruction of both war-ravaged countries. Preliminary estimates put the cost at around \$500 billion over 10-15 years. European and Japanese banks are considering at least \$100 billion, the Islamic Banking System would provide \$250 billion, and the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council would add another \$150 billion. Top European firms are lining up to attend the International Trade Fair in Baghdad in September, and a similar one in Teheran the following month.

But these plans are far from fruition. In the immediate period ahead, both countries will try to sell as much oil as they can, notwithstanding the effect on the OPEC oil policy. Already on Aug. 5, as the French government smoothly ended its oil embargo against Iran, the National Iranian Oil Corporation signed a \$500 million contract with the French Banque Nationale de Paris and the Louis Dreyfus food-cartel company. In exchange for oil deliveries, Iran will receive food.

On the diplomatic front, Washington hopes that things will go as smoothly, and feels encouraged by the presence of British diplomat David Reddaway, as well as by unconfirmed reports that the Student Followers of the Line of the Imam, who have occupied the U.S. Embassy since November 1979, have been ordered to clean the place up. In the background of the U.N. negotiations, American and Iranian officials are meeting in various locations.

For the U.S. administration, it is a foregone conclusion that diplomatic relations will be re-established in the months ahead, and that the American hostages will be released prior to the presidential elections. Though Iran needs fewer weapons than before, it does need money, and steps are being taken to unfreeze billions of dollars of Iranian assets in the United States. To satisfy Iranian—and Soviet—demands, Pentagon officials are working out plans to rapidly withdraw most of the U.S. naval taskforce in the Gulf.

The geopolitical strategists want to concentrate on the

longer term, once diplomatic relations are established, and on the postwar and post-Khomeini period. What this means, was candidly outlined in an Aug. 19 article in the *Jerusalem Post* by leading Israeli Irangate figure, Mossad recruiter Ya'acov Nimrodi, the former military attaché to Teheran. Calling on Israeli and American officials to renew the kind of ties that he and "my colleagues Al Schwimmer and David Kimche"—of Irangate fame—had established with Iran three years ago, Nimrodi cautions that the "horrendous blunder" of concentrating on hostages and weapons, should not be made again. Instead, political matters should be the focus: the "return of Iran to the bosom of the West."

A new CENTO?

Nimrodi's article reveals the geostrategists' gameplan. Since Iran's decision to accept U.N. Resolution 598, Radio Israel has been broadcasting night after night, in Farsi, praise of the "great Iranian nation." The broadcast features whatever Israeli diplomats can be found who served in Iran, with the message that Iran and Israel share "common geostrategic interests," and should re-establish relations as soon as possible. Nimrodi argues that when it comes to a choice between an alliance with Iraq and one with Iran, "there is no Iraqi option for Israel."

Nimrodi has in mind the full reactivation of the old CENTO alliance associating Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan, with Israeli backing. Though the military alliance ceased to exist in 1979, the relationship has been maintained by twice-yearly meetings of the social, economic, and cultural committees of the axis. Even in their wildest dreams, no strategists can contemplate a reactivation of the CENTO military alliance in the immediate period. For one thing, Pakistan is now considered too fragile to be a reliable partner. What is envisaged is a situation in which Turkey and Iran would join in a regional axis. Aware that the reactivation of a non-Arab Islamic military alliance could provoke an anti-Turkish backlash in the Arab world, Turkey has shown considerable reluctance. It has its own agenda, which primarily includes a close relationship with Saudi Arabia and Egypt, while maintaining a balanced policy between Iraq and Iran.

In Washington, the effort to forge a new CENTO alliance is seen as the rationale behind the red carpet treatment afforded to Jalal Talabani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in June. During his first official visit to Washington, he was received by the entire staff of the State Department's Middle East and Human Rights sections. Notwithstanding official protests from Iraq and Turkey, Foggy Bottom went on to organize a seminar in which Talabani addressed high-ranking U.S. officials. Behind this sudden display of support for Kurdish rights is a more sinister design: to exacerbate the Kurdish question, forcing Ankara and Teheran to sit down and settle it together. Then, it is thought, the two countries could be induced to work together on other matters, including military affairs.

How the Nazis ruined musical tuning

by Laurent Rosenfeld

To say that the decision to tune the “Concert A” to 440 vibrations per second (Hertz) was a Nazi conspiracy, might seem to be an exaggeration; yet it was Dr. Josef Goebbels’s Radio Berlin that organized the conference at which this decision was made.

Musical tuning was essentially a matter of habit, rather than law or standardization, until the second half of the 19th century. As *EIR* has previously reported, the Russian czar’s military band had set a bad example of higher tuning in 1815, at the Congress of Vienna, but this was only an example, and no law was passed.

Faithful to its tradition of (sometimes excessive) centralization, France was the first country to decide to do something centrally on the question. By July 17, 1858, an official commission was formed with seven musicians (Berlioz, Rossini, Halevy, Meyerbeer, Auber, Monnais, Thomas), two physicists (Lissajous and Despretz), and Major General Mellinet (in charge of the military bands), to study the question. They studied the tuning level everywhere in Europe, and found that the A varied from 434 to 456 Hertz. The commission ended up proposing a “standard pitch” (“normal diapason”) to be fixed at 435. A decree was issued on Feb. 18, 1859, forcing every conservatory, music hall, and music school in France to use this standard tuning.

While this $A = 435$ is not the perfect scientific value we should hope for (it is slightly less than one-eighth of a semitone higher than the scientifically determined value of 432), this effort was commendable. Twenty years later, Giuseppe Verdi wanted to adopt the same value for standard pitch, and was only later convinced to go down to the better 432 “scientific pitch.”

The first international standardization of tuning came in 1885, at a Vienna conference, where the French $A = 435$ “standard pitch” was adopted. This value remained prevalent until at least 1939, and is still today the only officially recognized value in France.

The role of Goebbels

It was Radio Berlin, in 1938-39, which organized a conspiracy to raise the pitch. Radio Berlin was Dr. Goebbels’s main propaganda instrument, and was under top-down control of the Nazis. No one was appointed to a leading position at Radio Berlin without the approval of the Nazi propaganda minister.

Robert Dussaut, a French musician and a fervent advocate of $A = 432$, wrote in 1950, “By September 1938 [at the time of Munich!], Dr. Grutmacher and the Acoustic Committee of Radio Berlin requested the British Standard Association to organize a congress in London in order to adopt internationally the German tuning of 440 vibrations per second. This congress did, in fact occur in London, a very short time before the war, in May-June 1939. No French composer was invited. The decision to raise the pitch was thus taken without consulting French musicians and against their will.”

Other sources, such as René Dumesnil, another advocate of lower tuning, say that this London congress was a set-up: The organizers first asked musicians, engineers, instrument makers, physicists, etc., whether they would agree to $A = 440$, and *whoever would not agree was simply not invited!*

Since the war broke out very soon afterwards, this first attempt to raise the tuning standard was not enforced, at least not officially. So another congress was organized, again in London, under the auspices of the International Standardizing Organization (ISO), in October 1953. Again, people were carefully selected in such a way that no opposition would be voiced against the project, and, of course, the project did not meet any significant opposition from the floor of this conference. At least in France, musicians were mobilized against this. Dussaut and his friend Claude Delvincourt (then head of the National Conservatory of Paris) had organized a referendum among musicians, reaching directly or indirectly 23,000 of them, and a vast majority supported Dussaut’s project of coming back to $A = 432$. Delvincourt, Henri Busser, and Jaujard, three of the most important French musicians of the time, had written to the congress in London to ask for a lower tuning, but to no avail.

The question of jazz

But the main issue at this second London congress was that $A = 440$ was decided especially by instrument makers, especially wind instrument makers, who wanted to be able to export their instruments to the United States, where the influence of jazz had raised the pitch to 440 and well beyond (it later went up to 445 and even 447 in “classical” orchestras, and up to 470 in jazz orchestras).

Robert Dussaut writes, “My opponents have answered me that the Americans want the tuning to be at 440 vibrations per second, because of jazz, and that we should be in conformity with them. It has been shocking to me that our orchestral musicians and our singers should thus be dependent upon jazz players from the other side of the Atlantic. . . . Commercial considerations come first. Artists have but to abdicate.”

And Dumesnil adds, “When instrument makers raised the pitch to satisfy jazz musicians, they should have consulted composers and singers, but they carefully avoided doing so. . . . It is not one of the smallest drawbacks due to the invasion of jazz.”

India reacts to Pakistan tragedy

Observance of formalities marks an attitude of cautious concern over the death of Gen. Zia ul-Haq.

Following the funeral of Gen. Zia ul-Haq, Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan went out of his way to express his country's gratitude for the sincere and solemn response of the Indian government and people to the tragic events of Aug. 17, when former President Zia and 29 others were killed in a mid-air explosion.

A delegation led by President R. Venkataraman attended the funeral. The delegation included the foreign minister, commerce minister, and representatives of all the political parties except the two Communist parties, who backed out at the last minute, citing the allegations of Soviet involvement in sabotaging Zia's plane.

A three-day mourning period was declared in India, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi canceled his birthday celebrations on Aug. 20. The Indian cabinet and Parliament sent condolences, and large bouquets of tube roses were reportedly sent specially from Delhi for the funeral.

Even though Prime Minister Gandhi chose not to dump protocol in the other direction and attend the funeral himself, as Zia had done for Indira Gandhi in 1984, India's was one of the highest-level delegations at the funeral next to Turkey and some of the other Islamic states.

President Venkataraman took the opportunity in private talks with the new Pakistani President to reiterate India's desire for peaceful and friendly relations. Wide coverage of the funeral and burial of Zia was given on Indian television and in the news media generally.

