

## How Reagan can break the arms-control blackmail

by Susan Kokinda in Washington, D.C.

The President's conservative backers on Capitol Hill are warning that the Soviets have broken out of the SALT treaty framework and are on a drive toward nuclear superiority and world domination. In a powerful Sept. 30 speech on the Senate floor, Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) announced, "The time has come when we must begin a crash program to counter Soviet ICBM threats. In the face of Soviet breakout, *we need to start immediately on a defensive strategic program to protect American lives . . . systems which would make the Soviet ICBM uncertain and obsolete.*"

The Helms statement, entitled "Paralysis in the Face of Soviet SALT Breakout," warns that the administration has become increasingly immobilized as the arms-control establishment and the appeasers under the sway of Henry Kissinger have tried to cover up the implications of Soviet actions. Helms charged: "The idea that the Soviets would attempt to break out of the restrictions imposed by the strategic arms limitation agreements and other arms-control agreements is one that is repugnant to the arms-control establishment.

"The very notion of arms control is based upon the assumption that the agreements are in the rational interest of both superpowers, and that an attempt at breakout is irrational and self-destructive. But the events of recent months, culminating with the shooting down of the KAL airliner, have convinced me that the Soviets are indeed in the beginning of breakout. Moreover, it is clear that U.S. policy makers have formulated no contingency plans to handle a situation of Soviet breakout."

Helms reveals that a highly classified National Security Council analysis of Soviet SALT violations has been on the President's desk since early September, delivered just days after the KAL 7 shooting. "What impact has this study had? Absolutely no impact. And worse than no impact, its conclu-

sions are so overwhelmingly, that it has paralyzed action by the President's advisers at a crucial time." Helms calls on Reagan to report to Congress, openly and in unclassified form, before no later than Oct. 31, 1983.

Indeed, the Senate has already voted by the unequivocal margin of 93 to 0 to attach to the defense authorization bill the McClure amendment calling on President Reagan to report to Congress on the record of Soviet arms-control violations. The author of that amendment, Idaho Republican Jim McClure, has been detailing aspects of the Soviet breakout in speeches for the past year. Functioning as an outlet for a faction of the administration and the intelligence community, McClure made one of his first exposés of Soviet violations on March 23, the day President Reagan announced that he intended to overthrow the MAD doctrine and replace it with Mutually Assured Survival based on strategic defensive systems.

Two days earlier, Henry Kissinger had taken to the pages of *Time* magazine to urge various MAD-motivated stances which were later to emerge as the Scowcroft Commission and build-down proposals (see excerpts, page 26). Several weeks later, McClure quoted accusations that Kissinger had lied about Soviet capabilities and intentions at the time of the SALT I treaty.

But the evidence was largely ignored by most senators until the Soviet shooting of KAL 7. In the wake of that act of strategic terror, and the "Pearl Harbor" mood it evoked in the American population, every member of the Senate present voted for the McClure amendment.

### The 'arms-control consensus'

Yet President Reagan has not only failed to move on the NSC report on Soviet arms-control violations, but has choos-

en to appease the appeasers by backing the build-down proposal. Reagan endorsed build-down on Oct. 4, not because he believes in it, but because he thought he had to placate Congress in order to secure funding for the MX, and because he is told that it will be impossible to win re-election unless he has the votes of an allegedly vast "arms-control constituency."

The build-down proposal, as its nominal Senate author, William Cohen (R-Maine), admitted in a self-congratulatory piece in the Oct. 6 *Washington Post*, "emerged from discussions I had last autumn with Alton Frye, the Washington director of the Council of Foreign Relations." The build-down proposal parallels the developments around the Kissinger-dominated Scowcroft Commission through the first half of 1983; Cohen admits to constant contact with Kissinger deputy Scowcroft through the period that "a new arms-control consensus" was being developed.

Indeed, Cohen openly says that he and his allies on Capitol Hill—Sens. Charles Percy (R-Ill.) and Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) and Reps. Les Aspin (D-Wis.), Norman Dicks (D-Wash.), and Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) are blackmailing the President to support their policies in exchange for the vitally needed MX missile. Cohen boasts, "In effect MX became a bargaining chip to elicit action on other strategic fronts."

