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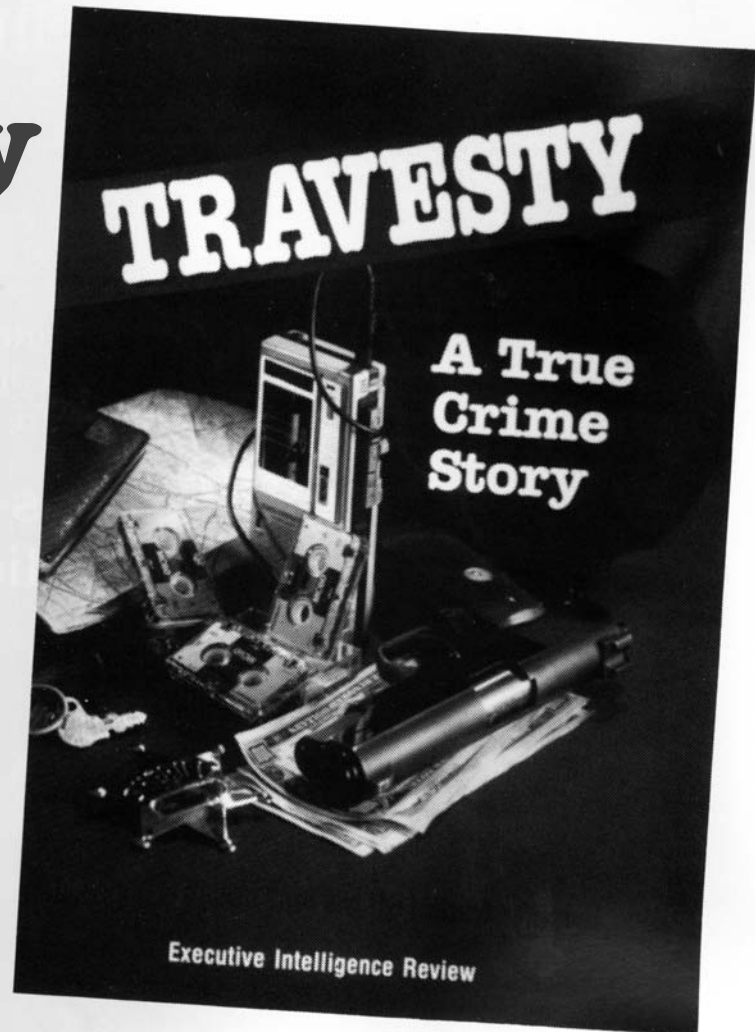
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From the Editor

What would the population control lobby do, if the word got out that the technologies are ready at hand that would allow us to feed *double the current world population?* We think that our readers—who tend to be the kind of people who find the birth of a new human being a cause for celebration—will be very happy with this week's *Feature*, while the malthusians will gnash their teeth in fury. Dr. Merle Jensen, a professor of plant science with 30 years' experience in the area of "controlled environment agriculture," argues from his direct experience, that precisely such an achievement in food production is possible. "Look out environmentalists!" he says. "We've got a system here that's really sound!" Marcia Merry, a leader of the Schiller Institute's Food for Peace effort, presents an overview of exciting new hydroponics and other space age technologies.

Lyndon LaRouche's political movement is undergoing a dramatic expansion internationally, as several articles in this issue attest:

- *EIR* co-sponsored with the Australian Citizens Electoral Councils (CEC) a highly successful political and educational conference in Melbourne, Australia. LaRouche delivered to the participants a wonderful challenge: to make Australia into a bridge between the Christian-Platonic traditions of the West and the Confucian values of China, for the purpose of uplifting the region as a whole.

- In Bonn, Germany, the Schiller Institute sponsored an international conference of historic importance, bringing together people of many nations to present a comprehensive view of the policy crisis and discuss recommended solutions. We shall have more on this for you next week.

- From Argentina, former President Arturo Frondizi, a friend and admirer of the late John F. Kennedy, has written a magnificent letter to President Clinton, urging freedom for LaRouche, and a new U.S. foreign policy toward its Ibero-American neighbors.

Two related developments broke too late to cover in this issue: In Taipei, Taiwan, four legislators convened a press conference to demand LaRouche's freedom; and in Lima, Peru, the Human Rights Commission of the Peruvian Congress vowed to press their U.S. counterparts for an explanation of LaRouche's political incarceration.

Nora Hamerman

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The political prisoner talks with Scottish journalists about the horrendous state of the American justice system, and his views on the death penalty.

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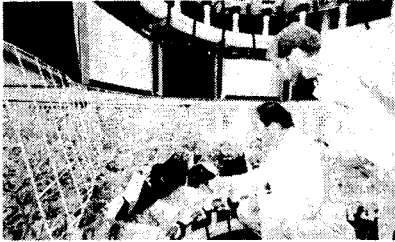
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Soros launches strategic bombing of the D-mark

by Marcia Merry

On June 9, mega-speculator George Soros fired the shot signalling the “strategic bombing” of the deutschemark, and the German economy along with it. No ordinary financial bomber, Soros has for many years served the interests of a money and power faction best known by some of its figureheads—Margaret Thatcher and friends—and oft-described as Anglo-American.

In the June 9 London *Times*, there appeared a letter by Soros, addressed to *Times* economics editor Anatole Kaletsky, who had run an open letter on May 20 calling for Soros to “save Europe from federalism by attacking the French franc.” Soros is famous for his exploits such as making close to \$2 billion in profiteering in last September’s currency turmoil which occurred when Britain pulled the plug on the European Monetary System of pegged currency values, called the Exchange Rate Mechanism. Until that time, the German mark was a linchpin of the ERM, and, however remote the likelihood, there did exist a potential for resumed economic development and currency stability.

In the fall, the German and French central banks coordinated repeated joint interventions to defend the franc against speculative onslaught. However, on Sept. 15, Britain unilaterally pulled out of the ERM, and effectively ended joint currency support. Over the succeeding months, France politically fell in behind Britain in a new “Entente Cordiale,” and Germany was further isolated.

In his lengthy reply to the *Times*, Soros said, in essence: Target Germany, not France, to knock out continental federalism. Soros’s letter to Kaletsky began: “Your open letter deserves an answer. I agree with some of your arguments, but heartily disagree with your conclusions. It is not the French currency and French bonds that need to be sold, but the German ones.

“I expect the mark to fall against all major currencies.” And fall it did. Within 12 hours of this salvo, the deutschemark fell against practically all other currencies. The dollar rose against the mark to 1.6355 from 1.6245 the day before. The pound sterling rose against the mark to 2.4788 from 2.4700 the day before. The next day, headlines proclaimed, for example, from the *New York Post*: “The Letter That Rocked the Market.”

While the currency market may swing this way and that, what is clear is that a new round of currency turmoil has been launched, with the deutschemark as the central target. When Soros moves, 15-20% of valuation may change. Speculators are anticipating a drop in the mark to 1.80 to the dollar. The Japanese yen can be expected to rise against the dollar even faster than it had been. The other European currencies are already on the ropes, with the exception of the French franc, which can be regarded as the only survivor—in accordance with France’s new subservient relationship to Anglo-American financial designs. Soros spells things out in his letter: “Germany is now in a worse recession than France, and has a large and growing budget deficit.”

What lies ahead? According to Soros, you should look forward to a new day in which floating exchange rates are a thing of the past, and a “common currency” will rule. He ends his letter to the *Times*: “Since all exchange rate systems are flawed, it is best not to have one at all, but to have a common currency. The fact that it would put speculators like me out of business is one of its merits.”

The one-world dollar

To be sure, if the dollar triumphs over everything, and Japan remains isolated, then the Soros vision of a one-world dollar, based on control of raw materials and commodities,

may seem realistic to the geopolitically minded financiers of Wall Street and London.

Soros and company are already positioned for speculation in gold. Earlier this year, he “made a mint” when he bought a \$400 million stake in Newmont Mining in Nevada. The company produces gold, which is now selling above \$400 an ounce, for an estimated \$200 an ounce. Another Nevada gold mine owned by Peter Monk, a crony of Soros, both originally from Hungary, produces gold at \$170 an ounce.

The vision of a post-speculation world, a world after the crash, is also hinted at elsewhere in recent days, in debate over whether and when the derivatives bubble is due to pop.

Internationally, the derivatives market has gone from a level of \$2 trillion to \$16 trillion in volume of notional principal amount outstanding at year end over the past five years. To keep up that pace of expansion this year, the \$16 trillion outstanding will have to increase to well over \$25 trillion, six times the size of the U.S. federal government debt. At present, more than \$300 billion of U.S. government securities is traded every day, enough to turn over the entire publicly held portion of government debt every 10 trading days.

Since the derivatives bubble feeds like a parasite off the host of what remains of the real, physical economy, any continued ballooning of the bubble can be done only by imposing austerity at the level of Nazi-modelled genocide. Even so, the loot isn't there to maintain the growth rate. Come what may, the bubble that's been inflating since 1987 will burst.

George Soros, author of *The Alchemy of Finance*, may look forward to a post-derivatives world of dollar-denominated control. And there are others looking a little further down the line. A European-based Trilateral Commission spokesman told *EIR*: “What we have is the mass circulation of financial incomes that are de-linked completely from the real economy. Ninety-five percent of financial transactions have no linkage to the real economy; this fact must destroy the ability to make an economic policy. For such a situation, ‘speculation’ is hardly the right word. It's much more dangerous than ‘speculation.’ We're in a bubble economy, and we've gone beyond the ‘alert point.’ Certainly some people are thinking that some kind of tax must be placed on these transactions, but the reality is that no one in power wants to act. Also, we can't cope intellectually with the problems this implies.”

Derivatives: the next meltdown?

Barron's, the U.S. financial weekly, ran a featured article on derivatives June 7, titled, “The Next Meltdown? Fears Grow That Derivatives Pose a Big Threat.” The article highlighted the opinions expressed by Warren Buffett, the wheel-dealer of the George Soros ilk, whose investment company is Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. Buffett's comments were reported from his speech at Berkshire's annual meeting in late April. “He opined that derivatives might one day trigger a catastroph-

ic ‘chain reaction’ in world financial markets. For one thing, he explained, the derivatives market lacks the restraints of exchange-traded futures and options—namely, the posting of margin by both buyers and sellers, daily marking to the market and margin adjustments of positions and the guaranteeing of the integrity of all trades by some centralized clearing house with broad assessment powers on all participants.

“In the world of bilateral, over-the-counter derivatives trading, though, there's no assurance that the losers will be around at the end to pay off, Buffett worried. Particularly if some low-probability, high-impact event causes a dramatic move in some underlying market. Then derivatives might become both the medium and the message of catastrophe.”

Alexandre Lamfalussy, director of the Swiss-based central bankers' central bank, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), called for standard rules to monitor banks' exposure to derivatives, when he spoke the week of June 8 at the annual International Monetary Conference in Stockholm. Lamfalussy complained that even professional financial specialists can't tell what is going on from a bank's books. “The phenomenal growth of derivatives and associated trading techniques has reduced the transparency of balance sheets.”

In Asia, there are intense battles over attempts to control derivatives. Under pressure, the Japanese Foreign Ministry held up the issuance of a committee report due out on May 31, on the subject of whether to stop stock futures trading under volatile market conditions. The committee work has involved the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and foreign brokerage houses in Japan are opposing placing limitations on trading.

Chase Manhattan Asia Ltd. is one of the U.S. traders pushing derivatives gangbusters in Asia—in contrast to the acknowledged problems in the United States and Europe. “The market for derivatives products in Asia is set for explosive growth,” according to a Chase representative writing in the *Bangkok Post* May 26. “Just as the United States and Europe saw an enormous development in their use in the last decade, the macro- and micro-economic factors in Asia favor a period of strong and sustained expansion.”

The Chase Asia representative praised the way that “derivative products markets have flourished because of their power to synthetically create or hedge risk positions,” and described Asian companies as ripe for derivatives trading, because they are 1) highly leveraged; 2) subject to financial risk; and 3) export oriented. “These three factors, combined with the increasing volatility in today's financial markets, have enormously increased an Asian corporation's financial risk.” Chase contrasts the “strong growth” of the Asian economies, with “the weak U.S. and European economies and the tremendous amount of capital demanded by the former East bloc,” and says that this is the next growth source for derivatives trading. The booster article concludes with a plug for Chase Manhattan Asia Ltd.'s Structured Derivatives Group's “many years of experience” in risk management through derivative products.

Peru: an IMF 'showcase' of poverty and terrorism

by Luis Vásquez

The impact on the Peruvian economy of nearly three years under a neo-liberal "adjustment" program—the "most drastic in the West," according to the World Bank—could not be more illustrative of the criminal nature of International Monetary Fund (IMF) dictates. Under the pretext of dealing with the waste and lack of productivity engendered by earlier populist policies, the Alberto Fujimori government as of late 1990 submitted to an IMF "structural adjustment" program that has reduced consumption levels of the population to near starvation and devastated the economy.

As we shall see, the sole objective of this IMF program has been to "reinsert" Peru into the international financial system, the result of which has been the looting of the treasury and the country's resources on an unprecedented scale, and at precisely the moment when Peru is embroiled in a costly and bloody war with narco-terrorism.

During the past 35 months, the amount of money used exclusively to pay off interest on the foreign debt has reached nearly \$3 billion. To achieve this, public investment by the central government has been reduced to practically zero. Prices and public services rates have been multiplied by 500, taxes by 350, subsidies of all kinds have been eliminated or reduced, and some 250,000 public workers laid off.

The other stated objectives of the IMF "packet" have not been reached, including the so-called stabilization of the economy. Prices in Peru are the highest in the hemisphere, with the exception of Argentina, giving the lie to Fujimori's anti-inflation claims. And the stabilization program designed for Peru by Jeffrey Sachs and Carlos Bologna failed, ironically enough, largely because of its own neo-liberal deregulation obsessions: It denied the government any control over the illegal parallel economy based on drugs and contraband. According to the Constituent Congress itself, the illegal economy provides 70% (some \$2.3 billion a year) of all the dollars that circulate in the Peruvian economy.

Poverty and terrorism

The recessive effects of the IMF's neo-liberal doctrine in Peru must certainly constitute an international "record." First, it has produced the "miracle" of reducing Peru's GNP by 25% over the past decade, reaching the same levels of

production Peru had in 1950, while the Peruvian population has doubled from that year to today. By the end of 1992, per capita annual income had fallen below \$1,000, placing Peru in the tragic "club" of Fourth World countries.

The result is that 87% of the economically active Peruvian population are unemployed or underemployed. According to United Nations' standards, 76% of the population fall below the poverty line, and nearly 32% of those are considered part of the "extreme poverty" category, facing death by starvation and disease.

Levels of mortality among infants (which borders on 7%) and among people over 60 years of age are today only comparable with Haiti and the poorest countries of Africa. In fact, the decline in the level of population growth from 3.2% to 2.2% over the past two years, which has the anti-natalist institutions ecstatic, is due less to the fall in birth rates than to an increase in death rates. Official figures today show a dramatic 0.9% death rate a year.

This calamitous situation, created by IMF policies, is one of the leading obstacles to a successful victory in the war against narco-terrorism. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Peruvian Armed Forces, which are fighting against communist subversion under the most difficult economic constraints, the high levels of social discontent in the country continue to feed into the terrorist campaigns of Shining Path which, despite the ongoing capture of its leading figures, manages to survive and reproduce in the impoverished countryside and in the shantytowns surrounding the country's main cities.

As Lyndon LaRouche stated in an April 12 interview (see *EIR*, June 4), "It is almost impossible to fight guerrillas and submit to the IMF at the same time. If you are carrying out an IMF program against your own population, which is what it is, or similar policies, and you are trying to fight guerrillas, you are facing a losing battle. Because the IMF is recruiting the guerrillas while the U.S. State Department will come in and threaten to cut you off from what little aid you're getting, if you kill any more of these guerrillas, and the Masons accuse you of being human rights violators.

"So a firm, determined policy, but a policy which is based on affirming the welfare of your people, is the way to fight; and if you do not do that, you may lose."

Destruction of the physical economy

The economic policies of the current Fujimori government have effectively paralyzed the country's productive apparatus. National industry is suffocating under an avalanche of cheap imported products and under stratospheric energy costs (Peruvian gasoline costs twice as much as U.S. gasoline). Levels of idle capacity in 41 branches of national industry are significant; only in 19 branches is more than half of installed capacity in use. The most recent statement of the National Society of Industries demands restoration of protective tariffs. In addition to high energy costs, foreign competition, and total lack of protection, Peruvian industry is also facing tremendously high financing and security costs.

As if this weren't enough, Peruvian industry is also unable, under the current IMF model, to set itself up even as an export sector, given that the dollar is, de facto, undervalued, thanks to the drug trade which effectively sets the price of the U.S. currency on the Peruvian market. This situation of a "cheap" dollar has also undermined the traditional mining activity of Peru, which is largely one of export of primary products. Mining, that in the past was the leading economic sector of the country which provided employment to nearly 1 million Peruvians, today is totally paralyzed. The number of closed mines is nearly 75% of the total which produced through the 1970s.

So far in 1993, the tendency of the economy to self-destruct has worsened. Only fishing, for seasonal reasons, has shown some recovery. Agriculture, which encompasses the poorest section of the Peruvian population, has shrunk by more than 25% during the past three years of drought. To this natural disaster can be added a nearly total disappearance of rural credit and, of course, the competition of the illegal coca crops. Peru today produces less than half of the food it produced in 1960. Since that date, the country has lost 40% of its land under cultivation. This deficit of Peruvian food production has been partially made up, with its own devastating consequences, by imports, which are growing exponentially. In 1992, more than 2.2 million tons of food were imported, largely rice, wheat, corn, sugar, and milk. That is, nearly double what was imported during the last year of the Apra party's government in 1990.

The government's incapacity to stimulate productive activity is demonstrated by the recent scandal that came to light regarding the construction and rehabilitation of Peru's highway system. Recently, the daily *Expreso* editorially charged that only \$25 million of a total \$250 million credit granted Peru by the Inter-American Development Bank had been used. This, it turned out, was due to the fact that such a large number of engineers and skilled technicians had been laid off from the public sector and forced to go abroad for jobs, that the country actually lacks the technical capacity to get such projects under way. The situation is especially grave at a time when, according to the president of the National Association of Roadways, nearly \$300 million is lost each



Carlos Bologna, Peru's former finance minister and the architect, along with Harvard's Jeffrey Sachs, of Peru's disastrous "stabilization" program.

year because of the bad state of Peru's highways.

The Hong Kong model

As a particularly cruel paradox, alongside the collapse of productive activity in the country, there has been an explosion of purely financial profit. According to Kenneth Berry, vice president of the Lima stock exchange, which was reportedly the fastest-growing exchange in the world between 1991 and 1992, during that period, the average yield on the Lima exchange more than doubled, going from a 62% growth rate in 1991 to a 138% growth rate in 1992.

This other "miracle" of the Peruvian economic model has been recognized abroad. In April, the Brazilian daily *Gazeta Mercantil* named Peru the "new star in the international financial market." Citing sources from New York and London, the Brazilian financial mouthpiece said that Peru was the best financial arena to emerge in the world today.

The obscene spectacle of soaring speculative profits against the backdrop of a starving nation surfaced during the recent financial scandal of the CLAE group. This illegal "parallel" institution was the largest laundry of narco-dollars in the country until the government's recent intervention. It paid interest rates that surpassed 250% a year to its more than 200,000 depositors. The total profits of CLAE's depositors were higher than the earnings of the five largest economic groups in the country.

What the CLAE scandal clearly demonstrated is that the economic system inherited from former finance minister and IMF favorite Carlos Bologna is a totally speculative one,

based on the drug-backed Hong Kong model.

However, President Fujimori's "self-coup" on April 5 of last year undermined this model by causing a decline in "confidence" of the flight capitalists who had been "investing" in Peru. With less of this capital coming into the country, the balance of payments situation has considerably worsened. Without any possibility of expanding exports under the current economic model, Peru's balance of payments deficit by the end of 1993 is expected to surpass \$1.45 billion.

Enter the Chilean model

President Fujimori is now hoping to revive Peru by implementing the so-called Chile model. With the same utopian and futile hope it had held out for winning foreign credits if it "behaved itself," the Fujimori government now seems to be placing all its hopes in attracting direct foreign investment from, primarily, Asia. President Fujimori apparently believes he can reproduce in Peru what happened in Chile after the Malvinas War, when money poured into that country as payment for the turncoat role Chile had played against Argentina at the time.

However, these hopes are sheer illusion, especially since the U.S. Eastern Establishment has already explicitly warned, through both George Bush's Enterprise for the Americas initiative and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), that Ibero-America constitutes its *own* personal strategic reserve of raw materials and cheap labor.

Fujimori's recent, fourth trip to Asia is illustrative: In response to the Peruvian President's repeated appeals for aid and investment, Japan has given a mere \$250,000 in grants and \$50 million in new credits. In Korea, on the other hand, Fujimori met with discreet enthusiasm for his proposal to grant a free-trade zone—with lucrative exemptions—to Korean capital. The Peruvian offer was made at the same time that denunciations surfaced in Argentina accusing Korean capitalists of running their factories like virtual concentration camps with slave labor.

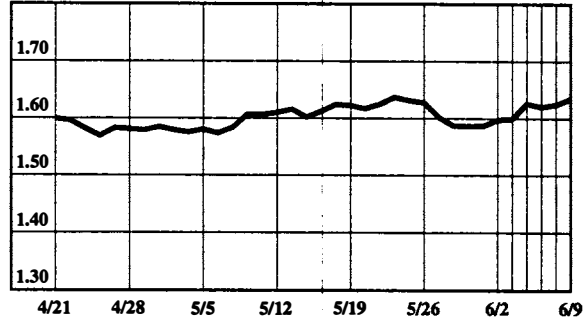
Another element of the Chilean model Fujimori hopes to copy is getting access to workers' pension funds, through the creation of numerous Associations of Pension Funds. The market for these funds moves nearly \$13 billion in Chile at the present time. The AFPs would receive pension funds from Peruvian workers and would channel them into profitable activities which would permit both their capitalization and the payment of pensions to retirees. It is estimated that this system would prove successful if it produced an annual yield of 18% or more.

However, given the depth of recession of the Peruvian economy, which is unlikely to be reversed unless and until President Fujimori abandons his anti-productive IMF policies, one is led to believe that both his Chile model dreams, and those of former Finance Minister Bologna (today president of Peru's first AFP), will suffer a sharp reverse as reality asserts itself.

Currency Rates

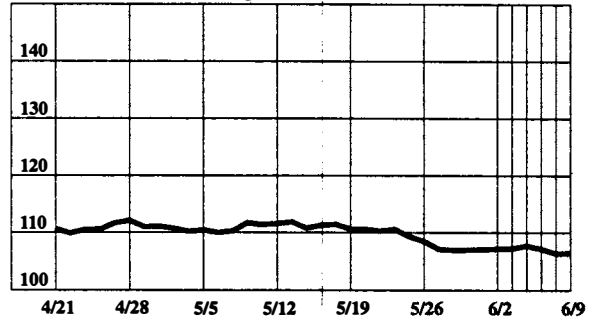
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



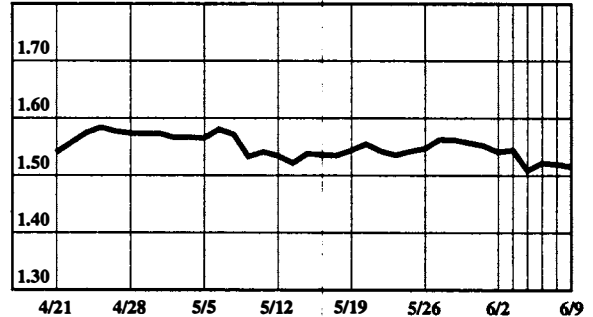
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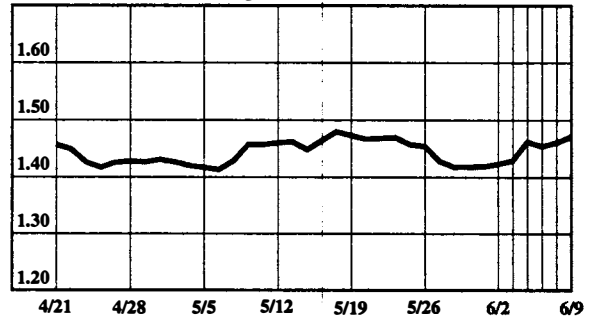
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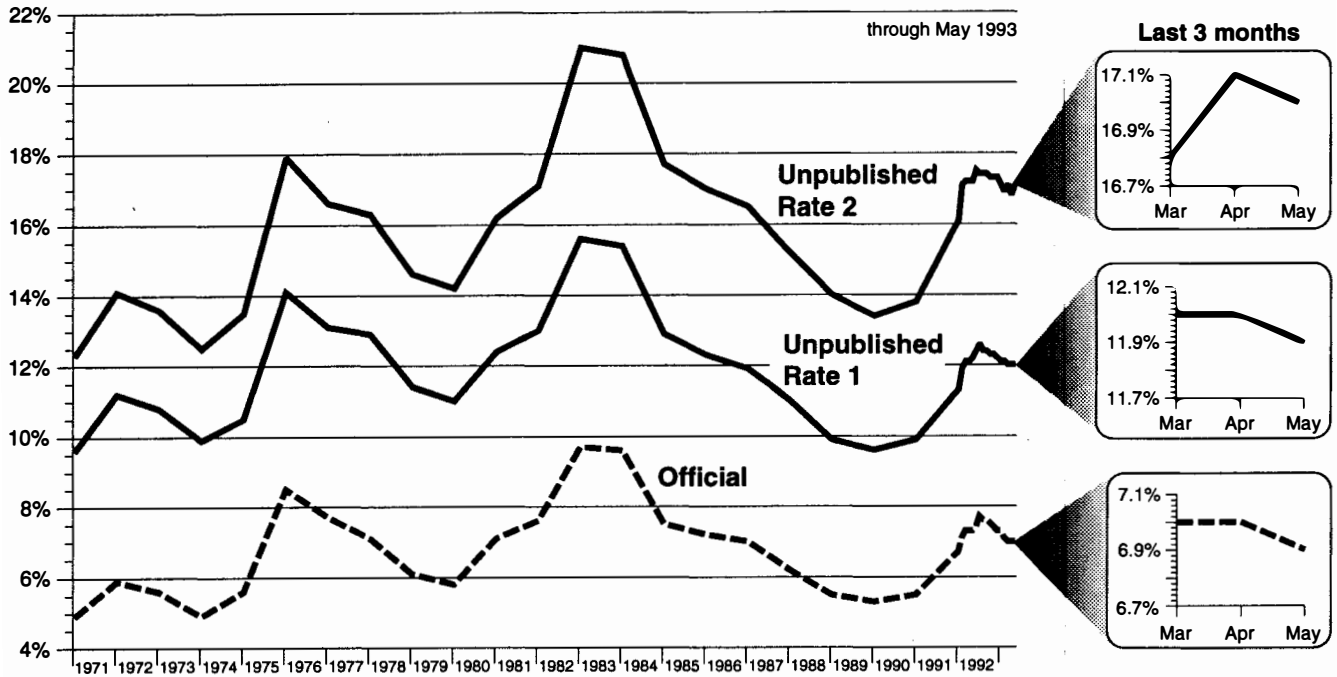


The dollar in Swiss francs

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U.S. Unemployment Coverup



Data used for unpublished unemployment rates

(thousands)

Year	Civilian labor force (a)	Official unemployed (b)	Want a job now (c)	Part-time, economic reasons (d)	Total unemployed and underemployed (b+c+d)	Official U-5b rate (b/a)	Unpublished Rate 1 (b+c)/a	Unpublished Rate 2 (b+c+d)/a
1971	84,382	5,016	4,423	2,452	11,891	5.9%	11.2%	14.1%
1972	87,034	4,882	4,493	2,430	11,805	5.6%	10.8%	13.6%
1973	89,429	4,365	4,510	2,343	11,218	4.9%	9.9%	12.5%
1974	91,949	5,156	4,514	2,751	12,421	5.6%	10.5%	13.5%
1975	93,775	7,929	5,271	3,541	16,741	8.5%	14.1%	17.9%
1976	96,158	7,406	5,233	3,334	15,973	7.7%	13.1%	16.6%
1977	99,009	6,991	5,775	3,368	16,134	7.1%	12.9%	16.3%
1978	102,251	6,202	5,446	3,298	14,946	6.1%	11.4%	14.6%
1979	104,962	6,137	5,427	3,372	14,936	5.8%	11.0%	14.2%
1980	106,940	7,637	5,675	4,064	17,376	7.1%	12.4%	16.2%
1981	108,670	8,273	5,835	4,499	18,607	7.6%	13.0%	17.1%
1982	110,204	10,678	6,559	5,852	23,089	9.7%	15.6%	21.0%
1983	111,550	10,717	6,503	5,997	23,217	9.6%	15.4%	20.8%
1984	113,544	8,539	6,070	5,512	20,121	7.5%	12.9%	17.7%
1985	115,461	8,312	5,933	5,334	19,579	7.2%	12.3%	17.0%
1986	117,834	8,237	5,825	5,345	19,407	7.0%	11.9%	16.5%
1987	119,865	7,425	5,714	5,122	18,261	6.2%	11.0%	15.2%
1988	121,669	6,701	5,373	4,965	17,039	5.5%	9.9%	14.0%
1989	123,869	6,528	5,395	4,656	16,579	5.3%	9.6%	13.4%
1990	124,787	6,874	5,473	4,860	17,207	5.5%	9.9%	13.8%
1991	125,303	8,426	5,736	6,046	20,208	6.7%	11.3%	16.1%
1992	126,982	9,384	6,181	6,385	21,950	7.4%	12.3%	17.3%

Monthly data (seasonally adjusted)

Year	Month	Civilian labor force (a)	Official unemployed (b)	Want a job now (c)	Part-time, economic reasons (d)	Total unemployed and underemployed (b+c+d)	Official U-5b rate (b/a)	Unpublished Rate 1 (b+c)/a	Unpublished Rate 2 (b+c+d)/a
1992	May	127,039	9,459	6,291 ¹	6,486	22,236	7.4%	12.4%	17.5%
	June	127,298	9,788	6,291 ¹	6,100	22,179	7.7%	12.6%	17.4%
	July	127,350	9,628	6,147 ¹	6,342	22,117	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
	August	127,404	9,624	6,147 ¹	6,352	22,123	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
	September	127,274	9,550	6,147 ¹	6,362	22,059	7.5%	12.3%	17.3%
	October	127,066	9,379	6,209 ¹	6,434	22,022	7.4%	12.3%	17.3%
	November	127,365	9,301	6,209 ¹	6,493	22,003	7.3%	12.2%	17.3%
	December	127,591	9,280	6,209 ¹	6,349	21,838	7.3%	12.1%	17.1%
1993	January	127,083	9,013	6,378 ¹	6,113	21,504	7.1%	12.1%	16.9%
	February	127,327	8,876	6,378 ¹	6,461	21,715	7.0%	12.0%	17.1%
	March	127,429	8,864	6,378 ¹	6,194	21,436	7.0%	12.0%	16.8%
	April	127,341	8,925	6,378 ¹	6,458	21,761	7.0%	12.0%	17.1%
	May	128,131	8,858	6,378 ¹	6,580	21,816	6.9%	11.9%	17.0%

¹The want a job now figure is compiled quarterly. The figure used for monthly calculation of the Unpublished Rate 1 is that from the most recent available quarter.

Explanatory Note

In May, over 6.3 million jobless and 6.5 million more semi-employed people were ignored by the U.S. government's Bureau of Labor Statistics in its calculation of the official (U-5b) unemployment rate. To bring out the truth, EIR is publishing the rates you would see if the government didn't cover up.

The widely publicized official unemployment rate is based on a monthly statistical sampling of approximately 57,000 households. But in order for someone to be counted as *unemployed*, the respondent member of the household (often not the person who is out of work) must be able to state what specific effort that person made in the last four weeks to find a job. If no specific effort can be cited, the jobless person is classified as "not in the labor force" and ignored in the official unemployment count.

But over 6 million of these discarded people are also reported on the monthly survey indicating that they "want a regular job now." EIR's *Unpublished Rate 1* is calculated by adding these discarded jobless to the officially "unemployed." The *Unpublished Rate 2* includes, in addition, over 6 million more people forced into part-time work for economic reasons such as slack work or inability to find a full-time job. These people show up as *employed* in the official statistics even if they worked only one hour during the survey week.

For comparability with the official rate, the EIR rates are calculated on the same base figure, the BLS defined *civilian labor force*. This figure comprises all civilians classified as either *employed* or *unemployed*. For a number of reasons the *civilian labor force* can be considered as a bloated figure. Its use as the divisor in unemployment rate calculations thus further masks the depth of the unemployment problem. Large segments of the population, who might not under healthy economic conditions be forced to seek work, have become a part of the *civilian labor force* over the past 25 years of "post-industrial society" economy. This includes young mothers, the elderly, and many college students.

Farmers jailed in Nebraska

Farm Credit district commits fraud; a halt in foreclosures pending an investigation of government abuse is needed.

On June 4, Alliance, Nebraska farmers Joe and Margaret Nelson were arrested by the county sheriff, evicted from their ranch, and incarcerated for 30 days without bail. They were charged with contempt of court for refusing to comply with a judicial order issued on behalf of their creditors which demanded, among other things, that they vacate their property and turn it over to court-appointed receivers.

The Nelsons have waged a 10-year battle in the courts and before congressional committees to save their farming operation from speculators who have destroyed hundreds of thousands of family farmers. They became victims of the speculative lending practices that have dominated agriculture since the early 1970s. These practices have been documented in the Goodloe Report (see *EIR*, Jan. 8, "U.S. Family Farmers Tell Story of Usury and Human Rights Violations") and are the basis for demands for government action to halt foreclosures pending an investigation. Like hundreds of other farmers, they were defrauded by the Production Credit Association of the Midlands (PCAM), a branch of the Omaha-based Farm Credit System (FCS).

In their case, the fraud occurred in collusion with the Travelers Life Insurance Co. In 1983, PCAM demanded that they pay down a portion of their outstanding loan by obtaining outside financing. They mortgaged their ranch to Travelers and developed a plan with the University of Nebraska, which was supported by both Travelers and PCAM, which affirmed that they would finance the Nelson ranch for at least three more years,

helping them to fill their pastures with cattle so they could remain solvent. However, when the first payment to Travelers came due, PCAM reneged on their agreement, plunging the Nelsons into bankruptcy and effectively allowing Travelers to steal their ranch at one-third its value.

The Nelsons filed suit against PCAM for fraud and breach of contract. In 1989, they won a \$1.2 million jury verdict against those two entities. Three months later the judge, in an unprecedented action, overturned the jury verdict.

PCAM was earlier caught in a fraud scheme and forced to repay \$4.2 million to the government in March 1992 because employees, at the direction of district officers, were making false applications to the federal government for Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) loan guarantees which resulted in the liquidation of many farmers.

The Nelsons sought protection from their creditors by filing bankruptcy. However, the court lifted the stays on the creditors. Receivers were appointed who demanded eviction.

