

National News

Danny Graham attacks Reagan, LaRouche

At a Denver meeting of his High Frontier group in early June, Gen. Daniel Graham attacked President Reagan's policy of developing beam weapons defense systems against nuclear missile attack.

Graham, the retired chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency, claimed that Reagan had decided to adopt Graham's own scheme for a space-based conventional-technology anti-missile system. Yet Graham also attacked the President's actual speech and policy, as elaborated in the background briefings given by administration officials.

Referring to Reagan's March 23 policy announcement, Graham asserted to the 150 participants, "The President said 'I want to look at current technologies.' Reagan never said a word about lasers or particle-beam weapons. All that Star Wars stuff was what the press threw on his head. . . ."

Graham continued, "The President made two mistakes in his speech, probably inserted by people I hadn't briefed well enough. His mistakes were: First, he called on scientists instead of engineers. Engineers solve problems with existing tools. Scientists tend to argue with you and then come up with five or six way-out answers. You don't get anything done by going to scientists.

"Secondly," Graham said, "Reagan shouldn't have mentioned the 21st century, 21st-century technologies. The fact is the technology is here now. . . . You don't need laser beams and particle-beam weapons. All you need is buckshot. You don't even need something as heavy as buckshot. You could use aspirin, marshmallows, or ice cubes."

Graham's statements are not merely silly: they point up the security risks represented by a battery of "conservative anti-communists," including the KGB-tainted Heritage Foundation, who have backed him in his efforts while opposing the policy adopted by the President.

Sharing the podium with Graham was John Rees, aide to the rabid John Bircher and Georgia Rep. Larry MacDonald. Rees, a British intelligence-trained "security" specialist, recently met with high-level Soviet intelligence operatives at the conclave of

peace movement and nuclear freeze supporters organized this May in Minneapolis by the leftist Institute for Policy Studies. At the conference, one of Yuri Andropov's close associates coached Richard Barnet of IPS on a national campaign against the President's beam weapons policy.

Graham's High Frontier event also featured Gen. John Singlaub, who aside from a ritual "anti-communist" monologue, joined Rees and Graham in a slander attack on the most vigorous supporter of the President's beam weapons policy in the Democratic Party, *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche.

One of the first questions, prompted by a leaflet distributed by the National Democratic Policy Committee announcing a June 24 beam weapons conference in Denver, was "What do you think of beam weapons?"

Graham replied with a diatribe against LaRouche, whom he portrayed as a paranoid who claims that "the Pope, the Queen of England, and the Knights of Malta" are out to assassinate him. LaRouche, said Graham, has also accused him of being part of a conspiracy to assassinate the Democratic Party leader. "LaRouche would be dead if I were out to try to get him," said Graham.

Singlaub, a recently initiated member of the Russian Order of the Knights of Malta, and John Rees added, "LaRouche belongs in a mental institution."

Another questioner asked, "General Graham, tell the truth. You know High Frontier won't work. You know the Soviets are developing laser systems now."

Graham's response: "I used to like lasers. But you get five or six scientists, one tells you we need chemical lasers, one says x-ray lasers, one says something else."

Corcoran takes on Senator Percy

Representative Tom Corcoran announced June 13 that he will challenge Sen. Charles Percy in the 1984 Republican primary in Illinois. Corcoran cited Percy's undermining President Reagan and the administration's policies for U.S. defense among the reasons that he has decided to give up a safe seat in the House to challenge Illinois's senior senator.

Corcoran specifically attacked Percy for his attitude toward Soviet leaders—"just devastating is his battle against our President in foreign affairs," Corcoran said. "Immediately after Ronald Reagan's landslide victory in November 1980, Chuck Percy, as incoming chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, traveled to Moscow. Incredibly, we learned from U.S. State Department cables that while meeting with Kremlin leaders he repudiated President-elect Reagan's foreign policy campaign pledges—spoke not of Ronald Reagan's programs for rebuilding America's defenses, but about undercutting future Reagan programs for America."

"Every Illinois citizen was deeply and properly embarrassed by Senator Percy's spectacle in Moscow," Corcoran added.

He also scored Percy for having fought President Reagan's nomination of William Clark as deputy secretary of state, and for having cast the "one vote" by which President Reagan lost the vote for his budget in the Senate in May.

Corcoran is a supporter of the President's directed-energy weapons strategic defense program and is expected to make it a campaign issue. He is cosponsoring Rep. Ken Kramer's (R-Colo.)

Act, which backs the President's beam weapon program.

Industrial erosion a defense issue

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and his confidante and former deputy Frank Carlucci have warned that the United States and its allies must consider what steps must be taken to rebuild the necessary industrial capabilities for a full-scale mobilization of the alliance.