As one might expect, given the

backdrop of a bloody communal partition, three subsequent wars, and still-unresolved border and other issues, the man on the street's reaction to the crisis in Pakistan is often glib, and one does not have to go far to hear communal overtones. Several incidents of communal violence—including the Srinagar fracas which is longer standing—have been reported.

Interestingly, the spontaneous view on the street is also that, for better or worse, the Russians most likely were responsible. The government was quick to dispense with allegations of Indian involvement that surfaced in some foreign press as "utterly baseless and malicious," and the rumor hasn't figured in speculations here.

Otherwise, informed response has been uniformly sober, appreciating the implications for the subcontinent of such a huge, sudden, power vacuum. As *The Hindu*, often read as the unofficial voice of the Foreign Office, put it, "The sudden exit of an effective leader anywhere is a major calamity, but for a country like Pakistan, where the norms for the transfer of power are not institutionalized, it has the potential for mighty upheavals. The main question in this case is who next and what next after General Zia."

Unfortunately, the broader discussion is conditioned by the fact that the standard view of Pakistan here, even among otherwise knowledgeable people, is hopelessly superficial, even childishly so. In this view, fixed as it is on the United States and on anti-militarist, pro-democratic sentiments, the only issue is whether or not "the people" will rise up to throw off the

military and/or sever the alliance with the U.S. This view, which India's leadership has so far found too convenient to refute, likes to ignore Pakistan's developed ties to the Islamic world and its quite independent and substantial relationship with China, as much as it prefers to ignore the fact that the military's role in Pakistan has been determined by the failure of political leadership to steer the country.

Mercifully, though, this view does not go entirely unchallenged. On a TV talk show, former *Times of India* editor Inder Malhotra implored his colleagues to drop the stereotypes and prescriptions, and put themselves in their Pakistani brothers' shoes! Malhotra, who has in the past been branded a "Pakistani agent," said the Pakistani leaders were working under duress to ensure the security and integrity of their nation in a moment of extreme crisis.

A similarly independent commentator, Inder Jit, scored the government for bowing to matters of the moment—for example, the extreme displeasure over alleged Pakistani meddling in the Punjab—and choosing cold formality instead of a genuinely statesmanlike gesture of warmth and brotherhood. Speaking for himself "and many MPs," Inder Jit argued that both houses of Parliament should have adjourned on Aug. 18, as was urged by several members. He pointed out that the excuse offered—that India's Parliament adjourns only for the leaders of countries with elected parliaments—ignores the fact that free India's Parliament adjourned for Josef Stalin in 1953! "Most of us saw him [Zia] as a ruthless military dictator, a sworn enemy and a devil incarnate," wrote Inder Jit, satirizing the popular view. "Nevertheless, we would do well to remember that he gave India what it need most in self-interest: a strong and stable neighbor."

Hostage to crime and terrorism

Forty people were held hostage in three days, while liberal "civil rights" politicians prevented the police from doing anything.

A debate on "police rights" has been sparked in Germany, after the disastrous end of a hostage affair, in which gangsters took more than 40 hostages over a three-day period. Except for the terrorist extravaganzas of the 1970s, this was the most brutal and spectacular act of violent crime in the postwar history of the Federal Republic.

The police were prevented from acting by political directives "not to shoot." The end of the affair: The three gangsters were wounded but alive; two hostages and one policeman dead.

The saga began when two gangsters robbed a bank and held employees hostage. A raid by special police units on the bank was blocked, on orders from the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia; instead, the fugitives were given a high-speed car and escaped to the city of Bremen, changing cars on the way. A third gangster reinforced the team on its way, and in Bremen, the next day, the bank robbers captured a bus with 32 passengers, making their getaway to Hamburg. A policeman was killed when his car collided with another, while following the bus.

At a motel on the highway, police managed to arrest one of the three fugitives, a woman, but were then ordered to release her, on the grounds that otherwise her accomplices in the bus would begin killing hostages.

The robbers killed anyway: A 15-year-old boy was shot in the head, while trying to protect his younger sister, whom the gangsters held at gunpoint to apply pressure for the immediate release of their arrested ac-

complice. By the time the boy was shot, the accomplice had already been set free.

The bank robber team then crossed the German border to the Netherlands, exchanging the bus for a new car, and reentered Germany with two hostages. They arrived in Cologne on Aug. 18. From there, the last act of the drama started: The police finally got the political go-ahead for action. The gangsters' car was stopped, but one of the two hostages was shot by one of the criminals.

The whole affair lasted three days, over a large part of northwestern Germany, crossing the borders of three German states. What made this case a disaster without precedent was the interference by politicians in law enforcement, the insane decision to let at least 4 (some policemen even said 10) good chances to liberate the hostages go by.

The media had access to the criminals the entire time, presenting interviews with them live on national television. "Where are the police, how can this be allowed?" asked millions of Germans watching this.

The police, special anti-crime units, were there. "Where are the politicians?" is the question that ought to be posed, instead. Herbert Schnoor, the interior minister of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, for example, rejected an offer on Aug. 16 by the government in Bonn to have the special GSG-9 anti-terrorism unit deployed against the hostage-takers.

Twenty years ago, there was no terrorism in Germany, and the crime of "hostage-taking" was unknown.

The first hostage-taking occurred in Munich on Aug. 4, 1971. Police sharpshooters went into action promptly, killing the gangster, who was able to shoot his hostage too, however.

The liberalization of anti-crime laws which began in the early 1970s, encouraged the rise of terrorism and violent crime. The police were given new directives, not to shoot, but to "talk."

By 1973, already 23 cases of hostage-taking were recorded, and 10 years later, 120. In 1977, three spectacular kidnaping cases (federal attorney Klaus Buback, banker Jürgen Ponto, and industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer) led to a public outcry for better laws. The laws were modified, but the liberal approach remained.

A clause introduced in December 1977 readmitted a "shoot to kill" policy into the police service, but the practical realization of the new law was postponed on the state level. As of August 1988, only one state, Bavaria, has strict legislation supporting the "shoot to kill" *modus operandi*.

Interior Minister Schnoor, who prevented the police of his state from ending the hostage drama on its first day, has a record of police sabotage over years. It was the same Schnoor, who almost caused a disaster during U.S. Vice President George Bush's visit to the city of Krefeld in May 1983. Disregarding intelligence about planned street riots, Schnoor issued directives to the police to stay in the background. This allowed a mob to attack Bush's motorcade, and his car would have been stoned, had the police, ignoring their political directives, not arrived and intervened.

Schnoor also prevented police from cleaning out a well-known terrorist safehouse in the Kiefernstrasse district in Düsseldorf.

Abu Nidal's cells tolerated in Sweden

Why does a regime whose premier was shot dead on the streets grant terrorists a safehouse?

In March 1986, only days after the killer of Premier Olof Palme, whoever he was, escaped from the scene of the hit in downtown Stockholm, a certain Samir Mohammed Khadar arrived in Sweden under a false name, using a Finnish passport. Newly married to a Swedish woman he had met in Rome, Khadar easily obtained a residency permit from the Swedish immigration authority, saying only that he was businessman.

Apparently living a quiet family life in a Stockholm suburb, Khadar was in reality the chief of operations—i.e., “field commander”—of the Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist gang. He may have been the brains behind a whole series of terrorist atrocities.

The Abu Nidal organization was expelled from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) of Yasser Arafat in 1974, and was thereafter based in Damascus in Hafez al-Assad's Syria, before its headquarters were moved to Muammar Qaddafi's Libya. Khadar, known under some 15 different false identities, has been wanted for years internationally for several bloody actions, including the attacks against the Café de Paris and the Leonardo da Vinci Airport in Rome, the hijacking of a Pan Am airliner in Karachi, Pakistan, and the machinegun/hand grenade attack against the Greek cruiser, *City of Poros*, this past July 11.

Since the last massacre, in which 10 people were killed, Khadar has disappeared and, according to Greek police, was one of those killed when a car full of weapons, explosives, and money blew up in the Athens harbor

two hours before the attack on the *City of Poros*.

An airplane ticket for a flight from Copenhagen to Athens, found in an Athens hotel room in the name of one Heyad Yaballa, was traced back to Khadar's Scandinavian cover identity and his suburban Stockholm apartment. The late-July search of Khadar's apartment turned up a cryptic note, which led the Swedish security police (SÄPO) to a bag with four Kalashnikov automatic weapons buried in the woods north of Stockholm. The weapons, all of which had been fired, were of the same type that were used in the *City of Poros* hit. At least “some of them” had Russian inscriptions.

Krister Hansén, the chief of the anti-terror section of SÄPO, told the press, “This confirms our suspicions that several terrorists take advantage of our open society and use Sweden as a base. Here, they can move relatively freely.”

Hansén was being extremely polite in referring to the Swedish government's policy of toleration of international terrorists, so long as they can be assumed to be eyeing only targets abroad. But after the Palme murder, can that be assumed?

Hansén stated that SÄPO knows of several cells of Abu Nidal gang members residing in Sweden, but not currently overtly engaging in any illegal activities. The government has been informed by SÄPO, but does not want to move against them.

In all likelihood, Hansén said, there are more weapons buried in various locations, and they are meant to be used in Sweden. “Once you have

gone to the trouble of smuggling them into a country, you do not smuggle them back across another border. You store them in each country where you're active. The day you're ordered to carry out a hit, you dig them up.”

Hansén concluded, “I am convinced that the weapons were to be used one day in Sweden. Only the order was lacking. SÄPO has no opinion on whether a terrorist attack was to hit Arlanda International Airport or the Finland ferry boats. The target could have been anything.”

The government's passive toleration of the Abu Nidal gang's taking up residence in Sweden is particularly cute, when viewed against the background of the ongoing intelligence war waged by the illegal secret service of the Social Democratic regime—nicknamed SAPO—against the, relatively speaking, more independent official security police—SÄPO.