Over 1,100 of Nebraska's 55,000 farmers have applied for Chapter 12 bankruptcy protection since the government passed an enabling act in 1987. This is the largest number of any state. Many, like the Nelsons, were successful operators who had run family cattle-feeding operations for generations. The past decades' economic policy commitment to "free trade" has favored speculators and resulted in increasing U.S. reliance on meat imported from Mexico and other malnourished countries, and the pre-

dominance of cartel-owned feedlots over family farming.

When a group of legislators in Nebraska tried, in 1986, to pass a bill protecting the homestead of the farmer in the event of foreclosure or bankruptcy, three insurance companies, including Travelers, led a fight against it, and began using new lending instruments ("deeds of trust") which were not covered under the protection. Hence, farmers like the Nelsons, who are in their late fifties can be put out of their homes.

The Farm Credit System is a government-chartered system of farm credit banks mandated to provide credit to agriculture. They are owned by their farmer members, and are self-regulated; that is, regulated by a government-appointed executive committee and board which has close ties to the Federal Reserve System. Their securities, which are sold on the financial markets, enjoy the implicit backing of the federal government. However, real oversight of the system was removed in the early 1970s, and their lending policies have been dictated by the needs of the Wall Street and international speculators who purchase their securities. The cost to the economy of their speculation, in terms of family farm loss, has been devastating. During 1984-88, over 300,000 farmer borrowers from the Federal Land Bank, an entity of the FCS, were liquidated.

The Nelsons calculate that they owe PCAM today more than double their original loan. Interest rates during the 1980s were 12 to 20%. Having liquidated many of their family farmer borrowers, the FCS has reduced its overall volume of lending. They now favor larger loans to larger corporate entities, including corporate farms and cooperatives. This type of lending is more profitable to speculators in the short term because such operations loot labor and the land.

Rural Producers Forum expands

Farmers' protest movement grows in Mexico as economic conditions continue to deteriorate.

As part of the national mobilization launched by the Permanent Forum of Rural Producers (FPPR), a new state chapter was established on May 27 in Mexicali, Baja California Norte. The FPPR was founded in April in Ciudad Obregón, Sonora, at a meeting attended by rural producers from numerous Mexican states, to demand relief from a rapidly worsening agricultural crisis, and enactment of emergency measures that would turn unpayable debt into credit for recapitalizing the bankrupt sector.

The Mexicali meeting was attended by the national coordinators of this new movement: José Ramírez of Jalisco, Adalberto Rosas and José Mendivil of Sonora, and Alberto Vizcarra, national leader of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA).

The Baja California Norte founding meeting was held at the Michoacán de Ocampo collective farm, or *ejido*. The 180 collective farmers who attended are in desperate straits, given that their 11,000 plots are about to be seized by the Rural Credit Bank (Banrural) of the federal government, and by commercial bank creditors, because of inability to meet payments. Also present at the founding meeting were three local congressmen, leaders of several peasant organizations, and an official representative of the state government.

This was the FPPR's first meeting in a state ruled by the National Action Party (PAN), and where the ruling PRI party has been defeated both in the state congress and in a majority of

municipalities as well. However, the population is aware that this new political situation has not brought them any closer to resolving problems which for them are matters of life and death.

Despite the popular image of the Mexican collective farmer being "protected" by the federal government, the truth is that the *ejidatario* has historically been cornered by bureaucracy, corruption, and political manipulation, preventing the development of his individual initiative and keeping him in backwardness. Now, these same farmers, many of them elderly and with most of their children emigrated or illegally in the United States, find themselves in a situation in which they are being asked to comprehend how it is that for every 80 pesos they owed Banrural, they have paid 60, and still owe 120.

In the face of the desperation expressed by many farmers attending (including a few who walked out of the meeting to protest that the forum had no "magic formula"), the FPPR coordinators explained that the issue goes beyond the question of personal problems. Jalisco coordinator José Ramírez presented a working report on how to organize a nationwide movement to impose a new economic policy against usury. Sonora's Alberto Vizcarra argued the need to organize simultaneously in different parts of the country around the FPPR's proposed declaration of voluntary bankruptcy.

Adalberto Rosas, an FPPR founder and also a presidential candidate from the PAN party, told the farmers:

"I am a grower, and all my life I have lived from this activity." He explained how he had come to understand the urgency of forming a new movement, given the total disrepute into which the traditional agro-business leaders have fallen. "The business leaders privately agree with our proposals, but they have not yet gone public with their support, either because their boss won't let them speak, or because they lack the courage."

What began virtually as an informal gathering of collective farmers concluded with 60 of the growers present signing the FPPR's national declaration. In addition, several state coordinators of the movement were named. Eduardo Andrade Cisneros, leader of the Regional Committees of the CNC of Baja California (CNC is the largest farmers organization in the country), told the Mexicali Forum attendees that the FPPR's fight "is a relevant response" and that he intended to support it. He added, however, that the CNC did not agree that "the problem of the debt should be placed in the hands of the courts. . . . The federal government, the cause of these problems, should totally forgive the agricultural debt, which is unpayable, and whose generation is neither the financial nor administrative responsibility of the producers."

For more than three days, the print media, radio, and television were "taken over" by the statements of the FPPR. Some local headlines read: "Agro should be helped for national security reasons; when we stop producing, we will end up in the hands of the gringos," and "The government should recognize its error and change course." The radio, in particular, led its news reports for two consecutive days with coverage of the FPPR event, and invited the FPPR coordinators to man an open microphone on several talk shows.

Business Briefs

Infrastructure

China sorely needs flood control projects

China's flood control official warned that the country's inadequate flood control defenses and record-high summer floods could lead to devastating losses, a government newspaper reported on June 1.

"China is facing a grim situation in the coming flood season beginning next month, as major problems in the country's flood control system remain unsolved. . . . Many people are not aware of the flood danger because catastrophic flooding has not been seen along four of China's longest rivers for over 40 years," State Flood Control headquarters chief Chen Junsheng said at a flood control conference.

Chen pointed to a dangerous combination of insufficient flood walls, inexperienced provincial leaders, and heavy 60-year floods, and warned that the neglect could inflict heavy losses on the country. In 1991, heavy flooding across China killed more than 2,000 people, ruined 51 million acres of farmland, and left millions homeless.

Biological Holocaust

New, virulent form of cholera spreads in Asia

A new virulent form of cholera is spreading in India and other Asian nations, the British newspaper *Independent on Sunday* reported on May 30. The World Health Organization has issued a warning throughout South Asia, where the disease has already killed 6,000 people. There is an "ominous possibility" that over the next three years the new strain could spread to Africa, the Mideast, and southern Europe, the WHO said. Since late last year, the disease has already spread to Nepal, and a few cases have been detected in Malaysia and Japan. Experts fear the biggest cholera epidemic of the century, according to German press reports.

The new strain, *Vibrio cholerae* 0139, known as "Bengal cholera," was first discovered by Calcutta toxicologist Dr. Balkrish Nair

in Madras last November. It is "extremely toxic, hardier than all other cholera bacteria, and it spreads very rapidly. The chances of those characteristics coming together in one kind of cholera organism were probably a trillion to one, but it has happened," he said.

Calcutta's Infectious Disease Hospital has treated more than 22,000 cholera victims in May alone. At the peak of that epidemic, the hospital admitted 500 people on just one day for treatment. In West Bengal, it has already killed about 3,000 people, according to one unofficial report, and many more have died in neighboring Bangladesh.

Cholera is rarely fatal if treated immediately by the massive re-hydration of the victim, but when a disease breaks out on such a scale, many will not get treatment fast enough. Children especially die very quickly from cholera. In addition, a vaccine developed for the older strain of cholera, which was only 58% effective, has no effect against the new strain. Indian physicians have been documenting cholera epidemics originating in the Ganges Delta since the 4th century, and six epidemics this century which have spread as far as Europe and Ibero-America, as in 1991, have begun there.

Investment

Kazakhstan seeks more contact with Thailand

Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev has proposed visiting Thailand during the late summer, the *Bangkok Post* reported on May 27. Nazarbayev made the proposal to Kasit Piromya, Thai ambassador to Russia and Kazakhstan, in Alma Ata early in May.

Officials of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, interested both in buying oil and gas from the states of the former Soviet Union and in evaluating the potential of Thai investment in the region, accompanied Kasit to Alma Ata.

Nazarbayev had been "frustrated lately by the failure of western countries and Japan to implement promises of assistance for Kazakhstan's balance-of-payments problems and investment requirements," the *Washington Post* reported, citing sources close to the President. It was fear of alienating foreign investment that

led Nazarbayev to agree to grant Chevron production rights for oil fields in western Kazakhstan.

Economic Policy

Israeli central bank foresees slower growth

Israel's central bank, warning of slower economic growth and rising unemployment, urged the government on May 31 to speed up reforms and sell state-owned companies. The recommendations will, however, exacerbate the shut down of the physical economy.

Former World Bank official and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, presenting the central bank's 1992 report to the press, said reforms to boost exports and investment were vital to maintain growth next year. The 350-page report highlighted rising unemployment as the main economic problem for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's 11-month-old government, whose election promises included opening up the state-dominated economy and creating jobs.

The previous week, the government sold 20% of its shares in Bank Hapoalim, the country's largest bank, which was the first step in privatizing many of Israel's biggest firms. "It would have been desirable to increase the sale of ownership of government companies and privatize functions of the public sector," the report said.

Germany

Economy shrinks by 3% in one year

The federal statistics office announced in early June that the economy of western Germany shrank by more than 3% compared with one year ago. Economics Minister Günter Rexrodt said that the figures confirmed that the recession could develop into the worst slump in three decades.

This is the sharpest decline in GNP since

Briefly

1968, when quarterly data were first published. The data also showed a sharp decrease in exports of 5.4% from a year earlier, and a 6.3% fall in imports, Reuters reported on June 4. Rexrodt also warned that western Germany's weakness could dampen prospects of pulling eastern Germany's ravaged economy out of the ruins of communism.

Stefan Schneider, chief economist for Nomura Research Deutschland, warned that any new increase in government spending could prompt a renewed rise in long-term interest rates and throw the economy back into decline. "There may now be voices in Bonn calling for some kind of fiscal stimulus package, but if this means higher deficits it would have exactly the opposite effect," he said.

The June 6 London *Sunday Times* quoted President Richard von Weizsäcker saying that "industry and the economy are stuck in a cost and innovation crisis, labor in an unemployment crisis, the political class in a credibility crisis, and society in an orientation crisis."

Analysts are predicting a further 2% collapse in the economy over the next year. Unemployment is up 21.5% over a year ago, while taxes are rising fast. Over 500,000 manufacturing jobs have been cut in just over a year. The *Sunday Times* quoted one economic analyst saying, "Germany has been an over-industrialized country. We have to de-industrialize it."

'Technological Apartheid'

Indonesia industrial program under attack

Indonesia's high-tech industrial program has come under attack by the World Bank. In a draft report, the bank said that Jakarta would do better to concentrate on broad-based economic development to generate jobs. According to Reuters on June 5, the report says: "Policies centered on 'technological leap-frogging' strategy, involving the development of high-tech industries supported by direct public investment or subsidies and high levels of protection are ill-advised."

Indonesian Planning Minister Ginanjar Kartasmita said that the World Bank sug-

gests that the correct technology for Indonesia is such industries as textiles and shoes, which make use of cheap labor. "But we don't want to depend on shoes for a living!" he said.

Indonesia is being criticized for going ahead with projects such as a state-run plane factory and shipyard. Ginanjar added: "This is a big country consisting of many islands. The transport issue is important for the development of this nation. We have a strategy that we should not depend on other countries for transport" equipment.

Health

Navajos stricken by mystery illness

Navajo Indians in New Mexico and Arizona are being stricken with what is being called "Unexplained Respiratory Distress System" (URDS) by medical investigators. Preliminary findings indicate that the disease is a virus carried by rodents that is spread to humans through feces and urine. A mild and wet winter in the desert area has favored an explosion in the rodent population this spring.

The story is receiving major news coverage, including in Europe. The headline of the coverage of the outbreak by the June 2 London *Independent* was entitled "Navajos Fall Prey to Mystery Illness." The story has also been featured in France's *Libération* and Italy's *Corriere della Sera*.

The *Independent* reported: "Doctors in northern New Mexico and Arizona are struggling to diagnose a mystery illness that has led to the sudden deaths of 11 people, all of them young and most of them Navajo Indians. Medical researchers admit to being baffled by the ailment, which causes its victims at first to suffer flu-like symptoms, including high temperature and aching limbs. It quickly worsens, however, and within hours can lead to an accumulation of liquid in the lungs and death, effectively by drowning. Two hundred doctors and researchers are trying to identify the cause of the illness . . . at hospitals in the region as well as in Washington, D.C. and at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia."

● **ROMANIA** has a rate of AIDS infection which is close to African rates, Public Health Minister Julian Mincu said June 1. About 10% of Romanians are infected with AIDS, but since there is limited testing capacity, the rate may be higher, Mincu hinted. The news comes as statistics show that industrial output dropped by almost 60% in the past two years.

● **CUBA** has been hit by an unknown viral epidemic called "optical neuritis," which has affected 23,000, the Cuban press agency reported April 30. The virus hits the nervous system, first causing the loss of the capacity to distinguish colors, then disturbing motor activity.

● **CHINA** posted a trade deficit in the first quarter of 1993 for the first time in four years, the June 6 London *Sunday Times* reported. The deficit is reported at \$1.7 billion, but another \$5 billion of foreign goods is believed smuggled in each year. The official *China Daily* also reported that flight capital soared by two-thirds last year to \$30.5 billion.

● **LOCKHEED** announced plans to eliminate 400 jobs at its Lockheed Advanced Development Co., the so-called "Skunk Works" where such legendary aircraft as the U-2, the SR-71 Blackbird, and the F-117A "stealth" fighter were secretly developed, the June 1 *Wall Street Journal* reported. The layoffs are about 9% of the 4,432-man work force.

● **NORINCO**, the China North Industries Group, China's biggest arms manufacturer, is seeking \$300 million in foreign investment to move into machinery and car production in the civilian market, the official *China Daily* said on May 30.

● **TAIWAN** is considering financial incentives to expand its export processing zones, the government's Export Processing Zone Administration said on June 2. The package may include the lifting of remaining restrictions on imports into the zones, Reuters reported.

Space age farm technology can feed the world

by Marcia Merry

Last winter there opened a new gallery at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., titled "Where Next, Columbus?" devoted to scientific questions of voyages of discovery. Planned to run for the next five years, the exhibit features a "salad machine" of live, growing lettuce, to illustrate the challenge of how scientists are working on self-contained systems that will recycle wastes and nutrients, and provide the means to generate the necessities and amenities of life under harsh conditions of prolonged life in space. The "salad machine" lettuce grows hydroponically—in a nutrient water solution, for eight weeks, and looks delicious.

This Washington exhibit dramatizes the fact that in recent years, advances have been made in the techniques of controlled environment agriculture, or what is called "protected agriculture" of all types, to the extent that there is next to no place on Earth that food production could not take place, as long as the infrastructure were provided to meet the agricultural needs.

Over the last 30 years, all kinds of systems have been devised for cultivating plant growth, ranging from water solutions (usually referred to as hydroponics), to aeroponics (involving sprays and mists of nutrients applied to the plants), to nutrient film technique (NFT), to simple outdoor soil warming and pinpoint irrigation, plus many variations on these methods. In one experiment now under way in Arizona, the root balls of tomato plants are growing inside balloons, so that the roots define their own minimal space (see accompanying interview).

The requirements for inputs of energy, temperature, light, nutrients, structural support, etc., may be exacting, plus only a select few plant cultivars may be suitable (such as dwarf grains), but the yields are vastly higher than from common, open field agriculture. Because of this, "protected agriculture" (greenhouses, hydroponics, specialized irrigation), which require sizable start-up capitalization, may appear to cost more, but often these systems are in reality cheaper than lower-yield open field production, or long-haul "free trade" imports from afar. This may



Visitors and reporters crowd into a pavilion at Epcot Center, at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, on Oct. 2, 1987, for the dedication of the permanent exhibit featuring NASA research on food supplies for extended manned space flights. Crops are grown with hydroponics, nutrient film techniques, and other systems that could provide fresh vegetables for astronauts on future space missions.

go against common opinion, but it is demonstrable fact.

The two opposite poles of agricultural production techniques are customarily called controlled environment agriculture (CEA) and open field agriculture (OFA.)

NASA's Biomass Production Chamber

While all over the world there are certain research centers, scientists, and farmers whose efforts are focused on advanced agriculture systems, some of the most dramatic work today takes place in Florida at the John F. Kennedy Space Center, where the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) operates a facility for experiments in remote-controlled agriculture. The unit, shown in several photographs on the next page, is called the Biomass Production Chamber, in Hangar L on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

The Biomass Production Chamber is a key element of the Controlled Ecological Life Support System program (CELSS). In this NASA effort, researchers are developing the requirements for a regenerative life support system capable of sustaining long-term human stay in space. The challenges involve not only growing food, but also generating oxygen and recycling waste produced to fertilize the plants.

Since the inception of the CELSS Biomass Chamber in Florida, several experimental crops have been grown, including wheat, soybeans, potatoes, and lettuce. On Jan. 4, 1989, a harvest of dwarf wheat marked the successful conclusion of the first "sealed environment" experiments in which scientists attempted to grow food crops using remote control de-

vices and computer monitoring.

Subsequent experiments are looking at continuous wheat production, where plants of various ages are growing simultaneously in a single recirculating nutrient solution. In 1991, a study was conducted where trays of wheat (0.24 square meters per tray) at different stages, were grown simultaneously in the growth chamber. The study was conducted for 216 days, during which time 24 trays of wheat were consecutively planted (one every 9 days), 16 of which were grown to maturity and harvested. The remaining 8 trays were harvested on day 216.

Grain yields in this experiment averaged 520 grams per square meter, and had an average edible biomass of 32%. It was concluded that continual wheat production will work in this system over an extended period of time. What remains to be solved is how to avoid certain micronutrient deficiencies and toxicities.

An intriguing problem for plants in space is, which way is "down"? In 1989, corn plants circled the Earth for five days on the Atlantis Space Shuttle. On board the craft were 104 corn seeds, placed in aluminum canisters, which allowed air to enter, but admitted no light, so that the factor of gravity could be isolated for study. Simultaneous with the flight, 104 matching corn seeds were grown on Earth for comparison.

The scientists then analyzed specific growth hormones which they selected for comparison because they were known to be sensitive indicators of the plants' physiological status. They found that the hormones in the space-grown plants were



Trays of wheat, growing at different stages, in a plant growth experiment conducted by researchers at the Controlled Ecological Life Support System project at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida. Shown here are wheat plants grown hydroponically, at 6 days and 13 days of growth.

no different from those in control plants grown on Earth over the same time period. However, instead of growing straight “up,” the corn seeds in space grew sideways.

Botanist Robert S. Burdanski, from Michigan State University, who designed the Atlantis corn experiment, observed, “Although the plants were physiologically the same, they looked quite different. The roots didn’t know how to grow down, and the shoots tied themselves into knots because they didn’t know where to go.”

However, scientists foresee solving the problem by providing light to the plants to induce phototropism—growth oriented to the source of light—in the absence of geotropism, where growth is oriented by gravity.

One of the most recent successful experiments at the Kennedy Center CELSS Biomass Chamber is the production of potatoes. On Oct. 28, 1992, the third harvest of potatoes took place from an ongoing study. An abundant yield of 450 pounds of spuds came from hydroponic culture. The photograph on our cover shows the event, with NASA scientist Dr. Ray Wheeler (left) and Dr. Gary Stutte, a plant physiologist with NASA contractor Bionetics Corp. The researchers proceeded to analyze the nutritional value of the potatoes.

Once all the inputs required for plant growth (nutrients, water, temperatures, light) are supplied in the most optimal way known to researchers, how much light the plants can successfully absorb with which to conduct photosynthesis is

a key determinant of high yields. In one study, wheat in a controlled environment showed average photosynthetic photon flux absorption of 90% during its life cycle, whereas a high-density field crop of corn showed only 50%.

Increase Earth’s yields and productive area

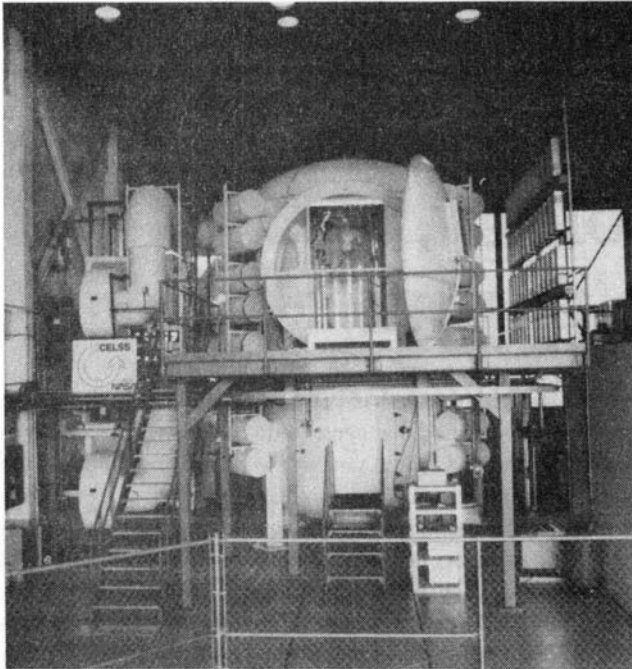
The results of some of the recent work on space farming can be enjoyed at an exhibit called the Land Pavilion, at Epcot Center in Orlando, Florida, which opened at Disney World in 1987.

Hydroponic fruits and vegetables are readily available commercially in Japan, and at some large-scale production locations in Europe, the United States, and elsewhere. In the best stores, you can “pick your own,” without going outside, all year round.

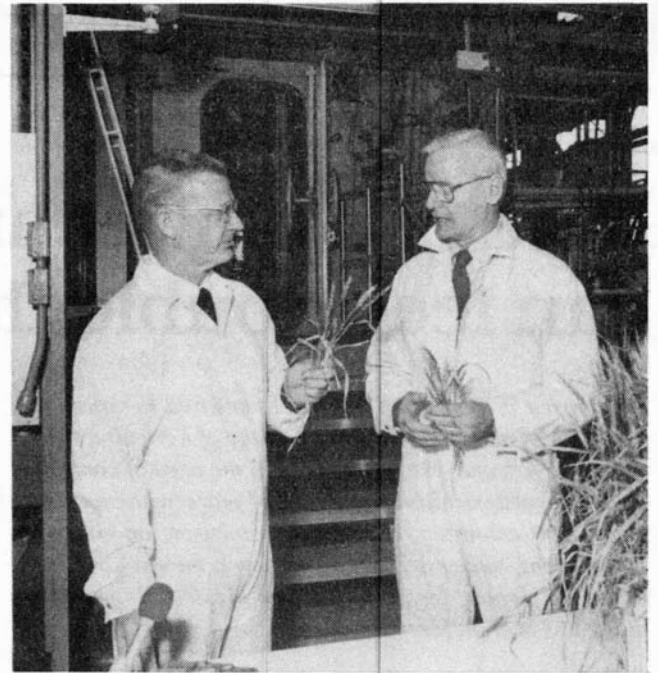
In addition, there is a thriving trade in CEA “kits” and apparatuses for the home gardener, or the enterprising individual trying to serve commercial or institutional needs. There are grow lamps, chambers, nutrient solution plumbing, and all manner of structural media for root support—such as rock wool, styrofoam, and baked clay granules.

In Mexico, the abundant volcanic rock has proved to be the perfect aggregate for supporting plants in successful hydroponic projects in Jalisco.

However, apart from these select few locations and initiatives, the widespread research and development and applica-



The Biomass Production Center of NASA's Controlled Ecological Life Support System (CELSS), at the John F. Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. In this module, plant scientists are experimenting on how to grow food under conditions feasible for supporting longterm human stay in space.



Kennedy Space Center Director Forrest S. McCartney (left) and Dr. Paul Buchanan, director of the KSC Biomedical Operations and Research Office, display dwarf wheat grown in the NASA Biomass Production Chamber. In these "sealed environment" experiments, scientists grew food using remote control devices and computer monitoring.

tion of the benefits of controlled environment agriculture have been held back for at least 30 years from places where this technology is most needed. Needless food shortages have been allowed to occur.

Consider briefly the overall world picture of agriculture land use and how little land has undergone infrastructure improvements to accommodate any form of "protected" cultivation, even timely water applications. Total estimated arable land worldwide was roughly calculated to be about 1.47 billion hectares in the mid-1980s, with about 1.38 billion hectares of that total under cultivation. Of the latter area, only about 219.7 million hectares was irrigated (16%). If irrigation had been extended to more of the world's existing arable cropland base in recent decades, then global food harvests would have increased, not stagnated and declined as they have done in recent years.

Beyond that, if other forms of controlled environment agriculture had been implemented, the Earth would be blessed with plentiful foods in all areas and for all cuisines.

In the United States, even the area under greenhouses used for food crop production (with or without hydroponics) has hardly grown. It was an estimated 233 hectares nationwide in 1973, and up to only 253 hectares in 1982.

One reflection of the lack of implementation of CEA is the demise of the Society of Soilless Agriculture and its *Journal*, which operated out of the Netherlands in the 1970s,

but folded in the mid-1980s. The *Journal* had served as a much-needed international forum for the exchange of ideas about how to conduct protected agriculture systems in regions of adverse climate. Among the reports found in its pages were those about experiments such as how to hydroponically produce sheep fodder in arid South Africa.

By the 1990s, opposition to widespread CEA applications was coming from the quarter of the free-trade advocates. In 1992 in the United States, a 450-page report was issued by the Office of Technology Assessment to the 102nd Congress, titled *A New Technological Era for American Agriculture*. There is no mention in this study of the benefits of the spectrum of irrigated farming through to high-tech CEA. When, at the Capitol Hill press conference releasing the book, this author asked the spokesmen for the report why this was lacking, the reply was that food yield gains from irrigated and CEA farming were shown "as of the 1970s to be cost-ineffective." Instead, the report states that new "wonder foods" from genetic engineering are to be the focus of U.S. agriculture, in order to further competitiveness under the free-trade dogma.

In an upcoming *EIR* infrastructure study, we shall have more to say in refuting this free-trade myth. In this issue, we feature the views of one of the pioneers in the research and development of many forms of controlled environment agriculture, Dr. Merle H. Jensen.

If we use our technology, we can feed double the population

Dr. Jensen is Assistant Dean for Sponsored Research and professor of plant science at the College of Agriculture, University of Arizona. He has worked in the area of controlled environment agriculture for almost 30 years, with experience in over 60 countries. He serves as adviser, on either the government, university, or private level, on work in China, Malaysia, Japan, Egypt, Israel, and Mexico. He was interviewed by Marcia Merry on May 25.

EIR: What's generally called hydroponics or controlled environment agriculture (CEA) has very high-yield factors compared to conventional farming. What do you say to refute the doomsayers who today assert that we have reached the end of the line in terms of agriculture productivity gains, and that the world is overpopulated?

Jensen: I think that, first of all, we are probably only using one-fourth or one-third of the technology that has been developed through research in recent years. If we were just to use all that we had available in technology, we could probably feed double the world population. So it's a matter not so much of having enough information, but of using what we have. And one of those technologies, of course, is controlled environment agriculture. The whole issue of hydroponics comes to mind.

I want to discuss a definition of hydroponics, because I think that it's important that we start with a base that we fully understand. I'm going to read a definition that I've just put into a book for the World Bank: "Hydroponics is a technology for growing plants in a nutrient solution (water and fertilizers) with or without the use of an artificial medium (such as sand, gravel, vermiculite, rock wool, peat moss, sawdust, and so on) to provide mechanical support. Liquid hydroponics systems have no other supporting medium for the plant roots, while the aggregate systems have a solid medium of support."

So that is hydroponics, and that is what I'll be talking to.

Now the yields with hydroponics systems have far exceeded open field production. I have some comparative differences that we have measured in the deserts of Arizona and Arabia.

Hydroponic systems are almost always associated with greenhouses, where you have some control over the environ-

ment. Greenhouses are basically any means of extending the growing season, and that can extend the growing season into the winter months, when you would be heating, and into the summer months, when you would be cooling. Greenhouses basically are a framed or inflated structure covered by a transparent or translucent material that permits optimum light transmission for plant production and protects against adverse climate. Such a structure enables a person to walk inside, and may include mechanical equipment for heating and cooling.

Normally, hydroponics systems will be in a greenhouse structure. With greenhouse production, or controlled environment agriculture, or hydroponic CEA, you can have continuous cropping because of modification of the environment; whereas in open field agriculture, in most cases, you only have one crop per season.

I am going to talk in tons per hectare (see **Table 1**).

In the case of tomatoes, with the most recent technologies, we are getting 500 tons per hectare per year with one crop. We don't take one crop out and replant, and wait for that crop to come into production. We just keep lowering that plant so it keeps producing. That plant gets like a Jack-in-the-Beanstalk kind of thing. It just keeps growing, and we keep pruning off the lower leaves, and dropping that plant in the row, and when we get to the end of the row, we just swing it around and bring it the other way. That plant will get to be 35-40 feet long. We just lay it right down in the row. You take all the leaves off the stems, so you have all these stems lying down in the row, and when we get to the end of the row, we just turn it around and bring it down. We have a double row per bed, and we just bring it down the other row. Quite incredible, actually.

You can imagine what we can do with greenhouses. And there are countries that are taking advantage of this.

EIR: What is going on in China now?

Jensen: When China decides to do something, whether it is the Red Guards and the Cultural Revolution, or whether it is agriculture, it completely sweeps the country. So once they find something, it is put into trial and they test it, and if it works, it goes. I'll give you a great example of that.

In the mid-1970s, they started doing work in just putting

TABLE 1

Yields of vegetable crops are higher under hydroponic cultivation than in open fields

Crop	Hydroponic greenhouse		Open field	
	Yield/crop (MT/ha)	No. crops/year	Total yield (MT/ha/year)	Total yield (MT/ha/year)
Broccoli	32.5	3	97.5	10.5
Bushbeans	11.5	4	46.0	6.0
Cabbage	57.5	3	172.5	30.0
Chinese cabbage	50.0	4	200.0	—
Cucumber	250.0	3	750.0	30.0
Eggplant	28.0	2	56.0	20.0
Lettuce	31.3	10	313.0	52.0
Pepper	32.0	3	96.0	16.0
Tomato	187.5	2	375.0	100.0
New experiment tomato—1 continuous crop			500.0	100.0

Source: Dr. Merle Jensen; and J.E. Knott, *Handbook for Vegetable Growers* (New York: Wiley, 1966).

plastic on the ground. We in the United States were the early researchers on that; we found that putting plastic on the ground warms the soil, and many plants will respond to that. So China discovered that. And in 1979, they had 44 hectares. Ten years later, they had 2.867 million hectares, all over the country. In southern China, they extend the season in the winter, because in the Hong Kong area it gets quite cool for some crops like cucumbers, melons, and so forth; these crops really respond to soil warming. And it is used all the way up to Xinjiang province up by Mongolia. All the cotton up there is planted through plastic. You see plastic everywhere. In fact they grow peanuts on plastic mulch as far north as Beijing. That latitude is pretty close to New York [40°N].

That is quite remarkable. That is what China will do in regard to producing enough food to support its massive population.

EIR: What about water shortages in China?

Jensen: The water shortage is severe. What happens is that when you start covering surfaces with plastic, you prevent transpiration of water out of the ground. They are now starting to look at drip irrigation technologies.

What they do is quite clever with cotton. They will plant the bed, but on top of the bed, they will lay a plastic cover. It might be only 18 inches wide. In the middle of that bed, they will have a slight indentation, like a furrow. So that plastic is lying on the bed, over this furrow, and they will run water down this furrow, on top of the plastic. They poke

TABLE 2

Ratio of yield to water use is greater for drip than furrow irrigation

	Irrigation method	
	Furrow	Drip
Watermelon	20-25 tons per acre	25-35 tons per acre
Sorghum	4,600 pounds per acre	8,500 pounds per acre

Source: Dr. Merle Jensen

holes in the plastic every 6 to 18 inches or so. The water seeps through the little hole, kind of like drip irrigation. Once it goes through the hole under the plastic, it doesn't evaporate out. So the only water used is that water which is used by the plant, and they are very careful to only put so much on, so that you wet the root zone, and not anything beyond that.

Those are the technologies that they are starting to use that will enable them to extend agriculture.

In using drip irrigation, you can irrigate *twice* the area than with conventional irrigation systems, because of the efficient use of water. By the time you have the efficient use of water—and you can put the fertilizer in the water, call it fertigation—you can do a number of things using water as the vehicle to get whatever chemical you might want on, by getting greater yields, and getting greater efficiency with the water, you probably would get [large factors of increased output.] The yields are quite outstanding.

We're getting three times the production from an inch of water than we would just with normal furrow irrigation. We are tripling production. For example, one acre-inch of water will produce 20 pounds of cotton with furrow irrigation, but it will produce 59 pounds of cotton with drip irrigation. The differences are dramatic with many other crops (Table 2).

That threefold increase is due to two things. One, you are using less water, and two, you are getting increased yield. You cut the water in half and that right away gives you double the amount of yield with the same amount of water. Then you get yield increases from factors including getting the fertilizer right to the root system, driving the salts away from the roots when you have drip irrigation, and so forth. Furrow irrigation drives the salts into the roots.

EIR: What is the method of using plastic film?

Jensen: They use a very thin, thin plastic, which is broken down by the light. It pretty much pulverizes and goes into the soil. But that doesn't say that that always works really well, because that plastic that's buried into the soil will not decompose, because it doesn't have the light. The plastic is photo-degradable. So what happens is that many times they will pull the plastic out of the field. And you can see literally mountains of plastic. That's a problem, to end up with all

this waste plastic.

So they are taking that plastic and making it into furniture. They clean it, break it up, and put it back into usable plastic for other things like furniture, baseball bats for kids, toys, and things like that.

EIR: Plastic has been a mini-revolution?

Jensen: Plastics is a dirty word. I was going to term a book I have written *Plasticulture* [because of the importance of plastics in agriculture], but I didn't do that. I called it *Protected Agriculture*. But plastic has really revolutionized agriculture, because with plastic pipe, you don't have the corrosion problems. And you can go right to the field with some plastic pipe and some glue, and you're in business, warming the soils and protecting crops and so forth. In a lot of countries like India, for example, we had the Green Revolution, with the miracle wheat and rice developed by the Rockefeller Foundation. They say the next revolution will be plasticulture. It absolutely made a difference. And I am quite positive that China today is self-sufficient in food production by what it has been able to do with plasticulture.

EIR: What about gross amounts of land that could be added to cultivated area in China?

Jensen: [It can be done] if you use these water-conserving technologies. But at the same time, there are other technologies that we are using, such as water harvesting.

EIR: What about the other technologies, including the most energy-intensive controlled environments near urban areas?

Jensen: In urban areas, it would be getting people more cognizant and aware of home gardening. At the same time, there is recycling of water. Black water is sewage and grey water is, for example, showers and washing. If we just started using that kind of water and recycling it, using it for growing crops, letting the crops filter the nutrient that is in the water—that's the kind of thing we need to be turning to.

