

Dr. Litvinov and Co. at the WHO: How Soviets run AIDS policy

by Mark Bördman

Medical experts, not themselves integrally involved with the World Health Organization, but in a position to know that organization's activities intimately, report that they have observed a continually growing power and influence within the WHO of Soviet and Soviet fellow-traveler networks during the past 5-10 years.

EIR investigations indicate that this is indeed the case, and is a cause for alarm.

The Russians and their Warsaw Pact satellites have a stranglehold over "nodal points" within the world health community, via direct control over certain important divisions within the WHO. Their control is magnified by the extensive influence in, if not actual policy-control over, the WHO by influentials from the Geneva-based "Pugwash" organization, the central appeaser group in the West.

The most extraordinary, and dangerous, case of direct Soviet control over international health policy, including policy on AIDS, is that of Dr. Sergei Litvinov, one of the WHO's six assistant director-generals.

In Dr. Litvinov's department are located the following components of the WHO:

- **The Division of Communicable Disease:** It is through this division, headed by the Egyptian Dr. Assad, that Litvinov effectively operates as the "plenipotentiary" over the flow of information and direction of policy for AIDS, internationally; his underling, Assad, is the head of a "WHO Task Force on AIDS," formed in late September 1985. Also in this Division are located the following programs: Smallpox Eradication; Tuberculosis and Respiratory Infections; Leprosy; Bacterial and Venereal Infections; Virus Diseases; Special Program on Safety Measures in Microbiology; Program for the Prevention of Blindness; Veterinary Public Health; and Immunology.

Special attention should be drawn to two divisions: "Virus Diseases," which, according to WHO sources, has special responsibility al/medical front, the AIDS epidemic threat; and the "Smallpox Eradication Program." The head of the former, T. A. Bektimirov, is also a Russian. And, since March 1985, the Smallpox Eradication Program has been under the direction of the Czech Dr. Jezek. This should be a matter of special concern to the West (see box).

- **Malaria Action Program:** In this division, subunits include: Epidemiological Methodology and Evaluation; Programming and Training; and Research and Technical Intelligence.

- **Diarrheal Diseases.**

- **Parasitic Diseases Program:** In this division, subunits include: Filial Infections; Schistosomiasis and other Helminthic Infections; and

- **Division of Vector Biology and Control:** In this division, subunits include: Pesticide Development and Sale Use; Ecology and Control of Vectors; and Equipment, Planning and Operations.

- **Expanded Program in Immunization.**

Litvinov assumed the post of WHO assistant director-general in February 1983; this coincides with the period in which AIDS began to be recognized as a great danger in certain Western countries, particularly the United States. Before assuming the post, Dr. Litvinov had been with the External Affairs bureau of the Soviet Federal Ministry of Health, and is still an official of that Ministry. He had earlier worked in Africa on disease-eradication programs, in cooperation with U.S. State Department and British Commonwealth-linked officials involved in U.S. and European programs for "population control" in Africa.

As AIDS plenipotentiary, Litvinov, together with WHO director-general Dr. Halfdan von Mahler and Dr. Assad, defines the policy-orientation for "WHO Collaborating Centers on AIDS," set up in 1984, in West Germany, France, Australia, Japan, and the United States, with prospective new centers to be established in Ibero-America (probably Brazil), Africa, the Indian Subcontinent, and the U.S.S.R. These centers have powerful influence on AIDS policy in different nations, including the capability of blackmailing honest health officials who are trying to warn about the true dimensions of the AIDS threat. In the United States, for example, the Atlanta Centers for Disease Control has willfully spread misinformation downplaying the AIDS threat, and has pressured doctors who are sounding alarms about AIDS. In West Germany, Dr. F. Deinhardt, of the Munich Pettenkorfer Institute, is also perpetrating the lie that AIDS is a "limited" threat. Dr. Deinhardt's WHO collaborating-group has recently assumed an important, AIDS-related WHO function:

to analyze blood serums from Africa; this function had formerly been performed in Czechoslovakia, and was handed over to Deinhardt, under arrangements that are at this moment still not clear.