The pretext used by the SAPO ring, headed up by the regime's confidant, homosexual court-jester Ebbe Carlsson, in carrying out a series of illegal actions to discredit SÄPO, was that SÄPO was allegedly dragging its feet in hunting down the killer of Palme. In particular, Carlsson was referring to evidence that the killer was a member of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), which is known to have carried out other political assassinations in Sweden. The PKK is an international terrorist capability sponsored by the same Moscow-Damascus nexus as the Abu Nidal assassins.

As shown by the case of Khadar and the Abu Nidal cells in Sweden, it is not SÄPO, but the Social Democratic regime itself which is looking the other way when presented with the dossiers on Middle Eastern terrorists living their “quiet family lives” in Stockholm's suburbs, awaiting their next orders to kill.

No bailout for poor Venezuela

Carlos Andrés Pérez's promises do not convince the bankers, who may have lost confidence in his conspiratorial talents.

Despite the confidence which presidential candidate Carlos Andrés Pérez seems to have that the international banks and the U.S. government will help him put off Venezuela's foreign debt problem until the December presidential elections, things are not going well for him. Although in an Aug. 16 press conference, Pérez reiterated his attacks against Panama and Gen. Manuel Noriega—a clear message that he will continue playing his assigned roll—neither Washington nor the banks gave Venezuela the “fresh money” he wants.

Three days before, on Aug. 13, two of the four special emissaries President Jaime Lusinchi dispatched to Washington to seek a “bridge loan” came back empty-handed. All they got was a load of demands that Venezuela deepen austerity. The next day, President Lusinchi met for seven hours with his senior ministers and the two emissaries. Afterward, the President's office issued a press release exalting “the positive climate in which the mission's negotiations took place” and adding that the mission would continue seeking “sufficient financial flows, all without prejudicing the accomplishment of actions aimed at correcting the Venezuelan economy's internal imbalances.”

In other words, instead of “cutting the Gordian knot” of the debt, as President Lusinchi threatened Aug. 4, his government decided to apply new austerity measures, exactly as the banks demanded of it.

On Aug. 16, just as Carlos Andrés Pérez issued his message, foreign bank representatives in Venezuela met with

the leaders of local business associations, Fedecamaras, Fedindustria, and Consecomericio. The bankers' message was categorical: No more loans to Venezuela until it “puts its economy in order” and offers “collateral”—presumably its \$8 billion gold reserves—according to the daily *El Universal* Aug. 18. The paper said that the bank representatives insisted that Venezuela is still floating on a sea of money; the problem is that it manages its economy very badly.

The central bank's liquid reserves stood at \$2.243 billion on Aug. 8. But, in its last debt agreement with the banks, Venezuela agreed they could hold \$2 billion of its reserves as collateral against trade credit lines and other debts. Venezuela has to pay \$5 billion in debt service this year. And falling international oil prices have increased the trade deficit. That makes it likely that the last of Venezuela's once-fabulous cash reserves will dribble away before December, if a final orgy of capital flight does not do the job sooner.

Pérez said not long ago in Mexico, “We don't want total confrontation [with the banks], but just a little confrontation so that they sit down to negotiate.”

Pérez does not really want any confrontation at all. He uttered that phrase to try to keep up what is left of his “Third Worldist” facade. What Pérez really wants is to be able to get back the Venezuelan presidency without the country exploding and the population voting massively against the International Monetary Fund and its tropical front men, as just happened in

the July elections in Mexico.

In exchange for a bailout from the banks, Pérez continues to betray Panama. Back on June 2, the Caracas daily *El Nacional* said that Pérez (CAP) wanted an agreement to “not pay . . . for this year or for a prudent time,” and that the possibility that the banks would accept such a proposal lay in “the United States banks and government confiding in CAP's performance” on the Panama question.

Perhaps the fact that neither the President of Panama, Manuel Solís Palma, nor General Noriega, nor the Panamanian population have given in to Washington's interventionist ultimatums has caused the Eastern Establishment to lose confidence in Carlos Andrés Pérez's conspiratorial talents. Noriega did not resign—as Washington and CAP intended him to do; rather, both he and President Solís Palma have just received major support from many political, labor, and retired military leaders from several Ibero-American countries, who laid a solid foundation for Ibero-American integration at the recent Meeting Toward a II Amphictyonic Congress in Panama City.

In addition, what happened in Mexico, where the population voted against the International Monetary Fund, also puts in doubt whatever guarantees Pérez and the Lusinchi government might offer in terms of controlling the Venezuelan situation with new austerity measures.

Pérez's offer to open up Venezuela's petroleum industry to foreign and national private investment, his discreet but firm declarations that development is over and everybody's belt will have to be tightened, and his ever louder praise and growing friendship with Fidel Castro, do not make the majority of the Venezuelans love him any better.

Citibank saves its finance minister

Brazil has secretly pledged even its "point of view" to its foreign creditors.

Citibank Vice President John Reed hopped on the first plane to Brazil on Aug. 10. He knew Finance Minister Maílson da Nóbrega was on the ropes. And he came to Brazil to save him. In so doing, he made a rather embarrassing revelation of the degree of colonial control which is asserted through secret agreements behind the debt renegotiation packages which Reed specializes in working out with various Ibero-American countries.

"The minister's departure could mean to the creditors that the point of view agreed in the negotiations is no longer in the government," Reed declared in a São Paulo press conference on Aug. 11. He added, "Also, Maílson is doing a fabulous job and has a very good reputation in the international market." Reed's verdict boils down to a threat to rip up the still-incomplete contract to refinance the \$62 billion Brazil owes international commercial banks.

Reed and Da Nóbrega triumphantly announced the renegotiation package deal last February; but the creditors have delayed committing themselves to it. They are waiting to make sure the new Brazilian Constitution commits all governments elected in the future to a "point of view" hospitable to usury.

Reed then flew to Brasília to meet with President José Sarney. After the meeting, he said he had instructed him that "the realization of the accords is not impossible without the minister, but it would face greater difficulties." Reed was clearly speaking for the international financial "community." Bank of California Vice President Luiz

Gastal lectured Brazilians, "It is not the right time to change finance ministers; it is not the right time to *even think of* that possibility."

Christian Baumann of the Union Bank of Switzerland stated Da Nóbrega must stay in office "to guarantee the stability of the government's economic policy."

Although Brazilians are less sensitive to such contemptuous meddling in their internal affairs than other Ibero-Americans, it is rare, even here, for foreign intervention to be so gross. The bankers felt they had to show off their muscle to save Da Nóbrega because of the widespread rumors that he was on the verge of resigning.

The economy running out of control, as manifested in the 1,000% annual inflation rate made him vulnerable to Brazilian elites who believe that development and rapid growth—not intentional recession—is the best way to solve Brazil's great economic problems.

Citibank's Reed was particularly concerned that the 1989 budget remain tied to the draconian austerity conditions imposed on Brazil by the International Monetary Fund and the banks. With municipal elections this November and presidential elections next, the bankers are nervous that the regime will discard austerity and the recession it has brought in order not to lose political power at the polls.

The monetarist mind works in strange ways. A 16% increase in cement production in June, reflecting a lot of mayors suddenly meeting their street-paving promises, caused them to wet their pants.

Planning Minister João Batista de Abreu described the cuts he has planned for the 1989 budget and lamented, "Up to now not even the government itself has become convinced that these measures, although tough, are inevitable." Abreu calls his budget "Operation Dismantle," since he plans to strip down three ministries and auction off dozens of state-owned industries, including the railroad freight system, internal navigation companies, and the National Cooperative Credit Bank.

In doing this, he is implementing ex-Finance Minister Delfim Netto's demand that the government fire 300,000 employees.

Abreu has run into trouble getting full cabinet backing for his "Dismantle" budget, which should be sent to Congress at the end of August. His plan is to cut 2% of the Brazilian Gross National Product out of the budget by dismantling enterprises, eliminating production subsidies, and cutting investment. The biggest cuts, as always in Brazil, are scheduled to come out of health and child nutrition programs.

Perhaps the most forboding aspect of the situation is that the finance and planning ministers' plans for economic recession have the public backing of Army Minister Gen. Leonidas Pires Gonçalves and National Intelligence Service Minister Gen. Ivan de Souza. Pires pronounced after listening to Da Nóbrega Aug. 9, "It is undeniable that Maílson is a very capable expert, of the highest stature," according to the daily *O Estado de São Paulo*. It seems that Minister Pires forgot the message he sent Henry Kissinger in 1987 in which he told him that Brazil was not "some banana republic."

Pires, in helping to win the latest round for the finance minister, clearly placed himself on the side of yuppie John Reed.

International Intelligence

Thousands killed in Burundi tribal massacres

Reports speak of anywhere between 5,000 and 24,000 people massacred in the landlocked African nation of Burundi in mid-August clashes between the majority Hutu tribe and the minority, ruling Tutsi tribe.

The reports say that Hutu villagers in the north, believing that Tutsis were planning a massacre, began to kill Tutsis, following which the army, dominated by the Tutsi tribe, moved in and killed thousands of Hutu men, women, and children in reprisal.

The latest reports say that more than 35,000 Hutus have fled to neighboring Rwanda. Border tensions have apparently been defused by talks between the two countries.

The central African state of Burundi has cultivated close ties to Muammar Qaddafi's Libya and has persecuted the local Catholic Church.

Mandela may be free soon

Spokesmen for the South African government have said that the imprisoned leader of the terrorist African National Congress, Nelson Mandela, will be freed from prison before the end of September.

Mandela, who is serving a life sentence for sabotage and conspiracy that began in 1964, reportedly began treatment for tuberculosis two weeks before the official statement.

