

Biological warfare crop is growing

by Warren J. Hamerman

Clouds of Secrecy: The Army's Germ Warfare Tests Over Populated Areas

by Leonard A. Cole, with a Foreword by Senator Alan Cranston

Rowman & Littlefield, 1988

\$22.50 hardbound, 188 pages with index.

The Killing Winds: The Menace of Biological Warfare

by Jeanne McDermott

Arbor House, 1987

\$18.95, hardbound, 322 pages with index.

No Fire, No Thunder: The Threat of Chemical Biological Weapons

by Sean Murphy, Alastair Hay and Steven Rose

Monthly Review Press, 1984

\$7.50 paperbound, 145 pages with index.

The appearance of the three books reviewed here—as well as the wide general publicity given to the day-to-day attempts by activist Jeremy Rifkin to sabotage the military's biological research programs at the Dugway, Utah center, Fort Detrick, and elsewhere—indicates that the “virus” of such exposé works is spreading rapidly. *Clouds of Secrecy* is blessed by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) while *The Killing Winds* bears the endorsements of Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) and Admiral Gene R. LaRocque of the Center for Defense Information.

Back in the 1960s and 1970s, every half-decade or so, there would appear another exposé book on the evils of America's secret biological warfare program. The basic premise of such works was that the U.S. military machine has engaged in producing dastardly biological weapons, while all specific charges of Soviet weapons development in this area were unfounded. Out of such lopsided propaganda Henry

Kissinger succeeded in bamboozling Richard Nixon into signing a woefully inadequate and completely unverifiable 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and their Destruction.

While living under the 1972 Convention, the Soviets launched a massive program in intervening into biological processes with electromagnetic radiation. For instance, between 1966 and 1976 Vlail, Kaznacheev, the head of the Siberian Division of Medical Research for the Soviet Academy of Sciences, engaged non-stop in a series of experiments at Novosibirsk in which viral infections were “induced” in cell cultures by means of the emission of weak ultraviolet radiation from infected cells which passed through quartz glass chambers! Other experiments in mastering the biological effects of electromagnetic pulses in the microwave and other parts of the spectrum have been conducted at an accelerating rate in biophysics laboratories such as the Pushchino Frank Institute outside Moscow. Soviet virologists from the Ivanovsky Institute and the Sukhumi Primate Research Center have upgraded their military-applications research.

The prime sponsors of the 1960s and 1970s one-sided exposé books were institutions which were openly sympathetic to the needs and concerns of the Soviet viewpoint while they promoted the “convergence” or “Kissingerizing” of the West with the East into one world supra-government. The publishers of these reports included avowedly socialist-leaning institutions such as Bertrand Russell and “his” committee, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the United Nations, *New York Times* journalist Seymour Hersh, and *Monthly Review*.

The “old generation” of these books can all be identified as spawned by a common mother by the fact that they all tend to go over the same material and tell the same stories—a little more or a little less anecdotally. They all also completely dismiss or ignore the Soviet material. The latest works, which have drawn interest in wider circles, seem to repeat the same biases, describe the same incidents, and omit the same areas. But, after all, propaganda is propaganda.

With all this said, plenty of viral and bacteriological “killers” exist, therefore the questions of how and when they will be used are crucial, and that requires us to address three

sets of players: the Russians, the malthusians, and the U.S. military gadget-weapons types. With all the publicity surrounding the issue, we fear that it is, indeed, only a matter of time before a spectacular incident is "staged."

The Russian threat ranges from *irregular warfare* scenarios among terrorists or Russian special forces to full-scale ABC (atomic, biological, and chemical) assault in a first strike *regular warfare* strategic deployment.