Litvinov's line on AIDS is straightforward: Exaggeration and panic are spread "from the country where AIDS originated." Asked what country that is, he replies, "The United States of America." That propaganda line is currently being spread by Soviet, or Anglo-Soviet front organizations around the world, typified by the Pan-African Peoples' Organization, which slanders those who are warning about the AIDS danger in Africa as "imperialists," and who insist, with absolutely no documentation to back this up, that AIDS was a foreign import into Africa.

Litvinov and his minions insist that there is no cause for panic. The Soviet population itself is fed a somewhat different line: AIDS, while not a global epidemic, is of special danger to the "decadent West," but is not a real threat to the Soviet population itself. As the Oct. 12-13 *Sovietskaya Rossiya*, journal of the Soviet Communist Party Central Com-

mittee, put it, "There is absolutely no reason to believe that the AIDS epidemic threatens us.

by Litvinov himself and as corroborated by articles in the trade union newspaper *Trud* and the local paper *Moscowskaya Pravda*, in August of this year, numerous Soviet institutions are themselves working intensively on research pertaining to AIDS.

Why?

The Warsaw Pact and 'mental health'

The Soviets and their Warsaw Pact allies also maintain critical policy influence and/or control in other sections of the WHO. For example, there is the Division of Mental Health, through whose doors come information flows and policy decisions on a wide range of issues of great importance to nations around the world, including effects of psychotropic drugs, social reactions to epidemic outbreaks (i.e., panic), the causes of psychological disorders, and so on. Traditionally, this area has been a British "preserve," dating from the times of arch-brainwasher Dr. John Rawlings Rees of the

Pox Sovietica?

On pages 190-91, under the heading, "Smallpox Eradication Surveillance," in the official World Health Organization publication, *The Work of WHO, 1982-83*, the WHO takes pride in "making efforts to discourage the continuation of vaccination" in those few countries which, as of that writing, still were immunizing their populations against smallpox. The same section reports that WHO "has been notified that the vaccination of military personnel has been discontinued in Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the U.K., and Zimbabwe," and that "fewer laboratories are now producing smallpox vaccine."

Further, "WHO continues to publicize the fact that smallpox vaccination certificates are no longer required from international travelers and, when necessary, brings this to the attention of those concerned."

To the naive layman, these admissions might appear very odd: Why phase out a vaccination, when the last "reported" case was as recent as 1977, and, when India has, as recently as 1984, reported evidence of smallpox cases? The standard answer is: More people die, or suffer, from the vaccination, than are saved by it.

But certain Western medical experts consulted by *EIR*, have been even more skeptical. One labels smallpox "the patriotic microbe," the perfect agent for "destroying

everybody outside of the Holy Motherland."

These experts point to the following evidence: 1) It was unquestionably the Soviets who, from behind the scenes, made the most energetic efforts to phase out smallpox vaccination, during the late 1970s-early 1980s. 2) The Soviets still give smallpox vaccinations to their military personnel, and perhaps to wider layers of their population. 3) France currently has smallpox-vaccination capabilities for 5 million people, the U.S. for 10 million. Says one expert: "An aerosol can on the Paris metro, spraying smallpox microbes, could wreak havoc throughout the nation." Given the very fast doubling rate for smallpox, 100,000 New Yorkers could acquire the disease within weeks. 4) The organization that campaigned most vociferously in Europe for phase-out of smallpox vaccination in the early 1970s was Friends of the Earth, an organization launched with seed-money from Robert O. Anderson, head of ARCO and the Aspen Institute, and a Soviet fellow-traveler. 5) In March 1985, the Smallpox Eradication Program in WHO was taken over by a doctor from a Warsaw Pact country, Dr. Jezek of Czechoslovakia.

According to a reliable source, Dr. Sergei Litvinov, Soviet representative in the WHO leadership, says privately that the Soviets are maintaining full smallpox-vaccination capability "for the next three years." Asked why, Dr. Litvinov replies: "For security reasons," but won't say more.