President P. W. Botha had hinted that Mandela might be released, at a conference of his National Party in mid-August. Since even moderate black leaders insist that Mandela go free before they consider negotiating steps toward power-sharing and an end to apartheid, it is considered possible that the ANC leader's reported condition is being used by Botha as the pretext he has needed to arrange his release, without overly offending reactionary whites.

At the same time, the ANC has suddenly

turned "moderate." It issued a statement from its headquarters in Zambia accepting responsibility for some recent bombing attacks against civilians in South Africa, but stating that the bombings had led to "unintended casualties."

The ANC also reported that it had transferred the political commissar of its military wing, Steve Tshwete. "The Congress underscores that it is contrary to our policy to select targets whose sole objective is to strike at civilians. Our morality as revolutionaries dictates that we respect the values underpinning the human conduct of war."

Since May, the ANC has carried out bombing attacks at amusement arcades, fast-food outlets, and shopping centers in Johannesburg and Pretoria. The architect of this policy was said to be Tshwete.

The ANC's sudden moderation of language, at least, comes in the wake of a tentative peace accord for the region arranged between Angola, Cuba—which has 50,000 troops there—South Africa, and the United States. The Soviet Union, the United States' back-channel negotiating partner in the deal, exercises full control over the ANC.

Vogue of things Russian in Italy

Italy's leading cultural festivals this summer have been dominated by Russian artists and works. In Siena, the annual "Chigiana Musical Week," was dedicated to the Russian millennium. It opened on Aug. 19 with Rachmaninov's *Vespers*, a work composed for the Russian Orthodox liturgy, and performed by the Poljansky Choir of Moscow in the Cathedral of Siena, which has some of Italy's greatest works of Renaissance art.

Then the Moscow Philharmonic played Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* in Jacopo della Quercia Square, and in the crypt of the church of St. Dominic, the Poljansky choir sang Russian liturgical hymns, litanies, and popular songs. The week was financed by the Monte dei Paschi of Siena, a leading financial institution promoting business with the East.

The Venice film festival will open with a film by Carlo Lizzani on Anna Larina, wife of Nikolai Bucharin, who was executed by Stalin. Anna Larina is being allowed to leave the U.S.S.R. for the first time since 1934 to attend the premiere. The movie is called "Dear Gorbachov," after Larina's letter to the Soviet party boss to request Bucharin's rehabilitation.

"Gorbachov Fashions" are very much in vogue. In Prato, near Florence, a clothing store will feature October Revolution styles—Red Army overcoats, Third International vests, Lenin jackets, etc. The first secretary of the Soviet embassy in Rome will be at the grand opening.

New 'separatist' terror wave sweeps Europe

A bomb exploded before the courthouse in Brest, northern France, on Saturday night, Aug. 20. It was set by "Breton separatists."

Meanwhile, another garden variety of "separatist," the Basque ETA cult in Spain, has continued its wave of terror, which saw dozens of bombings and other incidents, including murders, in different parts of the country in a single night, Saturday, Aug. 13.

These atrocities are occurring as the KGB-controlled Irish Republican Army has launched its most murderous attacks on British soldiers in years.

According to France's *Le Figaro*, the French and Spanish terrorist outbreak was expected by security services, and there is ongoing collaboration between the Basque terrorists and the Bretons.

France's Catalan "separatists" are undoubtedly coordinating actions as well. In Prades, France, 60 Catalan separatists demonstrated, demanding that a leader of the Catalan terrorist group Terra Lliure, be freed from prison.

The paper also reports secret negotiations under way between the French Socialist government of President François Mitterrand and France's other variety of "separatist" terrorists, the Corsicans, purportedly

to prevent a wave of violence like that of 1982, when there were over 600 bomb attacks on Corsica.

In Spain, on Friday night, Aug. 19, five Civil Guards and a civilian were severely injured in two separate bombings. On Aug. 21, two Civil Guards were assassinated by car bomb in Estella, Navarre.

Brazilian babies sold for their organs

Brazilian babies are being sold to sources in Israel, Switzerland, and the United States, who then murder them for their organs, according to a Paraguayan judge.

On Aug. 4, police in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, discovered a baby-smuggling ring which delivered babies from Rio to Paraguay and then shipped them to the United States. They also hired out the wombs of impoverished Brazilian women who were brought to Paraguay to give birth, their babies suffering the same fate.

The arrested ring members told a judge that they sold babies mostly to Israel and Switzerland, but also to the United States and Canada. Judge Angel Campos said some of the babies were sent to clandestine hospitals in the United States, where they were sacrificed for their organs.

"Are there more Menges?" Brazilian Federal Police director Romeu Tuma asked, expressing his horror at the business. Most of the babies involved are kidnaped, he indicated. "It is difficult to believe this news, because the case is so grave. . . . This story is unbelievable, because of what it represents. Those of us who recently clarified the [Nazi doctor Josef] Mengele case are reminded of the similarities. Could it be that persons have arisen who spiritually think like the Nazis?"

The U.S. embassies in Paraguay and Brazil were anxious that the press play down the story, since, they said, a similar one about babies from Guatemala last year turned out to be false. The embassies and the U.S. Information Agency, which went to great lengths to quash the Guatemala story, have

also been relatively successful with this one. Rio's *O Globo* gave the story big coverage Aug. 8 and 9, but there has been little coverage elsewhere in the world, despite Reuter news service transmitting photos of seven babies found by police, and Agence France Presse devoting a lengthy wire to it.

Peru puts terrorist paper out of business

Police in Lima, Peru Aug. 22 raided a print shop that was preparing to put out a special edition of the newspaper, *El Diario*, the above-ground mouthpiece of the country's savage Shining Path terrorists. It was published without hindrance until the police action, which followed a July 28 call by President Alan García to shut down terrorist support and propaganda operations.

Since that time, Shining Path leaders have been unable to find anyone willing to print the daily, forcing them to turn out two-page flyers.

The 40-man police squad stopped the printing of 100,000 copies of the special edition, which was to contain a 48-page interview with the terrorists' chief, Abimael Guzmán.

Peru's Congress, however, has yet to begin debate on a new anti-terror law which García demanded be passed within 15 days of his July 28 speech. The bill would close legal loopholes which terrorists have used to avoid jail and publish their propaganda.

El Diario did publish a two-page edition Aug. 18, and in it, protested the application of herbicides to the coca crop in Huanuco, a jungle province. The terrorists threatened, "The popular guerrilla army is preparing a series of armed incursions for the purpose of confronting the combined forces of the army and police in this region."

On Aug. 13, a group of terrorists massacred 1,099 special-breed alpacas, an animal with very fine wool, being bred at an experimental Ministry of Agriculture ranch in the Andes. The alpacas were to be distributed as breeding stock to peasant communities throughout Peru.

Briefly

● **SERBS** and Montenegrins in Yugoslavia's poverty-ridden Kosovo province have announced plans for protests against persecution by Albanian nationalists. Albanians make up a majority of Kosovo's population, and Albanian terrorist elements have targeted other ethnic groups.

● **JAPANESE** Prime Minister Takeshita left Tokyo Aug. 25 for a six-day trip to China. Said Japanese officials, "The centerpiece of his trip will be the conclusion of an investment treaty more far-reaching than any China has signed."

● **THE SOVIETS** are continuing to deliberately fan tensions in the Far East, said the latest annual report of the Japanese Defense Forces. It says the supposed thaw between China and the Soviet Union is without substance, given the large troop concentrations remaining on their common border, and "rather frigid" Japanese-Soviet relations will remain so.

● **PRESIDENT** Lazarus Saliu of Palau, an American Trust territory 600 miles east of the Philippines, was murdered at his home Aug. 20. Police say he was killed by a lone gunman who is still at large. Saliu had succeeded Haruo Remeliik, Palau's first elected president, who was assassinated in July 1985. Palau is a possible fall-back site if the United States loses its bases in the Philippines.

● **CONSCIENTIOUS** objectors in West Germany can join Greenpeace instead of the Armed Forces, the German Federal Administrative Court decided on Aug. 19. The court stated, "Nothing indicates that a conscientious objector employed in Greenpeace could be used for improper tasks." Greenpeace is a KGB "peace" front operated through Swedish and other channels.

U.S. allies 'horrified' at prospect of Dukakis

by Mark Burdman and Kathleen Klenetsky

Soviet spokesmen have made it clear over the past few weeks that the Kremlin is solidly behind the candidacy of Michael Dukakis. Particularly since the Atlanta Democratic Party convention, Moscow's propaganda machine has been churning out one puff piece after another touting the Democratic presidential nominee.

The Russians are making no bones about why they prefer Dukakis: As the July 27 issue of *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, the unofficial "cultural" journal of the KGB, put it: "He has already stated that he will not support SDI, and that speaks in his favor." The Aug. 10 issue of the same weekly expressed the hope that "the fate of the world will be taken up by the two Michaels"—Michael Dukakis and Mikhail Gorbachov.

The perception that the Soviets want Dukakis to beat Bush is evident to European observers. The French daily *Le Figaro* headlined an article in its Aug. 23 edition, "The Soviet Union Seems to Clearly Prefer Michael Dukakis to George Bush." The article reported that the Soviet press had criticized Bush's speech to the Republican convention, because he affirmed his support for the Strategic Defense Initiative. Furthermore, it said, the Soviet media has taken aim at Bush's running mate, Dan Quayle, for being an "ardent conservative who supports a 'muscled' approach toward the Soviet Union," and who "shares entirely the views of the right wing of the Republicans."

By contrast to the Republican ticket, "Michael Dukakis and Lloyd Bentsen can be seen as pro-Soviet, or almost," *Le Figaro* noted. "The polls cited by the Soviet press are favorable to them. Nobody refrains from recalling that the Democratic ticket is hostile to 'fantasies like Star Wars or MX missiles on rails.'" *Le Figaro* also cited recent statements by Gennadi Gerasimov, spokesman for the Soviet Foreign

Ministry, that the Democratic platform "leads one to think that the supporters of the party significantly support the idea of a bettering of U.S.-Soviet relations."