Also, for water efficiency purposes, the yield of edible product per unit volume of water to produce that product is far greater with greenhouse/hydroponics than with open field irrigated cultivation. **Table 3** shows the comparisons for three crops.

There are other ways of extending scarce resources of water, such as water harvesting.

Water harvesting is where you might treat the land with salt, or you might grade it, so that when the water runs off, you collect it. They pitch the land. Sometimes if the land is not heavy with clay, or maybe the water will go down through it easily, they will give it a slight treatment of salt. Salt doesn't flocculate; it doesn't puff up the soil, and it becomes well aerated. Salt actually causes soil to pack. So when it rains, the water just runs off, and it doesn't go down into the soil. Say you have a slight V. In the bottom of the V, you might have a row of grapes. The water comes down the slopes on both sides, and it runs down the grape row, and

TABLE 3

Less water is required under hydroponic cultivation than in open fields

Edible product (1 kilogram)	Hydroponic greenhouse (liters)	Open field (liters)
Cucumber	10	205
Lettuce	30	96
Tomato	13	123

Source: Dr. Merle Jensen

excess goes into a pond. Then when you have a dry period, you just take the excess from the pond, and it goes through drip irrigation back to the plant row that is in the bottom of the V. It's pretty nifty.

These are ways of extending scarce resources of water.

EIR: What about fish culture below, and plants growing in the space above?

Jensen: We have done tons of that kind of work. This is another way to extend food production. Let's say you've got all this water going out to the fields through canals. Let's grow some fish in the canals. So while you have expended the energy to pump that water, you use that, and grow something in that water while it is on its way to the field. And then the waste of the fish—this great nitrogen, you can't talk about better organic farming—you take the waste and put it onto the plant, and then the plant cleans that waste out of that water, so the plant becomes a living filter.

“Look out environmentalist! We've got a system here that's really sound! I call it double harvest. We are doing two food crops with the same water and energy.

We're going with this “big time” now. We have remodeled our research programs to include this, and you're going to hear about it. We're doing tilapia and catfish. We're doing this in our canals, and it is really fantastic. We've got companies coming in and doing these kinds of systems now.

The farmer cannot afford the high cost of water today. But if he could share that cost with another kind of agriculture—with the fish farmer—now everyone wins. For the time being. Here we are going to grow all this protein, and really increase our food production, by coming in with an animal, like a fish, and then we go through drip irrigation.

EIR: Even hog farmers are using fish production to utilize wastes.

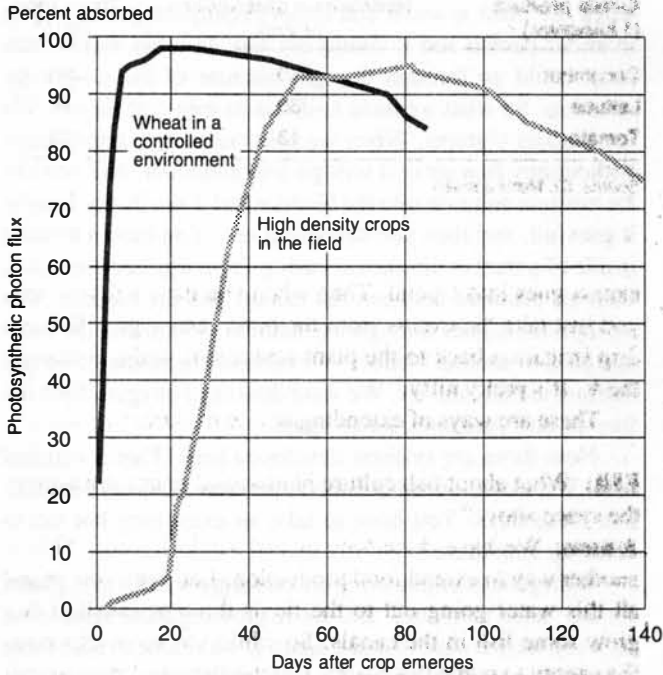
Jensen: You get the droppings and the waste and there is a lot of protein that has not been used in the waste of animals.

EIR: So if you project food output from a surface area, it is deceptive, because the surface can extend up or down.

Jensen: Down with fish. Up with growing crops in green-

FIGURE 1

Controlled environment crops can absorb more light



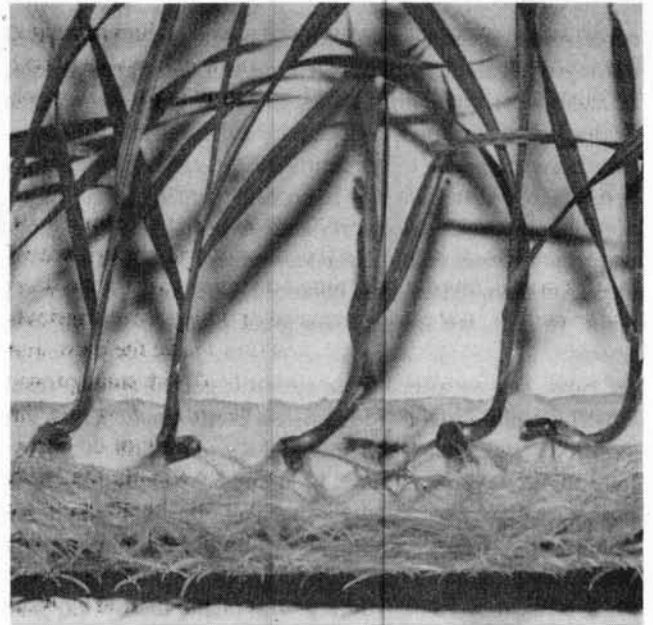
Source: B. Bugbee and O. Monje, "The Limits of Crop Productivity," *BioScience*, July-August, 1992.

Studies have shown that the average photosynthetic photon flux absorption over the life cycle of wheat, grown in a controlled environment, was 90%, in contrast to approximately 50% for a field crop of corn used for comparison. The crops compared were both high-density canopy crops (leafy cover).

houses. You get the crop in the air. So you produce on a cubic volume basis rather than on a square foot basis.

EIR: What are the frontiers of agriculture for completely controlled environments—space travel and going to the Moon?

Jensen: We definitely will go to and take food to the Moon. Even though we could take dehydrated food, and even though we may have a "salad machine" there, there is something more important. It's called mental health. We know without a doubt, that if you bring some kind of biology with you that grows and responds to human care, it has a tremendous impact on the mental health of people. We've seen that in retirement homes, in mental health clinics. Duke University has come out with studies. We know for sure that in barren environments, having plants growing does a lot for mental health. We can just talk about downtown in the city. We can talk about the Antarctic. A friend of mine is growing plants at the Pole right now, and they are finding a sort of hope, and a tranquility that comes over people. They are happier and more productive. And the same thing will be true on the Moon. I'm quite sure we'll see that.



Cut-away view of one row of wheat plants growing under special nutrient film conditions, in an experiment on controlled environment food crop production by NASA researchers. The healthy root mass, growing without soil, is shown along the bottom.

EIR: What are the technical outer limits of what you think you can get to grow in very adverse environments, such as Antarctica or on the Moon? What are the most problematical or interesting plant growth factors to investigate? Water, nutrients, kinds and quantities of light, gravity? What about the experiments on past Shuttle flights that found seedlings did not know which way was "down"? What are the interesting challenges in biochemistry?

Jensen: The interesting challenges include the fact that we are going to have to recycle or regenerate everything. So every bit of waste water or human waste, we are going to have to recycle. How can we pull that nutrient from the waste, so that we can put the nutrient back on to the plant in the right proportion? Especially the minor elements, like the boron, zinc, manganese, molybdenum? Those are used in very small amounts. We call them microelements. How can we pull those out and put them back in the ratio where the plants respond best? That's going to be probably one of the number one challenges.

At the same time, we have to pull out any virus particle that might be in that waste, that might cause danger to human health.

Then there is the question of what we are going to do with the refuse that we don't eat? The perfect plant would be the plant that we can totally consume. Then we don't have to worry about decomposing it.

EIR: Lettuce? But you can't live on lettuce.

Jensen: You can't live on lettuce. I've tried eating lettuce

roots, because the wonderful thing is that hydroponics will allow you to get full recovery of the roots. But they are terrible, because there is a lot of salt in the roots. No matter how much Roquefort you put on it, it's not going to help. But we do know that those roots are 16% protein, and we can use that part as fish food. So that's the way to recycle there.

But then we have to worry about what's in the fish food, and what nutrient is left in the waste there. And we find that the waste from fish is quite balanced. It grows a pretty good plant. In fact, we have grown great plants totally on fish waste.

Now, can we afford those systems, getting protein from a fish? Getting protein from a fish is pretty efficient, but not as efficient as if you go directly to the grain itself.

I think sometimes that's probably why India has those kind of religious laws there—that you don't eat animals—because it is a very inefficient way to get protein. It's six times less efficient.

We're going to be working with plants that would give you the greatest "Harvest Index," meaning that most of it is edible. And what's left, you either compost it, or you ash it—with a muffle over, with high temperature. Then you pull apart the salts with maybe some electrophoresis technology. You migrate the salts through a gel, then slice up the gel, and say, "That's potassium, that's boron."

I don't know if NASA is doing that, but it is what we call separation technology. It's going to be a very big challenge to do that. We want to get as much punch for the dollar as possible to produce as much biomass that has a great Harvest Index in a very, very small area. That's going to be very important. So we will breed plants that will do that. At the same time, we will breed plants that will have a leaf in such a position that it will be the best photoreceptor.

You know that leaves grow up and roots grow down because of what we call geotropism—by gravity. What's going to happen with no gravity, is that we won't have that. What do we do? One thing we will do is we will make the leaves come up with light—phototropism. We think that has possibilities. What about the solutions? We are going to put them in a container and they are not going to get away.

I'm growing plants in rubber balloons. I have this huge plant that is growing out of a rubber balloon, that is no bigger than a half pint. I have a six-foot tomato plant. It is 80% edible. Why? Because I've kept the root system so small, when normally the root system is as big [as the plant.] I have great photos of humongous root systems that equal the size of the top. In fact, I have to give the root system a haircut every week.

But what I've done is say, what happens if you take that root system and you put it into a small container? We'll let the roots stretch the container, which they can do in the rubber balloon. And I have these little hoses hooked up to that container, and we flush it rapidly. And I grow a six- to seven-foot tomato plant, with 15 pounds of fruit on it, and

I'm growing it in less than a liter.

That's kind of like intravenous feeding. We've developed those systems.

What happens if you get air in that system? Your roots, when the plant is small and is developing, might be sitting in an air pocket and it would dry out. In other words, that plant could go through drought because of the no-gravity situation. So what we have to do, is to spin that air out. We use bladder systems. When we spin the air out, the solution without any free air in it will go into a bladder, and you run the nutrient solution into the bladder and it swells up. Finally it gets full, and then you squeeze it out. You have a bladder inside of a steel or aluminum casing. You squeeze it out now with air pressure between the casing and the bladder, like toothpaste. It goes through my balloon system and the roots and back to another bladder. We recheck the nutrient; we add nutrient to that, and air. We want dissolved oxygen. Spin the free air out. And back we go again.

Now those are systems developed here. That is original here. We're way ahead of our competition. It's very competitive these days. You have to take an extra long hot tub to come up with these.

With genetic engineering we could grow, let's say, plants for the "salad machine," and we're growing these salads, but let's say we want to make soup. It's a shame to take these beautiful vegetables and make soup out of them. So what I'll do is grow callus through tissue culture. I take a plant cell, and I put it onto a nutrient medium we call agar, or some kind of nutrient medium, and I proliferate that cell to produce massive amounts of cells, and I just make it into soup. And I can eat that.

You have growth regulators, hormones, and so forth. These will cause these cells to proliferate and grow. They just multiply like crazy. Normally what is done is to grind those cells up, to separate them, and then put chemicals in. That causes them to make roots and shoots. But we wouldn't do that. We would grow this callus material. We would provide nutrients to these cells and we would have great proliferation of callus. It would take a few months to get soup, depending on the species. Some grow very rapidly. We could have these callus machines where we produce our own soup.

We tried this with carrots, but they don't taste like carrots. But celery does. So we have to find the taste test to go along with the proliferation of these cells. We just grow the cells. We separate the cells from the agar. We throw in some chunks of cabbage and whatever, and you have yourself a nice gruel.

EIR: It's a revolution in cuisine.

Jensen: Exactly. But you have to have bulk; you have to have roughage. And we have that with salads, and so forth.

EIR: Free trade advocates oppose nations' rights to national

food production, utilizing their own resource base and technologies. The free traders rationalize that food should be produced where it is "competitive" and hauled long distances. What do you think about the question of the sovereignty, of the right to national food self-sufficiency?

Jensen: Food security is important. That's why the Norwegians subsidize their dairies—even though it is so inefficient. Why not? Japan produces rice. Rice is sort of the heartbeat of the Chinese tradition. But they also found out in the 1970s, when we had the energy crunch, that this other cereal called wheat, that had been forced upon them, though they liked it, but wheat coming in ships was curtailed because of the energy crisis. They were not getting the supplies that they had hoped for. That told them right there, that they had better be self-sufficient for their national interest. For that reason, I can agree with them.

We know that if you grow food outside, the [energy investment measured in] kilocalories (kcal) will be almost 4,000 per kilogram of fruit. But if you grow that in the conventional greenhouse, it's going to be 40,000 kcal per kilogram of fruit. Why? Because that heat and cooling take a lot of energy. So that's why we have spent so much time looking at putting blankets over the crop at night, to stop the heat from going out. The potential is that we can get that down to about 6,000 kcal per kilogram, versus 4,000 outside, through solar energy means, and alternative energy sources.

Here's the interesting thing. If I take that tomato and move it 2,000 kilometers by semi-truck, [it takes] 746 kcal per kilogram [to move it]. If I do that by railroad, it is 236 kcal per kilogram. And if I do it by airplane it is 4,500 kcal per kilogram to move it.

So you grow a tomato in a greenhouse—40,000 kcal. But I can truck it in from Mexico, for probably no more than 1,400 kcal. Look at the distance from the Mexican production areas to New York; I can grow it outside for very little kcal, and move it by truck.

That's why we have 50% of our produce in North America coming from Mexico. This is just looking at energy—not labor and the other inputs.

EIR: What if people want fresh, interesting food, locally and regionally produced? For example, if the Norwegians want their own cows, that's up to them.

Jensen: That's exactly up to them. And who worries about people if they are not getting enough of any one product? Who worries about them when there is a world crisis?

Another thing is, are you going to have all these [former farmers] move to the city? And then what do you do to subsidize those people? Do you subsidize them in a way of life that has been common to their culture for hundreds of years, or do you put them into a foreign environment and subsidize them there?

Best children's books on exploring space



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Bonn conference weighs world policy crisis

by Rainer Apel

It would be out of place to give an academic lecture, while a gruesome Serbian war of aggression is raging only an hour's airplane flight away, said former Croatian Foreign Minister Separovic in his speech to the first day of the two-day conference organized by the Schiller Institute at the Bristol Hotel in Bonn, Germany on June 4 and 5.

Prof. Zvonimir Separovic, who spoke on the urgency of the conference theme, "Toward a Durable Peace in Europe," was one of 15 speakers, including representatives of parliaments, governments, and other institutions of eastern and southern Europe including the Ukraine and Russia, who contributed half of the presentations. The very fact that a good third of the average of 100 participants in each of the two days came from eastern Europe, underlined the meaning which is ascribed to the issue of "lasting peace" and the work of the Schiller Institute east of German borders.

Prof. Separovic began by citing the esteem in which Lyndon LaRouche, made a political prisoner by President Bush in 1989, is held in eastern Europe: "Mr. LaRouche is in our mind at the moment, when we are discussing here, in freedom in Europe, the serious problem of the world." He demanded the liberation of LaRouche, "a man, who is crucial in the current strategic situation in the world."

LaRouche's contribution to current economic-policy discussions in eastern Europe was stressed by several speakers, who had visited him in federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota. Prof. Taras Muranivski, the rector of the Ukrainian University in Moscow, reported on discussions with LaRouche, as did Dr. Tibor Kovats, executive committee member of the Hungarian Association of Former Political Prisoners, and Gen. (ret.) Paul-Albert Scherer, the former chief of West German military intelligence. An urgent appeal to President Clinton to free LaRouche was delivered by Rosemary Love

from the civil rights movement in Chicago on the first conference day.

Further speakers from the civil rights movement who gathered in Bonn from eastern and southern Europe were Mrs. Slavica Bilic, ex-president of the Croatian Mothers for Peace, and Ivan Kiriov Stanchov, chairman of the Bulgarian Federation of Repressed People; also among the speakers were members of parliament from Armenia and Hungary respectively, Hrant Khatchatrian and Janos Denes, and Prof. Aleksander Legatowicz, adviser to the Polish "Solidarity 80" independent trade union.

Government-level speakers included Jorge Carrillo, former labor minister of Colombia, and Istavan Morvay, a state secretary in the Hungarian Interior Ministry. The President of the Serbian-occupied Republic of Kosova, Bujar Bukovic, could not take part, but sent a message to be read to the conference. Greetings also were read from ex-U.S. Senator Ralph Yarborough (Texas).

With four speakers from Moscow (Prof. Leonid Fituni from the Academy of Sciences, Dr. Yuri Khromov and Dr. Vasily Krivokhiza from the Institute for Strategic Studies, and Valeri Pavlov from the Supreme Economic Council) and another speaker from Kiev, Prof. Arnold N. Shlepakov from the Academy of Sciences, both the Russian and Ukrainian republics were well represented in Bonn by influential advisers to the governments and parliaments of their nations.

Srecko Jurdana, a journalist and military expert from Croatia, also addressed the conference, along with—for the Schiller Institute itself—its president Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Michael Liebig, and Jonathan Tennenbaum from Wiesbaden, Germany; Lyndon LaRouche from the United States (whose presentation was read); and Jacques Cheminade from Paris.

No peace until Balkan war ends

In her keynote address Helga Zepp-LaRouche delivered a sharp critique of the decadent elites in West and East, who since 1989 had obviously allowed the economic and political chance which presented itself after the fall of the Iron Curtain and the ensuing general mood of openness, to come to nothing, leading in turn to economic warfare and the staging of the Serbian aggression. This new "Entente Cordiale" arrangement was created on purely geopolitical grounds primarily against reunified Germany, but it endangers peace throughout Europe and even threatens to unleash an avalanching "global Thirty Years War," which together with the economic depression in the East and West endangers survival of all of human civilization.

Indeed, Europe and the world since World War II have not witnessed "the monstrosities that are going on in former Yugoslavia," Prof. Separovic said in his speech. No one can speak about peace as long as the Serbian genocide is allowed to continue. Unfortunately the Serbs are being supported in this war by a "powerful alliance, especially that *Entente Cordiale*, the alliance of Versailles-Yugoslavia and Russia, the Bilderberg Society, and Kissinger Associates and other informal groups." In view of the 300,000 who have died in the meantime, a million victims of torture, rape, and war crimes, as well as 3 million war refugees, it is irresponsible to continue to deny the Croats and Bosnians the arms they need to defend themselves. Half of the victims are children. It is long overdue that the culprits of the Serbian genocide be tried before an international war crimes tribunal, the ex-Croatian foreign minister demanded.

The horrifying picture of the situation in Croatia and Bosnia was reinforced by other speakers, among them Srecko Jurdana, who recalled that already in 1988, LaRouche had warned in an American television broadcast about the outbreak of a Balkan war. Jurdana criticized the "numerous peace plans, which in reality were always new war plans," and their authors in the Anglo-American-French diplomatic services.

General Scherer explained that he and LaRouche had, during their last meeting in March, mutually expressed great concern that a breakdown of peace efforts in the Balkans would lead to further "copycat provocations" in the Baltics and other crisis spots on the territory of the former Soviet empire. The "conservative revolution" which is currently being observed in Russia, threatens to tilt over into a highly explosive brew of extreme nationalistic, anti-western moods. Faulty analysis, historical ignorance, and offensive arrogance among western politicians and experts, who behave like bullies toward their former Soviet adversaries, could have the worst consequences for peace in Europe and the world.

An all too timely example of the "copycat provocations" mentioned by Scherer was shown by the speech of Armenian parliamentarian Khatchatrian on the war situation with Azerbaijan, which is carrying out an "ethnic cleansing" strategy like Serbia's.

Monetarism or development

Helga Zepp-LaRouche in her keynote called for debt forgiveness for the East and the developing countries, similar to the settlement by which Germany was relieved of half of its foreign debts in the London Conference of 1953. She called the collapse of the eastern economies an "Africanization," a repetition of the breakdown of indebted African countries under International Monetary Fund dictates.

The intensity which with this eastern breakdown is being engineered by western "advisers" was described by Prof. Aleksander Levatowicz from Poland. Harvard-trained American "economist" Jeffrey Sachs led a total of 40 negotiations with the Warsaw regime in the space of a few months on the details of the "reforms," he said.

The presentations of speakers from Russia vividly laid out how the drop in production, living standards, and trade is working to undermine the very existence of the state, so that one can actually observe how the threat of the "conservative revolution" described by General Scherer is growing by the day. This danger was likewise acutely depicted by Dr. Stanchov for Bulgaria, who showed that the deconstruction of the economy is being run by onetime communist cadres in key positions, now transformed into western "liberal" cadres.

Prof. Leonid Fituni's address contained a very serious warning that the continuation of the destructive free market experiments in the former East bloc states would create a gigantic new poverty layer of 500 million people—in itself an acute danger for Europe, most especially for Germany.

Both speeches by Prof. Muranivski and Prof. Shlepakov from Ukraine contained an overall positive outlook despite the mainly somber picture about the situation in the East. Muranivski reproduced some impressions from his talks with LaRouche in Rochester: In the history of the economy there is a constant close interdependency between state-promoted infrastructural projects and the development of a productive small and medium-sized business sector; this is precisely the way the transformation of eastern economies has to run. The center of gravity must lie in the buildup of machine-building capacities for the civilian economy.

Going into more depth on Ukraine, Prof. Shlepakov said in his speech that its economy had good possibilities for cooperation with western companies or projects in high-technology fields, due to the fact that under Soviet planning, the air and space industry had been concentrated there.

For many conference participants, the presentation by Michael Liebig during the first day on "financial derivatives" was certainly their first public opportunity to learn about the cancerous ulcer within the present monetary and banking system of the world. The destruction of the world economy since the decoupling of financial flows from the real economy in the early 1970s has been proceeding at breathtaking speed, he said. First there was speculation in real estate, then in "junk bonds," and at the end of the 1980s in "derivatives," a

form of “speculation with speculation itself,” which evades all controls, because these are traded over the counter like “chips” in a casino. According to Bank of International Settlements estimates, the volume of *daily* worldwide financial transfers is \$1 billion—compared to the *annual* Gross National Product of the United States, which is \$6 billion!

Jacques Cheminade from the Paris Schiller Institute presented the lessons to be drawn from the experiences of the French economy under the first reconstruction plan which was already launched by Charles de Gaulle in 1946-7.

Jorge Carrillo, Colombia’s former labor minister, emphasized Bishop of Mainz Ketteler’s contribution in the mid-19th century to the development of the debate about “social questions” in the springtime of the western capitalistic system. Catholic social doctrine, which we find again in papal encyclicals since 1982, essentially goes back to Ketteler’s critique of British economic liberalism and can be of good use for the present debate in eastern Europe, he said.

SDI ten years later

Dr. Tennenbaum named two ground-breaking postwar developments for research into “new physical principles”: the explosion of the first hydrogen bomb in 1952, which contained the concept of plasma fusion; and the Moon landing in 1969, with which human civilization first went into outer space. The scientific potentials of both developments prove that there is no more basis for misery and underdevelopment in the world. Plasma and laser technologies not only will become the energy sources for a growing world population and secure the possibility of long-term large-scale construction projects, but they also develop completely new kinds of manufacturing techniques in industry. The military aspects of the new technologies are only a sample of what can be possible in the civilian sector—especially, if the potential in space research and basic research, which exists in Russia to a unique quality and extent, can be successfully utilized.

Krivchisa, who has insights into American research plans through his close contacts, expressed optimism about the future, if cooperation between Russian and the U.S.A. can be further expanded in scientifically important areas. The main problem today is bureaucratic structures on both two sides, he said.

Dr. Fituni graphically described the process by which the SDI program which originated with President Reagan had been whittled down through mutual concessions by both Russians and Americans, into the point defense of militarily relevant installations, the GPALS program. Yet from the Russian standpoint, the main goal of research efforts should be the protection of large connected population and production centers, he said.

The results of both days’ sessions were summarized in a “Bonn Declaration,” which was passed at the end of the conference and which will be distributed to authoritative institutions in East and West over the coming weeks.

Mankind’s survival requires we create a Golden Renaissance

by Lyndon LaRouche

The following speech by American statesman Lyndon LaRouche, a political prisoner in Rochester, Minnesota, was delivered to the Schiller Institute’s conference on the theme “Toward a Durable Peace in Europe,” held in Bonn on June 4-5, 1993.

I have been asked to greet the conference with some remarks. What I shall do, is offer a few observations of a general nature, perhaps useful for purposes of orientation, in order to reinforce a global perspective on the matter of the great crisis threatening Eurasia, northern Eurasia in particular, and North America at this time, and to see the world in the light of that crisis, and what must be done about it.

Modern European history, which we must see as a whole, in order to understand our present situation, begins really with a New Dark Age, so-called, in Europe during the 14th century. This Dark Age was caused by a spread of cancerous usury, centered upon the bankers of such centers as Venice, which caused the looting destruction of most of Europe in much the way that George Soros and his friends are looting those parts of Europe which were formerly part of the Com-econ bloc.

The Council of Florence

The result of this looting and similar operations was social instability and regional warfare of a type we see breaking out today in such locations as former Yugoslavia, in the Balkans. The defeat, or temporary defeat, of that financier usury-practicing faction, much like the International Monetary Fund [IMF] group today, permitted the development of what became known as the Golden Renaissance centered around the Council of Florence in 1439-40.

The Council of Florence did a number of things. It established the principles of a modern, sovereign nation-state, and a concord among such sovereign states, as the basis for the orderly arrangement of global affairs. It also, among its various achievements, founded what is known as modern European science.

This combination of the fostering of a new institution—modern science—together with the institutions of statecraft to make use of that institution of modern science and technol-

ogy, in forms as we see exhibited in the case of Leonardo da Vinci toward the end of that century, gave Europe a superior power over nature, in terms of per capita population and per hectare of land, far outdistancing that of any preceding or contemporary culture. This led to the spread of European culture and European influence throughout this planet.

This is exhibited, for example, by a study of the population curve of the world population. The figures are, naturally, estimates—there weren't good censuses all over the world in the 16th century—but nonetheless, a very valid indication. And we see that the population potential curve zooms upwards beginning approximately 1539-40, not as a pure coincidence, an accident, but because of the effects of those policies which were institutionalized by the Council of Florence and its associated activities of the same people.

This history is a history of conflict within Europe. Those who represented the same Venetian and similar kinds of circles who had caused the Dark Age—a catastrophe like that to which we are heading now—remained in power. There has been a contest since that time, especially during the 16th century onward, between these two factions, between what we might call the oligarchical faction, which is the faction typified by the Venetian usurers, the usurers of Genoa and Pisa as well, of course, and the opposing faction, which may be called loosely, in the memory of Solon of Athens, the republican faction, which is based on the kinds of constitutional and natural law ideas associated with such figures of the Golden Renaissance as the greatly influential Nicolaus of Cusa.

This conflict continued in various manifestations and in various institutions of society up to a crucial point, a watershed which has determined modern world history. That watershed period covers approximately the period of 1848-53, through the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln of the United States by a British intelligence network based largely at that time in the recently defeated Confederacy and its intelligence apparatus.

Britain attempted to establish its empire under the leadership not only of such figures as Castlereagh and Canning, but more notoriously, in the middle of the 19th century, Lord Palmerston. It was that group which decided to destroy its own institution, that is, the Holy Alliance, by using Britain's French puppet, Napoleon III, to launch a war on Russia and to engage Russia in a Russian-Turkish conflict, and ultimately a Balkan conflict.

Defeating the geopolitical doctrine

The purpose was to pit one part of continental Eurasia against the other, so that the British Empire might emerge unchallenged because of the destructive effects of the bickering of various powers upon the European continent. That was the British balance-of-power policy which led later to what is called the "geopolitical doctrine" and the institutions established by most of the victors, for example, at the Ver-

sailles Treaty convention.

What we are living in now, is the following:

About a quarter-century ago, a group centered in the Anglo-Americans sought to use the power they had consolidated through the assassination of Lincoln and its aftermath, to launch, from within the United States and Britain, what was called a counterculture, or paradigm shift, as some around Tavistock and so forth called it. The purpose was to utilize agreements which had been reached with Moscow under Khrushchov and renewed in new forms under Brezhnev, to establish these agreements as the basis for bringing down the economies of the planet, destroying the nation-states of the planet, eliminating a commitment to scientific and technological progress, eliminating the institution of the sovereign nation-state, and eliminating the commitments to the individual as sacred in the Christian sense and also the earlier, Mosaic sense of *imago Dei*.

That has been going on for over a quarter-century. Since the middle of the 1960s, we see that Britain has been turned from a formerly industrialized nation into a useless rust bucket of chaos, whose only income is derived from meddling in the affairs of others, and the invisible revenues of the City of London.

The United States no longer produces sufficient food to meet its own internal requirements; its industrial economy is collapsing, its infrastructure is collapsing. If it continues in this way, there will be soon, within years, as George Kennan and others are forecasting, perhaps *no* United States in the form we know it.

We see the disintegration of Europe is not only ongoing, but is being fostered by these factions.

What we must see, in general, is that we are not entering a new depression, though we are in a new worldwide economic depression, with a few spots here and there which have not yet collapsed, but that nearly all the spots are in a process of collapse, matching that already long ongoing in the so-called developing-sector countries of South and Central America, Africa, and elements of Asia.

We are headed not into a depression, but rather into a New Dark Age, paralleling on a global scale what happened in Europe, during the middle of the 14th century.

It is necessary to have economic policies reversing those of such as Soros and the IMF, which are presently ruining the economies of the world. It is necessary to bring to an end the so-called deconstructionist philosophy behind the cultural paradigm shift, which has turned the world away from institutions of constitutional government, of sovereign nation-states, of national political economies, of commitment to technological and scientific progress as the means of improving man's power over his circumstances, and to dignity and increasing political sovereignty of the individual and the family. The destruction of these institutions would mean the disintegration of civilization as we know it, and a vast genocidal crisis destroying most of the institutions of society

and turning all of this planet into something worse than was experienced by Europe during the Dark Age of the 14th century.

For this purpose, to remedy this problem, we need an economic policy of recovery. Such a policy is available, as a policy, as a programmatic approach—as the Gaullists under the Fifth Republic of France would say, a dirigistic approach. That is available.

But more is needed. We need *to motivate* the institutions of society while they still exist, and the persons of society, in a way that they will be inspired to generate and use the benefits of scientific and technological progress. Without that, the economic policy by itself will fail.

Therefore, what we need is a new Renaissance. We need, among broad layers of the population, at least the leading strata in all sectors of the population, an awareness of the history of this planet, at least the recent history, as I have indicated that history, since the middle of the 14th century in Europe. We need an understanding of the Renaissance, and how this Renaissance enabled Europe to achieve a per-capita power—economic power and power over nature—which far exceeded that of any existing or previously existing former society; and how this world was therefore *shaped* by the desire of other nations and other peoples to share in the benefits of the kind of power which the Golden Renaissance in Europe had set into motion.

We need to understand the conflict which has persisted in Europe and has determined European and, to a large degree, world history, since the beginning of the 16th century, in the wars between the forces on the one side of the old oligarchical, usurious faction typified by the Venetian oligarchy of that time, as opposed to those who represented the Council of Florence and its tradition.

We have to be able to trace this conflict up through the attempts of Palmerston to establish a global British Empire during the middle of the 19th century, and how, in the course of that, Palmerston not only established the Entente Cordiale by *personally* imposing Napoleon III on France, and establishing British control over what is called later an Entente Cordiale, but the attempt of Britain together with its French puppet, to destroy the United States through the Confederate conspiracy directed by Palmerston and his friends, as well as the looting and rapine against Mexico under the British puppet, the emperor of Mexico, Maximilian.

We have to see that the defeat of the Confederate constituency by a Lincoln-led United States, and the buildup of the power of the United States so greatly during that four to five year period of the war, established the United States as the greatest military power on the planet at that moment, and the greatest demonstration of the superiority of the commitment to scientific and technological progress of a well-educated population over the British model; that the alliance of Russia, in the form of Czar Alexander II, with Lincoln, to defeat the British- and French-inspired Confederacy, and to prevent

Britain and France from meddling in the affairs of North America, caused the British to react violently, to attempt to destroy the Russian monarchy of Czar Alexander II, and to continue to attempt to destroy the efforts of Alexander II's continuers, such as the great chemist and statesman Dmitri Mendeleev and his friend, Sergei Count Witte.

In order to prevent Witte, in particular, from uniting Paris, Berlin, Moscow, and other capitals in a global railroad and economic development program, the British launched what became World War I—using a Balkan war, incidentally, very much like the way they used the Balkan war in the most recent several years, to attempt to destabilize Europe, to pit one part of Europe against the other, to ensure, in this case most recently, the continuation of what London hoped would be the Anglo-American alliance for world domination.

The dignity of man

We have to understand these things. We have to understand, that because of the hatred of what Lincoln represented, among others, that they thought it necessary to eradicate everything for which the American Revolution in its best features had once stood, everything for which the Golden Renaissance had stood. And so they launched the counterculture—that is documentable in great detail—the rock-drug-sex neo-malthusian, anti-scientific, anti-state counterculture, a corrosive force much more dangerous to us than communism in itself ever was, which is now destroying civilization, and is on the verge of plunging us, by the end of this century, into a global New Dark Age, a genocidal dark age beyond even the horrors of the Dark Age of the 14th century in Europe.

We need an economic program; but more than that, we need a new Golden Renaissance, this time not limited to its immediate effects on Europe, but a cooperative venture from people throughout this planet, South and Central America, Africa, and various parts of Asia, and, of course, to include Australia and New Zealand.

We need that global Renaissance. Without it, even with the best economic program, we should fail. Of course, without the right economic program, we should fail in any case; but an economic program per se is not enough. It must also be a Golden Renaissance.

If we cannot inspire the nations and the peoples of the nations, especially the leading strata of those people, to undertake and lead a great effort for good throughout this planet, to establish again the principle of the sovereign nation-state, the principle of national economy, the principle of cooperation for mutual benefit among sovereign nation-states in economic development, and the principle of the dignity of man, as the Council of Florence understood it, there would be no hope for this planet, no ability to implement the kinds of economic recovery so desperately needed at this time.

Serbian opposition figures speak out against betrayal by the West

Extraordinary and bitter condemnations of the five-power sellout of Bosnia by four Serbian opposition spokesmen covered an entire page of the French daily Le Monde on June 4, in an editorial break with that newspaper's usual blackout of criticism of the Serbian leadership and of the Anglo-French-led diplomatic appeasers. The following is a summary of the four statements:

Papic: 'Who can save Europe?'