On Oct. 6, two days after the President's build-down speech, Helms and Symms returned to the Senate floor to renew the attack. Symms entered into the record an Air Force magazine article from the *Armed Forces Journal* on Soviet arms control violations, and warned that Soviet SALT violations represent a unilateral U.S. build-down. Helms delivered another speech entitled "Soviet Deception Versus Nuclear Weapon Build-Down Options" which asked, "How do we negotiate limits on nuclear capabilities that we do not understand? . . . If we do not know for sure the extent and characteristics of the Soviet nuclear stockpile, then what is the meaning of 'build-down'? Build-down from what?" Helms bolstered his argument with the September 1983 *Armed Forces Journal International* article arguing that the U.S. offensive deterrent capability may be largely useless, and America must begin to rely on strategic defense to ensure the safety of its population.

As a counter-salvo from the Neville Chamberlain side of the Senate, Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and William Proxmire (D-Wis.) cited build-down godfather Alton Frye's Oct. 4 charge in the *Washington Post* that the administration has misrepresented and overplayed the Soviet military drive.

### **Manhattan Project potential**

Not only is the build-down proposal a creature of the *New York Times* and the Council on Foreign Relations, the "all-powerful arms-control constituency" does not exist. The American response to the KAL 7 massacre shows—as did Mr. Reagan's 1980 electoral victory—that, while the citizenry does not want war, it does not prefer to be left to the

mercies of Yuri Andropov's missiles. If presented with a public campaign for an all-out mobilization behind beam-weapons strategic defense, it is clear that the nation would rally behind Mr. Reagan.

The recent speeches by Helms mark the first time in the United States that a national political figure other than *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. has called for countering the Soviets arms-control violations by embarking upon a crash program for strategic defenses. And On Oct. 13, Dr. Edward Teller gave a speech to the Dallas World Affairs Council advocating a crash program for beam weapons anti-missile defense. The nuclear physicist was one of the advisers responsible for convincing the President to publicly announce the Mutually Assured Destruction doctrine on March 23.

A "new Manhattan Project" is required to develop the potential of these technologies as rapidly as possible for defense, stated Dr. Teller; there must be a total mobilization of the technological ingenuity of America and the Free World, the one real U.S. asset against the Russians.

Second, he declared, major breakthroughs have occurred recently in the field of development of defensive nuclear weapons, making possible nuclear explosions of a new type, which do not cause harm to human life but are very destructive against missiles. The primary area of emphasis of very rapid progress is the broad field of EMP phenomena, which Teller discussed at length. This subsumes x-ray burst, x-ray laser, and microwave anti-missile technologies. America can begin to get results from some of the available technologies "immediately" for anti-missile defense, and can have a "decent overall system" within 10 years, he emphasized.

The result of a new Manhattan Project for anti-missile defense, if the bounds of secrecy classification are broken down, will be a profound revolution in technology, more important than that associated with the invention of nuclear weapons in the first place, Dr. Teller specified; fission and fusion scientists must be reunited for this effort.

The Navy is key among the services in spearheading this effort, he added, asserting that Naval Chief of Operations Adm. James D. Watkins was "the key individual" in making the "final push" to make up Reagan's mind to make the March 23 speech.

The U.S. media is a worse problem than the Soviet Union, according to the speech, which repeatedly attacked the *New York Times* and NBC-TV (Henry Kissinger's network) for wilful lying about the President's policy and beam weapons. When an *EIR* correspondent asked about Gen. Daniel Graham's High Frontier proposal for conventional-technology anti-missile systems (see *EIR*, Oct. 18), Teller said "I'm glad you asked that question"; he termed Graham "a patriot, sincere about defense," and High Frontier "right to stress defense over offense, and right to stress the importance of space," but said that on anti-missile defense, "General Graham is absolutely wrong, his proposal will not work."

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