Soviet computers are already predicting victory for Dukakis, according to Radomir Georgevich Bogdanov, deputy director of Moscow's U.S.A.-Canada Institute. Bogdanov told the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* Aug. 13 that a special task force on the Duke has been created at the institute, and suggested that the "two Michaels" will hit it off personally, because they are approximately the same age, are "not preppy," and have "cultural interests."

'Astonishing damage to the West'

"Horrified" and "alarmed" are the reactions most often expressed by leading influentials in Europe, particularly in Great Britain, at the possibility of Michael Dukakis becoming President of the United States. Such individuals see a Dukakis presidency presiding over strategic disasters, particularly in southern Africa and in Western Europe itself.

London sources report that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is greatly worried that the West's strategic raw materials supplies from southern Africa will be jeopardized should Dukakis enter the White House. Said one Conservative Party-linked source Aug. 14, "The most immediate concern about Dukakis, is what he will do in southern Africa. We think a far-reaching deal was reached between Dukakis and Jesse Jackson, involving an explicit commitment by Dukakis to take drastic action during the early part of his presidency. This would do astonishing damage to the interests of the West and the interests of the blacks in southern Africa."

The Aug. 11 passage by the U.S. House of Representatives of bill HR1580, the "Dellums legislation" mandating automatic sanctions against the Republic of South Africa, a

trade and investment boycott, and an end to military and intelligence relations with that country, is a foretaste of things to come. In an interview aired on the British Broadcasting Corporation Aug. 12, Rep. Ron Dellums (D-Calif.), the sponsor of the legislation, boasted that Dukakis had already given it 100% support. Dellums exulted that Dukakis, were he to become President, would certainly reverse the veto of the legislation that Ronald Reagan is expected to exercise.

Writing about the Dellums legislation on Aug. 15, the *Daily Express* of London warned that Britain, West Germany, Japan, and other countries could face retaliatory actions from a Dukakis-led United States, if they fail to cooperate with the new U.S. policy toward South Africa outlined in the bill. According to reporter John Ellison, this risks "not merely embarrassment, but one of the most damaging splits for many years in the Western Alliance, and one whose seriousness has not yet been taken on board. It is odd, then, to hear that Dukakis's home state of Massachusetts boasts one of the worst race records in the U.S."

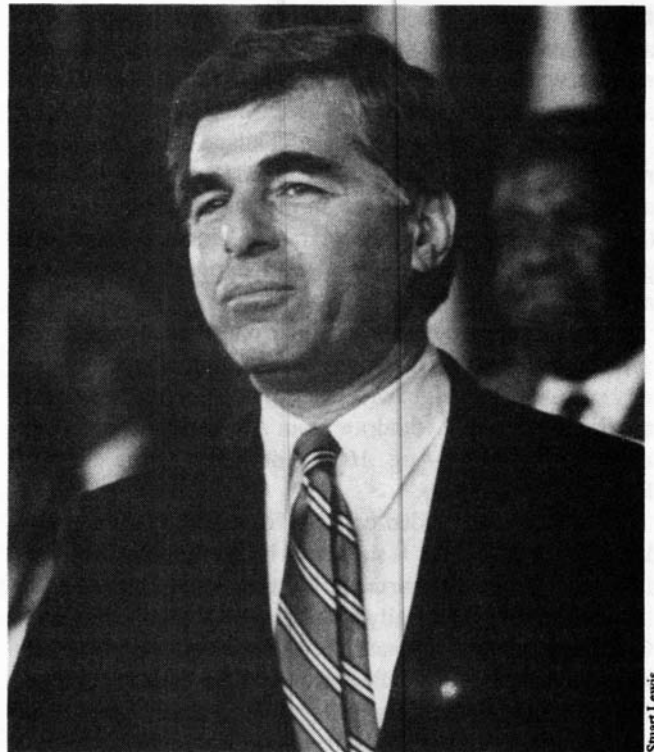
Highly informed British sources report that South African President P.W. Botha and other top South Africans are so angry and disgusted with U.S. policy, that they are prepared to carry out a retaliatory embargo of vital strategic minerals to the United States, with or without an arrangement with the Russians. This could lead to a catastrophic disruption in supply of such minerals, and steep commodity inflation. French press reports from South Africa since Aug. 11, are that the country has put together "war economy" measures to counter the actions being prepared by the United States.

Decoupling from Europe and Asia

In the case of Western Europe, the fears about Dukakis range from the more conservative Thatcherites in Britain, to liberal circles on the continent, in such places as Hamburg. One Hamburg strategist, who maintains close ties to the European "peace movement" and social democracy, told *EIR* on Aug. 14 that Dukakis is perceived as ready to abandon Europe precipitously in the event that he becomes President, and that this perception is causing fear in Europe.

Such fears have been magnified by yet another piece of U.S. legislation: the so-called "burden-sharing" plan put forward by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), and approved by voice vote Aug. 11. One of the legislative architects of the "burden-sharing" lunacy is ultra-liberal Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.). The Nunn-Schroeder scheme involves Europeans paying the difference if costs rise to maintain U.S. troops in Europe. Should the dollar fall significantly, that alone would force a massive European underwriting of the expense.

According to one highly placed Washington, D.C. source, the Soviet military leadership around Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov is already floating a number of "helpful" offers to assist the U.S. in implementing the "burden sharing." One offer would have the Soviets withdraw 60,000 Russian troops from Hungary—in return for a similar pullout of American troops from Western Europe—thereby de facto increasing the pro-



The other Michael

portion of European troops comprising the continental-based NATO force. Bordering on Austria, Yugoslavia, and Romania, Hungary is not pivotal to Moscow's war plan for a "from the barracks" surprise blitzkrieg attack on Europe, the source emphasized.

It is also critical that key advisers to Dukakis, such as former Carter administration White House counsel Lloyd Cutler, are big supporters of the "Europe 1992/Europe integration" project, in league with the European oligarchical crowd that back the likes of European Commission President Jacques Delors. According to a London source, one motivation behind Mrs. Thatcher's attacks on "Europe 1992," is that she fears that the crowd around Dukakis wants to use the propaganda about "European integration" as a pretext for speeding up U.S. withdrawal from Western Europe, using the argument that the Europeans could now "take care of themselves."

Parallel fears are being expressed in Asia. The Nunn-Schroeder "burden-sharing" nonsense is also aimed at South Korea and Japan, with the included feature that the U.S. Senate has mandated absolute limits to the amount of U.S. troops in both countries. Moreover, protectionist trade legislation is supported by both Bush and Dukakis, but more vociferously by leading Democratic Party circles.

Japan's *Yomiuri Shimbun* editorialized July 15 that a Democratic victory would "worsen the U.S.-Japan conflict," especially given Dukakis running-mate Lloyd Bentsen's trade-war policies. The paper cited a Western diplomat in Tokyo,

that the Japanese "are a little bit concerned about another small-state governor coming in [like Jimmy Carter before], not that well versed in foreign policy and trying again to do something like pull the troops out of South Korea."

A columnist for the Bangkok, Thailand daily *The Nation* noted July 21, "It is feared in Thailand that, if elected, Michael Dukakis would impose further protectionism against the Asian countries and downgrade regional defense as a priority." Similar concerns have been expressed at the highest levels in South Korea.

As for another region in Asia, one British source expressed fears that a Dukakis administration would unilaterally end aid to the Afghan resistance, irrespective of whether the Soviets actually withdraw from Afghanistan. This comment was made on Aug. 16, within hours of the death of Pakistan's Zia ul-Haq.

One particular added concern from Britain, is that Dukakis is a backer of, or is supported by, those political forces in the United States, particularly in his home state of Massachusetts, who financially back the Irish Republican Army. One Dukakis-team intimate, Rep. Robert Kennedy, Jr. (D-Mass.), recently toured Belfast, Northern Ireland, and endorsed the IRA cause. The "Kennedy machine" behind Dukakis is critical to international support for the IRA.

This issue is particularly sensitive, since the IRA has gone on a major terrorist offensive since late July, begun more or less immediately after Mrs. Thatcher began attacking the "Europe 1992" project. IRA atrocities have been committed in North London, Northern Ireland, West Germany, and Belgium, and a complex IRA-support apparatus has been traced to Holland.

In what could be viewed as a coded message to Dukakis and the Kennedy machine, Mrs. Thatcher unveiled a plan to "hit IRA finances." A letter issued by the prime minister stated the British government's "intention to broaden and strengthen the existing offenses in the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act. The scope of the prohibited conduct will be expanded so that it will more clearly cover the sort of activities and transactions carried on by banks and other financial institutions, and accountants and other financial advisers. Facilitation of the retention or control of terrorist funds will be an offense."

Moscow's 'New Jerusalem'

Among rational political and military circles in Israel, there is mounting fear that a Dukakis electoral victory in November, coupled with an anticipated Likud victory in the autumn Israeli Knesset elections, would virtually guarantee an Israeli annexation of the occupied territories and a mass expulsion of Palestinian residents of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Emboldened by Michael and Kitty Dukakis's unabashed endorsement of a move of the Israeli capital to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, the Likud, according to these Israeli sources, would move recklessly in the anticipation of unflinching White House support for any Israeli action. Iron-

Three suspects held in assault on EIR's Benton

Three suspects have been arrested by the New Orleans Police Department in connection with the assault on *EIR's* Washington correspondent, Nicholas F. Benton, during the Republican Convention in New Orleans. Benton was attacked and brutally beaten on the evening of Aug. 13, and required stitches and eye surgery as a result of the assault.