Zarko Papic, who formerly represented the nation of Yugoslavia abroad, warns that, as a consequence of the five powers' "Joint Action Program" worked out in Washington over the May 22-23 weekend, "a third European war could easily break out. Of course, it would be difficult to believe it. However, who would have thought, in 1938, that there would be Sept. 1, 1939, who would have thought, two years ago, that 300,000 civilians (the number up to this point) would die in a country in Europe." The Joint Action Program reveals that "the principles on which basis Europe thought it existed, were only pure illusion. It has been revealed that we are much closer to a 'new world chaos,' a Europe of nationalisms, than a 'new world order.' "

Papic says that the Joint Action Program is "only the latest in a series of catastrophic errors committed by the 'international community' vis-à-vis the crisis in ex-Yugoslavia. . . . The 'international community' is acting like a little child, who fantasizes that when he puts his hand over his eyes, no one sees him, no matter what stupidity he commits." The current deal "betrays not only the Bosnians," but also "the democratic forces of Serbia and Croatia," while "nationalist aggressors have seen themselves accorded a total international legitimacy. . . . The illusion that one can guarantee peace by sacrificing the integrity of Bosnia is due to a false evaluation of the situation and of the war in this country." If that war has now taken on the character of an apparent civil war, "it was, at the beginning, nothing more than an aggression of Serbian nationalism."

Papic warns that the Joint Action Program "opens a new chapter in the war in Bosnia. . . . If Bosnia disappears little by little, is there any more hope for Europe? Less and less." Warning about the danger of a "third European war," he wonders whether "the child, after all this, 'will finally open his eyes?'"

Djuric: 'Let us prepare ourselves'

Ivan Djuric, a Serbian historian who was a candidate for President in 1990, writes that the lesson that "violence pays" will now have dire consequences in both eastern and western Europe. He goes on to charge that the five powers have virtually invited Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic to move into Kosova, thereby, ironically, creating the conditions for precisely the international conflict that they claim to want to avoid.

Djuric first tears apart the Joint Action Program:

"1) The Washington decision, instead of calming down, will rather make the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina more venomous; with the creation of 'bantustans,' their inhabitants would not only be the 'blacks' (or 'Indians,' that is to say, the Muslims), but also certainly other Bosnians (that is why it is hypocritical, for example, to speak of 380,000 inhabitants of Sarajevo as, exclusively, the Muslims, since Sarajevo also includes several thousand 'bad Serbs')."

"2) Now, the Muslims, to the great joy of Milosevic, [Croatian President Franjo] Tudjman and, if I have understood it correctly, the protagonists of Washington, will end up by becoming Muslim believers, not so much because of their taste for Islamic fundamentalism, but rather because of their expulsion from Europe; so, let us prepare ourselves for the consequences of their desperation, the least of which is not the exodus of the population, but the risk of revenge (terrorism) by the excluded."

"3) The 'Program' of Washington shows itself to be a perfect paradigm for all: Faced by Europe, violence pays off; let's wait for the consequences of this lesson, first in the East, then soon in the West."

After warning that the danger now looms of a Serb-against-Serb civil war growing out of the strengthening of Milosevic and Radical Party leader Vojislav Seselj, Djuric concludes that the five-power deal has virtually pushed Milosevic toward launching aggression into Kosova, which, until now, he was reluctant to launch:

"Milosevic, after having imposed the state of emergency in Kosova, accompanied by regular repression, preferred the maintenance of a *status quo* in this formerly autonomous province. Contrary to what he claimed, war was not suited to his interests. Besides, it is there that he disappointed the only national phantasm still alive among the Serbs of Serbia,

since he didn't respond to their desire for the re-Serbization of Kosovo. It is now, with the new gift from Washington, that we risk having there a real conflict, with all the international implications.

"The United States didn't want to send its soldiers into the Balkans. The European Community didn't want an American peace in Europe.

"Today, we are close to having GIs as well as the *Pax Americana* at the heart of the Old World."

Stefanovic: 'Security Council and black dogs'

Vidosav Stefanovic, a Serbian author, says that the Joint Action Program is like trying to "treat cancer with AIDS," thereby creating a "third disease."

Stefanovic begins by charging that the five-power deal has "encouraged the totalitarians and has thrown to the black dogs the peoples of the Balkans." The latest United Nations Security Council resolution is "a veritable little linguistic miracle," which seems to be being utilized by "cynical surrealists."

He goes on: "The political and mental chaos which has seized the region of former Yugoslavia seems to have won over the Five, and also the Twelve ministers [of the European Community]: They reacted with a text that can only extend this chaos to the totality of the Balkans, and then beyond. The only clear message is the following: Messrs. Warriors, do what you want and as you wish, we will stay completely out of it, completely well-intentioned. The bleeding knot in the Balkans can only be untied by the application of the ethnic principle of the creation of ethnically pure states. Try to treat cancer by AIDS. What will you get thereby, the cure, or only a third disease that you will have to again combat, by a new disease?"

Instead of a correct principle of citizenship in sovereign states being applied to the Balkans, what is being applied in the Balkans, and perhaps in all of eastern Europe, Stefanovic warns, is "the horror of ethnic cleansing, the horror of a permanent war against the civilian population, the horror of racism which coopts, for the moment, the name of nationalism. . . . Without wanting to exaggerate, this resolution of the Security Council allows for, in the Balkans, no other possibility than totalitarian states. All alternatives, all opposition becomes, because of this, practically impossible: Any independent intelligentsia—whether it be that which sustains itself, with difficulty, in the new states, or that which is in exile—sees, suddenly, its very existence threatened. The extremists see themselves offered a chance that they had never dreamed of having, and the instigators of war see the proof that they were right. The democrats have been knocked out, not by their adversaries, but by the jury."

Stefanovic concludes on this chilling note:

"There is in my book *The Snow and the Dogs* a scene where five nationalist warriors torture a little girl, roasting her over a small fire. Monstrous, isn't it? But that really

happened. How many little girls will continue to be tortured, in the current war and in future wars programmed by this resolution which, implicitly, pardons the assassins and declares to the victims, that they will remain victims? Who, in reality, has thrown us all to the black dogs, which have just left the pages of my book and are looking for new victims?"

Dizdarevic: 'Quo vadis Europa?'

Faik Dizdarevic, a former diplomat for Yugoslavia when it was a state, blasts the five-power diplomacy and likens the fight of the Bosnians to the resistance against the Nazis. He writes:

"The meeting of the Five in Washington strongly resembles the creation of a self-proclaimed world government. . . . In the first place, they situate themselves outside the legal context of the United Nations. Beyond this, their decisions, notably that for the dismantling and the disappearance of the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, constitutes a brutal violation of the very principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of the Helsinki Final Act, and the Charter of Paris.

"The 'program' that was adopted demonstrates clearly, if there was any need for this, that the great powers of the West (with which Russia has associated itself), had, since the beginning of the 'Bosnian affair,' a common and coherent attitude (hidden behind numerous smokescreens), to wit: Bosnia-Herzegovina has no interest (for us); it can, therefore, be carved up and deleted from the map. The war can be circumscribed to Bosnia itself; there is no danger of extension. The war can, therefore, continue in Bosnia, but it would be required to have it done and over with as soon as possible. There are too many embarrassing witnesses. Must one recall the famous sentence pronounced by [British Foreign Secretary] Douglas Hurd after the London conference: 'Things will be decided on the ground, and not around a negotiating table.' "

Under the subhead "Resistance to Nazism," Dizdarevic goes on:

"The mistake consists in believing that the war can be confined only to Bosnia. For in the countries surrounding Bosnia-Herzegovina (and well beyond), all the conditions have come together for the unfolding, there, of wars without end. And the interests of the West will finish, well enough, by being directly called into question.

"As for Bosnia itself, there will be a ferocious resistance, which can last indefinitely. It is not easy to dismantle Bosnia-Herzegovina; the number of deaths and the devastation have proved this well. And this resistance to Nazism, because it is exactly that, will spread like the war itself, and will triumph, to the extent that Europe (before all else) will understand that it is a matter of its own survival. As an elderly Bosnian declared: 'We don't have problems any more, because we, we have understood; now it is Europe that must do the same.' "

'Strategy of tension' hits Germany, as arson attack provokes mass riots

by Rainer Apel

The nighttime arson attack against a building in Solingen, in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) on May 29, killing two Turkish women and three girls, and the ensuing wild rioting, mark a new phase in the destabilization of Germany—to the ultimate benefit of enemies inside and outside the country.

As in the deadly arson attack in Moelln in November 1992, the Solingen incident is said to originate from the right-wing, militant milieu of the German political underground. This is what experts say, who also never tire of alleging that right-wing extremism overlaps with the "Skin milieu" and is therefore far more amorphous than its left-wing counterpart and harder to contain. This official reading is adding to the political confusion and providing a key element of the "strategy of tension" that has already worked to destabilize Italy.

Paralysis from the government

"All it takes is two liters of gasoline, and all of German policy is paralyzed," said a senior analyst in Germany, commenting on the absence of any policy initiatives to deal with the crisis on the part of the Kohl government. The fact that politicians and the elite have chosen to "opt out" of the need to respond to the dangerous strategic situation—the war in Bosnia most of all—and hide behind meaningless statements about "shock" and "terror," documents that so far, the "strategy of tension" has worked well against Germany.

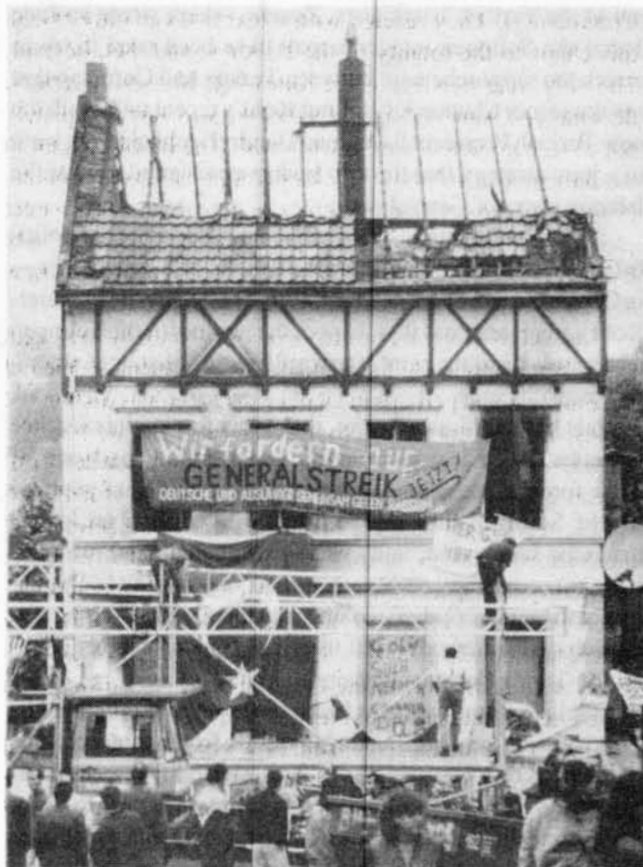
The underground political groups that are feeding the destabilization, especially the most militant currents among them, are not amorphous: There is growing, documented evidence of a national infrastructure as well as significant international connections, including the U.S. Ku Klux Klan. Klansmen have been quite successful in building control structures in German right-wing terrorist circles that are more of a "derivative" kind, rather than the direct control that has been the trademark of left-wing terrorism.

"Left" and "right" are two sides of the same coin, as was proven in Solingen in the days after the arson. First, leftist Turks and Germans worked together to block streets and highways in the Solingen region, blaming alleged "state-backed xenophobia" for the incident.

This mass action by leftist Turks drew rightist Turks onto the scene, sniffing a chance of exploiting the momentary lawlessness to "settle old accounts" with the radical left. The

arrival of Turkish groups like the infamous Grey Wolves was welcomed by the leftists as a chance for settling their own accounts with their rivals. The intervention of police and special anti-riot forces was seen as an obstacle by rioting Germans and Turks alike. They all turned against the police and firefighters. For two nights after the arson, regular police and special police units were unable to restore order.

Even NRW State Minister of Internal Security Herbert Schnoor, an ultraliberal Social Democrat who usually would blame "society" for violence, felt compelled to charge that the Solingen riots had been staged by "provocateurs." But if



Scene of the terrorist attack in Solingen that killed five Turks. The banner, hoisted by an alliance of leftist Turks and Germans, reads: "We demand a general strike now—Germans and Foreigners Together Against Racism."

there were provocateurs, whom did they work for? A key role was played, for example, by the leftist Turkish terrorists of Devrimci Sol (DevSol), and the communist TKP-ML.

In July 1991, the 4,000-member DevSol had set off alarm bells when it called on other left-wing organizations to jointly "attack German-Turkish relations" and to cooperate in the underground creation of joint "autonomous self-defense structures." As recently as May 24, five days before the Solingen tragedy, German police searched DevSol facilities in several cities around Solingen, finding that the group had a well-built underground structure. As to the TKP-ML group, its watchword is: "Death to German imperialism."

Ostensibly, the violent alliance of leftist Turks and Germans in the Solingen rioting was the first joint exercise of the type that DevSol had called for in 1991. Their mutual target is the "Fourth Reich" which the united Germany allegedly represents. This resonates with international anti-German propaganda, suggesting that the provocateurs' stringpullers should be sought among enemies of the united Germany in the West and in the East.

Geopolitical aims exposed

Ironically, it was not a German newspaper, but the journal of the Turkish Islamicists, *Zaman*, which wrote on June 1 that the Solingen incidents may have been used to try to wreck the rapprochement between Turkey and Germany that resulted from Chancellor Helmut Kohl's recent talks with the new Turkish President Suleyman Demirel, especially in view of a joint strategy that the two leaders envisioned toward the Islamic states of Central Asia.

Zaman wrote that vital strategic and economic geopolitical interests—American, French, British, and Israeli ones—in Central Asia and the Mideast were affected by the Demirel-Kohl agreement, and that, hence, the authors of the Solingen arson attack and the riots afterward have to be sought among the geopoliticians.

It is known, *Zaman* wrote, that many foreign intelligence agencies operate in Germany's underground, and one of these foreign agents may have prompted neo-Nazi youth to set the Solingen fire. Another article by *Zaman* on June 8 made the same point, and even *Sabah*, usually not pro-German in its coverage, on June 9 warned Turks living in Germany not to launch counter-violence against German skinheads, hinting that somebody used these arson attacks to set a trap to ruin Turko-German relations.

Turkish Prime Minister Erdal Inonu on May 31 called on Turkish protesters in Germany to refrain from violence. "The purpose of this act [the arson] is to create a separation between the Turkish and German communities and to force Turks to leave there," he told Turkish Radio and Television (TRT). "We need to behave carefully, with responsibility. We must fulfill this hard duty by showing reactions which express our grief within civilized limits, and by continuing to ask for the necessary measures."

Swiss voters approve modernizing Air Force

by Alexander Hartmann

On June 6, Swiss voters rejected two pacifist initiatives that would have severely crippled the ability of the Swiss Air Force and Army to modernize their equipment. With 55% of the eligible voters voting, an initiative against buying new fighter planes was defeated with 57% opposed, and 55% objected to proposed legislation that would have prevented the allocation of new land for the Army. This is a larger margin than generally expected; several months ago, when petitioners gathered 200,000 signatures in only 12 days, many expected both initiatives to pass without trouble. About 30,000—mostly teenagers—attended an open-air rock festival organized in support of the initiatives. Serbian atrocities against defenseless Bosnian civilians were one of the factors tilting the balance against the initiatives.

The legislation proposed would have a) ruled out any decision on the purchase of new fighter planes of any kind before the year 2000, thus preventing the Air Force from getting new planes before about 2005; b) nullified the decision of both Parliament and government to purchase 34 McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 fighter planes worth \$2.5 billion; c) prevented the allocation of new land for military purposes and ordered the dismantling of a barrack built recently near St. Gallen; and d) put any construction on military premises (now governed by federal law) under the authority of the cantons.

Pro-military groups, among them reservist associations, rifle clubs, and all conservative parties, mobilized against the legislation and rallied more than 30,000 citizens in front of the Swiss Parliament in Bern, with banners reading: "Liberty Has Its Price," and "For Switzerland with an Army!" They pointed to the fact that, while the present Mirage fighter planes are already outdated now, by 2005, they will be about 50 years old, which would render them completely useless. As one military observer noted, "We will then be ready to take on Liechtenstein," which has about 25,000 inhabitants.

The initiative preventing the allocation of new land for military purposes would make it impossible to adapt the Swiss Army's strategy to new challenges, while changing the legal status of projects for the construction of military infrastructure would make it much more difficult, if not impossible, to adapt military buildings to new weapon technologies—for example, training soldiers on simulators.

Pro-Army activists also pointed to the instability caused by the collapse of the former Soviet Union, which eliminated the nuclear threat of Moscow against Europe for the time being, but unleashed numerous conflicts that can easily escalate into a threat against Europe as a whole, including Switzerland. In that case, Swiss patriots do not want to be dependent on friendly NATO armies. Fernand Carrel, head of the Swiss Air Force, was quoted in the London *Financial Times*, saying: "If we do not defend our air space, NATO will, and it will do so without taking our interests into account."

Whittling the Army away

The initiators of the anti-Army legislation, among them Swiss national counsellors (deputies) Paul Rechsteiner and Andreas Gross, both members of the Social Democratic Party (SP), and Pia Hollenstein of the ecologist Green Party, were already active on these issues in 1989, when a "Group for Switzerland without an Army" proposed legislation that would have simply abolished the Army altogether.

At the time, their proposal was defeated by a two-to-one margin. Now, they suffered defeat again, but this will not stop their efforts: They have already gathered enough signatures to force a vote on legislation outlawing exports of military equipment, and cutting the military budget by half. Other initiatives to stop civil defense, turn the Swiss Army into an all-volunteer force by abolishing the draft, outlaw Swiss participation in international military structures, and eliminate the Army as a whole have been announced, and are in preparation.

The target of the anti-Army activists is less the military as such, than the notion of an armed neutrality or a "nation under arms." Every able-bodied man between 18 and 50 is drafted every year for an average of three weeks into military service, thus keeping the whole male population of Switzerland ready for combat on very short notice. Within a few days, the Army can mobilize 500,000 soldiers to protect 6.8 million citizens. In a crisis, there are bomb shelters for 80% of the population. All this serves not only to defend Switzerland if necessary, but it brings the dedication to the nation as a whole to the minds of the citizens. Thus, the Swiss Army is one of the key institutions holding Switzerland, a multicultural society like Lebanon or Bosnia used to be, together as a nation.

While it may be hard to imagine one of the richest nations in the world falling into civil war, voting patterns in recent referendums have documented diverging tendencies among the cantons. Italian-speaking Ticino and the French-speaking "Suisse Romande" have voted in favor of joining the International Monetary Fund and the European Community, while the German-speaking cantons were against these initiatives. The anti-Army initiatives were approved by Italian Ticino and the French Geneva and Jura cantons, while three other French-speaking cantons approved at least one of the two initiatives. In the German part, only the two cantons in the

Basel area, which is the most industrialized area of Switzerland, voted in favor of the initiatives, with a strong pro-initiatives influence of the socialists and the trade unions. Only about 100 years ago, civil war between the German majority and a coalition of Italian and French cantons called the "Sonderbund" claimed many casualties.

Even though the pro-Army groups claim that the June 6 votes were the final defeat of the anti-Army initiatives, it may well turn out to be different: While before, about two-thirds of the electorate defended the Army, their vote now went down considerably, reducing the margin by half. In fact, the anti-Army groups have made progress, and they have not given up on whittling away the Army, and the willingness of citizens to defend Switzerland. In this case, they picked up on the debate within the military, whether the McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 is "enough plane for the money," and pointed to the fact that the decision to purchase the American planes was taken when George Bush was begging for European (financial) support for "Operation Desert Storm" to bomb Iraq back to the Stone Age. Purchasing the planes was a way for Switzerland to show solidarity without compromising its neutrality. But the law against buying any fighter planes at all for the next eight years would have applied to any other plane as well. The F/A-18 may have competitors, but certainly they are much more fit for combat than the Mirage fighters currently in service.

Serbian atrocities shaped the discussion

What may have saved the Swiss Air Force, and was a major factor in the debate, was the war in nearby Bosnia. As the Serbian campaign of "ethnic cleansing" and genocide escalated in recent months, it became obvious what can happen if a people does not have adequate means to protect itself against aggression. Five times a day, TV news brought the reality of this war into every Swiss home, with images of children mutilated and women raped.

One of the pamphlets opposing the initiatives read: "Only a few hundred kilometers from the borders of Switzerland a brutal genocide is being committed. Only a little farther away, civil and religious wars are raging. To make Switzerland defenseless in our time of heightened instability would be irresponsible." Another group points to the Scud missiles owned by Arab countries and Israel. Serbia has such missiles, too, which can strike as far as southern Germany. When the military commander of the Serb forces in Bosnia, Mladic, proposed to move the front "to the Trieste-Vienna corridor," this did not go unnoticed in Switzerland. If the Serbian butchers can get away with challenging not only neutral Austria—whose only recourse in case of a threat to its security is the same U.N. Security Council whose reliability has been thoroughly discredited by its tolerance of Serbian atrocities—but even Italy, which is a member of NATO, Swiss citizens realized they have to be prepared to defend themselves.

Anti-Defamation League on the defensive in Argentina

by Cynthia Rush and Gerardo Terán Canal

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) and its allies in Argentina, including the newspaper *Clarín*, have launched an offensive against Lyndon LaRouche and this magazine, which has a correspondent in Buenos Aires. An *EIR* spokesman in Washington declared that "the ADL and its friends are using Stalinist and Nazi 'Big Lie' methods in an ongoing campaign to silence our publication in Argentina. They don't like the fact that we have reported the truth about them; that they are under investigation pending indictment by U.S. authorities for crimes including their espionage on behalf of Israel and South Africa."

On May 14, the daily *Clarín* reported that Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, head of the ADL's international affairs division, made a "discreet visit" to Argentina to warn President Carlos Menem and other Argentine government and political personalities that U.S. political prisoner LaRouche and the publications founded by him were waging an "anti-Semitic campaign" against the ADL. In both public and private statements, Rosenthal implicitly threatened the Argentine government that if it did not adopt the ADL's agenda, including attacks on LaRouche, it would be subject to economic blackmail—or worse. Since then, *Clarín* in particular has led a chorus of attacks, joined more recently by radio and television outlets, against LaRouche and *EIR*'s Buenos Aires correspondent, Gerardo Terán Canal, a Colombian national.

Reflecting Anglo-American hysteria over the highly unstable situation in Ibero-America, which jeopardizes the continuation of International Monetary Fund (IMF) "adjustment" policies, Argentine media have accused Terán Canal of being the liaison between LaRouche and jailed Army nationalist Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín. Seineldín, imprisoned because of his involvement in the Dec. 3, 1990 military uprising, is hated by the Anglo-Americans because of his unflinching defense of national sovereignty and the institution of the armed forces. LaRouche's name is known throughout Ibero-America for his proposals in favor of rapid industrialization, development of large infrastructure projects, and a moratorium on payment of the foreign debt.

This is the antithesis of the usurious policies backed by the ADL. In the recent conference of the International Commission of B'nai B'rith in Washington, spokesmen from Ibero-

America described the "deindustrialization" and devastation of the continent as a result of IMF austerity policies, but demanded that such policies be continued, regardless of the "social cost." *EIR* has learned that in the private seminar sponsored in Buenos Aires by the U.S. Information Service and the Foundation for Latin American Integration, Rosenthal told his audience that Argentina should look to Hong Kong, an international center of drug trafficking and drug money-laundering, as a successful economic model to emulate. "The elimination of the barrier of discrimination," said the rabbi, "has been the road to economic growth" for Hong Kong.

While the rabbi raved about the need to eliminate discrimination, he failed to report on the ADL's defense of Confederate Gen. Albert Pike, the satanist who ran Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the 19th century and founded the Ku Klux Klan. Nor did he mention that the ADL is under investigation in the United States for spying on private citizens and political organizations.

State Department role

The pawprints of the U.S. embassy in Buenos Aires and State Department are all over the attacks on *EIR* and LaRouche. On June 7, *Clarín* published an article summarizing a resolution recently submitted to the Argentine Chamber of Deputies by seven congressmen from the left and from the Radical Civic Union (UCR) opposition party, in which they call on the chamber to demand an Executive branch investigation of the activities of the *EIR* correspondent.

The pedigree of the deputies who are acting on behalf of the ADL is instructive. Alfredo Bravo, the leader of the Democratic Socialist Party who launched the request for an investigation of *EIR*, is a key figure in the international human rights lobby and Washington-based Project Democracy apparatus which is demanding the destruction of Ibero-American armed forces. Ricardo Molinas, who openly supported armed struggle in Argentina, was elected to Congress with the support of the Trotskyist Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT), the political arm of the terrorist People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) active during the 1970s. His wife is an official in the Argentine Communist Party (PCA). Dissident Peronist Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez reportedly defended mem-

bers of the terrorist Montonero group in the 1970s, and currently works closely with fellow dissident Juan Pablo Cafiero who is organizing to reopen trials of military personnel accused of human rights violations during the 1970s war against subversion.

Policymaking think-tanks such as the Inter-American Dialogue, as well as non-governmental organizations, are demanding that the amnesties granted to military officers during the 1970s and 1980s be annulled and officers tried in international tribunals.

The resolution alleges that Terán's presence in Argentina "is highly suspicious. One could even presume that . . . Terán Canal is nothing more than a link in the international *Carapintada* network," a reference to the name that has been given to the military officers detained in the Magdalena prison and headed by Seineldín.

That the deputies' document reflects Anglo-American concern over recent events in Ibero-America, and the fight over economic and military policy, is revealed in its accusation that President Menem himself may be implicated in plans for a "self-coup" similar to those which have occurred in other nations and which have destabilized Anglo-American plans. Menem has obediently applied every aspect of Anglo-American policy since taking power in 1989, but agencies such as the Inter-American Dialogue are now looking for a President with a new, "clean" image who can implement their policies more efficiently. Menem's announcement that he intends to fight for reelection in 1995 and stay in power until the year 2001 has upset Washington policymakers who think the Argentine President has outlived his usefulness.

Two of the deputies who signed the congressional document, Carlos Alvarez and Juan Pablo Cafiero, are also pursuing Argentina's connection to the Italian kickback scandal, which is being wielded by the Anglo-American establishment to remove any obstacles to the selloff of Italian state property to private foreign financiers. Menem and many government officials are targets of the investigation in Argentina.

The congressional document demands that the government investigate visits to Seineldín's prison by current and former government officials, and also repeats that Menem himself met with Colonel Seineldín on more than one occasion. Pointing to developments in Haiti, Guatemala, Venezuela, and Peru, the document shrieks, "Mr. President, the phantom of political instability is stalking Latin America. . . . This destabilizing wave has us worried, even more so should it reach our country." Attacking Menem for having pardoned military personnel who fought terrorism in the 1970s, the document warns, "Today, if the facts for which we seek an explanation are confirmed, we will be facing a new violation of the will and expectations of civil society, of unpredictable consequences for Argentina's institutional future."

The seven congressmen, in asking for information on whether "Gerardo Terán Canal is the same person who gave a presentation Thursday, April 22 . . . on the theme 'The

Crisis in Russia, LaRouche, and the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI): How to Save the World From World War III,' " also question whether Terán was responsible for "a personal campaign against the religious figure Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal, who visited our country May 10-14, 1993 and who met with national authorities, diplomats, and religious leaders." Further on in the petition, it is stated that Terán "distributed a press release to news agencies and representatives of the foreign media which sowed doubts about the motives of Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal's visit."

The resolution notes that in his April 22 conference, Terán Canal stated that "the [SDI] program abandoned by the U.S. government was 'the beginning of a solution to the world economic crisis,' " and adds that " 'Star Wars,' condemned throughout the world as a global weapons project, had been conceived by said Lyndon LaRouche."

Why did Rosenthal come?

Why is *Clarín* publishing its "filthy pack of lies to cover up the ADL's criminal activities?" asked the *EIR* spokesman in Washington. He challenged the newspaper: "These are the facts, and we dare *Clarín* to publish them. Is it not true that authorities in California twice raided the offices of the ADL in Los Angeles and San Francisco, most recently on April 8, and discovered that the ADL maintained files—with information illegally stolen from the police and other government agencies—on over 950 political, labor, civil rights, and religious organizations and on some 12,000 individuals, including LaRouche?"

Rosenthal "claims to represent an organization that defends 'Jewish' interests," the spokesman continued, but "the truth is that the ADL is not a Jewish organization, but a masonic lodge. Their idea of freedom of the press is that of the former communist dictator of East Germany, the Stalinist Erich Honecker, with whom ADL national commissioner Edgar Bronfman personally allied to prevent the reunification of Germany."

EIR knows very well that "the Argentine Jewish community has nothing to do with these attacks against our publication. This is why Rosenthal had to come in from outside Argentina to attempt to silence *EIR*." The spokesman challenged *Clarín* "or its friends in the Masonic organization ADL to present even one shred of evidence proving that LaRouche is financing this supposed 'Carapintada International.' We are sure they won't, because they can't; no such evidence exists."

In the midst of this campaign of slanders, *La Nación*, one of Argentina's most respected dailies, published a summary of the open letter sent by former Argentine President Arturo Frondizi to U.S. President Bill Clinton (see p. 36), calling for LaRouche's release from prison and warning that his following in the path of former President George Bush's free-trade Enterprise for the Americas initiative would lead to hemisphere-wide disaster.



Former Argentine President asks Clinton to free LaRouche

Below is the full text of a seven-page letter from the former President of Argentina, Arturo Frondizi. It was covered on June 6 in the Argentine daily paper La Nación.

Buenos Aires, May 14, 1993
To the Hon. William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America

Distinguished President:

I am addressing you, sir, first to congratulate you for having assumed the presidency of that great nation by the will of your people.

It would be nothing new if I told you that your presence in the White House holds for North Americans and, especially, for Latin America, a true hope for change for the world and for the continent. If this change is brought about in the correct and hoped-for way, I can assure you that you will be returning dignity to millions of human beings who clamor for justice and well-being. It was my duty to tell you this.

Since Nov. 3, 1992, the world has heard much talk about whether the young dynamic politician William J. Clinton will restore to the government of the United States the vitality which my great friend President John F. Kennedy had given it, and whether there is a "New Frontier" to nurture hopes for the future.

I offer you my fervent wishes that your efforts be crowned with success. The mission you have assumed offers you the opportunity to embark on the exciting adventure of helping to build a better world, guided by freedom, peace, development, and social justice. That is undoubtedly an irresistible challenge.

I pray to God that He grant your presidency a most Christian inspiration to fight for the cause of humankind, for, as President Kennedy emphasized on March 13, 1961, upon assuming the commitment to help the peoples of the world break the chains of poverty: "Hungry men and women cannot hope."

Two special circumstances have moved me to write to the new President of the United States of America. One

relates to justice for all men, individual freedoms and human rights. The other is the clear presence of negative factors on the continent, which bode particularly dangerous moments, both immediately and in the future, for its incipient democracies.

I

It may have come to your attention that I, together with thousands of international personalities, plead with the U.S. government to free the economist Lyndon LaRouche, who was sentenced to 15 years in prison on Jan. 27, 1989. On Aug. 12, 1991, I learned of an appeal submitted by him to the Inter-American Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States, concerning alleged human rights violations and related political attacks. Out of an elementary concern for justice, I wrote to that body requesting a clarification of the charges.

I had the opportunity to meet Mr. LaRouche in June of 1984 in this city, and was able to conduct a dialogue at length with him concerning the world situation, and especially regarding conditions which are still current and constitute the panorama of Latin America today. Among other things, we agreed with the statements of Pope John Paul II contained in his Encyclical *Centesimus Annus*, where he says that the countries of the continent cannot pay their foreign debts through intolerable sacrifices, and that "the other name for peace is development."

Later, I began an intellectual relationship with Mr. LaRouche, through reading his books and articles in newspapers and various other publications. I totally share his definitions of national sovereignty and the right to life, security, and the freedom of the human person.

Our thinking finds strong agreement in that Mr. LaRouche considers economic development to be the pillar which sustains and affirms the self-determination of the nations of Latin America, through aggressive industrialization programs, currently blocked by monetarist plans and adjustments orchestrated by the International Monetary Fund and other supranational credit institutions.

I am also of a similar mind with Mr. LaRouche when he says that Latin America could be the United States' best trading partner. Of course this could only be possible to the extent that, as John Kenneth Galbraith stated it, a profound cultural change is brought about among the elites who are content with their own prosperity and ignore the millions of human beings who struggle daily with poverty and exclusion.

May I appeal to you, Sir, to exhaust all available means to settle the "LaRouche case" once and for all, and thus give him back his freedom if justice so warrants it.

The humanitarian principles you expressed in your political campaign regarding individual freedoms and human rights; the presence of Martin Luther King's son at your side on the path to the Presidency; and your professed admiration for John Fitzgerald Kennedy, guarantee absolutely that you will give this request—otherwise subscribed to by thousands of people, including former Presidents, military men, businessmen, intellectuals, political leaders and legislators—the objective consideration appropriate to a righteous man.

America was born so that man could live free of oppression, injustice, and persecution. Such was the thinking of George Washington in the United States, and of José de San Martín in South America. Because of this legacy we must deepen our love of freedom, respect for individual dignity, and civilized understanding among the people of the Americas, through concrete actions. According to his brother, the President murdered in Dallas used to love to quote Dante when he said: "The most searing parts of Hell are reserved for those who, in moments of difficult moral crisis, remain neutral."

I am fully confident that President William J. Clinton will do justice.

II

When I had the honor of assuming the presidency of my country on May 1, 1958, I said before the Legislative Assembly that Latin America has a common destiny and a common purpose of human redemption. I stressed that its people stand on a continent that is united both geographically and in its historic roots, and that is also united by a common quest for the achievement of democracy.

That reality forces me to take note of the inequality which was present then and continues to exist today, between the progress and well-being attained by one part of America, and the backwardness and misery in which millions of human beings are submerged in the other part of our America.

My government's first priority was to energetically pursue National Development, in order to assure a future of progress and greatness for my country. Anything else would have meant leaving Argentina paralyzed, growing daily more impoverished and doomed to backwardness and national disintegration.

I further informed the U.S. government that I would defend any clear and vigorous action to seal continental uni-

ty, through a great cooperative effort of economic and social development, and support for democratic institutions. I was absolutely convinced that if these objectives were achieved, they would serve as a great help in assuring that the people would not fall prey to Communist propaganda which finds such fertile ground in poverty and exclusion. It was imperative that they acquire a clear sense of the true paths to freedom and well-being, in which the possibilities opened up by the Alliance for Progress were becoming available.

I could tell you a great deal about this matter, Mr. President, but I shall just say that, concerning that Alliance, I found in your inspirer a broad, humble, and generous understanding that it was a simple plan of social assistance, and that it would not resolve structural problems. I stressed to President Kennedy that the poor nations of the world, especially in Latin America, did not need charity, but capital for their development.

As you well know, the Alliance was born out of a concern for the problems of social development, while it was also a political response to the political problem posed by the Cuban challenge. Kennedy had called upon the governments of Latin America to fight the evils of social injustice.