Speaking to a seminar at the Brookings Institution June 13, Carlucci said, according to the *Washington Times*, "All the procurement reforms in the world won't do us any good if we don't have the industrial base to implement them. . . . In area after area, we have watched the erosion of our industrial base. . . . Only with additional investment can you get modernization and cost reductions. . . ."

"The danger is not the military-industrial complex. Our concern ought to be how we rebuild that complex so that we can have that sure capability. . . ." He added, "I find it ironic that those who would not have us modernize are those who would force us into the Mutual Assured Destruction doctrine and a hair-trigger response. . . ."

During a June 14 address to the National Press Club, Weinberger declared, "The problem isn't the military-industrial complex. . . . The problem is we don't have one. And we may very well need to have one if we need to go to mobilization."

Keyworth speaks for beam weapons

In an interview in the *Washington Times* June 15, Presidential Science Advisor George Keyworth continued the public elaboration of President Reagan's new defense strategy.

Keyworth was asked if the United States is developing an "automated defense against Warsaw Pact armor should it be used against NATO in Europe." His reply:

"First, we do not have any such system fully developed—at least not with that implied comprehensive capability. Let me go back to the speech the President gave on March 23, in which he said essentially that the time had come for a new defense strategy that emphasized defense over offense. Many people have failed to interpret that speech correctly. Whereas anti-ballistic missile defenses would receive the greatest emphasis, since ICBMs represent the most destabilizing weapon and are feared most, the President, nevertheless, did discuss an overall change in strategy, and that, I think, was the major thrust of his speech.

"Now, let's examine conventional military weaponry—the tank, armor. Do you counter tanks by the acquisition of more tanks alone, or do you use the very best, the most sophisticated, American technology to develop broad and flexible anti-tank defensive capabilities? I think what the President was urging the technological community to do was use our technology and through emphasizing defense, give America sufficient leverage . . . to ensure far greater protection

than we now have."

On the CBS-TV national news program "Overnight," Keyworth said that President Reagan's March 23 speech "means particle beams, lasers, microwaves—this means all of the most advanced technologies. . . . All the components already exist—we simply have to assemble them."

Our emphasis, he said, is not on the offensive weapons of Mutually Assured Destruction, but on defense. If we carry out our program, he continued, we will eventually be able to scrap nuclear weapons. "These programs are a lot closer than people think," he told the shocked reporter.

As he spoke, top scientists heading the nation's beam-weapons development program have been gathering for closed door sessions with Reagan administration officials. The top-secret sessions will go until concrete proposals are worked out.

The meetings are taking place under the auspices of the special inter-agency task force established by National Security Directive 85, "Eliminating the Threat of Nuclear Missiles." A sub-group of the task force under Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard DeLauer is reported to be nearing decisions on a program for the next year, which the President will soon announce.

Kirkland 'explains' electoral politics

At the recent Memphis AFL-CIO regional meeting, federation president Lane Kirkland tried to silence opposition to the organization's plans to endorse a Democratic presidential candidate early in the campaign by telling the delegates:

"As I understand this point of view, the candidates are urged to pay scant attention to such elements in our society as working people, women, minorities, the elderly, and the youth. These groups are defined as 'special interests.'

"Of course, if you exclude these groups from the voting public, and then extract all others who happen to be Republican, you leave only a rather small segment of society to run the country.

"All that is left is the middle-aged Southern WASP. That must mean me."

Briefly

● **GEORGE M. PERRY**, a business associate of leading Khomeini arms procurer Sadeqh Tabatabai and a former General Motors executive, was found three months ago shot in the head and weighted to the bottom of an upstate New York lake—but word of his discovery was not released until June 12. Perry was killed about the time that Tabatabai was arrested in West Germany with a suitcase of heroin, and then released thanks to Kissinger ally West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher.

● **THE ASSOCIATION** of Military Chaplains of the United States and the Catholic War Veterans have both recently passed resolutions backing President Reagan's defense policies. In contrast to the U.S. Conference of Bishops, both support the President's defensive beam weapon development program. In a press release the chaplains noted, "The association affirmed our current national defense buildup as an essential component of efforts that peace might prevail. The defense philosophy of this nation is 'Power for Peace' and not for offensive war."

● **MARION HILL**, youth director of the NAACP in Los Angeles, has sent letters to NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks and California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown urging President Reagan place South Africa under a full embargo because of its recent bombing of the Mozambique capital. Hill stated that the attack was a "terrorist bombing" conducted "the way the Nazis operated" by an "outlaw nation" bent on "population reduction."

● **MARTIN GILBERT**, Winston Churchill's official biographer, told *EIR* recently that the activities of Churchill's daughter, Mrs. Averell Harriman, would cause "Churchill [to] go berserk if he saw what she was up to. Reading about her sent a bit of a shiver down my spine."