London Tavistock Institute, who set up the World Federation of Mental Health. A "private," non-governmental organization, the WFMH, still headquartered in London, maintains considerable overlap of personnel and perspective with the WHO Division of Mental Health.

The head of the WHO division is Dr. Stanislav Flashe. He is a Yugoslav. The head of the Division subunit on "Psychosocial Aspects" of disease outbreak, and on "Social and Epidemiological Aspects of Mental Health," is Dr. Yablensky. He is Bulgarian. The head of the subunit on "Biological Psychiatry" is Dr. Morosov. He is Russian, a graduate of the Institute of Psychiatry of the Moscow Academy of Medical Sciences.

With enthusiastic approval from a circle of British doctors (irrespective of the noises from British official quarters "disapproving" of Soviet psychiatric practices), Morosov has built up "Biological Psychiatry" into quite an influential field in psychiatry, even though it is founded on certain absurd reductionisms about the biological-causative factors in psychological disorders. His WHO division plays a significant role in a newsletter called, *Biological Approaches to Mental*

Health, which looks at such issues as psychopharmacology, schizophrenia and manic-depressive states, and genetic parameters of mental disorders.

But Soviet Dr. Morosov has his hand on other aspects which might prove very useful to Mother Russia under conditions of further epidemic-breakdown. In 1984, his group at WHO and the University of Montreal sponsored a conference on "Virus, Immunities, and Mental Health," which dealt, in part, with the "social aspects" of AIDS. The Soviet doctor is also reportedly investigating the past history of epidemics, as a precedent for AIDS today, and, he proclaims privately, "AIDS is a very interesting model for investigation" in this respect.

Evidently, the Soviets are more concerned with the global-epidemic aspects of AIDS than their disinformation propaganda from Dr. Litvinov's office at WHO, would otherwise indicate.

The impact of the U.S.S.R. on global health policy via the WHO may also work through the communist parties of Western Europe. One such case under investigation is that of French Dr. Jacques Roux, formerly the president of the Ex-

'Cryptocommunist,' or communists of the crypt?

Over the weekend of Oct. 12-13, the Nobel Peace Prize Committee in Sweden awarded this year's Peace Prize to the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. The Soviet co-founder of the IPPNW, Dr. Chazov, has been the personal physician to numerous Soviet leaders, including Brezhnev, Chernenko, and Andropov. He has toured the United States, in his capacity as IPPNW leader, fulminating against the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, and is one of the founders of the so-called "nuclear freeze" movement.

After receiving this award, the French branch of the IPPNW protested against the designation "cryptocommunist" to describe the organization, just because of Chazov's prominent role.

Nevertheless, the following piece of suggestive propaganda is worth noting.

In the May 1985 edition of *World Health*, official publication of the WHO, Soviet Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Yuri Isakov authored a piece on the lessons of World War II, entitled, "It Must Not Happen Again." He wrote, in part:

"The lessons of the Second World War are of lasting

importance. The war showed the lethal and far-reaching consequences that may result from basing a policy on a position of strength and attempting to impose one country's will on other sovereign states. At the same time, the victory of the progressive forces showed vividly that mankind's aspirations for peace and cooperation in the name of humane goals are invincible, and that, once united, the peoples of the world can and must prevent a repetition of a universal tragedy by repelling the threat of a new and devastating war.

"This is precisely why the United Nations Organization and its network of specialized bodies were set up immediately after the war. One of the largest of those agencies, the World Health Organization, was founded in 1948. The memory of what the war had cost in human lives, disablement and ill-health was still fresh, so a clause underlining the close link between health and international security was written into its Constitution from the very outset. . . .

"In 1981, Soviet and American doctors combined forces in an effort to prevent nuclear war. This was the beginning of the broad international movement called International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which now unites doctors in at least 54 countries. Last year, this movement was awarded the UNESCO Prize 'For Education in the Spirit of Peace.' Working contacts between WHO and this movement are now being widened."

ecutive Board of the WHO, which is a kind of legislative/consultancy body in the WHO. Roux, according to the French weekly *Minute* of the week of Oct. 14, is presently director-general of the Health Ministry of France, a position to which he was appointed by former French Health Minister Ralite, himself a member of the Communist Party. Roux, says *Minute*, is also a central committee member of the PCF.