In fulfilling my obligation as President of Argentina, I accepted the call and embraced all that was positive within it, while simultaneously emphasizing my government's standpoint for waging the fight against underdevelopment, a condition which destroys the national identity of nations increasingly subject to a concentration of economic power.

In February of 1962, I told the U.S. government that the most important initiative taken by my government in the international sphere had been to establish deeper and closer ties with the United States. This gave us a full and active presence in the heart of the community of the Americas, having first reoriented our earlier links to certain European countries.

President Kennedy's administration fully backed my government in carrying out its policies from 1958 to 1962, when I was overthrown by a civil-military coup. The United States was on our side in the war we declared against the monopolies, to establish the preeminence of the nation-state as the arbiter of the greater national interest.

The joint declaration I had the honor of signing with President Kennedy in New York on Sept. 26, 1961 said in one part: "The interview between the Presidents of the Argentine Republic and the United States of America has unfolded in the spirit of true friendship and mutual respect which joins the two fraternal countries and which is expressed in the fruitful cooperation and close solidarity of ideals and objectives that are common to both nations."

The strengthening of U.S.-Argentine ties was due to the positive precedent of my visit to your country during the administration of General Eisenhower in 1959. That opened the way to a new understanding, for which reason the tour was assigned an importance that went beyond the limits of

relations between the two countries and, according to the world press, constituted “a measure of the new attitude of the United States toward Latin America.” I, in turn, was charged with a mission I could not refuse, of being the interpreter of a genuine continental aspiration and not merely defending my country individually.

At that time, I told the National Press Club in Washington that Latin America’s development was an historic challenge and that it was unforgivable to continue living in poverty in such an immensely rich soil.

On Jan. 21, 1959, during a joint session of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, I stated that “the unequal development of the continent contradicts the ideals of justice and freedom, and economic backwardness is a threat to hemispheric security.” At the end of my presentation, I urged: “Let us make sure that the American continent can truly be a continent of human hope, fulfilling on its soil and for all of its children the promise of happiness and abundance that America offered to humanity.”

I clearly stressed that the Argentine people were filled with national pride and were ever ready to jealously guard the sovereignty of their country. Therefore our people—I explained—are open to any investment intended to promote the progress and welfare of the country, just as they will reject any proposal which implies a threat to their sovereignty.

I should tell you with great concern, Mr. President, that were it possible, at my 84 years of age, to magically return to the time when I visited your country under Eisenhower and Kennedy, I would be obliged to pose the problems regarding Latin America, and Argentina in particular, in precisely the same words and sentiments that I did then. This, to me, shows the reality of a frustrated continent. It is clear that the conditions of backwardness and social injustice and the inhuman concentration of economic power continue to prevail in Latin America.

From time immemorial, countless think-tanks have been created to study and analyze the Latin American situation. At the same time, innumerable plans to amortize the foreign debt have been created and offered. Despite all of this, the debt continues to grow, with the added problem that most debtor countries have gone on, through privatizations, to auction off their public assets.

Mr. President, the 1990 statement of the U.S. bishops, that “total forgiveness of the foreign debt would not resolve the problem because it would leave intact the systematic underlying causes of the current crisis, both structural and behavioral,” was very significant.

The bishops also stated that “no interpretation of the Scriptures could force the hungry to starve, and to starve their children, merely to fulfill contractual obligations designed to reimburse the rich and their institutions.”

Latin America is dangerously convulsed as a result of the political, economic, and social project now being implemented continent-wide.

Allow me to state with great conviction, because I am informed both by my own experience and by the cries of alarm coming from the oppressed peoples, that Latin America urgently needs the United States to revise its policies derived from the Initiative for the Americas of President Bush and of the Free Trade Agreements.

The prestigious economist Galbraith, cited earlier, has stated unequivocally, regarding the 12 years of Republican government, that they will be remembered as one of the most horrible periods of U.S. history, whose only success was to provide the prosperous some kind of reward. This man, who was a collaborator of both Franklin Roosevelt and John Kennedy, has distinguished himself for his concern for the poor peoples of the Earth and for the need to reevaluate the problem of the foreign debt. Following your election, he stated that there was a sentiment in your country that this was a time of renewal.

If anything should change, it is the general rule that prevails throughout Latin America, which clearly says that “economic reactivation is meager, macroeconomic stability is fragile, and investment is insufficient.”

You must obviously share Galbraith’s opinion regarding your inheritance from the Republican administration. This encourages one to believe that your administration will review and correct the policies of your country toward the continent, which I insist with the greatest respect, cannot be delayed.

As with John F. Kennedy in his time, destiny has placed you, Mr. President, at the crossroads between freedom and prosperity, or submission and poverty. With the second, Latin America’s future is not so difficult to predict, because it is well known that popular upheaval, violence, and fratricidal warfare always have a backdrop of social injustice.

It would be highly dangerous for the development of Latin America were economic coercion to continue to condition the functioning of the American democracies, which are contracting in an economic context distorted by underdevelopment, moral decline, and the increasingly weighty influence of the drug trade.

As long as assistance plans continue to be designed to collect the debt and not to produce genuine risk investments channelled by sovereign states according to the national interests of each nation, the people will continue to be sacrificed through starvation and exclusion. This is the most noteworthy circumstance.

I respectfully request the Honorable President William J. Clinton to meditate upon these well-considered thoughts. All I hope is to reach you with a well-grounded appeal in defense of the peoples who are subjected to an inhuman, marginal existence, and for the freedom of a politician in your country, because of the serious meaning this has for keeping peace on our continent and upholding individual freedoms.

Arturo Frondizi
Former President of the Nation of Argentina

Guatemala: new base for Shining Path?

by Ana M. Mendoza-Phau

The election of Ramiro de León Carpio as President of Guatemala on June 5, by that country's Congress, opens the door to a Shining Path-style power takeover by terrorists in the region. De León, who for the past three years served as Guatemala's "human rights" ombudsman, distinguished himself in two ways: providing support for the political apparatus of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) terrorists (allies of Peru's Shining Path), and warring against Guatemala's Armed Forces.

The current crisis began when President Jorge Serrano decreed emergency rule on May 25, with the support of the Armed Forces. He said that one of the reasons for his decision was that "drug trafficking has begun to infiltrate sovereign institutions of the left and right. What has been confiscated in drugs in this country in total quantity equals the national budget of \$2 billion."

Immediately after the emergency decree was declared, the U.S. government cut off all economic aid, and threatened to deny Guatemala's goods preferential access to U.S. markets, unless "democracy" was restored and the military silenced.

Then on May 29, the military was pressured to withdraw its support from Serrano, announcing that Vice President Gustavo Espina should succeed him as President. That option too collapsed, however, after the United States, the Organization of American States (OAS), Guatemala's oligarchical business community, and Rigoberta Menchú's terrorists all vowed that there would be no aid for Espina, because he was supported by the military.

Pro-terrorist forces joined the State Department in attacks against Serrano's measures. Menchú, the Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize winner, said Serrano's actions were "unjustifiable" and organized street demonstrations against the government. The head of the FMLN guerrillas, responsible for the murder of thousands of civilians including hundreds of children, and Shafik Handal, a member of El Salvador's Communist Party, called for a "broad alliance to build a strong wall against this negative, reactionary, and troglodytic wave."

The real intent of this mobilization was clear after the OAS foreign ministers met in extraordinary session in Washington on June 4 to discuss the Guatemala crisis. The meeting issued a final statement which showed that their worries had nothing to do with democracy, but rather the U.N. program of forcing "negotiations" with terrorists upon every govern-

ment, on the El Salvador model. The resolution presented at the meeting charged that Guatemalan President Serrano's attempt at emergency measures had a "harmful effect on the process of dialogue and participation" with the communist insurgency, and demanded that dialogue be resumed "as quickly as possible."

Armed Forces targeted

As soon as De León was elected President, Menchú praised his election and called for renewed negotiations with the Guatemalan guerrillas. De León "has fought for human rights," she said, and she insisted that purging the three branches of government is a "very important task that the President is going to have to face."

Obeying Menchú's demands, De León's first actions were, in fact, purges in the military. In virtually his first act as President, De León retired Gen. José García Samayoa from the military command, at the same time relieving him of his post as defense minister. However, in what was described as the result of last-minute negotiations with the military, indicating that so far he must still compromise somewhat with the Army, he appointed Gen. Roberto Perussina to replace Samayoa. Perussina is said to be a leader of the hardline tendency in the military. How long the Army can force De León to compromise even this much is an open question. In fact, De León told the press on June 9, when asked why he carried out the military shakeup: "I was elected the constitutional President of Guatemala and the Army is obedient and non-deliberating."

De León made clear where he stands on the Army in statements reported in the *New York Times*, to the effect that "I am the leader in this country who has been the most confrontational with the government and the Army in some ways. Now, taking the position of President of the republic and the responsibility of Commander in Chief of the Army, there is no doubt that the Army will have to accept it."

After De León's election, U.S. State Department official Clifton Wharton announced that Washington would resume its full aid program, and told reporters on June 9 that "the United States strongly supports the government of De León. . . . Peace is vital to stable democratic institutions and greater respect for human rights, objectives our two nations share."

As *EIR* has reported, the policy of the Anglo-American establishment is to eliminate the Armed Forces as an institution of national sovereignty in Ibero-America. One week after President Serrano decreed emergency rule, the *Washington Post* admitted as much, in an article stating bluntly that "Washington no longer sees Central America's armies as essential, and has slashed aid."

The biggest worry for Washington, as the *Post* reported, is that local rivalries among countries are dissipating, as the various armed forces make common cause. The armies of the Central American region "have bluntly rejected attempts

by civilian politicians to control their budgets and commanders. . . . 'We are seeing the formation of a Central American guild of the military,' said one veteran diplomat."

It is yet to be seen whether the Guatemalan people will allow the takeover by pro-terrorist forces, and let the institution of the Armed Forces be destroyed. In spite of the propaganda barrage accusing them of being "human rights violators" to the point of comparing them with the Nazis, the Guatemalan Armed Forces is the one institution that has held that nation together.

Venezuela at a crossroads

This statement was issued by Alejandro Peña Esclusa, secretary general of the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV).

The June 5 edition of the Caracas daily *El Nacional* headlined its front page, "We Are Facing the Most Dangerous Crisis of the 20th Century," a quote taken from that day's inaugural speech by Dr. Ramón J. Velásquez Mujica, upon assuming the Venezuelan presidency in place of deposed President Carlos Andrés Pérez.

The newly chosen President Velásquez was not wrong in his assessment, for Venezuelans have been living through one of their most dramatic and turbulent periods in modern history. Pérez had scarcely assumed the presidency in 1989 when he decreed drastic across-the-board increases in service rates, on the instructions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). That in turn provoked the riots and demonstrations of Feb. 27, 1989, when the government massacred more than 3,000 people. On Feb. 4 and Nov. 27, 1992, Venezuela experienced two separate coup attempts; on Dec. 8, 1992, we hit the highest record of electoral abstention for state and municipal elections.

On May 20, 1993, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of trying Pérez for embezzlement and fraud, and the next day ordered his suspension from office and the swearing-in of Senate President Octavio Lepage as interim President. On June 5, Senator Velásquez was chosen to replace Lepage. . . .

Caracas has taken second place only to New York in number of assaults per capita. And the number of deaths per week from violent crimes is now rivaling the figures from countries suffering outright civil war. Reaching home safe and sound has become a daily adventure in Caracas. A large part of the explanation for this dramatic social degeneration is the hatred generated by the cruel dictates of the IMF. Inflation, devaluation, unemployment, 80% poverty levels,

85% interest rates, collapse of services, particularly in the area of health, are the immediate results of the IMF "packet." One bolivar of every three in the national budget goes to paying the foreign debt. . . .

But before we can analyze the perspectives of the new government, it is necessary to emphasize that Pérez did not fall merely because of his corruption: He was defenestrated precisely because of his imposition of IMF policies that were driving the nation into bankruptcy. Venezuela had reached the boiling point, with daily mass demonstrations against Pérez and the system, and so the system made a decision not to handcuff its future to that of Pérez. Pérez is gone, but not the system.

The new President, who will rule until February 1994, knows perfectly well that he is seated atop a powderkeg. His inaugural comment, cited by *El Nacional* above, suggests so, as does his first televised interview June 6, in which he stated: "We will have six months of serious fiscal, financial, and economic conflicts . . . six months in which each month will be equivalent to a year." Regarding the social situation, he added: "I can neither ignore nor hide the social situation threatening the national majority. . . . This is a factor of imbalance."

Faced with the crisis he himself describes, Velásquez—who is known for being a conciliator—will have to take a radical stance: Either he continues the IMF policy of his predecessors and plunges the nation into disaster and possibly civil war, or he adopts a nationalist position and takes on the financial superpowers. There is nothing in-between.

The daily *Ultimas Noticias* published June 3 the joint proposal of the Venezuelan Labor Party and the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) for confronting the current crisis: "1) Put Pérez on trial, not only for embezzlement but for many other more serious crimes: the surrender of the country to the International Monetary Fund and to his banker friends such as Kissinger and Rockefeller. . . . 2) Put Pérez's corrupt circle on trial. . . . 3) Allow the unrestricted circulation of the banned book *Dope, Inc.* 4) Install a system of genuine popular participation. 5) Immediate freedom for the military men who were involved in the uprisings. . . . 6) Launch an emergency plan to rebuild the national economy, to include: strict exchange controls; lower interest rates; suspension of foreign debt payments; a development plan to rapidly generate 2 million jobs; through projects such as the construction of a national railroad; a war to the death against the drug trade and the money-laundering bankers; implement an Ibero-American Common Market as an alternative to the ominous IMF."

The profiles of those ministers already named by the new President indicate that Velásquez does not wish to continue Pérez's economic policies. It remains to be seen whether he will launch a serious battle against the IMF—with which we are fully prepared to collaborate—or whether the brewing storm will sweep him away.

Melbourne conference links LaRouche movement across five continents

by Our Special Correspondent

An international conference held in Melbourne, Australia on May 28-29, has pointed to the need for Australia to develop a mission in Asia. Entitled "Reconstruction of Sovereign Nation-States, Post-International Monetary Fund," the conference and a three-day class series which followed were sponsored by *EIR* and the Citizens Electoral Councils (CEC), an Australian political party. Over 180 people attended the conference and school, which featured a distinguished international panel of speakers, including leaders of the U.S. civil rights movement, the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement, the Schiller Institute, the Germany-based Civil Rights Movement Solidarity, and the Australian CEC.

The Anti-Defamation League's Australian network had planned a violent disruption of the conference (see *EIR*, June 4, p. 51). But that fizzled due to international pressure on the Australian government, which provided a strong police presence.

A bridge to Asia

The opening address to the conference was a message by Lyndon LaRouche from federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota. LaRouche said that the challenge for Australians is to act as a bridge between the Christian-Platonic traditions of the West and the Confucian values of China. Australia must develop "cultural purpose for existing in terms of the Pacific area. . . . Leibniz previously wrote of these two tendencies," and "every advance in China had been under the influence of Confucius and every cruelty had been under Taoism." Australia's mission in the Indian-Pacific basin is to become "an outpost of the very best for the benefit of all," and to "bring the Confucian heritage of China to its proper realization," for there will be no secure future in the region until this philosophical tension in China is addressed, he said. Critical is the need for a revolution in transportation, and the Japanese have already begun work on magnetohydrodynamic drive, which could increase ocean-going shipping speeds to over 100 kilometers per hour. Every economy in the region should be integrated into this new technology.

Conference speakers emphasized that to prevent World War III and a deepening depression, British geopolitical strategy must be exposed and defeated. The only clear alter-

native is peace through economic development centered on the Productive Triangle program devised by LaRouche.

Al Douglas from *EIR* addressed the issue of "The American System of Economics versus Versailles/Bretton Woods Imperialism." He pointed out that the world is at the "end of an entire epoch of world history, the end of slavery and looting known as the Versailles system," but that the "Anglo-American establishment's attempt to preserve this ordering of world affairs has caused the ongoing chaos in world affairs, in particular the slaughter in Bosnia."

Douglas counterposed the British free-trade looting policy of Adam Smith to the principles of American System economists, and showed how the British East India Company's free-trade principles were developed further by the geopolitical strategy of Sir Halford Mackinder. This was a strategy aimed at destroying economic growth and peace in the Eurasian heartland.

Marivilia Carrasco, who had just completed a nine-day tour in New South Wales and Queensland, brought greetings to the conference from Mexico and the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement. Carrasco outlined the deadly heritage of International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditionalities in Ibero-America where, over the past 10 years, grain, meat, and milk production has fallen over 30%. The drug trade has taken over, she said. "Engineers, teachers, and doctors have become jobless and thrown out onto the street trying to survive as street vendors." The forces defending this murderous system, who are associated with the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, are "provoking a new bloody war against Catholic Mexico."

John Koehler, a CEC founder, highlighted the massive debt burden of Australia (over \$200 billion) and how the worldwide pattern of debt, unemployment, and economic collapse has been caused by the free-trade policies of Australian governments. "In the 1950s Australia led the world in nuclear technology, but our scientific and technological advances were closed down by successive Australian governments beginning with the arch-Anglophile Sir Robert Menzies." Australia must begin with a debt moratorium and then industry and agriculture will have a chance to redevelop, Koehler emphasized.

Tibor Kovats, founder of the Association of Former Polit-

ical Prisoners in Hungary, described what it was like to live under communist and Nazi tyranny. Those who survived this persecution were the ones who had the moral qualities to lead the nation in the rebuilding and healing process, he said, explaining that Hungary has had to "dismantle the entire legacy left over after the fall of communism in just two and half years." On April 22, an IMF team had visited Hungary. The conditionalities imposed as a result mean that adequate finance for industry and farms will not be made available, austerity will be imposed, and economic collapse is assured.

Haddasha Maryum, an African-American civil rights leader, charged that "something hideous has gone on across this planet to stop food production for people. The word for this is 'genocide.'" She called upon delegates to work for the release of LaRouche and to be "steadfast" in what the movement does. She outlined the immediate enemy as the freemasonic orders of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), and the IMF-World Bank gang. But, she explained that there was cause for optimism as the "civil rights movement has now married itself with the world movement." People were waking up to the IMF genocide around the world. People now, as occurred in the early civil rights movement, were "sick and tired of being sick and tired." A "constitutional movement for people" had begun around the world and this is why the Melbourne conference is "historic."

The Taoist-Confucian conflict

LaRouche in his opening address had highlighted the Taoist-Confucian conflict, and Linda de Hoyos from *EIR*, drawing upon the work of political prisoner Michael Billington, explained this in greater detail. The Confucian and neo-Confucian concepts of *jen*, *li*, and *ch'i* have close parallels with the Platonic-Christian principles of *agapē*, "universal reason," and *imago viva Dei*.

De Hoyos explained that Taoist-Legalist regimes in China have been disastrous, whereas when Confucian and American System principles are followed, such as under the great modern leader Sun Yat-sen, then prosperity and the pursuit of human happiness have a chance. It was no accident that "Mao was a rabid hater of Confucianism"; for Mao the highest moral ideal was "service to the state." The great Indian leader Bal Gangadhar Tilak had brought out the best traditions of his nation and begun to unite India before the effort was sabotaged by the British with partition. Sun Yat-sen and Tilak "were attempting to rescue their countries from colonial slavery and this required them to discover the soul of their own country, to create a renaissance in their own nation."

It was no accident, De Hoyos emphasized, that one of the reasons why the establishment had put LaRouche in jail was "because he is able to unite people and bridge differences." She reiterated that this was LaRouche's specific charge to the conference, that it was Australia's mission for the future to build a cultural bridge to China and unite the

finest Platonic and Christian traditions of the West with the Confucian principles of China.

Setting up a national bank

Denis Collins, an Australian member of Parliament, argued the case for re-developing Australia's Commonwealth Bank as a bank of sovereign credit for great rail projects. One urgent need to unite the continent, was to construct a high-speed maglev rail line to link the southern part of Australia with the northern city of Darwin, the port closest to Asia. A great project such as this would require credit created by a national bank.

Dennis Stevenson, another member of the Australian Parliament, also attended the conference and chaired one of the panels.

Ramtanu Maitra from *Fusion Asia* magazine explained the need for great water projects and for governments to develop agriculture to ensure security of the food supply. But, he explained, using examples from the Asian experience, the IMF and World Bank, in league with phony environmentalist movements, had often stymied these much needed projects. Without these developments, starvation and economic decline were very real possibilities in the future.

Melvin Klenetsky from *EIR* called upon delegates to bring to fruition the hopes of those students in Tiananmen Square and the promise of a better world that should have arisen after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Using Plato's analogy of those who sit in the cave and watch shadows thrown by the light from behind, Klenetsky outlined how we must bring these cave dwellers out from their fixation on the shadows dancing on the wall. We must bring them into reality. We must fight against the Aristotelian view of man as a beast and that all things flow from property. Aristotle's view that "some must be slaves so that others are free," is incompatible with our view that all people are made in the living image of God, and that all people have the power of creative reason, he said.

As Uwe Friesecke from the Schiller Institute in Germany argued, when institutions collapse in the face of the task that is required for survival, it is time for citizens to step forward and choose sides. Friesecke said how wonderful it was that "in a Commonwealth country, a movement such as this has sprung up, and this has given sleepless nights to some people we know in London."

"There is a momentous crisis of leadership both moral and intellectual in the world," and "the structures of sin," as represented by the IMF, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and the World Bank, "must be removed from the affairs of mankind. We as a movement must fight for the release of Lyndon LaRouche from his unjust imprisonment, and for the inalienable rights of man. Economic justice will follow when we implement the Productive Triangle program in Europe to be the engine of recovery. Only with the implementation of this program will World War III be avoided," Friesecke concluded.

'War crimes' hunt to continue in Australia

by Don Veitch

At the end of World War II, Australia became a haven for millions of refugees fleeing war-torn Europe and the nightmare of Nazi and Soviet police states. Australia was a safe and peaceful home for many years for these new citizens. However, beginning in 1979 and reaching a crescendo in 1986, accusations were made that these migrant communities harbored Nazi war criminals. The Australian government responded quickly and vigorously to these accusations and conducted a seven-year campaign to hunt the Nazis.

Over 800 Australian citizens, primarily from Ukraine and the Baltic nations, were investigated by a Special Investigation Unit (SIU). Only one case proceeded to trial. In May 1993, after a three-year investigation, Ivan Polyhukovick, a 72-year-old pensioner from South Australia, was exonerated of all charges after the jury deliberated for less than one hour.

As *EIR* has documented in the case of John Demjanjuk and others, the self-proclaimed Nazi-hunters are in many cases targeting innocent people, using "evidence" manufactured by the Soviet KGB, the Israeli Mossad, and other such politically motivated sources.

In the case of Australia, failure to convict Polyhukovick has not ended the campaign, and prosecutors have reaffirmed their intention to pursue cases. The head of the Zionist Federation in Australia, Mark Leibler (brother of World Zionist Congress Co-Chairman Isi Leibler), says that the failure to convict in no way diminishes the need for continued prosecutions.

Foreign governments involved

Since 1986, generous resources have been directed to investigating allegations that Nazis were hiding in Australia. The campaign involved cooperation of the Australian government with Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the Soviet bloc. The files of the U.S.-based Simon Wiesenthal Center and the resources of the Australian Jewish community were utilized to provide the names of suspects. There was a well-funded, broad-ranging inquiry led by Andrew Menzies, Order of the British Empire, leading to the establishment of the Special Investigation Unit. This process took over seven years and cost about \$40 million. Efram Zuroff of the Simon Wiesenthal Center lavished praise on the SIU.

In April 1986, the Australian government-funded network ABC produced radio and television programs repeating the claims that hundreds of Nazi war criminals were hiding

in Australia. The programs were prepared by Mark Aarons, a prominent member of the Communist Party of Australia. Aarons also published a book, *Sanctuary: Nazi Fugitives in Australia*. According to him, the sources for his information included Sam Goldbloom (of the notorious Soviet front the World Peace Congress, Novosti Press Agency in Moscow) and John Loftus, an official of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI). Isi Leibler wrote the preface for Aarons's book.

The Menzies Inquiry

The Menzies Inquiry was set up by the government to review the allegations made by Aarons. In his final report, Menzies highlighted the cooperation he had received from the Australian intelligence organization (ASIO), the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the American OSI. Members of the Menzies team traveled to the U.K. and spoke to the Foreign Office and Cabinet Office, which were "most helpful in providing access to documents which threw new light on Nazis in Australia."

The importance of the OSI as a model for the establishment of the SIU is highlighted by the visit of the director of the OSI, Neal Sher, to Australia, at the time the Menzies Inquiry was considering the evidence. Sher gave Menzies "considerable assistance," said Menzies. Former OSI officials such as Eli Rosenbaum visited Australia to develop the campaign further. Rosenbaum is now an official of the World Jewish Congress.

The OSI is now itself under U.S. investigation for allegations that it doctored evidence and used KGB disinformation to railroad innocent people.

The Menzies Inquiry found that it was more than likely that war criminals had entered Australia and were still living there. A sealed envelope with a short list for prosecution was handed to then-Prime Minister Bob Hawke. A small unit "along the lines of the OSI" was to be established, and Menzies proposed that the unit should have responsibility for investigating "the allegations received by the government from the Simon Wiesenthal Center in the U.S.A. and Israel."

Despite the vigor of the campaign and the resources spent, the failure to convict anybody has brought disappointment to the self-proclaimed Nazi hunters. In March 1992, Prime Minister Paul Keating quickly wound up the SIU, at the time that the allegations against the OSI were being raised. Efram Zuroff, coordinator of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Nazi war crime investigations unit, claimed, after the exoneration of Polyhukovick, that lack of budgetary resources was the cause of the failure to convict. Zuroff now claims he has 90 more targets for prosecution, but says he will not hand them over to the government, since "nothing will be done about Nazi war criminals in Australia." He told Conrad Black's *Sydney Morning Herald* that he intends to come to Australia himself to whip up public opinion, to force the government to reopen the SIU.

Cambodia vote will be lost in United Nations morass

by Mary M. Burdman

The courage of the population of Cambodia, which defied the violent threats of the Khmer Rouge to turn out *en masse* to vote in national assembly elections May 23-27, could now be rendered meaningless by the combination of Cambodian politics, brutalized by 20 years of war and the genocidal rule of the Khmer Rouge, with the machinations of the United Nations and United States. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's nominal head of state during the period of U.N. rule, had attempted to form a coalition government after the June 3 elections, but, just six days later, he announced that this would be impossible. Sihanouk said on June 9 that he would have no part in any new attempts to end the current impasse in Cambodia, and expressed utter contempt for the United Nations, United States, and other foreign governments for their role in undermining the proposed government.

No one won a decisive mandate in the elections, which were to elect a National Assembly with the task of writing a national constitution for Cambodia. The royalist party, Funcinpec, headed by Sihanouk's son Prince Ranariddh, was credited with 45.2% of the vote, and the governing Cambodian People's Party of Prime Minister Hun Sen (CPP), 38.6%. Smaller parties took the rest. Thus, Funcinpec does not have the mandate to write the constitution by itself.

Perhaps the only chance for Cambodia was Sihanouk's coalition, which he proposed to head with two vice presidents, one from Funcinpec and one from the CPP.

On May 25, before the election results favoring Funcinpec were announced by the U.N., CPP spokesman Khieu Kanharith said that his party was prepared to form a new government with representatives of opposition parties "to work for the benefit of the country," the *Bangkok Post* reported. While the Khmer Rouge "rank and file" could "come back and lead normal lives," its core leaders, who had "masterminded massacres," would have to be tried before an international or Cambodian court, Khieu said.

When it emerged that Funcinpec was getting most of the vote, CPP president Chea Sim claimed that there were election irregularities and announced on June 1 that it would not accept the results unless the vote were recounted in Phnom Penh and at least three of the larger provinces. Sihanouk offered to negotiate between Prime Minister Hun Sen and Ranariddh. Sihanouk's offer prevented immediate clash-

es, but now the situation is at an impasse.

Sihanouk's greatest offense was that he attempted to assert sovereignty he does not have. Power in Cambodia rests with the U.N. Transitional Authority (UNTAC), not the Cambodian Supreme National Council which Sihanouk heads, nor the CPP government in Phnom Penh. In February, the U.N. announced that Cambodia "does not have a government." UNTAC had taken total control over every important ministry and unprecedented internal police powers for itself, violating existing Cambodian law and establishing a new form of colonialism. Sihanouk did not consult UNTAC head Yasushi Akashi, and was accused of attempting to stage a "constitutional coup."

The United States has been indicating that it wants to keep things under control in Cambodia. The British *Daily Telegraph* reported on May 25 that U.S. and U.N. officials were letting it be known that the Hun Sen government could not automatically expect international support even if won the elections. Charles Twining, head of the U.S. delegation in Phnom Penh, stressed that the election might be considered only "technically free and fair," amid accusations that the Hun Sen government had murdered opponents and terrorized voters during the campaign.

Khmer Rouge military buildup

Not far in the background is the Khmer Rouge, which had refused to participate in the elections and carried out violent attacks on civilians, especially ethnic Vietnamese, and U.N. forces up to the eve of the elections. The situation was so tense that the U.N. gave the parties, which the "peace process" had earlier disarmed, the right to defend themselves and voters against Khmer Rouge attack.

The head of the U.N. Authority in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, announced on May 19 that the Khmer Rouge military strength had "increased by at least 50%" in the last year to 15,000 fighters, due to "remobilization" of guerrillas who had returned to farming in Khmer Rouge zones. "They have new weapons, they are operating in bigger units, they are led by commanders who are more extremist than past leaders," Akashi said, and "more disciplined, more single-minded, and more hard-line" commanders have emerged in key positions. Akashi said he was "not so sure" that the U.N. would

be capable of taking on such major operations as Cambodia in the future. He said that the U.N. structure is inadequately equipped for such tasks as "peacekeeping" in Cambodia, and that he has had "many battles with New York."

Although the guerrillas held their fire during the elections, committing only minor violence—by Cambodian standards—rather than disrupting them, they were saving ammunition for after the elections and particularly after the U.N. mandate in Cambodia ends in August. "Once the result of the elections shows the CPP was defeated, violence will break out," a Khmer Rouge source told the British daily the *Independent* on June 2.

The Khmer Rouge is demanding a part in a coalition government with Funcinpec. Khmer Rouge spokesman Mak Ben demanded on June 8 at the guerrillas' headquarters in Phoum Malai in the northwest, that the CPP hand power over to the Funcinpec. "If you are to adhere to democratic principles, you have to accept defeat in the election and hand over power to the winning party," he said. If the CPP refuses to hand over power, "We will have to fulfill our duty as patriots." On the same day, Khmer Rouge forces renewed their attacks on U.N. soldiers.

The potential for war

The situation in Cambodia is extremely complicated, with centuries-old "national" issues being played by modern genocidalists to render it near impossible to reach a national consensus and rebuild after years of war. The Khmer Rouge, which murdered *one-seventh* of Cambodia's population during four years of rule (1974-78), used ultra-nationalism, directed against Vietnam and Thailand, to justify its crimes then; now, Khmer Rouge spokesmen still claim to be Cambodia's greatest patriots. They denounce the ruling CPP, which was installed with the backing of the Vietnamese Army after it invaded and drove the Khmer Rouge from power in December 1978, as run from Vietnam. Sihanouk himself had allied with the Khmer Rouge against the CPP during years of civil war after 1978, which was supposedly brought to an end by the U.N.-sponsored peace accord signed in Paris in 1991. For the Khmer Rouge, the war never ended; it only lowered the intensity.

Funcinpec leader Prince Ranariddh is also playing the ultra-nationalist card. He said at an election rally on May 9 that for centuries, "our country has been shrunken step by step because of our neighbors to the east and to the west," meaning Vietnam and Thailand, the *Bangkok Post* reported. He was referring to the Khmer empire which reached its height in the 12th century, when the great Angkor temples complex was built. "If the [CPP] regime wins the upcoming elections it would be impossible for them to recover" the land, he said. If Funcinpec wins, he will seek to recover the lost territories "by peaceful means. The Funcinpec is not the enemy of the 'Yuong' [Vietnamese] but they have to respect us."

Ranariddh told BBC on May 24 that there would be "no

real national reconciliation for Cambodia without the Khmer Rouge." The U.N. has not created reconciliation, because it had not brought the Khmer Rouge into the process, he stated.

Sihanouk on May 24 expressed his wish to include the Khmer Rouge in a government of national unity, claiming that the guerrillas had "now turned to a respect for Buddhism," and that "we must take out of our hearts all spirit of vengeance." But only a day later, he reversed his policy—nothing unusual for him—and said that he would *not* seek to include the Khmer Rouge in a coalition. Sihanouk told former French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson in Phnom Penh: "The election is a great success for Cambodia and the world, and an unbelievable defeat for the Khmer Rouge." In a separate statement he said, "I definitively renounce my earlier proposition for the formation of a government of national reconciliation that included the participation of the Khmer Rouge."

Economic disaster

All this is being enacted amidst economic disaster. "Cambodia's economy, long held hostage to violence, radical politics, and ideology, is teetering on a knife-edge," the *Bangkok Post* wrote on May 13. Of the pathetic \$880 million promised by the industrialized countries, including the United States and Japan, only \$100 million has so far been disbursed. Inflation is approaching 100% per month. In March, inflation was 338% higher than the same period the previous year, due to a sudden devaluation of the local currency. Electric power can only meet one-third of demand even in the capital city. Industry makes up only 16% of GDP, and this figure is falling. The Khmer Rouge slaughtered the country's educated people, leaving it without trained intellectuals. Also, Cambodia has no modern financial system.

The past few months has seen "a serious deterioration in the state of the economy and in the state of expectations," UNTAC senior economist Michael Ward told the *Bangkok Post*. Nothing is being invested to develop and maintain farms and fisheries, mines or forests, and Cambodia's valuable lumber is being stripped so rapidly that it could be gone in 15 years, Ward said.

The economy is also hit hard by the fact that at least 20,000 Vietnamese, who had lived there for generations, have fled the country, driven out by Khmer Rouge violence. The fishing industry, the key source of protein for the Cambodian population, has been damaged, as well as construction and industry requiring skilled labor and artisans. Many construction projects in Phnom Penh have stopped for lack of labor. The price of fish has jumped by 25% in just one month after the Vietnamese fled after several Khmer Rouge massacres of fishermen on Cambodia's great lake, Tonle Sap. The lake was one of the most productive inland fisheries in the world. But, Deputy Minister Cham Prasidh said, the lake is now endangered. "Because of 20 years of war we have not been doing any dredging." The water is shallower, and thus too warm for egg-laying, and fish are dying out.

Malaysian leader slams geopolitics

Since late May, when it became apparent that the Clinton administration's plan to take U.S. military action against Serbia had collapsed, statements emanating from the Malaysian government and reflected in the country's media indicate that many Malaysians are convinced that from any moral standpoint, the West is finished. The government of Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, while expressing disappointment at the lateness of Clinton's proposal to take military action to save Bosnia, nevertheless strongly supported the plan. One of the important questions, however, is how to pick up the pieces, and Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, who travels extensively, has been instrumental in the Third World and Muslim dialogue about "where do we go from here?"