According to a spokesman for New Orleans Parish District Attorney Harry Connick, the three suspects were booked on charges of armed robbery and aggravated battery. They are Wayne Jones, Darryl Geise, and Gary Gennaro. Bond was set for the three in the amounts of \$250,000 for Jones, and \$200,000 each for Geise and Gennaro. None had made bond as of Aug. 25, and were still in jail.

Benton attained international prominence after his Aug. 3 question to President Reagan in a White House press conference concerning the refusal of Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis to release his medical records. Benton was subject to some subtle and some not-so-subtle threats as the flap over Dukakis's mental health grew.

Investigators are continuing to probe to determine what other individuals or groups may have been behind the assault on Benton.

ically, these sources added, a Dukakis victory would accelerate Israel's collaboration with the Soviets. This fear of a Dukakis-Shamir combination was underscored by the Reagan-Bush State Department's recent unprecedented harsh diplomatic protest against Israel's mid-August expulsion of 25 Palestinians from the occupied territories.

According to the Milan Catholic daily *Avvenire*, Reagan administration arms control negotiator Max Kampelman secretly conferred with Governor Dukakis concerning Kampelman's back-channel efforts to secure a U.S.-Soviet-Israeli deal to have the two superpowers simultaneously recognize Jerusalem as the legitimate capital of Israel. Such a deal (which would be a virtual certainty under a Dukakis presidency), said the newspaper of the Italian Catholic bishops, would represent a major advance towards the Russian Orthodox Church's centuries old quest to replace Rome as the center of world christianity. Both Israeli and Vatican sources fear that a Dukakis victory would doom the Middle East to a decade of religious wars and chaos—and might even trigger a global war by miscalculation.

Dukakis meat-axes funds for mentally ill

by Kathleen Klenetsky

“You would think that someone who has had such personal experience of mental illness would have a much more compassionate attitude toward the plight of the mentally handicapped!” That indignant comment, voiced by an individual involved in fighting for the basic human rights of persons suffering from mental illness, sums up the attitude of many Massachusetts citizens to Gov. Michael Dukakis’s cutbacks in funding for state mental health facilities and other direly needed social services.

Faced with the collapse of his vaunted “Massachusetts miracle,” Dukakis is doing what has by now become second nature: he’s trying to make up the budget shortfall by gouging the most vulnerable sections of society. The governor and his chief financial officer, Frances Keefe, have frozen a substantial portion of the funds that should have been spent on upgrading the state’s facilities for the mentally ill, even though conditions in Massachusetts facilities for the mentally disturbed border on Bedlam.

Nine patients have died in the past year alone, because of insufficient staffing and lack of proper medical care. None of the hospitals run by the state are accredited, and in 1985, the system was ranked 41st among the states by the Public Citizens Health Research Group. Reportedly, the PCHRG will downgrade that rank to an abysmal 42nd, when it releases its new report on state mental facilities in September.

An article in the Aug. 21 *New York Times* gave some indication as to why such a liberal state, with such a self-styled “progressive, caring” governor, should receive such a low ranking: Some patients in the state mental facilities are kept in rooms where temperatures register over 100°F, and sleep on bare mattresses in crowded, decaying buildings. Some of the state hospitals run at 220% of capacity.

Anne M. Corapi, president of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, told the *Times* that, for the past year, her group has complained to the Dukakis administration “of the water fountains, fecal matter on plywood bathroom doors that breed bacteria, lack of smoke detectors and keys that don’t unlock doors. In December,” she reported, “we asked for dental care

for a man whose teeth are blackened and down to the gum. He’s still waiting. Can you imagine the pain? It took months to get the administration to open the window in the seclusion room where it gets to 105° in the winter.”

At least three suits have been brought against the state and/or its mental health department in the past few months: one by the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, charging that Dukakis’s withholding of allocated funds for mental health services is unconstitutional, and two by families of two of the patients who died at Worcester State Hospital.

‘Meat-Axe Mike’ does it again

Despite these inhuman conditions, Dukakis has withheld about \$17 million that the legislature allocated to improve care for the mentally ill, to try to balance the state’s galloping budget deficit. According to several sources, that money included a personal needs allowance provision, which would have given the princely sum of \$65 per month to several hundred state mental patients who had no other income, as well as operating funds that would have paid for extension cords for fans, and an expansion of community residential facilities.

The \$17 million withheld is part of a five-year, \$450 million plan adopted by the state in late 1985 to improve the state’s mental health system. Although Dukakis has taken credit for this expansion program, Geoffery Brahmer, director of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, has pointed out that Dukakis went along with the program because he was under intense political pressure to clean up the state’s mental health facilities, which had become commonly known as “the black holes.” A federal court was threatening to take over the state mental hospitals, and Dukakis, Brahmer said, wanted to avoid this at all costs, since the federal government had been forced, much to his political embarrassment, to take over state facilities for the retarded during his first term as governor.

In balancing the budget on the backs of those least able to defend themselves, Dukakis is operating according to profile. Faced with a similar budget crisis during his first gubernatorial term, Dukakis—publicly boasting that he intended to wield a “meat axe, not a scalpel” to cut spending, slashed funding on programs for the handicapped and other social services to the bone, so incensing his liberal allies that they helped turn him out of office in 1978. “As a result of what Dukakis did in his first term,” said one of the people currently protesting his mental health cutbacks, “people died in state mental institutions.”

The same individual—an ardent Democrat—pooh-poohed the idea, spread by Dukakis partisans, that the governor had undergone a transformation between his first and second terms. “Dukakis is extraordinarily sophisticated. He knows how to manipulate the process so that on the surface he sounds really good. But it’s a deception, as his actions in the area of the mental health budget make clear.”

Another observer noted pointedly, “What do you expect from someone who pulled the plug on his own brother?”

LaRouche Dem builds Oklahoma machine

by Mel Klenetsky

LaRouche Democrat George Gentry, running in the Oklahoma Democratic First District congressional primary on Aug. 23, garnered 12.6% of the vote, and effectively mobilized a 45-50 person political machine. Kurt Glassco won the five-person race and Gentry finished third, only 25 votes behind runner-up Virginia Jenner.

Reminiscent of the LaRouche-led candidates movement of 1984, when over 2,000 candidates ran for political office, Gentry's campaign and other 1988 efforts of LaRouche Democrats are reconstituting grassroots and political-club style organizing. Leading the effort is the independent effort of Lyndon H. LaRouche for President and Debra Hanania Freeman for vice president. The LaRouche-Freeman ticket will have filed petitions to run as an independent slate in 12 states, as of Sept. 2.

These include Alaska, Hawaii, Utah, Washington, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia. This independent effort will spearhead a base-building drive of other candidates across the country.

In his congressional primary race, Gentry proved himself to be far more than a gadfly or spoiler to the political aspirations of the Jim Jones or David Boren machines. Former Congressman Jones, and current Senator Boren are the Democratic powerhouses of the state. Gentry is building his own political base, a true grassroots machine, while Jones and Boren find it increasingly difficult to mobilize theirs.

In 1986 Gentry ran against Jones in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate. Gentry received 33% of the vote, spending less than \$5,000, compared to a record campaign chest for Jones. Jones lost to Republican Don Nickles in the general election. Political pundits of the state cited Jones's poor showing against LaRouche Democrat Gentry, a virtual unknown in the state until that election, as one of the reasons for the Jones defeat.

This year, Jones and Boren made a major effort for Gentry's opponent, Kurt Glassco, a Tulsa lawyer. Glassco had little support in the district, including little enthusiasm from the Democratic regulars. Glassco was supposed to win an easy victory in order to concentrate his campaign funds and efforts on the general election, when he will face the incumbent congressman, Republican Jim Inhoff.

Gentry, a working farmer, had made headlines through-

out Oklahoma in 1986, when he held a press conference during the auction of his own farm to expose the plight of America's farmers and the need for emergency agricultural measures. Gentry's name recognition and his consistent fight to force Glassco to debate the issues forced Glassco to change strategy. Senator Boren's top aide, Mike Morgan, became Glassco's campaign manager. Jim Jones lined up \$35,000 of support for Glassco in one fundraising dinner alone.

Instead of waiting for the general election run-off against Inhoff, Glassco spent \$40-50,000 on television time, road signs, and mailings in the primary, and still only received 60% of the vote, with very low voter turnout, a signal that he may have quite a bit of difficulty in the general election.

Gentry and other LaRouche Democrats around the country are addressing the issues and crises of the day and bringing people back into the political process. In contrast, Boren, Jones, and other Democratic leaders throughout the country are avoiding these issues, relying more and more on media to win their elections, and telling their handpicked candidates to avoid discussing policies. The old Democratic political club, a centerpiece of the grassroots organizing of the pre-McGovern Democratic Party, is rapidly becoming an institution of the past, because so many citizens are disgusted with the Dukakis-Kirk-Boren-Jones brand of politics.

"We spoke at four forums together," commented Gentry on his rival, "and all Glassco would say were the normal clichés and buzz words." By Gentry's account, "I want to be your congressman"; "I'm proud to be endorsed by Jim Jones"; and "I'll be a team member, I'll work with other congressmen," typified Glassco's campaign speeches, which avoided the substantive issues.

Defense, economy key issues

In contrast, Gentry called for supporting the defense sector by doubling funding for the SDI, backing the MX missile and the B-1B bomber—positions that are important for national defense, and also important to Oklahoma, where Rockwell and McDonnell Douglas have facilities. Gentry also called for a trigger-price oil import tariff and comprehensive measures in the farm area, including restoration of parity prices and ending farm foreclosures, to deal with the drought-worsened agricultural crisis.

"There was a virtual media blackout of the primary," asserted Gentry, lambasting the press for not forcing the issues out into the open. Gentry had issued a debate challenge to Glassco, which he refused. Gentry's continued goading did result in Glassco's saying he might support an import fee and he would support funding of SDI. Glassco, like many mainstream Democrats of today, is caught between the more pro-defense inclinations of his constituency, and presidential nominee Michael Dukakis's opposition to the SDI, the MX, and the B-1 bomber. Gentry was quick to point out the rock and the hard place that this "so-called" team player Glassco is caught between.