His replacement as president of the Executive Board of the WHO is an Ethiopian vice-minister of health.

Roux, according to reliable sources, was instrumental—together with an associate named Marcovitch, leading layers of the Pugwash group, and Henry Kissinger and friends in the late 1960s/early 1970s U.S. State Department—in making the behind-the-scenes arrangements that led to the 1972 “Global Conventions on Biological Warfare.” Like the SALT and ABM Treaties arranged in the same period (for the areas of strategic weaponry and strategic defense, respectively), this convention has had the effect of unilaterally dismantling, or decapitating, critical U.S. capabilities in research related to biological warfare, and thereby, in research in critical frontier areas of biotechnology as well. Meanwhile, the Soviets proceed ahead in critical areas in this domain.

The Pugwash factor in WHO

In fact, in a more general sense, Pugwash and WHO might be seen as nearly interchangeable institutions, on the level of policy direction and leading personnel.

The case of Dr. Martin Kaplan is exemplary.

Since 1976, Dr. Kaplan has been the secretary-general of Pugwash, based in Geneva. Prior to that moment, he was head of the Office of Research Promotion and Development at WHO, which reports directly, in the WHO structure, to the director-general’s office, and is a very powerful institution in the global health infrastructure. Prior to 1974, that bureau had been called the Office of Science and Technology, headed up to the point of the name-change by Dr. Kaplan.

According to a close Pugwash associate of Kaplan, “Martin’s relation to WHO goes back at least 30 years, until about 6-8 years ago. He coordinated all the research.”

One of Kaplan’s pet projects, in the late 1960s, was developing the “Systems Analysis Project” of WHO, which provided WHO with a global-modeling capacity, during the same period that the Austria-based International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the arch-genocidalist Club of Rome International were being created out of behind-the-scenes negotiations between such Soviet officials as Dzhermen Gvishiani, son-in-law of the late Premier Aleksei Kosygin, and U.S. Eastern Liberal Establishment chieftain McGeorge Bundy. This extraordinary array of East-West “systems analysis” institutions has spewed out reams of data on the correlations between population, food, and disease-outbreak; the embedded policy aim has been to “play back” Malthusian policies into the Western world, to speed up the

collapse of the West, through implementation of policies based on Soviet-manipulated, or even Soviet-constructed, data. At the same time, the systems-analysis mafia can provide data justifying policies for causing massive reduction in global population.

One of Kaplan’s chief collaborators during this period was Halfdan von Mahler, who has been, since 1973, the WHO director-general. One of Dr. Mahler’s special fields is “cost-effectiveness” in health care.

One of Kaplan’s other specialties, as indicated, has been in the field of dismantling Western biological research capabilities, under the cover of global conventions against biological warfare. This has been done, in part, under the cover of meetings and seminars on “the medical consequences of nuclear war,” often in collaboration with the Nobel Prize-lauded International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War” (see box).

The head of the Communicable Disease division is Sergei Litvinov. He is Russian. The head of the Virus Diseases sub-division is T. A. Bektimirov. He is Russian. The head of the sub-unit on psychosocial aspects of disease is Dr. Jablensky. He is Bulgarian. The head of “Biological Psychiatry” is Dr. Morosov. He is Russian.

On Oct. 24-27, Kaplan will be the main mover-and-shaker for a secret conference co-organized by the Pugwash group and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), likely to be held at the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, on both chemical and biological warfare. Officials from the U.S.S.R., East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia will be among those Warsaw Pact attendees there. The last day of the event will be devoted, sources say, to a private planning meeting on biological warfare, to set the framework for September 1986 meetings that will “review” the 1972 Convention on Biological Warfare.

The strand running throughout these activities is a commitment to what Kaplan’s mentor and Pugwash founder, Britain’s late Bertrand Lord Russell, called for in numerous of his writings: the creation of conditions, through “socialism,” for economic collapse, wars, and plagues that will reduce the world’s population dramatically.