EIR reprints here an excerpted version of the keynote speech which the prime minister delivered June 3 to a conference on "Islam and Justice" that was sponsored by the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia. Mahathir accurately presents the horrors of geopolitics in the framework of an international order devoid of justice. He presents the Islamic concept of justice, and concludes with the hope that the prevailing injustices can be counteracted through clarification of these concepts within Islam itself. (Subheads are ours.)

Several centuries after the decline of the Islamic Empire, the world has been dominated by the non-Muslim countries of the West. They not only succeeded in dominating almost the entire world, but also influenced the thinking of those they control and imposed their values and philosophy on these people. Their concepts and principles of justice are also widely disseminated—so much so that the world is very engrossed with them and no one would question whether it is good or bad. At the same time, the West became powerful militarily and economically, and they controlled various kinds of knowledge, including information technology which enabled them to suppress anyone who challenged them on their principles, as well as the values they uphold and disseminate.

They speak eloquently of the rule of law, human rights, democracy, or the voice of the majority, without taking into account the existence of certain man-made laws that are unfair, excessive [demands for ostensible] human rights, and unwise majority voices. Hence the laws in the West place too much priority on the individual's right that allows him to do anything he pleases, even though his actions may threaten

the peace and security of the society. International laws, meanwhile, were formulated to provide the mighty with the right to suppress the weak. The same applies to human rights which are highly valued to the extent that groups in the name of democracy, are given protection even if their activities threaten society, peace, and progress. . . .

At the same time, the West would not hesitate to turn their backs on the very principles of justice they profess to uphold. . . . When it was evident that the Serbs were terrorizing and killing the Bosnian Muslims, the West had a thousand and one excuses for not acting on the Serbs. The truth is that they acted in Kuwait because they wanted to protect their source of petroleum. Since they have no interest in Bosnia, they are willing to allow the Serbs to kill, terrorize, and suppress the Bosnian Muslims.

'Might is right'

The actual principle subscribed to by the West and the majority of present-day world civilization is based on "might is right." Since the West is powerful, everything they do is fair. Since the Serbs are strong, their annexation of Muslim land is condoned. As Islamic countries and Muslims everywhere are weak, everything they do is wrong and unfair. Efforts by Muslims to re-assert the concept of justice, as expounded by Islam, were criticized by the West as an attempt to revive old and antiquated thinking. The danger is that Muslims, in their frustration with their weaknesses and failures, will react contrary to their religious teachings. Because of the disappointment, Muslims may act rashly, and commit the same offense as that committed by their foe. This would then confirm the allegations of the West that Muslims are extremists.

History is replete with examples of Islamic justice. When the Romans conquered Palestine, the Jews were expelled, reducing them to exiles across the world, in what is known as the Jewish diaspora. But when the Umar Ibn Khattab, the caliph, conquered Palestine, the Christians and the Jews were allowed to stay. The same thing happened when Salahuddin Ibn Ayub, the caliph, conquered Palestine—the non-Muslims were protected. . . . Today when the Jews, with western help, annexed Palestine, Muslims, including children, are suppressed, convicted, and killed every day. . . .

In Islam, a religion which is also a complete way of life, justice is supreme and clearly defined. In Islam it is clearly emphasized that the objective of the universe is primarily to uphold justice and truth. Verse 85 of the Surah Al-Hijr (15) in the Koran says: "We created not the heavens, the earth, and all between them, but for just ends." This is true in Verses 38-39 in the Surah Al-Dukhan (44), which says: "It was not in (idle) sport that We created the Heavens and the Earth and all that lies between them. We created them to reveal the truth."

The verses clearly state the real objective of creating the earth and sky, and in fact the whole universe, that it is to

uphold justice and remove cruelty and evil. In the Surah Al-Dukhan (44), the said Verse 38-39, Allah made it clear that the universe was not created for nothing. The universe was created for a reason. . . . It was created to uphold the truth and justice. If we accept the fact that the universe was created to uphold justice, we, being one of Allah's creations, should also uphold justice. In fact, upholding justice is one of our responsibilities as a human being. . . .

Disregard for justice

The world's present chaos is a result of the international community's disregard for the principles of justice. . . . Again, the Bosnian experience can be cited as an example. The weak Bosnian Muslims are not allowed to obtain arms even for self-defense. The Serbs, who are already strong, are allowed to increase their weaponry. Now, the big powers have agreed to give the territories forcibly taken by the Serbs to them without due regard to the rights of the Bosnian Muslims. . . .

Legal history has proven that the process of making laws into statutory legislations was initiated and implemented by Muslims. . . . But it should be noted that since the process of making Islamic laws into statutory legislations was done by people who are not immune to imperfections, adjustments and corrections on these documents need to be made from time to time, depending on time and place. If there is a perception today that Islam is extremist or cruel, the reason is not that Islam is cruel, but because there are Muslims who, when in power, become arrogant and do not abide by the teachings of the Koran and the sayings of the Prophet (Peace Be Unto Him) and the examples of the rule of the Prophet (Peace Be Unto Him) and well-known caliphs in Islamic history. . . .

Islamic countries, including Malaysia, should strengthen themselves. To achieve this, the important thing is to ensure that a fair and efficient administration be established so that our achievement is at par with that of other developed countries. Only after we have developed, can we undertake preparation to strengthen our defense capability to be on the same level with that of other developed nations in all fields. . . . If today certain countries and races, such as the Serbs and the Jews, dare and are able to suppress and terrorize, the reason is because the Islamic countries are all weak. . . . Hence, before we Muslims blame others, we should question ourselves on our Islamic practice, especially in respect of ensuring fair administration. If Islamic justice is not evident and is difficult to be accepted by all, then we are partly to be blamed. . . .

I hope this conference will succeed in clarifying the concept and principles of justice in Islam so that any misconceptions and negative image can be corrected, and that the world can learn and gain from the wisdom of Islamic justice which can overcome the prevailing injustices caused by the arrogance of the present world powers.

Africa

German media hear of Sudan conference

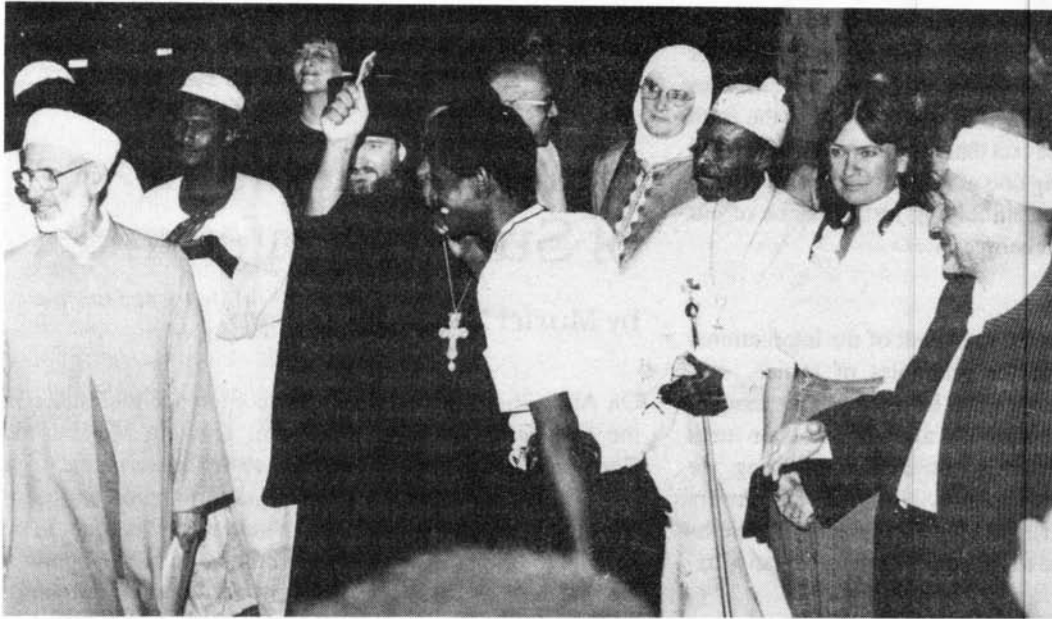
by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

On April 26-30, an extraordinary conference took place in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, drawing Muslim and Christian leaders from 31 countries to deliberate on the ways of thwarting scenarios for religious confrontation and hammering out programs for fruitful ecumenical dialogue. In an attempt to bring the news of the initiative to public opinion, the Sudanese embassy in Bonn, convoked a press conference on June 9, inviting members of the German delegation to report back on their findings. From Khartoum, former Foreign Minister Hashim Osman was also on hand.

The brief remarks of Minister Osman, who had previously served as cultural attaché in Bonn, provided background on the Khartoum government's economic success since it took power in 1989, in bringing the country to food self-sufficiency and even surplus agricultural production. He reported on the government's position in the ongoing peace talks in Abuja, reiterating that the civil war in the south, a vestige of British colonial rule, was political, not religious. He repeatedly invited the press representatives to "visit Sudan and see for yourselves" what is really going on.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, who had headed up a Schiller Institute delegation to the Khartoum interreligious dialogue, stated that "religious tolerance is a reality" in Sudan, much to the consternation of the journalists. She identified three principal grounds for the British-inspired anti-Sudan press campaign: first, that the Sudanese government, cognizant of International Monetary Fund and World Bank policies to write off Africa, has decided to seek economic development independent of such institutions, a course which, if successful, would make it into a breadbasket for the continent, and set an example for the rest of Africa and the developing sector; second, that Sudan has rejected the negative aspects of western "culture," seeking in its own cultural roots the means to bring the economic development into coherence with a moral ordering of society; and finally, that it has launched an effort to end the civil war in the south, a war stoked by British interests eager to seize the raw materials and agricultural potential of the region.

If Sudan succeeds in its economic and political experiment, she said, it would thwart the plans of certain Anglo-American think-tanks to portray "Islam" as the new enemy image.



Helga Zepp-LaRouche (second from right) at an international conference in Sudan in April on religious cooperation, with other conference delegates.

‘Religious coexistence’

Ahmed von Denffer, a German Muslim from the Munich Islamic Center, and Christian Hoffmann, a German Muslim responsible in the Christian Democratic Union for public relations and media work, reported on their experience as delegates to the Khartoum gathering. Von Denffer, whose interest was more religious, related anecdotes from a field trip to the southern city of Wau, which painted a different picture of religious life from that portrayed by the mass media. He reported on informal discussions with villagers, some of whom had Christians, Muslims, and animists within one family. Hoffmann drew on the Sudanese constitution to explain that citizenship in Sudan is not based on “religious brotherhood” but on the concept of the “natural citizen,” whose status is equal, regardless of religious affiliation. He challenged the prejudices of the German press when he noted that the Sudanese concept of “religious coexistence” (not “religious tolerance”) not only allows for Christians to occupy federal ministerial and governor posts, but also sanctions Christian church services televised nationally. He asked the audience to reflect on whether they could imagine Muslim Friday prayers being broadcast on German TV.

“What about the Pope’s trip?” objected a ZDF television journalist. “Why didn’t Khartoum comment on it?” “What about religions other than those recognized by Islam?” blurted a youth from Amnesty International; “Would the Bahai cult have permission to live in Sudan?” The Khartoum diplomat answered that during the pope’s visit, 1 million Sudanese had thronged to an open air mass he celebrated, something which the Holy Father apparently had not expected. As for Bahai, “Let them come to the Sudan, if they want.”

One journalist said, in response to the former minister’s briefing on perspectives for peace at the Abuja talks, that he

“was quite sure Abuja would not lead to an overall solution.” Therefore, he asked, “what about interim solutions, like safe havens for the Christians?” This proposal, being floated in western think-tanks, was put forward by another journalist, who had the gall to reference the “safe havens” for Muslims in Bosnia as a precedent. The minister replied by asking, first, who should police such safe havens? More to the point, he insisted that since Christians and Muslims in Sudan are intermingled, often in the same family, no one wants to segregate them; the challenge lies in finding a political solution to the war, which is political, not religious, in origin.

One Arab journalist added, “Now I see from what von Denffer and Mrs. LaRouche have said that the ‘religious persecution’ line being spread by the press, is but a pretext to prepare some military intervention.” He asked: “How can we change the way the mass media report, so as to avert such catastrophes?”

“Take up the invitation to visit Sudan,” was von Denffer’s answer. Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche seconded his advice, and explored the implications more deeply. In addition to praising the quality of political debate she had observed in Sudan during her trip, she emphasized the optimism characterizing Sudanese leaders, who are seeking new technologies and techniques for improving crop yields and animal husbandry.

As to proposals for safe havens, Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche said bluntly that although the United Nations charter might sound good, the five permanent Security Council members run the show and have turned the U.N. into a tool of the oligarchy. As an example, she identified the 1992-93 intervention into Somalia as a “Bush-designed State Department operation to establish a beachhead in the Horn of Africa, poised for future operations against Islam.”

NGOs launch war of attrition

As the military nationalists expand their organizing, the "human rights" groups are being thrown against them.

Among the innumerable military groups that have been organizing themselves over the past year to defend against neo-colonial demilitarization plans, the manifesto of one of these, the Araucaria Group, based in the state of Paraná, has triggered a furious debate in the National Congress.

On June 4, the press published a declaration distributed by the group calling the Congress to account for its political decisions: "Resources are lacking for health, national and public security, culture, and salaries for federal workers, but there is an abundance of money for the National Congress, where laws are made to keep it at arms' length from that abstraction known as 'hunger.'"

The manifesto continues: "Ah, but not to worry, because democracy will solve it: In the next elections the people will bring about change. How naive! Everything will remain the same. What good is this democracy?"

Finally, the declaration reflects the growing disgust of the population with the political class: "The Araucaria Group will no longer tolerate bad Brazilian politicians; we will hold them responsible for the tragedy of mass unemployment, for the impunity and misery that generates violence, for the disappearance of patriotism."

Immediately, congressmen from various political persuasions, including the government's congressional leader Roberto Freire, responded with hysteria to the Araucaria Group's warnings, reflecting their fear of the so-called "Fujimorization" of Brazil. Freire declared of the group, "They

want to be the guardians of the country, but we are not going to allow it." The congressmen of the pro-communist Workers Party (PT) put on a show of disgust. Deputy José Genoíno tore up a copy of the military manifesto and trampled it under foot. Sen. Roman Tito of the PMDB declared that "the military seems to have forgotten the way it mismanaged the country."

The would-be demilitarizers are sending out their shock troops to try to control a situation that has all the characteristics of a volcano about to erupt. In particular, they have activated a group of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to enter the field of battle and carry out a war of attrition against the Armed Forces; their demands are in essence no different from those used in other South American countries: revoke the amnesties granted to the armies and do away with military courts.

The most visible NGO is Americas Watch, which issued a report accusing the São Paulo military police of being "one of the most violent in the world." The accusation gives de facto support to a bill recently submitted by PT Deputy Helio Bicudo, which seeks the total extinction of military justice in Brazil. Americas Watch is one of the leading "human rights" NGOs in Ibero-America. Its president, Peter Bell, is also co-chairman of the influential foreign policy entity inside the Clinton administration known as the Inter-American Dialogue.

On the Brazilian side of things, the force behind the Bicudo bill and the

movement to revoke the amnesty granted the military for its participation in the 1970s fight against the Marxist guerrillas, is the Institute of Socio-Economic Studies (INESC), the key lobby inside the Brazilian Congress of the international NGO apparatus and closely linked to the Anglo-Americans' Brazil Network. The network, in turn, is responsible for organizing ecological campaigns against Brazil. INESC is the transmission belt for every one of the demands of the new world order, which seeks to impose the concept of "limited sovereignty" in Brazil.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International is alerting its activists as to the near-term future it foresees for Brazil. Secretary General Pierre Sane commented from London that "a military solution" for Brazil is gaining increasing sympathy within the population.

In the strategic southern part of Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul newspaper *Zero Hora*, a frequent mouthpiece of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), has redoubled its anti-military campaign in recent weeks. In late May, *Zero Hora* published a series of scandalous reports on the participation of the Brazilian Armed Forces in Operation Condor (a joint operation of Southern Cone armies against the guerrillas in the 1970s), which, according to the report, has just been confirmed through Paraguay.

The intention of *Zero Hora* and of the demilitarizers is to establish coordination among the groups supposedly fighting for human rights in southern Brazil, and in Paraguay and Uruguay. In Paraguay, in particular, these groups are aggressively working with a group of U.S. evangelical sects. In three months, they expect to complete their report on Operation Condor, and those they consider responsible for it.

International News

Vatican envoy dispatched to Bosnia

Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, a special envoy of Pope John Paul II, visited Banja Luka, in the heart of the Serbian-controlled part of Bosnia-Herzegovina, to celebrate Pentecost with the region's few remaining Catholics.

Describing the situation after having returned to Rome, Cardinal Etchegaray told the French daily *Le Figaro* of June 4: "Two years ago, the diocese counted almost 90,000 faithful. Today, the exodus, to the West especially, has reduced it by two-thirds. One hundred Catholics and 200 Muslims leave Banja Luka each week." He said the population there was subjected to "psychological warfare," to "ethnic cleansing founded on fear, and on pushing people to flee when their reasons for living—social, economic, cultural, and religious—disappear."

He said that Catholic religious edifices, as well as mosques, have been systematically damaged. Should peace ever return to that region, "it risks being that of the graveyard."

Back in Rome, the cardinal expressed his feeling of "admiration for the faithful of the church in Bosnia, but also an extreme revulsion over their condition."

Will Entente Cordiale use arms against Bosnia?

The possibility that France and Britain—the new Entente Cordiale—could take military action in former Yugoslavia, not against the Serbian aggressors, but against the Bosnians, was raised by the London *Guardian* on June 2.

In a lead article entitled "Hurd Defends Safe Havens: U.N. Enforcement Measures Sought," the newspaper wrote that British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, "on a visit to Paris, said that to be 'fully operational,' the plan for safe havens needed new United Nations enforcement measures. He and his French counterpart, Alain Juppé, declared their intent to quickly push through the U.N.

Security Council a resolution authorizing force and air strikes if Bosnian combatants challenge U.N. troops protecting the six designated Muslim cities and their surrounding pockets."

Since the main impediments to the "safe havens" policy are the Bosnians themselves, the formulation implies that military action must be prepared against the Bosnians!

In related news, the French daily *Le Monde* of May 29 headlined an article, "Paris and London Celebrate the Entente Cordiale," hailing the emerging alliance with Britain. The article quotes Jean Musitelli, spokesman for the Elysée presidential palace: "The Entente Cordiale is back." This euphoria emanated from meetings in Paris between British Prime Minister John Major and the French leaders, when the "British lion and French cock sat arm in arm."

A Franco-British summit will take place in London on July 26.

Ruling parties fall in northern Italy

The government parties collapsed in northern Italy, while holding on to power in the South, in the first round of local elections held on June 6.

In Milan, the winners were the candidates from two relatively new political groups, the Northern League and La Rete (the Network), respectively, Marco Formentini and Nando Dalla Chiesa. Dalla Chiesa is the son of the famous Carabinieri general, Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, who defeated terrorism in the 1970s and was later killed by the Mafia. The younger Dalla Chiesa is a professional sociologist.

The Christian Democracy (DC) in Milan collapsed from 20 to 10%, while the Socialist Party (PSI) sank from 19% to 2.2%.

The national figures gave the League 28%, the DC 19.3%, and the PSI 9.1%. The traditional left parties, the PDS and Rifondazione—both coming from the old Communist Party—got 16.2% and 7.8%, respectively.

The League swept many cities in the

North, among them Pavia and Lecco. They did not succeed in Turin, where they charged their opponents with electoral fraud. In a comment in the daily *Corriere della Sera*, sociologist Renato Mannheimer wrote that Milan experimented successfully with the "American" model, as voters did not necessarily support the candidates whose ideas they shared, but those candidates who had the best chances to win.

Uffizi bombing was 'worse than the Nazis'

"Even the Nazis spared this heritage. My generation was confident that it was sacred. Now we know that something which is sacred and which transcends life can be brutally abused. It is a terrible degeneration." So stated Annamaria Petrioli Tofani, director of the Uffizi Gallery of Florence, in an interview published on June 5 with the London *Guardian's* correspondent Ed Vulliamy, in reaction to the May 26 terrorist bombing of the Uffizi. "This is a deep, terrible wound to art, to us all, to history."

Vulliamy catalogues the damage done, including the partial damage to the *Entombment* painting of the Flemish painter Rogier van der Weyden and the minor damage to Giotto's *Madonna of the Coast*, which is located in the little Church of San Stefano al Ponte, as well as the destruction of several Venetian and other paintings.

The correspondent quoted Luigi Ballini, Florence's cultural commissioner: "What was that phrase the French resistance once used to describe the Nazis? The assassins of memory—that's it. That's what they are—the assassins of memory. But they will fail. In fact, they have already been defeated, for I have yet to meet a single Florentine who has said, 'I am afraid.'"

Antonio Paolucci, the government's superintendent of museums in Florence, said: "We feel embarrassed talking about paintings, when a baby of two months old is dead. Of course life is more important. But that said, something else dies too when you destroy both man and the genius of man togeth-

er. This museum belongs to mankind." No matter what is done to restore the damage to the museum, Paolucci said, "something will have changed completely. Art has become a target for terrorism."

New Bolivian President is free-market maniac

Gonzalo Sánchez de Losada, a member of the Inter-American Dialogue, won 35% of the vote in presidential elections on June 6, ahead of any of the other candidates. As no candidate won a majority, the Congress will now vote on which of the three top candidates becomes President. Sánchez de Losada has already claimed victory.

Sánchez de Losada, as economics minister in 1985, implemented the infamous "shock therapy" program of Harvard's Jeffrey Sachs, which shut down what was left of the productive economy, in the name of "fighting inflation," and stimulated the cocaine trade instead. A mining executive, Sánchez de Losada speaks Spanish as a second language, since he grew up in the United States and graduated from the University of Chicago. He campaigned on the slogan that, as in 1985 he defeated hyperinflation, so "now we'll do it to end hypercorruption."

Israeli to Germany: Stop Jewish immigration

An Israeli member of parliament has asked Germany to stop giving preference to Jewish immigrants coming from the former Soviet Union, and instead make it hard for them to settle in Germany, so they would immigrate to Israel instead.

"I vigorously appeal to the German government not to give preference to the Jews from the Commonwealth of Independent States who want to immigrate there . . . but on the contrary, to make it hard for them, with all the means the German Constitution allows, and to use such bureaucratic foot-dragging against them that they will prefer to move to Israel," Reuters on June 2 quoted

Israeli Member of the Knesset Emanuel Zismann, who is chairman of the immigration committee.

Zismann accuses the German government of failing to do its part in making sure that Jews keep their Zionist identity, by not forcing them to immigrate to Israel.

"The German government must understand its moral obligation to the Jewish people includes preserving the wholeness of the Jewish people and with its current policy of preferring Jews and allowing them free immigration, which it does not grant other minorities, it has an active role in this loss to the Jewish people," says Zismann.

Many Russian Jews who have immigrated to Israel are treated like second-class citizens, and unemployment among them is high.

The strange dealings of Libya and Israel

Two Iran-Contra operatives, Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi and Israeli Mossad agent turned millionaire arms dealer Yaacov Nimrodi, are responsible for arranging the visit of 200 Libyan pilgrims to Jerusalem last month, according to several intelligence sources. A third individual involved is Raphael Falach, the head of the Libyan Jewish community in Rome.

Khashoggi and Nimrodi made millions working with Lt. Col. Oliver North (ret.) and others selling arms to Iran in the 1980s. They were also involved in establishing ties between President Carter's brother Billy and Libya's Muammar Qaddafi.

Nimrodi and Khashoggi established a joint venture to set up tours of the holy sites of Jerusalem for Arab and other Muslim visitors. According to Israeli sources, none of the Libyans were simple pilgrims and all are very close to Qaddafi and the Libyan security and political apparatus.

The next move will be for a religious conference to be held in July in Tripoli, Libya, which Libyan Jews from Israel and Italy will attend. This would be followed by the visit of two Libyan ministers to Israel and even a visit by Qaddafi himself.

Briefly

● **SERBIA'S MILOSEVIC** "has opened the way to a fascist dictatorship," warned Tito-era Yugoslav dissident Milovan Djilas on June 3. "With the suppression of Mr. Draskovic's [Serbian Renewal Movement] party, there will be no significant opposition in Serbia. Our country has entered the darkest point in its history."

● **ISRAEL** admitted for the first time that an Army intelligence officer had been jailed on spying charges since 1987, without the public ever knowing, Reuters reported on June 3. Maj. Yousef Amit was sentenced to 12 years for spying for the United States, after a secret trial. Israel had offered to trade Amit for Jonathan Pollard, who was caught spying on the United States for Israel.

● **THE PANAMA** newspaper *La Estrella de Panama* on May 23 published a report on the B'nai B'rith's involvement in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, drawing on *EIR*'s published reports. The article described the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith as "a nefarious instrument of international espionage that is guilty of perpetrating the situation in which U.S. political leader Lyndon LaRouche finds himself today."

● **CHINESE** Prime Minister Li Peng has not been seen for six weeks, and no indication has been given if or when he might re-emerge, the London *Sunday Times* reported on June 6. "There is an eerie feeling in Beijing these days," according to the paper, and most Chinese suspect that Li is suffering from a "political illness."

● **MEXICAN BISHOP** Alamilla Arteaga, bishop of Papantla, has doubts about the Mexican government's version of the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, and called on June 8 for a meeting of the Mexican Bishops Council to discuss the matter.

There is real danger in 'virtual reality'

by L. Wolfe

Virtual Reality

by Howard Rheingold

Summit Books, New York, 1991

415 pages, hardbound, \$22.95

Several score millions of Americans were offered their first glimpse of a new computer technology, dubbed "virtual reality," during the six-hour ABC prime time broadcast of Oliver Stone's made-for-television film "Wild Palms" on May 16-19. The well-promoted "special event," played over four nights during the national ratings sweeps, was designed to create the maximum interest in what the movie graphically depicted as a means to create mass illusions, as powerful as any hallucinogenic drug, and described by the media as "electronic LSD."

The Stone movie, set in the first decade of the new millennium against the backdrop of a darkly fascistic society, seemed to indicate the danger if evil forces controlled the technology, and hence the illusion. However, that message, clouded by a bizarre plot, paled before the power and seductive appeal of the technology itself. As the dreadlocked, 34-year-old guru of "virtual reality," computer hacker Jaron Lanier, told an ABC News's Nightline audience, the technology is on its way, and no one can stop it, so "we might as well sit back and enjoy the ride."

In the days since, in followup interviews, news reports, in both print and electronic media, virtual reality, formerly the "property" of a small cult of ex-druggies, computer hackers, and research scientists at a number of small companies and institutes, has exploded onto the national consciousness.

This is all very carefully planned and timed. By next fall, a major marketing campaign will be under way to sell virtual reality gear, in its most crude stages, to Americans. By the end of the decade, its promoters, such as Sony, Fujitsu, Time-Warner, and Disney who are pumping billions of dollars into hardware and software development, expect it to have the same penetration as video recorders or personal computers. By the first part of the new century, nearly every American home will have access to a virtual reality system while "virtual reality fantasy parks" and "theaters" will dot the American landscape.

Lanier and other "experts" in the field are quick to point out that the technology is far behind what was portrayed in "Wild Palms," that its three-dimensional images are still more cartoon-like than real, and that the human-computer interface and capacity for interaction are still very primitive. However, no one will disagree that the technology is headed toward the capabilities depicted in the movie. "We've got everybody's attention now," said someone working on the marketing of the first virtual reality products. "What more could we ask for?"

With all the recent publicity and sensationalism, the best and most thorough examination of virtual reality is contained in the 1991 book by Howard Rheingold. The author, a computer hacker, makes no effort to conceal his bias in favor of the technology. But perhaps because of this, he presents a rather complete view of both the state of the technology and some useful insights into minds of its advocates, provided one can get past the computer- and psycho-babble that suffuses his writing. Not surprisingly, Rheingold does not locate virtual reality as part of larger developments, or more properly, as a phase change in the mass brainwashing process involving movies and television, a process that has already

rendered much of our population psychotic and incapable of rational, moral thought on a daily basis.

What is virtual reality

In "Wild Palms," characters put on what appeared to be a pair of sunglasses and entered a world of realistic illusion and dreams, controlled by some dark forces known as the "Fathers." The people in those "virtual worlds" looked real and interacted with the "real" characters as if they were real. It was explained that such people and environments were "holograms" projected onto the retina of the individual wearing the sunglasses. There was supposedly feedback between an individual's dream state and these images, which determined some of the characteristics of the projected holograms. One could travel in time to imagined lands, talk to deceased people or to individuals yet to be born in some future time. One could have exotic, erotic relations with the projected images, seeming to feel them to be real in every way.

The current state of the art of virtual reality is much cruder, although the promise of the "Wild Palms" technology is inherent, at least from a seductive standpoint, in the present technology.

A virtual reality setup involves the following: a "mask," called a "head-mounted display" which essentially shuts out the outside world and consists of tiny liquid crystal television monitors over both eyes and stereo headphones; and a set of gloves, called a Dataglove. Both the glove and the head-mounted display are wired to a high-speed personal computer, capable of using new three-dimensional monitoring and color graphics software. The computer program generates the 3-D graphics that compose the "virtual world," and is capable of responding to sensory information transmitted from the gloves and head-mounted display. In that way, the person wearing the mask and gloves can interact within the virtual world, moving things around, reorienting himself, and having the images projected in the mask reflect those changes.

The computer clothing, as the head-mounted display and gloves are called, can be extended to include full-body suits, with appropriate sensors that will more completely place the wearer inside the projected "virtual world" and expand the level of his or her interaction with that world.

According to Lanier, the key to the process is to "trick" the sensory organs and the brain, through the bombardment with simulated stimuli, that what is being projected is "real." At that point, judgment about whether the projected, alternative world, is real is suspended. Rheingold, comparing this to what takes place in a theater performance where an audience "identifies" and "empathizes" with the performers, applies Aristotle's term, *mimesis* to the phenomena. "If you generate enough stimuli outside one's sense organs to indicate the existence of a particular alternate world, then the person's nervous system will kick into gear and treat the simulated world as real," Lanier told an interviewer in 1991.

One set of limitations placed on this process occurs because of the problems with processing data. Even the fastest of available computers cannot process the necessary data, and feed back the results in changes in the "virtual world" in "real time." For the system to work, it must eliminate enough of the lag time to allow for the cues provided to work in the way Lanier described; if it does not make that threshold, the results can be both disorienting and in some cases, where it is close to, but below the threshold, even sickening.

A similar *mimetic* process, to use Rheingold's term, of "cued" suspension of judgment takes place when one watches a movie or television. The viewer of such entertainment is not aware of the projected series of pictures in a movie, but sees a continuous image; the television viewer does not see the changing dots that make up the image, but the continuous projection. Nor do the viewers of either generally find themselves aware of other outside stimuli, or, in the case of television, aware that the size of the projected image is generally much smaller than normal visual field.

Fred Emery, who worked on television brainwashing effects for the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in the 1960s and 1970s, described the process by which the viewer is being drawn closer and closer to the screen. Movies first created that sensation, which was enhanced with the enlargement of the screen for Cinemascope. It was further enhanced by television, which brought the effect of movies into the living room. But the screen always represented both an apparent "physical" barrier between image and audience. Virtual reality technology collapses that barrier by placing the subject *inside* the screen, into the projected fantasy, and enables the subject to interact with it, according to the limits established by the programming and the sophistication of the technology.

In the immediate future, the first stage virtual reality entertainment will be pre-programmed, much like video or computer game software. Ultimately, the programming will be "user customized." But while that might open up what appears to be limitless possibilities, it is in fact *limited* by the very nature of the computer technology.

Redefining the problem

Virtual reality technologies, within certain defined limits can be extremely useful. It is when one attempts to force it outside these necessary limits, using deconstructionist metaphysics and New Age spiritualism, that the technology, as mass entertainment, becomes dangerous.

Rheingold, Lanier, and others are fond of comparing what they think virtual reality accomplishes to the famous allegory of the cave from Plato's *Republic*. From their distorted view of Plato, they understand it to mean that man can only see images of reality, projected as if shadows on the wall of a cave, "an illusion based on reality, a virtual world," as Rheingold describes it. From this the adherents of virtual reality extrapolate that there is *no reality that can be known*;

therefore, each personal virtual reality is potentially as valid as any other. There is no power of reason that cannot be fooled, Rheingold claims, saying that the virtual reality technologies must cause us to look toward *less reasoned*, more mystical solutions that link our sense impressions to some "higher realm." This, they claim, will establish the basis of a true human identity.

Rheingold and hackers like Lanier, while citing Plato, are Aristotelians; they even boast that their programs are based on principles defined in Aristotle's *Poetics*. As one of the leading programmers, Brenda Laurel, writes in her book *Computers as Theater* that computers can "create" in the manner that Aristotle understands the act of "creation," by naming what is there and describing what it does. Action and interaction are programmed according to simple principles, linear rules, that do not change; what is "created" is a closed system.

While Plato does say that man does not know reality through his senses—through sense certainty—in opposition to the Aristotelians, he argues that it is possible to get past *sense certainty* to understand what is behind or the cause of the sense impression. However, we can never wind up finding the cause of the sense impression by interpreting the sense impression itself. The domain of reason exists on a *higher* level than sense certainty, and cannot be accessed from that lower domain of the senses. It is the function of creative reason, the power of the mind that distinguishes man from the beast, and makes him in the image of his Creator, to see beyond sense certainty to understand the laws which govern the universe.

All computer programs and systems, virtual reality programs and systems most emphatically included, operate in the Aristotelian realm of *sense certainty*, or in a variant, *sense-experience*. An Aristotelian, like virtual reality cult members, or degraded individuals immersed in spectator sports and Hollywood, television entertainment, can only rationalize the relationships between sense-certain phenomena.

The creative person uses his power of reason to discover the axioms that change the conditioned behavior of mankind, in accordance with natural law. It is man's moral obligation to act accordingly, and by so doing preserve and expand the dominion of our species over nature.

Virtual reality programs, or so-called virtual worlds, are merely representations of sense certainties, of objects and data, arrayed according to the Aristotelian process of computer electronics. They are technologically possible because you can reduce such representations and simplistic interactions to mathematical formula of "less than" or "greater than" character, and give them a plotted location within an electronic computer memory. You can increase the speed by which such data are processed, spit out, but no matter how fast they get, computers cannot replicate the power of human creative thinking: the object of human reasoning is the creation of

ideas, not data or information—*no computer will ever create an idea, in the manner which Plato defines an idea.*

It would be better to call what now passes for "virtual reality," "computer-generated three-dimensional interactive simulations," and to understand their inherent limitations.

Such technology can be extremely useful in the design of machine tools and other tools that can enhance the power of human labor. They have been employed for some time in flight simulators, saving lives and making for more skilled pilots. They are already being used to train surgeons in procedures without incurring risk to human life. In other areas they are employed, through what is called "telepresence," to operate equipment and probes in places where humans cannot go, such as in volcano cores or human arteries; they can ultimately help us to build cities in space. These simulations are further being deployed in the design of new chemicals or in the aiming of radiation treatment for cancer patients.

All of these uses are helpful in a linear, simulation technology to help advance human skills. Many represent simple training devices for improved motor skills, in which, if one does a certain task in a particular way, there will be an effective and lawful result. Rheingold's book provides exciting evidence of how such simulation works now, especially in the medical field, and what other areas are under study for future application.