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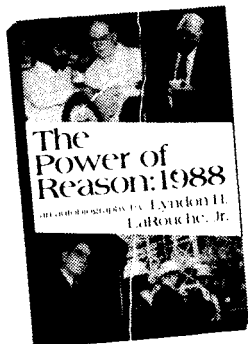
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Elephants & Donkeys

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Vets jeer Democrats

The hostile reception which Democratic vice presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen got at the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention Aug. 26, just might erase the smirks which he and Mike Dukakis have been sporting ever since the flap over Dan Quayle's National Guard duty erupted in the media.

Veterans loudly booed and jeered Bentsen when he tried to present Dukakis to them as pro-defense and pro-vet. The hissing—which interrupted Bentsen's speech at least four times—began when he tried to tell his audience that Dukakis is committed to keeping American strong, and got even louder when he claimed that former President Jimmy Carter, rather than President Reagan, had initiated the defense buildup of the early 1980s.

To make matters worse, the booing was initiated by a delegation of veterans from Dukakis's home state of Massachusetts.

Did Dukakis avoid combat duty?

The veterans had every reason to jeer. Not only does Dukakis's position on national defense issues reek of McGovernite liberalism, but he himself was able to avoid possible combat duty during the Korean War through student deferments.

Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-N.Y.), ranking minority member of the House

Veterans' Affairs Committee, has disclosed that Dukakis received three educational deferments, one of which took place eight months before the Korean War ended. Dukakis subsequently enlisted in the Army, and was sent to Korea as part of the United Nations peacekeeping force, but only after hostilities had ceased.

Obviously irritated by Solomon's revelations, an irate Dukakis responded that he had "served his country proudly," but friends and associates have said that Dukakis made it quite clear that he enlisted because he believed that he needed military service on his record to further his political career. Dukakis biographers have commented that he did not appear to like the Army, and that, despite his well-known ambition, he never rose beyond the rank of private.

LaRouche charges on Dukakis hit the press

A Louisiana newspaper has prominently reported charges by *EIR*'s founder, Lyndon H. LaRouche, that Michael Dukakis is a fascist in the Mussolini mold.

The Aug. 18 Shreveport *Journal* carried a page-one story entitled "LaRouche Forces Assail Dukakis at Convention," which reported on the contents of a special *EIR* supplement, "Dukakis: An Objective Assessment," which was circulated at the Republican convention. The supplement was also published as the *Feature* in the Aug. 19, 1988 issue of *EIR*.

The *Journal* noted that in the pamphlet, "LaRouche compares Dukakis with the late Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, saying, 'In the strictest sense of the term, Michael Dukakis is a fascist.'

"He goes on to say, 'The comparison of Mussolini and Dukakis, in these

terms of reference, is notable. Dukakis' policies originated with the same Venetian 'Lombard' circles which assisted in the 1917 Russian Revolution and put Mussolini into power in Italy.' "

The Shreveport paper also reported *EIR*'s assessment that Dukakis is mentally unfit to become President.

Dukakis holds confab with AIDS lobby guru

Governor Dukakis invited a leading sodomy advocate to share the dais with him at a press conference he called in Boston in mid-August to lay out his plans for "fighting AIDS" in Massachusetts.

Larry Kessler, president of the AIDS Action Committee, stood by Dukakis's side as the governor stressed his commitment to barring "discrimination" against persons diagnosed as having AIDS.

Dukakis—who opposes mandatory AIDS testing except in very limited cases—said that the state's anti-AIDS effort will include a rap song, "Stop the Madness," and distribution of T-shirts and buttons featuring the slogan, "AIDS: It's no joke."

Praising the governor's plans, Kessler declared: "A lot of what we have achieved was without federal support. Imagine what we will do with federal support."

Boston's daily press blacked out this display by the Duke of one of his more unholy alliances, but it was reported by the *Boston Ledger*, a pro-AIDS lobby weekly.

Kessler is part of the most radical faction of the friends of sodomy. After legislation to supply drug users with "clean needles" was defeated in Massachusetts, Kessler called for supporters to defy the state's laws and provide the needles themselves.

Bias threatens to undo media

Washington insiders are becoming increasingly aware that the media crusade against Sen. Dan Quayle (R-Ind.), the Republican vice presidential candidate, threatens to backfire against the media. Signals from Middle America are beginning to deliver a loud and clear message: The voting public is not being deceived by one of the more egregious cases of biased media efforts to influence public opinion in a major election. On the contrary, the public is overripe for a backlash.

The backlash may hit the Democratic ticket, too: On Aug. 25, at a Massachusetts veterans' conference, Quayle's rival Lloyd Bentsen was roundly booed when he talked about what Dukakis has done for veterans. The same day in St. Louis, Quayle received a standing ovation from a National Guard audience after criticizing Dukakis's defense policy.

For their part, the hopeless liberals of the press will go to their graves believing it is only partisan, narrow-minded ideologues who do not share their passion to smear Senator Quayle, or anyone else they decide to target. But recent history has repeatedly shown that it is the media which are out of step with the thinking of the mainstream of the U.S. citizens.

In my three and a half years in Washington, I have observed closely

the psychology of the dominant media attitude. Some commentators have termed the phenomenon, "Gotcha journalism." Potency for them is located in their ability to ruin someone, or to take credit for forcing an administration official to resign or the President to make a damaging admission.

ABC's Sam Donaldson, in his book *Hold On, Mr. President*, stated, as if he were proud of it, that he felt it his role to take an adversarial position with respect to his government. More than once, I have seen almost the entire White House press corps adopt the assumption that a statement by a Soviet official was true, and one from a U.S. official was suspect.

The way this often works at the White House is that the press corps will key off a rumor or leak that is planted on the front page of the *Washington Post* (and occasionally another newspaper). They will then badger White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, each asking him the same question 50 different ways.

Liberal bias and adolescent-style peer pressure are also important components of the personality make-up of many of today's journalists.

The liberal bias comes right out of the Vietnam War days. Perhaps the biggest single irony of the current media attack on Senator Quayle—for allegedly avoiding Vietnam combat duty by joining the National Guard—is that a very high percentage of those leading the charge were against the Vietnam war at the time. If they did not actively seek to duck military service, they supported those who did.

Opposition to the Vietnam war did not automatically make one a liberal, of course, but the ratio was pretty high among draft age youth at the time who went on to major in journalism in college.

College is no place to learn how to become a journalist, as those in the

trade who trained me during my high school days always stressed. I worked every free minute for years after school at my hometown daily newspaper, and some of the older professionals there despised the notion of going to college to learn how to write a good news story. You learned that by steeping yourself in it. College, they insisted, was for learning about what you would write about.

Writing, on the other hand, could only be learned by doing, and standing over the shoulder of an experienced editor who would show you why he was cutting your story to ribbons in order to improve it, as I did countless times.

At any rate, beginning in the early 1970s, a new breed started pouring out of the colleges and universities of the land. They started pouring into all the professions—an especially significant proportion into the media and churches. Their mission was not to become dedicated professionals, but involved an ulterior motive: to use their jobs to change the world into conformity with whatever fuzzy vision they might have adopted from a political science class or radical anti-war group they belonged to in school.

But for their controllers, who use these reporters to carry out their larger strategems, there is a serious problem. Driven by their compulsions, the media have now overreached themselves so far as to destroy the basis of their own effectiveness: credibility. They have unleashed something that is blindly self-destructive, and could discredit one of the most important institutional structures of social control the U.S. Establishment has cultivated.

In that circumstance, the growth of the circulation of an independent voice of reason—*EIR*—is seen by the Establishment as a very grave threat indeed.

National News

AIDS victim awarded damages for 'slander'

A county circuit court Portland, Oregon has awarded damages to a man with AIDS who works in abortion clinic, because an anti-abortion activist informed women going to the clinic of his condition. The court judged the warnings to be "slander."

Anti-abortion activist Priscilla Martin was sued for \$175,000 for slander and another \$175,000 for causing distress to a homosexual abortion clinic counselor when she told clinic patients to "be careful" because the counselor, Timothy Shuck, had AIDS.

Shuck announced on television two years earlier that he had the killer disease, and admitted in the Multnomah County Circuit Court that he draws blood and hugs and kisses women who are getting abortions at the Lovejoy Surgicenter, where he is employed.

But the court concluded that if defendant Martin could not prove Shuck was infectious, then she was guilty of slander!

Her attorney called the verdict a "signal to the public not to warn possible victims of exposure to a fatal infection."

Study admits twice as many AIDS victims

A new statistical analysis of official data on the number of AIDS cases in the United States has arrived at the conclusion that there are at least twice as many Americans infected with AIDS as the official government figures, and that there are many more heterosexuals infected as well.

The New York-based Hudson Institute, which conducted the study, says that the number of AIDS cases is at least double the figures cited by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, the government center for monitoring disease and its spread.

According to the study, the infection rate among heterosexuals may be three times higher than the government's figures.

A spokesman said that the institute's study was based on "realistic" assumptions not used by the Centers for Disease Control, and indicated that 3 million Americans are probably infected. The CDC says that only 1.4 million are infected.

The study used the basic CDC figures, according to the spokesman, but subjected them to more sophisticated statistical analysis.

That would tend to indicate that the figures are probably much higher still, since the CDC's definition of AIDS, which was also adopted by the Hudson Institute, is overly restrictive, and designed to undercount AIDS cases to minimize public alarm.