One of the real threats of biological warfare weapons is their use by terrorist groups or Russian special forces teams (spetsnaz) deep behind Western lines. Russian commanders would "lend" the technologies easily to units who were part of irregular warfare deployments. The weapons can either be used as precision-targeted "poisons," or as weapons of mass destruction or incapacitation to "soften up" an adversary or overwhelm its health care system on its own territory. As Joseph D. Douglass, Jr. documented in his book *America the Vulnerable*, the Russians have already facilitated the proliferation of narcotics in the West as "biochemical warfare," for example.

The malthusian threat stems from the fact that "globalist" institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Health Organization, the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, and so forth are fiercely committed to the proposition that there must be enforced drastic reduction of the world's population. The think tanks which support these population reduction fanatics have not only done studies which show that disease is an "efficient" means to commit mass murder. *Malthusian biological warfare* has passed into the hideous genocidal implementation phase in Africa and Ibero-America, as this journal has repeatedly documented. The massive AIDS death toll in Africa is directly a consequence of the malthusian policies imposed there.

Ironically, the threat of deployment by some U.S. low-cost "weapons application nut" stems from the weakness of the American biological research program. The latest books and Jeremy Rifkin imply that biological research has had a heyday under the Reagan administration. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Rather than a multi-track effort to advance basic biological science, outside the engineering and technology aspects of molecular biology, all of the most advanced areas biophysics and electromagnetic interactions with living matter have been downgraded.

Such anti-science biases stem from the same sort of moral crisis which has given enormous institutional power to avowed malthusians.

Since the United States has degraded its commitment to fundamental scientific research for budget-cutting considerations, anti-science "military-applications" jarheads in uniform and in defense industry have attempted all sorts of shortcuts to oversell various weapons gimmicks. In this context, we dread the decisions that some military jarheads may make or already have made about the use of biological weaponry in the interest of cost-efficiency.

A society which is dedicated to fundamental scientific progress doesn't have to worry about weapons systems because they can always be pulled "off the shelf" from the ever-advancing scientific and technological frontiers. History affords us some excellent examples. No better designers of advanced military weapons can be found than such universal scientific geniuses as Leonardo da Vinci, Archimedes, and the great 18th-century French geometer Gaspard Monge, for example.

The antidote to the threat of biological warfare is to unleash a renaissance in the life sciences, particularly advancing the areas of optical biophysics and the nonlinear electromagnetic properties of the biological field. Not only will we be able to keep people healthier, happier, and longer-lived, but we will also be invincible to any barbaric peoples who would even think of challenging that commitment.

We are living in an age of unprecedented advances in the biological sciences, yet we are being devastated by AIDS and other deadly diseases. We must rapidly restore our civilization's moral and financial commitment to fundamental scientific development and demand that scientists themselves take their moral responsibilities seriously. If we can achieve that, there will be no large-scale biological warfare incident. If we do not restore that commitment, the occurrence of an unspeakable atrocity is only a matter of time.

Books Received

Chaucer, His Life, His Works, His World, by Donald R. Howard. E.P. Dutton, N.Y., 1987. \$29.95 hardbound, 636 pages.

Symmetry Through the Eyes of a Chemist, by Istvan Hargittai and Magdolna Hargittai. VCH Publishers, Inc., N.Y., 1987. \$24.95 paperbound, 458 pages.

The Jews of Paris and the Final Solution: Communal Response and Internal Conflicts 1940-1944, by Jacques Adler. Oxford University Press, N.Y., 1987. \$32.50 hardbound, 310 pages.

Aneurin Bevan: And the Mirage of British Socialism, by John Campbell. W.W. Norton and Co., N.Y. and London, 1987. \$25.95 hardbound, 430 pages.

Reminiscences About a Great Physicist: Paul Adrien Maurice Dirac, edited by Behram N. Kursunoglu and Eugene P. Wigner. Cambridge University Press, New Rochelle, N.Y., 1987. \$49.50 hardbound, 297 pages.

The Prosecutors: Inside the Offices of the Government's Most Powerful Lawyers, by James B. Stewart. Simon and Schuster, N.Y., 1987. \$19.95, hardbound, 378 pages.