'Ecstasy machine'

However, there exists an *absolute boundary condition* that separates the "virtual reality" technology from human intelligence. When people deliberately blur this primary distinction between man and computer, the virtual reality technology takes on an evil and destructive purpose.

A few years ago, in one of the first major media discussions of the new technology, the *Wall Street Journal* ran a front-page story under the headline "Electronic LSD." Since that time, devotees of the virtual reality cult, have been busy qualifying that description. The preferred one, used by Rheingold, is "ecstasy machine." They are careful to point out that this is not the *only* use of virtual reality, but admit that it is *one* use.

While they stick on their qualifiers and claim that it is nothing like a hallucinogen, those involved deeply with virtual reality have adopted the epistemological outlook of the 1960s LSD drug culture, attempting to use virtual reality to reconstitute the drug culture in 1990s guise. In fact, the same individuals involved in the 1960s spread of hallucinogenic drugs to cause America's youths to "tune in, turn on, and drop out," have found a niche in the virtual reality precincts, including:

- Timothy Leary, the guru of the LSD movement, plays a prominent role among virtual reality adherents;
- members of the Hog Farm, a group that earned fame for dosing unsuspecting victims with lysergic acid diethyl-



Virtual reality technology was initially developed to help humans improve their world through science and technology. Shown here is a seismic modeling simulation jointly developed by IBM and the Colorado School of Mines. Other uses include remote control of instrumentation in dangerous environments or microscopic medical procedures. With such an exciting reality before us, who would want to escape it?

ide (LSD or “acid”) and later providing the security apparatus for the Woodstock concert in 1969;

- Jerry Garcia of the rock band Grateful Dead, as well as scores of others associated with the rock-drug counterculture.

In fact, one participant in a convention of virtual reality enthusiasts pondered, in an interview, whether he hadn’t wandered back into 1960s Grateful Dead concert crowd. A significant number of virtual reality adherents admit to having used LSD—some admit to using it now—while others prefer to be a bit more discreet, hoping that the associations don’t hurt the wide popular acceptance of the new technology. Those involved in its promotion, however, realize that the prospect of a new, legal, LSD experience—all the thrills of an induced ecstasy without some of the risks—is extremely powerful motivation.

The other principal grouping within the virtual reality cult, with an overlapping membership among “acid heads,” is what have been called “technoweenies”: people who are effectively self-brainwashed by their personal computers. Most are products of the deconstructionist assault on education, including what passes for higher education, and speak in terms of “personal empowerment” and “hyper-networks.” They don’t communicate—they “interface,” having reduced themselves to Aristotelian “mailboxes” in some network. There is really very little difference between their epistemology and that of an “acid head.”

“I am at liberty to say that I am an acid head,” said John

Perry Barlow, a former songwriter for the Grateful Dead and a leading promoter of virtual reality. “Drugs are not the issue here. It is the slippery epistemology that psychedelics [hallucinogenic delusions] induce.”

Virtually nothing is taboo

Most of those deeply involved with virtual reality have fallen far down that slippery slope. They call their alternative reality, the world produced by the computer simulations, “cyberspace,” a term borrowed from the science fiction cult novel *Neuromancer*, about a computer-driven “brave new world.” They see themselves as “cybernauts” who are at once explorers of this new world—Lanier likens it an “invented new planet”—and *warriors* against the old order, the old way of thinking. That “old way of thinking” is the foundation of more than 2,000 years of Judeo-Christian civilization and the values it embodies. Virtual reality provides a “tool” by which we can overturn this restrictive old order, Rheingold explains, and replace it with one in which both happiness and imagination are unlimited—or so he claims.

What Rheingold, Lanier, and their fellow cybernauts object to is that there is a universe whose laws are knowable and where there are such things as universal truths. The imagination, they claim, and therefore human freedom, are fettered by this outdated concept of the universe since it defines certain boundary conditions, certain realities which are unchangeable. They rebel against the relationship be-

tween *freedom* and *necessity* that is the basis of all human progress, all human creativity. For them, there must be *absolute freedom* as the primary ordering principle; *necessity* is to be rejected and denied.

Virtual reality, Rheingold explains, re-creates a more primitive state in man, when he was unfettered by the concept of *necessity*. He and others, including Lanier, liken this to the state of mind, which they regard as the highest form of "creativity," to that of an infant. If "properly used," Rheingold explains, virtual reality can restore in man this infantile mental state, the same state of bliss as achieved by primitive cultures, especially those cultures that used psychotropic drugs.

Modern religion, as opposed to primitive pagan worship, has become too structured, too centralized, Rheingold claims. With the advent of the Age of Cyberspace, he says, man can finally experience religion "as it was meant to be," as a "decentered" personal experience, unmediated by the structures of the church. Modern religion, with its centralized structures, instructs in self-denial and calls this self-denial of the senses true consciousness; the new religion, made possible by the creation of virtual worlds using the modern-day practices of the Shiva and Dionysus cults, presents man with "unlimited possibilities and unhindered sensibilities."

The culture so created will be one in which man need not deny his senses their pleasure, because such pleasure can be found without limit and without penalty, the virtual reality cultists maintain. There is nothing that is forbidden, nothing that is taboo. It is the sense of being able to act without suffering the responsibilities for one's action that is principal seductive inducement for virtual reality among a population already degraded by popular culture.

This extends to the sex act, where Rheingold has coined the term "teledildonics" to conjure up the proper image of virtual sex. There is a real life consequence for having sex with your neighbor's wife. In a virtual world, one can have a virtual sex experience, with no apparent consequence, Rheingold imagines. Morality, as defined in the classic sense of that term to signify an ability to judge right from wrong according to certain principles, collapses under the weight of a virtual world. Without a developed moral conscience that informs judgment, man is reduced to a beast-like state, the Freudian *id*. Rheingold counters that such virtual experiences as having sex with your neighbor may serve to dampen the desire to commit such acts in the "real world."

He puts aside the discussion by stating, as do many of his co-thinkers, that the technology is still too crude to make such experiences more than theoretical possibilities. (Theoretically, it is possible to program a computer to simulate sex; it breaks down to stimulus and response, at given locations, all of which can be mapped and programmed. Should the processing speed improve, should various body suit fabrics be designed, with appropriate sensory devices, one can imagine the "creation" of the computer equivalent of one of

those rubber dolls popular in some quarters, and later, the conversion of humans into the computer-suited equivalents of those dolls.)

No such thing as 'virtual love'

But all of this is not to be confused with a nonlinear concept such as human love, a complex *idea* that transcends the sense-experience, and therefore cannot be mapped in an Aristotelian geometry and programmed. You can have virtual sex, but not virtual love.

"Virtual reality is an epistemological milestone," proclaims Lanier, "a new reality that is shared as the physical world is. Yet it is open and unhindered, like dreams."

The point about dreams is important: Lanier and his fellow cybernauts, borrowing from radical Freudians like Hitler enthusiast Carl Jung, believe that all creativity is unconscious, that it involves mystical processes that are unknowable. The dream-like state associated with a religious trance of pagan practice or a drugged state are therefore equated with the height of creativity. Virtual reality enables one to access this dream-like consciousness, a form of heightened sensibility to "experience," and from there to have direct access to what these fellows think is "pure creative potential." This is exactly what was proclaimed as the power of LSD.

Lanier, the dreadlocked guru of virtual reality, like Harvard's Timothy Leary before him, is capable of spinning out examples of this type of "creativity" at a moment's notice. He speaks of playing a virtual bagpipe that, as you play notes, builds a city in your virtual landscape: "You toot out a few notes. What happens is there is one crooked, funny skyscraper, and a slum. But as you play, all of a sudden a city spins out." There are no laws of nature in these virtual worlds, if one wants to "create," then like a conjurer, one can create anything one wants, Lanier and Rheingold point out. As the computer technology advances, these creative experiences can be shared by individuals networked together, "creating" whatever comes into their mind.

But this is not creativity. It should more appropriately be called mental masturbation. No matter what the cybernauts say, *there exists a reality*, a reality behind all the shadows, that is knowable and governed by natural law. It is not creative to deny the existence of such a reality, nor to wish into existence an alternative reality, in which, it is posited, there are no such laws. Through the creative acts of human individuals, mankind as a whole discovers the universal truths that govern our world. This is done not by arranging objects within a fixed universe. The creative act is defined by the search for necessary principle that can overturn the axioms of one system of knowledge, so that mankind might progress to the next higher level of knowledge. It is the search for the perfection of man's knowledge of the universe that is the essence of creativity. In so doing, we act in such a way to participate in the divine creation, using that power, that di-

vine spark of reason, that makes us in the image of our Creator. Only by acting in accordance with such principles, can one be truly free.

Virtual reality operates in the realm of the senses. It seeks to impose that realm, the realm of Aristotle, on the mind, and thereby keep man enslaved to his "sensibilities." In the virtual world, every so-called creative act, no matter how irrational, is programmed in a linear mode on a computer. Response "B" follows from act "A"; if a different act, "A-1," had taken place, then the response would have been "B-1." If one moves one's head to the right, then the image in the head-mounted display moves to the right, according to a calculated formula. In the case of Lanier's "bagpipe city," a particular note causes a certain image in the cityscape to appear; if you play certain notes in sequence, then a particular sequence of buildings appear. This can be varied according to an almost limitless number of possibilities. And one can learn, how to create certain expected responses, similar to playing a Nintendo game. This is what is called "interaction"; but it is not creative, nor is it human.

Say you want to make a farm rather than a city in Lanier's "bagpipe" example. You'd have to change the computer program, to create a new set of fixed variables and possibilities and responses. But could you discover, while in a given virtual world, the means by which to change the axioms of the one virtual reality so as to "create" another? How can you turn your city into a farm—what notes would you have to play? You can't find any axiom, you can't find any sequence of notes. You are limited by the fixed universe of possibilities and responses as defined by the universe of that specific virtual world. You may transform objects in that world—if the program allows—but you cannot transform the world itself.

Yet, it is precisely this principle of searching for what changes something from one mode of behavior or activity to another, for axiomatic changes, which is the essence of scientific or creative reason.

Aristotelian unreality

What passes for "creativity" in virtual reality is in fact a phony shadow of creativity: it is merely a rush, a cheap thrill induced by manipulation of the senses. Stated in another way, all virtual worlds are on one plane, one level, an Aristotelian level. One can never get to the level of reality from there, which explains why those involved with the virtual reality addiction must so vehemently deny that any such reality exists. There is a linear sequence of "realities," all strung together by computer programming, but there is no way to get to another level: Once inside the computer experience, you can easily become trapped by it. That is perfectly lawful, because, as we stated, there is no way to get from the domain of the senses to the higher domain of reason by looking at or manipulating objects within the domain of the senses.

"Our creative mental processes do not address directly sensory objects per se," Lyndon LaRouche writes in his essay

"On the Subject of Metaphor" (*Fidelio*, Fall 1992). "Human thought knows only change; we know only a thinkable correspondence between a change in our behavior and a correlated change in the manifest behavior of nature. It is correspondence of the two Types of change which constitute the entirety of physical science. That correspondence is what is intelligible for us; we must discover everything else respecting nature from this approach to the elementary primacy of change, to the universal space-time of nothing but change."

To communicate this, one needs literate language, not the gibberish of deconstructionists, symbolists, post-symbolists. Without literate language, there can be no thought. Lanier and his associates speak of a new language of hyperreal images, where gestures and looks substitute for words, where words are not allowed nor desired, in short a return to primitivism.

I hate the language of words, says Lanier. It leaves so much out. "It leaves out the experience."

Lanier longs for the time when virtual reality interfaces will enable one person to "see" the thoughts in another's mind, in a sort of "Vulcan mind-meld," as performed by Spock on the Star Trek television series. In Lanier's world all thoughts are reducible to "pictures," and that is all that is "communicated."

But as LaRouche explains, what is communicated between individuals is a *thought-object*, not the *thought* itself; it is comprehended in the mind of the other, by reproducing the process by which the first person reached the idea. The *thought-object* is an *idea*, not a picture, and cannot be communicated by a computer or any medium. This is something that the brainwashed victims of modern culture like Lanier and Rheingold cannot understand.

In the Aristotelian universe there is a past, present and a future, linked together by a linear time line. The past is essentially dead, to be studied as a dead object in this universe. The future is a projection, a non-real, or in the terms of our discussion, *virtual* world, knowable by extrapolation from past and present experience.

What is left out and what makes it false is the concept of change, as LaRouche develops, and it is this change that gives meaning to our mortal existence on the planet. By our individual moral action, we participate in the process of universal change. Acting in the present, we alter the relationship of all previous human generations to the present and to the future, thereby altering the past. Thus, each individual is morally responsible, not simply for the present and possibly the future, but for the past.

Virtual reality reduces everything to an "at-onceness," as Lanier calls it, echoing Marshall McLuhan. In so doing it kills the past, destroys the future, and renders the present morally impotent. Mass-marketed virtual reality helps create a world in which nothing is real because, nothing can be understood as true. By eliminating the concepts of universal truth, there is no truth. And without truth and the search for truth, there can be no civilization.

Documentary details Serbian outrages

by Margaret Sexton

International Dispatch: "A Town Called Kozarac"

Directed by Ed Harriman
Goldhawk Films/Channel 4, London, 1993,
approx. 41 minutes

At a time when news media are attempting to get Americans to accept the so-called five-power agreement for Muslim safe havens in Bosnia, the broadcast of "A Town called Kozarac" by Long Island's public television station WLIW provides a ghastly, but urgent, case study of how the Serbs have carried out "ethnic cleansing." The British-initiated documentary series "Dispatches" sent a crew this spring to the Bosnian towns of Kozarac, Trnopolije, Omarska, and Prijedor, as well as to a refugee camp near Zagreb, Croatia and a refugee settlement in Watford, England, to interview survivors of the Serbian depredations of this northern Bosnia valley, one year ago.

Some of the footage shows burned Muslim homes and shops, each one identified for razing by a spray-painted "X" inside a circle—just as Jews under Hitler's reign of terror were identified as targets by the Star of David painted on their doors. On farms, however, the Serbs did not destroy homes, but resettled Serb refugees in them. One Serb woman was interviewed, as she wheeled a Muslim's washing machine stolen from his abandoned home, toward her home. Asked what happened, she matter of factly stated that the Muslims were "expelled." A Ukrainian woman, whom the Serbians had not forced to flee, said, her face guarded, that she had "no problems" with her new Serb neighbors.

Some of the residents of the Kozara Valley were freed, and ended up in the Croatian refugee camp, or resettled in England. They cannot go back, because their homes, their shops, and their mosques were all destroyed. As one refugee interviewed, Nedžad Jakupovic, noted, ethnic cleansing works: Those who flee cannot return, because they have nothing to return to, and because they cannot be safe from the Serbs who have sought to exterminate them.

The interviews and film footage shot there detail the thor-

oughness of the "cleansing": The Serbian forces systematically lay siege to the towns, take over the government, then drive Muslims and other non-Serbs from their homes. Those targeted to be "cleansed" are either forced to flee (in some cases, to be shot in the back as they run), or are simply rounded up and shot. In the case of the Kozara Valley, Muslims were also taken to prison camps where they were systematically tortured, and women and teenage girls were raped repeatedly.

Still photographs, shown by Dispatches' film crew to Dr. Minka Cehajic, a physician from Prijedor now in the Croatian refugee camp, were of the main street of nearby Kozarac. She identified where Muslims' homes had been bulldozed, the debris removed—as if those residents had never lived there. Her husband Muhammad, mayor of Prijedor before the Serbs overthrew the government in the spring of 1992, disappeared after the town surrendered. The town had been the seat of government in the valley. She commented during her interview, that before the cleansing, she and her husband's friends were all Serbian, not Muslim.

Like the Nazi Holocaust

In statements that can only remind the viewer how the Nazis used to round up Jews, gypsies, and other ethnic groups they had targeted for extermination, survivors of the attacks on Kozarac and Prijedor who had, miraculously it seemed, been released from concentration camps at Omarska, Keraterm, and Trnopolije, described, with haunted faces, how Serbian Army troops running the camps had tortured and mutilated Muslims. Young Muslim Jasmin Haskic, many of whose friends were Serbian, was tortured for three days, and castrated by a Serb who had been his friend, and who "licked his blood." His family, when interviewed, expressed hope that he is alive, but the faces of his Muslim friends, who witnessed his torture, suggest a different outcome.

Dr. Idriz Merdzic, a Muslim physician interned at the camp in Trnopolije, was able to photograph torture victims and smuggle them out of the camp after his release, including photos of one of Jasmin Haskic's friends, Nedžad Jakupovic, now a refugee in England. The photos, which have been turned over to the United Nations commission investigating war crimes, provide mute evidence of the beatings, designed to elicit confessions of armed resistance to the Serbs, as well as to obtain money.

Little is said on the video concerning the children, who were taken to prison camps along with their mothers, including babies. But one woman, sitting with her two children of about 7 and 9 years of age, told how a Serbian soldier, whom she had gone to school with, tried to keep her from getting her children's shoes. Her son, the older of the two, rocked back and forth, as do children who are disturbed, as he told the interviewer how he saw a man killed by Serbian soldiers. Asked what he would like to do to the Serbians, the boy said, "Cut their throats." As he said this, he grinned, and his sister grinned also, the gap-toothed grin

of a child who has just lost her baby teeth.

Providing evidence of war crimes

The documentary, produced at the time the Vance-Owen plan was being rejected by all parties, makes clear that the international community has not seen fit to do anything to stop ethnic cleansing. Nedzad Jakupovic remarked bitterly in his interview that the West's actions have only benefitted the Serbians, by scattering Muslim refugees throughout Europe, ensuring the success of the extermination campaign. Asked if he would like to return home to fight, the young man said, yes, but added that there is nothing left to fight for.

However, as the narrator of the film points out, the Dispatches crew decided to use its film, and its access to the "cleansed" northern Bosnia valley, to obtain evidence of war crimes. Still photos of camp guards were shown to some of the camp survivors, who were able to identify them. The photos of a beaten Nedzad Jakupovic taken by Dr. Merdzic, showing bruises along the entire length of the youth's body, are also evidence.

The former inmates had described the "red house" and "white house," buildings set aside for torture. They described how inmates were forced to watch people being beaten, tortured, and shot, and were forced to dig the mass graves to bury the dead. The comparison to the Nazi death camps is only obvious. But, when the crew interviewed the Serbian

mayor of Prijedor, Milomir Stakic, he brazenly denied that people were tortured and murdered at the prison camps, claiming that a few died "natural deaths."

The narration states that the U.S. State Department officially estimates that 1,500 were killed at Omarska alone. The whereabouts of thousands more are unknown. Although some kept in the prison camps were released to the Red Cross, and are now in refugee centers, some 500 residents of the Kozara Valley were kept by the Serbs as "hostages." Of these, 401 were located by the Red Cross, and 31 are reportedly alive, but the Red Cross has no access to them. The film crew took footage of some who were being moved, reportedly being "exchanged." Their fate is not known, but most of them were from the Kozara Valley.

One man, asked what he would tell the West, said he wouldn't wish what has happened to him, to happen to anyone, whoever he may be.

And Bert Schweizer of the Red Cross, interviewed for the documentary, said that for those 100 Muslims who still remain in Prijedor, there is no justice: They have no weapons, and their existence is perilous. In this war against the civilian population, he said, the Red Cross cannot protect them. What is needed, he said, are political answers that the international community must provide.

It is to our shame that the answers have not only not been provided, but that for many, it may be too late.



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Texas Democrats smashed in special Senate election

by Harley Schlanger

The election victory in the race for U.S. senator from Texas by Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison over interim Sen. Bob Krueger by a better-than two-to-one margin dominated political discussion in Washington during the second week of June. Hutchison ran up the largest victory margin ever by a Republican in a statewide race in Texas, in an overwhelming rejection of Krueger, who had been appointed by Gov. Ann Richards to Lloyd Bentsen's Senate seat. Krueger lost every county in his former congressional district, and received only 40% in south Texas, which usually provides large margins for Democratic candidates.

Although there were minor differences between them, both candidates agreed on the main policy issue, that the budget should be slashed to meet the economic crisis.

Political analysts have called the landslide "stunning," while both parties have drawn the expected political conclusions. The Republicans have declared this a "referendum" on the Clinton administration, with Texas Sen. Phil Gramm proclaiming it to be a "massive rejection" of the President. (A Mason-Dixon poll taken just prior to the June 5 vote showed that 74% of Texans gave Clinton a fair-poor rating.) At her victory party, Hutchison described the results as "a very clear message that the people of this country are tired of business as usual in Washington. They want a change."

Some Democrats rejected that analysis. Governor Richards blamed the defeat on voter "apathy" (fewer than 20% of registered voters turned out) and the timing of the special election. Krueger took some of the blame on himself, saying, "I always said I wasn't a good politician."

However, Texas Democratic Party chairman Bob Slagle echoed the Republican line, attributing the crushing defeat to "a confluence of events," including the "misadventures" of the President. Slagle's post-election analysis contrasts with his private warning to Harris County (Houston) precinct chairmen two weeks before the vote. "This is real serious

business," he told them, referring to polls showing Krueger far behind. "If we lose this election, all our butts will be down the tubes."

In his own jumbled way, Slagle's words to the Harris County Democrats reflected the truth: Voter apathy, a poor candidate, and Clinton's bungling in office were only part of the story. The deeper truth is that Slagle and his cronies have systematically wrecked the Texas Democratic Party since he was elected party chair in the summer of 1980. After 13 years of Slagle's leadership on behalf of the Harrimanite wing of the Democratic Party, Texas will be represented by two Republicans in the U.S. Senate for the first time since 1875.

Texas's Democratic tradition

A former Texas Democratic state officeholder spoke candidly in a background interview of his dismay over the collapse of his party under Slagle's leadership. "We have turned our back on the traditions of the modern Democratic Party in Texas," he lamented. "Krueger tried so hard to appeal to the 'new Democrats' that he confused the old ones, that's why they didn't come out to vote."

The Texas Democratic tradition he was referring to emerged as an important political force in pushing through the infrastructure and jobs package associated with Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. Under the leadership of Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, Texas Democrats played a leading role in programs ranging from the Depression-era Reconstruction Finance Corp. and Rural Electrification Administration (REA), to ports and water projects. This group of Democrats, which also was key in promoting scientific and technological progress in aerospace (both through NASA and the modernization of U.S. defense capabilities), medicine, and funding for education, included Senators Lyndon Johnson and Ralph Yarborough, and former House Speaker Jim Wright.

These Texans combined a concern for social and econom-

ic justice with a healthy skepticism toward Wall Street. In the U.S. House of Representatives, both Wright Patman and Henry B. Gonzalez, who now chairs the House Banking Committee, served as watchdogs against the abuses of the privately owned and controlled Federal Reserve Bank, demanding that low-interest credit be made available for infrastructure development, and for industrial and agricultural investment. This tradition built Texas and the nation in the postwar era.

And it was this tradition which was targeted by the Harrimanites of Wall Street, who replaced it with their agenda of malthusian zero growth and deindustrialization. Initially, the Harrimanites operated in Texas via the Republican Party, with George Bush and James Baker taking the lead. Bush's father was a partner in the Harriman investment bank, and was a key funder of Adolf Hitler (see *EIR's* book, *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography*).

Bush in 1964 ran a vicious campaign against incumbent Senator Yarborough, attacking him for his commitment to infrastructure (especially the REA) and civil rights. Though Bush failed to unseat Yarborough in 1964, he teamed up with Democrat Lloyd Bentsen to defeat him in 1970.

By then, Texan Bob Strauss, a close friend and business partner of Baker, had become the leading Harrimanite political operator in the Democratic Party. He assumed a leadership role in the national party, developing a very close relationship with Democratic doyenne and salon keeper Pamela Churchill Harriman, the wife of Averell Harriman. The Harrimanites made major gains in the Texas Democratic Party in 1972 and 1976, based primarily on their commitment to a radical social agenda and anti-science environmentalism.

Slagle versus LaRouche

Slagle, who boasts that he learned politics on Sam Rayburn's knee, was elected chairman by the Harrimanite coalition in 1980. Since that time, he has stifled policy debate within the party. A prime example of this was his collaboration with Governor Richards to keep former Attorney General Jim Mattox out of the June 5 Senate race. Mattox is known as a tough political fighter and represents, in many ways, the traditional Texas Democrats. As a congressman in the early 1980s, he was one of the few with the courage to challenge Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker in House hearings. Volcker's high interest rate policies devastated farms and industry in Texas and throughout the nation. While the Harrimanite Democrats in Texas's congressional delegation were voting for the hoaxster Phil Gramm's phony Gramm-Rudman bill, Mattox denounced it as a fraud.

Slagle and Richards conducted strong-arm tactics against Mattox to keep him out of the race. He was denied routine access to party offices and lists. They put out the word to party contributors to freeze him out. On March 10, Mattox announced he would not run for Senate, clearing the path for Krueger to run as the anointed Democrat.

The precedent for the tactics employed by Slagle against Mattox was the 13-year campaign by Slagle to defeat the influence of Lyndon LaRouche among Texas Democrats. As the Harrimanites increased their power over Texas Democrats, the LaRouche wing of the party increasingly became the center of resistance.

This began with the dramatic address by LaRouche to the 1980 state convention in San Antonio, during which he demanded that the party stand behind the traditional policy for parity pricing for farmers. It was continued by the leadership of LaRouche's allies in Texas against banking deregulation, which LaRouche prophetically warned would wipe out the S&Ls, and in the fight against the Gramm-Rudman bill. In 1984, LaRouche again catalyzed Democrats in Texas against the Reagan-Bush-Gramm "free market" insanity when he issued his call for a parity price for oil through a trigger price tariff on imported oil, to guarantee a floor price of \$26 per barrel for domestic oil.

In each of these fights, Slagle and his allies joined with the Republicans, denouncing LaRouche. In spite of the lies and slander against Democratic candidates allied with LaRouche, some of them won local races in 1984, with several candidates for county chairmen receiving over 30%.

As the LaRouche candidates movement gained momentum, Slagle allied with the Anti-Defamation League. In 1986, Slagle, acting with the ADL, used threats to force LaRouche Democrat Donald Varella to drop out of the race for Bexar County (San Antonio) chairman. Varella, who received 39% of the vote to lead in the first round, withdrew from the runoff because of harassment against him and his family. It was Slagle's policy to exclude LaRouche Democrats from official party functions whenever possible. This soon meant that all debate within the party was silenced, and the only voice allowed was that of the Harrimanites.

In 1988, LaRouche Democrat Claude Jones won the race for Harris County Democratic chairman, receiving more than 53,000 votes in beating the incumbent, attorney Larry Veselka. Slagle, in an act of dictatorial power observers described as reminiscent of Josef Stalin's tactics, first stripped Jones of his powers as party chair, then acted illegally to remove him from office. Slagle was warned at the time that such disregard for the voters, who had elected Jones, would eventually catch up with the Democratic Party. If a vote can be taken away by the arbitrary act of the state chairman, why bother to vote?

In 1990, Dallas County Democratic leaders attempted to keep African-American LaRouche activist Greg Witherspoon off the ballot in the county chair race, arguing that he is not a "true" Democrat. The tax-exempt ADL aided Slagle by planting slanders against Witherspoon in the local press. Despite their efforts, Witherspoon's candidacy was reinstated by a three-judge panel, and he received more than 36% of the vote.

There are rumors circulating that Slagle will either resign or be forced out in the wake of the Krueger debacle.

Some in Israel are pleased about the crackdown against the ADL

by Jeffrey Steinberg and Paul Goldstein

On Jan. 8, 1993, when *EIR* released the book *The Ugly Truth About the ADL*, there were already clear signs that the once-monolithic Zionist lobby inside the United States was beginning to crumble. When the *San Francisco Chronicle* revealed one week later that police had raided the offices of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) in both the Bay Area and Los Angeles, and were probing a massive ADL espionage ring implicating League officials in the passing of classified government documents to Israel and South Africa, it became even more evident that something dramatic was unraveling inside "The Lobby."

Manifestations that serious policy differences within the Zionist lobby leadership in the United States had erupted, began to appear in the summer of 1992 with the defection of a well-placed employee of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). Greg Slabodkin, who is now living in Israel, quit AIPAC's "opposition research" staff and publicly described a string of horror stories about AIPAC and ADL spying and physical intimidation of Arab-American and Jewish-American activists opposed to the Likud government's hard-line stance on the Middle East peace talks and the issue of a Palestinian state. Writing in the July 1992 issue of the *Washington Report on the Middle East*, Slabodkin charged that "today, such national Jewish organizations as the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) and the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) are using [McCarthyite] tactics to stifle open debate of U.S. policy in the Middle East." He charged that "the pro-Israel lobby" has redefined anti-Semitism to include "any criticism of Israel or its actions."

In May, as the probe of the ADL spying operation was gaining steam on the West Coast, Slabodkin appeared, giving an interview to *Village Voice* writer Robert Friedman, the author of a highly critical biography of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane of the Jewish Defense League. Slabodkin named ADL fact-finder Yehudit Barsky as a conduit for Israeli police data into files at ADL headquarters. According to Slabodkin, Barsky received Israeli police dossiers from embassy officials on Palestinian human rights activists who were beginning to receive favorable coverage in the American press.

Rabin delivers a warning

Last autumn, shortly after his election to become prime minister of Israel, Labor Party leader Yitzhak Rabin came to Washington to meet behind closed doors with the national leadership of AIPAC. According to reports from several participants, Rabin tore into the AIPAC executives for their rabidly pro-Likud policies. He demanded a thorough housecleaning, or else, he threatened, he would order a full-scale public break with AIPAC by his Labor government. Shortly after the session, AIPAC Executive Director Thomas Dine, an architect of the hard-right turn, was promoted to a low-visibility post.

On Nov. 3, 1992, AIPAC President David Steiner was forced to resign his post after an audiotape became public in which he boasted to a prospective contributor about AIPAC's clout with Bill Clinton, and his personal role in secretly obtaining billions of dollars in additional aid for Israel from Bush administration Secretary of State James Baker III. New York businessman Harry Katz provided the tape of his phone conversation with Steiner to a variety of news outlets. On the tape, Steiner boasted, "We have a dozen people in [Mr. Clinton's] headquarters and they are going to get big jobs" with the new administration.

Five days later, the *New York Times* published a story on the AIPAC flap, describing the fallout from the Steiner-Katz incident. The newspaper noted that it came on the heels of a string of other disclosures that have "rocked AIPAC," including the recent "tongue-lashing" it got from Israeli Prime Minister Rabin. "AIPAC officials insist that they have patched up relations with Mr. Rabin, who will be addressing their annual dinner. Nevertheless, even some AIPAC insiders acknowledge that the Steiner affair did not come out of the blue. Too often, they say, AIPAC has attracted at both the professional and volunteer levels people more interested in wielding power and going to the White House than in dealing with some of the less glamorous particulars of Israeli or American Jewish affairs." The *New York Times* article referred to this as "the arrogance of power that seemed to infect AIPAC as it grew in leaps and bounds."

Before the end of November, Steiner had been replaced

as AIPAC president by Steve Grossman, a millionaire liberal Democrat with close ties to President-elect Clinton and former Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis. Grossman told reporters at the time of his appointment that his views on the Middle East were more "dovish" than his predecessor and that he would be working closely with Prime Minister Rabin in efforts to revive the peace process.

ADL hit next

As the new leadership team, more inclined toward a Labor Party orientation concerning Middle East peace matters, moved into command at AIPAC, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith began to feel some of the same heat from within the Zionist lobby circles.

On Dec. 20, 1992, columnist Richard Cohen, long a friend of the ADL, penned a stinging attack on the League in his regular Sunday column in the *Washington Post Magazine*. Cohen chided the ADL for spreading anti-Semitism: "The Anti-Defamation League, having commissioned the Boston polling firm of Marttila and Kiley to determine the level of anti-Semitism in America, came up with a most gratifying finding. There is less anti-Semitism than there used to be but more than enough to keep the Anti-Defamation League in business. As a Jew, I can say that last part with tongue in cheek and with a certain amount of impunity. You had better keep your mouth shut. The last sentence is predicated on the assumption that you, the reader, are not Jewish. As I read some of the statements [in the poll], it struck me that I would not always have given the 'right' answers, and that a non-Jew might have answered them 'right' by lying. Maybe we are, at last, becoming a nation of unbiased people. On the other hand, maybe we're just becoming a nation of liars."

Cohen, who one year earlier had been a guest speaker at an ADL international conference on the spread of anti-Semitism in Montreal, was delivering an important message from the more liberal wing of the Zionist lobby that the AIPAC-ADL bully tactics and right-wing politics would have to go.

Cohen's unexpected blast was followed by another heavy blow to the ADL's prestige. *Los Angeles Times* Washington, D.C. bureau chief Jack Nelson, a respected journalist who had covered the civil rights struggles in the South in the 1960s, published a book lambasting the ADL for running a private dirty tricks program in cahoots with the FBI and directed against the civil rights movement. The Nelson book, *Terror in the Night*, was published in late December. It catalogued the role of the ADL's New Orleans office director Adolph Botnick in conduiting \$70,000 to two top Ku Klux Klan terrorists in Mississippi. Nelson described Botnick as a rabid anti-communist who used the ADL's clout in the Jewish community in the Deep South to harass civil rights activists and even instigate violence against Jewish community leaders in order to whip up support for the ADL's role

as a "Jewish defense agency."

On Jan. 15, 1993, the *San Francisco Chronicle* broke the ADL spy scandal. Indictments against top ADL officials are pending.

Israeli political moves

The pillorying of AIPAC and ADL inside the United States and the growing internal criticism of their strong-arm methods from inside the Zionist lobby itself has had an echo inside Israel. While the news media inside Israel have blacked out the ADL spy story to a very great extent, the weakening of the U.S. supporters of hard-line policies has enabled Prime Minister Rabin and his fragile Labor coalition government to stay in power and launch a serious effort at reaching some kind of peaceful coexistence with Israel's Arab neighbors.

During the past month, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has attempted to revive his mid-1980s appeal for a Middle East "Marshall Plan," now amplified by proposals for a Turkey-to-Morocco rail line aimed at integrating the eastern Mediterranean region economically. In a June 7 interview with Reuters, Peres reported that a peace treaty with Jordan is all but finalized, and that Israel hopes to complete bilateral agreements with Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt. While the settlement of the Palestine issue is a thornier matter, there are now persistent reports from the official Israeli press of a possible unilateral Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, making a land-for-peace deal a real possibility for the first time.

Sources in both Israel and the United States say that the short-term moves on the part of the Rabin government to regain some momentum in the regional peace process are a reflection of the temporary problems at ADL and AIPAC. As long as the American Jewish circles aligned with the Likud hard-liners are under attack, the prospects of momentum on the peace process are at least improved.

A recent issue of the *Washington Jewish Week* reflected this situation. The June 3 *Washington Jewish Week* carried a strong editorial defense of the ADL, drawing extensively from the League's press releases. The same issue featured a full-page advertisement by a previously unknown group called "Pro-Israel," blasting the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations for giving membership status to Americans For Peace Now, a group supporting a land-for-peace settlement which is linked to a faction in the Rabin government. The ad also contained a harsh attack against President Clinton for his own proclivities toward favoring the Peace Now viewpoint, and for appointing several members of Americans For Peace Now to top posts in his administration.