Old 'Team B' figures praise George Bush

Richard Pipes and Seymour Weiss, leading strategic analysts specializing in the Soviet bloc, wrote a commentary for the Sunday, Aug. 21 *Washington Post* praising George Bush for his "great civic courage" in backing the intelligence finding that challenged the concept of mutually assured destruction (MAD).

Both writers were members of the Central Intelligence Agency's "Team B," which came up with that finding in 1976.

While Director of Central Intelligence from 1975-76, Bush backed the creation of Team B, whose analysis concluded that the Soviet order of battle includes the option of first use of nuclear weapons, and the belief that a nuclear war was "winnable." Mutually Assured Destruction was thus deemed a useless and dangerous doctrine for governing the West's strategic posture.

Team B's findings created major controversy, for the first time calling into question the Establishment's institutional commitment to MAD.

In their *Post* commentary, Pipes and Weiss quote Vadim Zagladin, the deputy director of the Soviet Central Committee's

International Department, in a 1988 statement, presumably referring to the Brezhnev era, "Rejecting nuclear war and struggling to prevent it, we, nevertheless, proceeded from the possibility of winning victory in it."

National Guard mad at flap over Quayle

A spokesman for the Association of the U.S. Army told *EIR* on Aug. 21 that National Guard members are outraged at the attacks on Sen. Dan Quayle for his decision to serve in the Guard.

In 1969-70, the spokesman said, the U.S. Army wanted to call up the Guard for service in Vietnam, and almost everyone in the Guard expected to go to war at a moment's notice.

However, Democratic President Lyndon Johnson decided that this was too much of a political hot potato. That was the only reason Dan Quayle's unit was not on a call-up list.

The spokesman added that if the disparaging of Guard service continues, it may become difficult to recruit and maintain in-depth reserves.

Tuning debate comes to the United States

The Sunday, Aug. 21 edition of the Newark, New Jersey *Star Ledger* carried a full-page article on the debate over standard pitch initiated by the Schiller Institute.

The article was prompted by the endorsement of lowering standard pitch from A = 440 vibrations per second to A = 432 by leading singers, instrumentalists, and ticket-holders of the New Jersey State Opera. The article emphasized the importance of the soprano and tenor's natural registral shift at an F-sharp, as one "physical fact" arguing for the tuning.

The issue goes back to an April confer-

ence in Milan, Italy, where the Schiller Institute, headed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, lined up leading music celebrities to endorse a petition to reduce orchestral tuning to the "scientifically determined" value of $A = 432$ ($C = 256$). Legislation to this effect will be introduced in the Italian parliament this month.

"To get singers to agree on the time of day can be a difficult assignment," begins music reviewer and Newhouse chain columnist Michael Redmond in the *Star Ledger* article.

"When singers of the stature of Renata Tebaldi, Luciano Pavarotti, Piero Cappuccilli, Montserrat Caballé, Plácido Domingo, Birgit Nilsson, Bidú Sayão, Carlo Bergonzi, Alfredo Kraus, Peter Schreier, Christa Ludwig, and Kurt Moll, just to name a few, not only agree to agree, but agree to make common cause in a matter of considerable controversy, well, this is news."

He reports, "No one disputes that the register shift occurs at F-sharp according to traditional tuning ($C = 256$, $A = 432$). But when tuning is as high as $A = 440$, the shift arrives prematurely at F or even at E-flat, and singers are forced to sing against the physiology of the voice in order to make the notes. This puts singers at real peril of stripping their vocal gears."

Schiller Institute spokesmen also argue that, since the point of registral shift is the key reason that the great composers chose a certain key in which to compose a piece of music, and is therefore the key to that music's proper performance, the too-high tuning clearly distorts the music.

FBI spied on Supreme Court

The FBI kept a confidential file on the members of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1932 through at least 1985, FBI documents recently released under the Freedom of Information Act show. The FOIA documents were disclosed to a North Carolina journalist.

The initial review of the file shows that the FBI wiretapped or monitored discus-

sions involving Judges William Douglas, Earl Warren, Abe Fortas, and Potter Stewart. In addition, some court employees were used as FBI informants, including the chief of the Supreme Court police.

One pretext for the earlier phase of the operation was alleged communist influence over Supreme Court justices. The FBI's justification for its more recent monitoring is not clear.

Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark claims that he was unaware of the FBI operation.

Spokesmen for the FBI have refused to comment on the file.

California ruling threatens comatose

A California ruling that could kill thousands of coma patients has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

State Deputy Public Defender Michael Pescetta will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review an "unprecedented" euthanasia decision that allows the brother of William Drabick, 44, comatose since an auto accident in 1983, to authorize the removal of his feeding tube.

The April ruling by the California Court of Appeals overturns a Superior Court decision opposing such action.

The new ruling, for the first time in California, would authorize a relative, conservator, or "other persons" to make life and death decisions for a patient without his prior written consent. Conservatorship proceedings are not even required!

Pescetta appealed that decision to the State Supreme Court because the appellate ruling was so broad that it risked the lives of thousands of comatose patients, amounting to "a license for the disposition of lives which are considered by others to be useless and costly."

The State Supreme Court refused to hear the case on July 25. Thus, Pescetta will go to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has never ruled on a "right to die" dispute.

Briefly

● **A POLL** by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union showed that two out of five of its members who voted for Ronald Reagan in 1984 do not intend to vote for George Bush in 1988.

● **PRESIDENT REAGAN**, in a message to the East-West physicists meeting in Erice, Italy, reaffirmed his Strategic Defense Initiative. "Our objective is to see how the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. can jointly aim at a defense that does not represent any threat. . . . As we have explained to the Soviet Union, our objective is that of reducing the risk of nuclear war, by exploring those defense technologies that could, if realized, oppose the threat of nuclear weapons."

● **RICO** (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act statutes are being badly abused by federal prosecutors, who are using them against "corporate directors, accountants, and others whose only link to a racket is the tennis court," complained an Aug. 23 editorial in the *Wall Street Journal*, which demanded that Attorney General Richard Thornburgh press Congress to reform the law.

● **PAT BUCHANAN**, the former White House aide, labeled the liberal media's attack on GOP vice presidential nominee Sen. Dan Quayle "character assassination," during an interview on ABC-TV's "Nightline." Moderator Ted Koppel called Buchanan's views "partisan." He replied, "I may seem more partisan than I am, since the rest of the media are partisans of the Dukakis campaign. . . . The media is out to destroy the Bush-Quayle ticket."

● **STANSFIELD TURNER**, the former CIA director, told a congressional subcommittee that secrecy pledges required of retiring intelligence officers result in a "gross abuse of the constitutional right to free speech." He said such pledges should be limited to 10 years.

Editorial

Congress and the drug issue

When it returns to Washington in mid-September, the U.S. House of Representatives will have at the top of its agenda a broad-ranging bill on illegal drugs which, if approved, would set the guidelines for the anti-drug policy of the next administration. The bill specifies, among a wide array of measures, a larger budget for the Customs Service, the creation of an anti-drug super-department in the Cabinet, new and stronger measures against bank laundering of narcotics profits, and the restriction of access to sophisticated weapons by drug traffickers.

No fewer than 11 congressional committees have worked on writing this bill; of 149 amendments proposed, the bill reached the House with 36 of them approved. This exaggeratedly high number of amendments indicates the great interest in the subject during a presidential election year. Well-informed sources say that the bill will be approved at the latest in the month of October, such that the debate on drugs on Capitol Hill will necessarily influence the electoral process, including the presidential race.

The House version of the bill includes a controversial amendment providing for the death penalty for drug traffickers who commit murder, and the Senate bill is also expected to include this provision. While this issue is likely to attract the most emotion, it is not the decisive one when it comes to stopping the killer drug trade. The decisive issue has to do with what Congress has evaded: ruthless prosecution of drug-money launderers.

The proposed measures in the first draft of the law are pitifully inadequate to deal with this fundamental problem in the drug empire. The bill does not declare the practice of laundering drug dollars to be a crime. It merely toughens certain technical procedures, such as reducing the limit of cash transactions per person from \$10,000 to \$3,000, and obligating the banks to give reports on electronic transactions coming from abroad.

After years of grandstanding by candidates for public office on the "war on drugs," Congress owes to American citizens and our allies a level of commitment that matches up to the model of courage recently dem-

onstrated by some of our neighbors in Ibero-America, who live in the countries that produce much of the illegal dope smuggled into the United States, and who face the bestiality of the mafia's armies as a threat to their daily survival.

● In *Colombia*, on Aug. 24, Judge Consuela Sánchez demonstrated heroic courage by issuing indictments against cocaine king Pablo Escobar and three men on his payroll for the murder of *El Espectador* publisher Guillermo Cano. The target of death threats for months, Judge Sánchez had been warned by Escobar's friends on Aug. 2 that if she dared to indict him, "we are capable of executing you anywhere on this planet. . . . You will see all the members of your family fall one by one."

● In *Panama* on Aug. 8-12, the drug task force of the "Meeting Toward a Second Amphictyonic Congress" including delegates from every nation of Ibero-America, delivered a report that calls for a joint, "devastating attack that simultaneously destroys all the cultivation, laboratories, and distribution centers of drugs; while at the same time fighting the criminal drug traffickers themselves, achieving as a result the collapse of narcotics supply and producing intelligence information that would permit getting to the real target of the operation, namely, the big shots who finance the trade and launder the dirty money."

The Amphictyonic report continues: "These financiers and bankers should be judged and jailed on charges of treason to their nations." Their goods should be confiscated and the proceeds should go into a fund that will help to create a Latin American Common Market that will put the continent on its feet economically, build great infrastructural projects, and provide "the peasants victimized by drug cultivation with a cooperative agricultural program to provide each of our nations with long-awaited food self-sufficiency."

Given these displays of courage by our Ibero-American neighbors, if the Congress will put some teeth into measures against the drug profiteers in our banking system, the war on drugs can be won.

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