If the *Washington Jewish Week* editorial and advertisement reflect a decision on the part of the hard-liners inside Israel and the Zionist lobby inside the United States to go into a more aggressive posture, fireworks can be expected.



On the death penalty: U.S. legal system is a nightmare

The following is part of an interview with American statesman Lyndon LaRouche in Rochester, Minnesota, where he is held political prisoner. The interview was conducted on Feb. 6, 1993 by Katharine Kanter for Scolag, a Scottish legal news bulletin; Alan Clayton, a Scots nationalist; and John Carroll, a well-known Glasgow solicitor. The first part of the interview was published in EIR on May 28.

Q: Is your objection to the death penalty based on ethics or religion, or is it simply that you don't trust them to get it right?

LaRouche: I would not disagree with any of the arguments advanced from any of the three standpoints. Of course, I don't like the term ethics. Ethics has come to be used as a substitute for morality. There is a tendency toward Lockean forms of legal positivism in the interpretation of the term ethics.

The American legal system has become a nightmare; this new federalism is a form of Lockean positivism. Religion is not the term I would usually use. I qualify that. To me the term *imago Dei* is a term of scientific certainty, and you don't have to invoke religion as such. It happens that Mosaic Judaism as understood by Philo, which contains the principle of *imago Dei*, and Christianity, which is based on the principle of *imago Dei*, the convergence of man in the image of God, on God in the image of man, happens to be scientifically valid if one wished to press the point from that quarter.

Furthermore, the strength of our entire culture and civilization depends upon our acceptance as morality of that Mosaic, Christian heritage, as part, in a Platonic form, so to speak, of European culture. So that once we depart from that kind of morality, we are tolerating a change in morality which could very well mean the doom of civilization. When one murders a person, one is violating morality. When one enters the death penalty, one is killing morality. The first is bad, the second has more awesome portent.

Q: Do you think there are some people who are so dangerous and evil as to merit death for crimes they've committed?

LaRouche: Two arguments remain. One is the superficial answer, the other the more profound. We separate them so that they don't muddle. The danger of the death penalty,

using it, no matter what the pretext, is so great today, given the governments and existential movements that we have, that I think under no circumstances could I justify the death penalty. To make that clear on this first level.

As to killing of persons, I would take the position of St. Augustine on justified warfare, and say that the same logic applies to the entire gamut, as to killing of persons by persons. Killing of persons is not the issue, the issue is judicial execution. No matter what the cost is, it is less costly to the society in the true sense to incarcerate an unspeakable person for the rest of their natural life than it is to risk the consequences of the assault on morality. It is to open the door to those, in my own country and elsewhere, whom I find no better than Nazis and probably worse.

The deeper issue is this. I posed this in a paper, prompted by a Cambridge professor up at Edinburgh for the Science Fair a few months ago, entitled "On the Subject of God" [published in *Fidelio*, Spring 1993].

I refer to Friedrich Schiller on tragedy in this connection. The question Schiller poses is, what is the use of ugly passions, or horrid circumstances in a drama on stage? Presumably, the drama is to ennoble the audience, in the sense in which Schiller describes this, which I won't go through now. But let's think of the horrible passions, the contemplation of disgusting passions, and horrid things which occur in real life. Is there any compensation to mankind for experiencing these things, apart from the desire that they should not have happened at all? We have to ask ourselves, are we moral enough, that the witnessing of horrible, disgusting passions and horrid consequences, as in the case, shall we say, of the former Yugoslavia, or the wretchedness wreaked upon Iraq, motivate in us the impulse to do good? Not only to do good, but to hopefully take some corrective action to prevent the likelihood of such horrid acts ever occurring again?

If so, then Gottfried Leibniz's argument for the best of all possible worlds is somewhat borne out. The evil in us, and in our society, exists; the question is, can we use the evil, as Schiller used it in theater, to prompt society to improve itself? This of course is an interesting question from the standpoint of law. Is it not the case that when we use the proper execution of due process in a horrid crime, as opposed to one of these modern, more efficient but more corrupt



A demonstration in Richmond, Virginia on the eve of the May 20, 1992 execution of Roger Coleman by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Coleman had strong evidence to back up his claim that he was innocent of the murder for which he had been convicted, but neither state nor federal courts would hear it.

things, is the function of that not merely to effect justice respecting the accused and the victim, but is it not the case that this process itself serves as a useful moral instruction to society at large? Is it not the case that when we try to make these trials more efficient, by leaving out certain elements which are necessary to understand the nature of the crime, that we deprive society of insight into the problem posed by the crime? Thus we deprive society of the most efficient means of moral suasion to remedy its own faults.

I would say, what we must do in these cases from the higher moral standpoint is to insist upon due process, not merely to ensure a less imperfect justice, but also to bring forth in trials, particularly of horrid crimes, insight into how this crime came about, and how it reflects upon the society about us, so the society in general can derive some beneficial insight from the trial, and from the currents of what may be the most extremely deplorable events.

Q: Many of the problems which have befallen you have been from the mingling of the judicial and the Executive functions with a big dose of professional corruption. To what extent do you believe this to be the case throughout the United States and other countries?

LaRouche: In the recent years, through my impulse to be helpful where and in ways that I can to others around me, I've had an enhanced opportunity to get some insight into the legal process in the United States today. It horrifies me. I'm not the kind of impressionable person who's going to rush

about and say that everybody who's been the victim of injustice in the judicial process is necessarily innocent. Most of the people that I know in this category are not innocent of anything, and in most cases are likely to do pretty much something of what they are accused of in this area once they get on the streets again. But, nonetheless, there are things to be said about a very unjust system.

What I see as legal process in so many cases in the United States today is disgusting, and it has no consistency with something which ought to demand respect as law. It's not law. It's politically corrupt.

The drug cases exemplify this. The largest drug pushers or drug money-launderers either go scot free—though perhaps I shouldn't say that, talking to a Scot—they just seem to escape the problems. Whereas people who are only marginally culpable seem to get the long terms.

For example, [there are] the people who are guilty in the sense that they would condone, or were sympathetic to, or would participate to some degree in, the circulation or use of drugs, narcotics, and unlawful substances for "entertainment" purposes—so therefore there's an element of guilt. However, they were never caught doing a criminal act. What happened was that they had association with people who were culpable and who happened to be working as government agents, who were regular drug traffickers. When the government agent was squeezed, in order to keep the government agent from serving a long sentence under these prescribed guidelines today, they would roll in a number of other

people, who would also be charged and given a very speedy trial, and railroaded into prison under this plea bargaining and so forth system.

Then I see these cases of people who are clearly culpable, where they admit it, the paper shows it clearly, the evidence is more or less clear, but the way the sentences are manipulated is disgusting, there's no proportionality. So the general impression I have is that the whole system is rotten, it stinks. You have on the one hand, people who are either guilty or they're part of a community of people which tends to condone criminality, or have done criminal acts such as the use of drugs, and therefore they cannot get on the stand and say they would never use the stuff, never be involved. They did associate with certain people whom they should have had sense enough to stay away from socially. They're convicted.

The problem is that the system is rotten, the way the conviction is done. Granted, that what they're doing now in plea bargaining and other things, is much cheaper and more efficient from an administrative standpoint than giving these people due process, but it's much better to spend the money and give the due process, and thus have it. By not having due process, by corrupting our courts in the name of efficiency or in the name of political policy objectives, in not giving proper administration of justice, all we do is to create a system which then can readily be turned around and used for purely political purposes against the innocent. And that's the problem: We have no regard for justice.

I recommend the recent six-part *Washington Post* series, referring to cases in the U.S. judicial, prosecutorial practice. All of the constitutional rights of citizens, all the conceptions of due process, are being totally eroded. The series was critical, demanding some kind of reform. I would generally endorse this, as being truthful and accurate. The system is corrupted so that even where the system is used to convict people who are either guilty of what they're charged, or misused somewhat to convict other people who may not have been guilty in the way they're charged or not on that occasion, who are not fairly charged, they have created a system which is so rotten that it's readily used for corrupt political purposes. Through the media, we've conditioned the general public to accept it. I wonder, for example, as a result of all this, if it is possible in many parts of the country, to actually assemble a jury capable of considering a case fairly.

You get better odds in a gambling casino than you get before a jury. The situation is so bad that even many attorneys in this country will recommend to their clients bench trials as against jury trials because the juries have become so bad. It's a horrible situation, and without a major reform, I think we can say that the judicial system in the United States compares unfavorably in many respects, philosophically, to that in Nazi Germany.

Q: Can you think of any mechanism by which this can be avoided, given the propensity for power to corrupt?

LaRouche: I don't believe in the propensity of power to corrupt, as such. I think that aphorism is exaggerated.

There's also the question of the power to do good. What we need is a general cleanup of the system. It's going to be a shocking affair—it has to be a shocking affair.

We have to get at what's being done, or attempted at least, in the [John] Demjanjuk case [the Cleveland auto worker who has been deported and convicted in Israel for war crimes on the basis of manufactured evidence and U.S. government misconduct], to go at this justice system for acts of fraud upon the court, and also to eliminate from the federal court system this new federalist tendency which is a violation of our Constitution, and explicitly so. This new federalism is implicitly as bad as, or worse than, Nazism. These people are just as bad as or worse than people like Karl Schmidt or the Nazi court justices like Freisler. I've read a couple of their decisions—unbelievable, that this could happen in the United States. As in the Herrera case, unbelievable.

So we need a cleanup. It's going to be extremely painful, because we're going to have to do some work on the reputation of a number of institutions, but I think that has to be risked because the penalty of not doing it is so great.

I think it may tend to occur if the present administration has any sense at all, even the barest instinct for personal survival. It has to clean out that mess in the Justice Department represented by such people as Richard Thornburgh, [Arnold] Burns, etc. If it does not do that, with that philosophy, if it does not realize that the neo-federalist tendency in the federal courts is something that must be reversed, this country will not be called free for much longer.

Q: Even without direct interference, most judges seem to speak or act as though they were unduly influenced by the Executive, or political expediency. How can this be curtailed?

LaRouche: It's going to be difficult. One should not exaggerate the corruption of the American people themselves or the corruption of every part of life in the United States. Look at the new administration itself and ask what are the problems there.

The real problems should be quite obvious. What has come to power in the United States, reflected in various kinds of institutions, and reflected in the age of Clinton himself, is the generation which was entering or graduating from universities in the early 1970s, and has now taken over—people under 50, under 45. The so-called yuppies. This stratum as a whole is the stratum behind the so-called Political Correctness movement on campus. For example, the Department of Health and Human Services appointee Donna Shalala is part of that movement.

These people do not believe in reality. Their inclination for scientific subjects is virtually nil. Their idea of science is mathematics as applied to a personal computer for stock speculation. The case of Zoe Baird and her business with

getting cheap, illegal nannies is typical of the stratum. These people do not believe in reality. Their idea of reality is having a consensus of support for a policy, which gives them the political power to implement a policy roughshod with the least political resistance. As to what the consequences of that policy might be in practice, they are not concerned. They believe, like the Nazis in fact, perhaps worse than Nazis, that if they have the political authority and consensus to carry out a policy, that that policy will succeed in the universe as well as in the political domain by virtue of that power. They believe, in a sense, in magic. They're superstitious. This is very dangerous.

They're not concerned with the fact that the ozone story is a hoax. Or with the fact that eliminating these chlorofluorocarbons [CFCs] means that no jet aircraft will be safe to fly, because without halon as a fire extinguisher, I'd hate to have people fly on a jet aircraft. The refrigeration cycle upon which we've come to depend over the past 40 years, no longer exists; there's the danger of food spoilage, mass deaths. Meanwhile, there's no danger at all from these CFCs in respect to UV radiation in the atmosphere. The whole thing is a hoax. They don't care about that, they care about opinion.

They don't care that what they're converging upon in a health reform, is worse than what the Nazis did in the 1930s. This is killing the useless eaters. The only kind of physician who will be left standing is, of course, Dr. [Jack] Kevorkian, of Michigan, the pathologist who's killing people. That's what it heads toward.

They don't care. They don't worry about this or that sort of thing. Maybe they can be brought to the point that they do. But the great danger in the United States is the indifference to the fact that when you do something, it has a consequence, and rather than considering whether you have the support to enforce the policy, you ought to be concerned with something down the road: What is the consequence of trying to put that policy through, and do you want the result that you're going to get, as opposed to the result that you propose to seek?

And that is the danger in the whole system, that we have forgotten the values. The problem is accentuated by their self-inoculation against what they call value judgments. They are concerned with "sensitivity." Exemplary is, the City of New York, recently, has decided not to call its most famous institution the Bronx Zoo, because, they say, the word zoo has come to have unpleasant connotations for some people. Therefore we're not going to call it a zoo anymore, we're going to call it a wildlife sanctuary!

We have dictionary nominalism, with a dictionary written by a lunatic, run wild toward our national life, and policy is made in a framework in which these standards of judgment are prevalent. We have become a nation like that in Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* to the land of the Houyhnhnms, in which we are ruled over by the rear-ends of horses, and we are Yahoos. If this doesn't stop, there's not much chance for good government, under such circumstances.

United States can arm Bosnia legally

by Edward Spannaus

On May 27, a bipartisan group of senators and congressmen, led by Sens. Robert Dole (R-Kan.) and Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Rep. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.), introduced legislation which would commit the United States to breaking the arms embargo imposed against Bosnia-Herzegovina by the United Nations, by providing up to \$200 million in military assistance upon a request from the Bosnian government (see *EIR*, June 11 for text of bill). In a press conference announcing the introduction of the bill, Senator Dole said that his purpose was to support President Clinton's professed desire to lift the arms embargo.

President Clinton has recognized the fact that the U.N. arms embargo worked to the strict advantage of the Serbian forces, by cutting off the Bosnian (and Croatian) forces from receiving weapons and ammunition, while the Serbs took over the military stocks and equipment of the former Yugoslav Armed Forces. But, in the face of fierce British and French opposition, the President and Secretary of State Warren Christopher pulled back from their commitment to arm the Bosnians.

On June 8, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, by a 24-15 vote, attached the bill to lift the arms embargo as an amendment to the foreign aid authorization bill; it is expected to come to the House floor for a full vote sometime around June 16.

The primacy of Article 51

A few days before the introduction of the bill, Bosnian U.N. Amb. Muhamed Sacirbey made an urgent plea for the international community to recognize Bosnia's right to self-defense under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. "Under Article 51," Sacirbey said, "any state can call upon other member states to assist it in self-defense against an aggression. That is a primary right, one which supersedes any other resolutions or any other articles of the Charter."

Article 51 of the U.N. Charter reads: "Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by members in the exercise of

this right of self-defense shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.”

Just as under U.S. law the Constitution prevails over an inconsistent law (the supremacy clause), the U.N. Charter must prevail over a resolution which is inconsistent with the Charter.

From a series of discussions with congressional officials familiar with the bill, *EIR* has determined that the clear intention of the bill's sponsors is to commit the United States to unilaterally lifting the arms embargo against Bosnia. Such unilateral action by the United States government is completely lawful both as a matter of international law and domestic law.

Embargo is in violation of international law

The very credible argument of the bill's sponsors is that the U.N. arms embargo resolutions, Resolutions 713 and 727, are not binding on Bosnia, because Bosnia was admitted to full membership in the U.N. *after* these resolutions were passed, and the issue was never revisited by the U.N. after Bosnia was admitted. Furthermore, both the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the “Helsinki Conference,” or CSCE) have declared Serbia to be the aggressor toward Bosnia.

Indeed, they argue, for the United States to provide military assistance to Bosnia-Herzegovina would not violate international law, but in fact would vindicate it.

The arms embargo was imposed on Yugoslavia by U.N. Security Council Resolution 713 on Sept. 25, 1991. The embargo was expanded by Resolution 727 on Jan. 5, 1992, so as to include any new nations emerging out of the former Yugoslavia.

But, after the imposition of the arms embargo, the facts and circumstances obviously changed. Bosnia voted for independence on March 1, 1992. After this, the siege of Sarajevo began, as well as other fighting. The government of Serbia intervened directly in the fighting by providing significant military support to the Serbian-allied irregular forces. The CSCE declared that Serbia and the Yugoslav National Army (JNA) were committing aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina in early May 1992. Shortly after this, Bosnia-Herzegovina was admitted to the United Nations with full membership rights, on May 22, 1992. About a week later, the United Nations Security Council condemned Serbia for its continued failure to respect the territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Under the provisions of Article 51, the Security Council had the obligation to restore international peace and security when Bosnia came under attack. It failed to do so. Therefore the self-defense and collective-defense provisions of Article

51 are still in effect, and these override the United Nations Security Council resolutions which imposed the arms embargo.

There is a secondary debate over the issue of *who* decides whether Article 51 is in effect, and whether the Security Council has restored “peace and security.” Is this decision made by the victim of the aggression, or by the Security Council? Opponents of lifting the embargo are likely to argue that it is the Security Council which decides.

However, in the 1990-91 Persian Gulf war against Iraq, the Bush administration took the position that it was the *victim* of the aggression (i.e., in that case, Kuwait) which determined whether U.N. Security Council measures were adequate. Opponents of U.S. intervention argued that it would violate international law for the United States to invade Iraq, but the U.S. government position was that Kuwait, not the Security Council, decides. So by this precedent, the victim, i.e., Bosnia, decides—which is what the Dole-Lugar legislation would provide for, by triggering arms assistance when the government of Bosnia asks for it.

U.S. can violate U.N. embargo

Under domestic law, the United States clearly can ignore a resolution of the U.N. Security Council. The strongest precedent for this is the U.S. violation of the trade embargo against Southern Rhodesia which was imposed by the U.N. Security Council in 1966, and then expanded in 1968. In 1971, Congress adopted the “Byrd Amendment” to the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act, which provided that the President could not prohibit imports of chromium from Southern Rhodesia.

A lawsuit was brought by natives of Rhodesia who could not return to their country, and also by U.S. congressmen who had been refused entrance into Rhodesia. The suit was dismissed by the U.S. District Court, which held that Congress, by passing the Byrd Amendment, had clearly intended to nullify a treaty commitment under the United Nations Charter, and that it is fully within the power of Congress to do just that.

On appeal, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit said that it was clear that the purpose and effect of the Byrd Amendment “was to detach this country from the U.N. boycott of Southern Rhodesia in blatant disregard of our treaty undertaking.” The appeals court concluded: “Under our constitutional scheme, Congress can denounce treaties if it sees fit to do so, and there is nothing the other branches of government [i.e., the courts] can do about it.”

The case is known as *Diggs v. Shultz*, 470 F.2d 461 (D.C. Cir. 1972).

Thus, legally and morally, the United States can and should provide military assistance to Bosnia-Herzegovina upon the request of that besieged nation, notwithstanding any U.N. resolutions which unlawfully impede a sovereign nation's right to self-defense.

Italian ambassador sounds the alarm

Ambassador Biancheri underlined the gravity of Italy's current crisis, but dodged some "touchy" questions.

The Italian government crisis has received very little attention in the U.S. media and political debate, in spite of the fact that the situation, especially in the aftermath of the mayoral elections on June 6, constitutes a grave threat to the Italian nation.

This point was made very clearly by Italy's ambassador to the United States, Boris Biancheri, speaking at a luncheon meeting of the Italy-U.S. Business Conference here on June 7. "The situation in Italy is changing dramatically," said Biancheri, "in a perhaps pathological way."

The day before, in the local elections in Italy, all the government parties collapsed in northern Italy, while maintaining a foothold in the South (see *International Intelligence*). In Milan, the separatist Northern League won a whopping 40% of the votes, while the Christian Democracy plummeted from 20% to 10%, and the Socialist Party went from 19% to 2.2%.

"The situation is characterized by a general sense of unhappiness and dissatisfaction," said Biancheri. Although there have been 52 governments in Italy since the war, he explained, the focus of stability and national unity lay in the process of perpetual negotiation (and distribution of power) among the center parties, which prevented the extreme right or the extreme left from gaining any significant influence.

The Communists, with their (sometimes stormy) relationship with the Soviet Union, were considered a clear threat to Italian NATO membership. "After the East-West confrontation," said Ambassador Biancheri, "there was no reason to keep the other

party out of power."

In addition, he said, due to the peculiarities of Italian law, "parliamentarians were not directly dependent on the electors." Therefore, "the parties became the real movers," and the relationships within a party and among the parties, he implied, were based on backroom deals, from which arose corruption.

It is precisely this negotiation process among the center parties "which is threatened by the present political crisis." Whatever happens, the ambassador said, "the situation will never again be the same. The Republicans, Socialists, and Social Democrats have been wiped out," and the traditional leadership threatened with extinction.

And the cause of this unprecedented crisis? Ambassador Biancheri wished to attribute it solely to internal factors. In the Italian press, however, and most recently, in the Italian Parliament, frequent reference has been made to the report, disseminated widely in Italy by this news service, of a meeting held on June 2, 1992 aboard the British royal yacht *Britannia*, which had anchored off Italian shores, and where the destabilization of Italy through privatization of state-run industries had been a topic of discussion by illustrious names of the British financial and banking world, and their Italian counterparts. In drawing attention to this meeting in a discussion in the Italian Parliament on May 11, Sen. Edda Fagni of the Communist Refoundation had mentioned Lyndon LaRouche and organizations associated with him as the source of the story.

During the question period, when

I asked Ambassador Biancheri about the possibility of external manipulation of Italy's crisis, which, I noted, seemed to be a clear attack on the very foundations of the Italian nation, he commented that I had hit upon a "touchy subject." He admitted that there had been much speculation in the press concerning foreign involvement, but he felt that there was enough cause for unhappiness in Italy itself to account for the crisis.

And yet, in light of the new wave of terrorism in Rome and Florence, he felt that there could be cause for suspicion of outside involvement. On May 26, a bomb exploded in Florence, killing 5 persons and wounding 30. It destroyed part of the Uffizi Palace, one of the greatest art museums in the world. The 100-kilogram car bomb missed, by only a few meters, the gallery containing the most precious works of the Italian Renaissance. Had these not been housed in a room without windows, thereby damping the shock wave from the bomb, these priceless treasures would have been lost to mankind. Some irreplaceable works of art were destroyed, causing one museum official to characterize the bombing as an "attack on memory."

"I just don't know who could do this," said Biancheri. "It would anyhow be difficult to detect who is behind it."

Although perhaps, as Italian Interior Minister Nicola Mancino said, an investigation should begin with those who have connections to "underground powers like the P-2," the illegal freemasonic lodge with connections to Washington and London. But at that point, the investigation of the Italian crisis would cease being merely an "internal" affair and take on a rather Anglo-American contour—a possibility which the ambassador apparently did not wish to discuss.

National News

East coast dailies boost sagging Masons

The *New York Times* of June 6 and the *Washington Post* of June 7 each ran articles promoting Freemasonry, while noting the decline of the masonic order. The *Sunday Times* article, "Freemasons Begin to Lift the Veil of Arcana," explains why the Masons are in a rather frantic publicity drive (with friendly press appearing through masonic media outlets): "They have developed some important enemies and they are running out of members." The *Times* neglects to mention the most damaging exposés of the Masons led by the campaign of Lyndon LaRouche and Rev. James Bevel in Washington to have the statue of Mason and Ku Klux Klan founder Gen. Albert Pike removed from Judiciary Square. It does chronicle attacks on the Masons from the Catholic Church and the Southern Baptist Convention. Masonic membership is reported to have plummeted from 4.1 million in 1959, to the current 2.4 million men averaging over 60 years old.

The *Washington Post* article, with an illustration of George Washington in masonic garb, takes off from the fact that researchers are having difficulty in finding the cornerstone to the Capitol that Washington laid. It appears that the White House cornerstone is also missing. Were the cornerstones stolen? "So far, only one evil-minded person," says the *Post*, "has suggested someone may have stolen the stones. It is true, however, that during the remodeling of the White House, Harry Truman shipped out to masonic lodges across the country a number of White House foundation stones, with masonic symbols carved on them."

ADL opposed Guinier to head Justice post

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and related groups played a critical role in sabotaging the nomination of Lani Guinier to head the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division. The ADL has traditionally regarded the Civil Rights Division as their branch

office at DOJ headquarters. The campaign against Guinier was launched in late March by former officials from the Reagan-Bush Justice Department. Clint Bolick of the Cato Institute opened the propaganda campaign with an April 30 *Wall Street Journal* commentary labeling Guinier as the "Quota Queen," which was quickly picked up by right-wing circles. (Bolick had been in the Civil Rights Division in the mid-1980s under Bradford Reynolds, during which time Guinier was the top litigator for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.) Another former DOJ official, Bruce Fein of the Heritage Foundation, also penned numerous attacks on Guinier.

Then during the last week of May, four groups which are Jewish representatives to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights refused to endorse Guinier. The masonic ADL's national chairman Melvin Salberg issued a statement opposing the nominee, as did the American Jewish Congress and Cheryl Halpern of the National Jewish Coalition. On May 28, the *Washington Times* reported that their opposition sparked the White House to begin lobbying for Guinier in the Senate.

Into this environment, the Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) and its Progressive Policy Institute think-tank then moved aggressively. According to various accounts, it was the "moderate" DLC which finally succeeded in quashing the Guinier nomination.

New NAACP head Chavis maps out activist policy

Rev. Ben Chavis, newly elected chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, told a National Press Club audience on June 3 that his organization will begin an aggressive campaign on behalf of economic justice, not only domestically, but throughout the world.

Among his strongest statements was his attack on the death penalty. The crime bill being debated on Capitol Hill, Chavis said, has "57 new ways to put somebody to death. . . . We are going to oppose it and we are going to try to get the senators to not support expanding the way people can be put to death in our society, but find ways to totally abolish

ultimately the capital punishment. . . .

"We're one of the few western nations that still puts people to death. It is wrong. It is morally wrong. It does not serve as a deterrent to crime. And, in fact, based on our review, in those states that have capital punishment laws in force and putting people to death, the crime has gone up. When you lower the value of life by judicial and legislative and court action, you lower the value of life in the community. And so it has had just the opposite effect from our perspective. Rather than serving as a deterrent of crime, it has helped, in our judgment, increase capital offenses."

LaRouche supporters to sue Maryland

Supporters of jailed statesman Lyndon H. LaRouche filed suit against the state of Maryland in federal court on June 4, charging that the state acted with gross disregard of their constitutional rights when it enacted a law whose sole purpose was to put a stop to the LaRouche movement's ability to organize and raise financial support in Maryland. The law, which originated as HB 838, was introduced by Delegate Marsha Perry at the urging of the Cult Awareness Network (CAN). When Perry introduced the bill, she stated that her purpose was to "curtail 'questionable' fundraising activities of LaRouche and his followers, who have obtained many thousands of dollars from Maryland residents. . . ."

"The fact that the state legislature, the governor, and the attorney general were so willing to throw the Constitution out the window, and enact a police-state measure to shut down a legitimate political movement, based solely on the credibility of CAN, was nothing less than scandalous. The criminal nature of this group was obvious then," a spokesman for the plaintiffs said. Maryland's collusion with CAN and the Anti-Defamation League exploded when Galen Kelly, CAN's leading deprogrammer who served as the principal expert witness for HB 838's sponsors at hearings in Annapolis in February, was convicted in May on federal kidnapping charges in Alexandria, Virginia. Kelly is being held in jail pending sentencing.

Kelly only narrowly avoided conviction in the Lewis du Pont Smith "Kidnappers, Inc." case late last year in the same federal court.

"Although we fully expect the court to overturn this dangerous law and protect our citizens' fundamental constitutional rights," the spokesman concluded, "that will do little to restore the credibility and integrity of the state officials who allowed themselves to be so cheaply used by the CAN/ADL criminal apparatus."

N.Y. teachers oppose Staten Island secession

Officials of the United Federation of Teachers in New York City are urging the union to oppose moves to have the Borough of Staten Island secede from the city. The union's officials said on June 3 that they would urge its policymaking body, which meets June 8, to fight the proposed secession. The reasons given were that the number of Staten Island schoolchildren is increasing and the tax base of the borough is not large enough to pay for new schools and other educational needs.

According to UPI, Carol Keefe, the UFT's borough representative, stated: "Education here would be put in jeopardy if Staten Island became a separate city. Thirty-six percent of public school students on the island are poor—they qualify for federally subsidized school lunches—and impoverished students often are more likely to need extra services, which cost money." Last February, a New York State Commission issued a report which stated that Staten Island could function on its own as a city, and issued a proposed charter, which must be approved in a November public referendum and then by the state legislature and governor.

High court to hear UMW appeal of exorbitant fine

The United Mine Workers, 6,000 of whose members are on strike for a new contract, won a reprieve from paying \$52 million in

finances when the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear its appeal of the fines upheld by the Virginia Supreme Court. The fines were imposed by a state judge during the bitter 1989-90 UMW strike against Pittston Coal in Virginia. Pittston agreed the fines would be dismissed as part of the strike settlement with the UMW in 1990, but the judge refused to remove them. When then-Attorney General Mary Sue Terry bowed out of the collection effort to make up for her support of Pittston throughout the strike, the judge appointed a receiver to collect them. On appeal, the Virginia Court of Appeals threw out the fines, but the Virginia Supreme Court reimposed them as proper to maintain "the dignity of the law."

The UMW has argued that the fines were grossly excessive, and that it was denied its constitutional protections because the fines, which were imposed during civil proceedings, were actually criminal in nature.

Did Babbitt protect the mob's Emprise Corp.?

The June 8 *Washington Times* carries allegations that Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, who is being eyed as a Supreme Court nominee, protected the organized crime-linked Emprise Corp., while he was attorney general and governor of Arizona. Republican lawmakers are already assembling the dossier of court records, grand jury transcripts, police and FBI reports in preparation for Babbitt's nomination hearings to the Supreme Court.

Emprise Corp. of Buffalo, New York, was exposed by the *EIR's* book *Dope, Inc.* to have been behind the murder of reporter Don Bolles, who was investigating the firm's ties to organized crime through dog racing tracks it operated in Arizona. Emprise was found guilty in 1972 in Detroit of a felony for conspiring to hide mob interests in a Las Vegas casino in which it held a part interest. As a result, Arizona legislators pressured then-Attorney General Babbitt to force Emprise to divest itself of the tracks. But, when Babbitt became governor in 1978, he worked with the state Racing Commission to rule that a corporate reorganization of Emprise made divestiture unnecessary.

Briefly

● **LOS ANGELES** elected its first new mayor in 20 years, and the first Republican to be mayor in 30 years on June 8. Richard Riordan, who sunk \$8 million of his own into his campaign, won heavily over ultra-liberal City Councilman Michael Woo.

● **BUZZWORM**, a leading environmental magazine, dedicates its May-June cover story to the rising opposition to environmentalism, but hysterically claims that Rush Limbaugh and columnist George Will are its intellectual leaders, and that the grass roots is dominated by racist groups, such as the Aryan Nation and Posse Comitatus.

● **MISSOURI** Gov. Mel Carnahan, declaring that there was "little doubt that Mr. Shaw is mentally retarded and suffers from varying degrees of mental illness," commuted the death sentence of Bobby Lewis Shaw to life imprisonment without parole on June 2. Shaw had been sentenced to die June 9.

● **'ROLL CALL,'** a Capitol Hill weekly, may be in the process of being wholly taken over by the London *Economist*, according to the *Washington Post*. Arthur Levitt, the publisher and 60% owner, has been nominated to head the Securities and Exchange Commission, and would have to sell his share if confirmed, to avoid a conflict of interest. The *Economist* already owns 40%.

● **VIRGINIA** Republicans chose former Rep. George Allen to run against Democrat "Bloody Mary" Sue Terry and independent Nancy Spannaus in Virginia's gubernatorial race this year.

● **OLIVER NORTH** made his appearance at the Virginia Republican Convention on June 5 to test the waters for a run for Democrat Chuck Robb's Senate seat next year. While Robb has recently been tainted with scandal over alleged attendance at cocaine parties, Ollie hopes the GOP finds his escapades with the drug-running Contras unobjectionable.

Editorial

SDI spins off major collaboration

The Russian offer for a joint program to develop anti-missile defenses in collaboration with the United States, announced on April 2 in the newspaper *Izvestia*, was widely debunked by western media and government spokesmen with whom *EIR* discussed it. Some went so far as to declare that the "Trust" proposal was an April Fools' Day joke, despite television and other press coverage in Russia.

Far from being a joke, the proposal was discussed at the April 3-4 Clinton-Yeltsin summit. In fact, it represented a major reevaluation by a section of the scientific and military-industry grouping in Russia of the original proposal presented by President Reagan in the famous March 23, 1983 speech which launched his Strategic Defense Initiative. At that time, the Soviets, correctly recognizing Lyndon LaRouche as the author of the notion of basing a jointly developed ABM system on advanced physical principles, not only rejected the proposal, but also brutally attacked LaRouche for raising it.

The Soviets feared the SDI would create an economic competition between themselves and the U.S. which they could not win without making major changes in their economic and political system; otherwise they would be unable to assimilate the anticipated cascade of new technologies into their moribund economy.

As it turned out, the Soviets secretly carried out work on their version of the SDI, while using every tactic in their arsenal to try to sabotage the effort of the U.S. President. Without U.S. collaboration, just what they feared occurred, and the communist regimes throughout the East bloc collapsed under their own dead weight.

The lesson from this bitter experience has not been lost upon those Russians who framed the "Trust" proposal—offering to share advanced microwave technology with the United States in order to create the potential for downing incoming missiles at a height of 30 miles up, by deploying plasmoids at them.

According to an article in *Aviation Week* of May 24, there has actually been an ongoing collaboration for a year and a half between Russian scientists at the science city Arzamas-16, where the April 2 proposal

was apparently initiated, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. Work on the generation of electromagnetic pulses at Los Alamos and high-powered microwave generation in Russian laboratories was shared. At first the discussions were informal, but by November 1992, this joint collaboration was formalized.

The Trust proposal involved the intersection of two powerful microwave beams, in order to create a major disturbance in the atmosphere, which would destroy the capabilities of an incoming nuclear-armed warhead. The ostensible technologies of the ongoing Los Alamos-Arzamas collaboration are similar in nature, but not necessarily identical. Nonetheless the Russian capabilities are most impressive.

The Russians' experimental electromagnetic pulse (EMP) generator is reportedly able to generate microwave pulses of over 200 million amperes, in the extremely short timespan of less than one-millionth of a second. This result falls at least within the order of magnitude of microwave power density required to propagate a pulse long distances through the atmosphere at high power.

Similar, less powerful devices developed by the U.S. Air Force during the past four years, apparently as the fruit of work at Los Alamos, are designed for placement in cruise missiles, specially adapted with windows in front, to allow projection of a microwave beam. The Air Force design, which was supposedly used during the Gulf war to interfere with Iraqi battle management, is intended to paralyze the electronics in airplanes, missiles, and tanks, and to destroy the functioning of computer systems as well.

According to a press release from Los Alamos, work on controlling EMP pulse devices and microwave generators will spin off many applications to the civilian economy. These have implications for high-temperature superconductor work and for generating fusion plasmas as well.

We welcome the knowledge that such important collaboration is already going on between the United States and Russia on the scientific and technical level. The political commitment to a program, such as was indicated in the Trust proposal, will no doubt follow.

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