

National News

President repeats offer on beam defense

President Reagan reiterated his strong commitment to a U.S. beam weapon defense system, while at the same time repeating his offer to the Soviets that the development of such a system be used as the basis for arms talks, in an interview published in the Feb. 3 *Wall Street Journal*. The President's defense of what the *Journal* refers to as a "Star Wars missile defense" came as the KGB-allied factions in the United States have greatly increased their efforts to destroy the incipient U.S. beam defense program.

"It's like two fellows with a gun pointed at each other, both of them cocked and both with their fingers on the trigger," said Reagan, when asked by the *Journal* interviewer to comment on his missile defense program.

"My dream was that if we could find a weapon that offered a defense against those, we could then immediately take the next step and say, 'Now, doesn't common sense dictate that we eliminate these weapons?' And that would include our own. If we had the defensive weapon and no one else had it, but we also had the missiles," continued the President, "wouldn't it be the proof of our sincerity if we said, 'Look, we've got it made. We've got both now. And we tell you we will eliminate ours, along with everyone else's.'"

Reagan urges Japanese cooperation in space

President Ronald Reagan wrote a letter to Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on Jan. 27 to urge that Japan participate in the space station program Reagan is proposing.

In his letter, the President said that the United States wants to carry out the program through international cooperation.

James M. Beggs, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced Jan. 26 that he will visit Japan, Canada, and countries in Western Europe this spring to seek their cooperation in the project. Beggs said that he will ask these nations to participate in the program from the beginning as co-developers; he added that he expects nations joining the project to contribute funds and other resources.

A Japanese foreign ministry source released the news of the Reagan offer to Nakasone the same day that talks were concluded between a delegation visiting Washington led by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe. Abe held talks with Reagan, Vice-President George Bush and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in mid-January. Abe termed the talks vital to bolster "the most important bilateral relationship in the world."

LaRouche: 'Boston judge is corrupt'

Warren J. Hamerman, national chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), reported Jan. 29 that Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr., had termed Boston Municipal Judge Bill Tierney "totally corrupt" for his outrageous Jan. 27 decision.

Tierney threw out of court a suit by candidate for the U.S. Senate Mike Gelber against Massachusetts Secretary of Labor Paul Eustace and the press secretary of Gov. Dukakis James Dorsey. Eustace, Dorsey, and a third man assaulted and injured Gelber when he asked Walter Mondale a journalistic question on Mondale's relationship to supporters of the Austin-Coard coup in Grenada before and during the U.S. military action there.

"Judge Tierney," Hamerman said, "granted a bunch of high-level thugs connected to the presidential campaign of Walter Mondale, Lane Kirkland's AFL-CIO, and the Massachusetts administration of Gov-

ernor Dukakis a license to assault political opponents on the basis of a Nazi-KGB legal principle of 'justified violence.' Boston Judge Bill Tierney found that no probable cause existed to charge Eustace, Dorsey, and a third assailant with assault against Michael Gelber, because the NDPC and Gelber had exposed Mondale as an 'Andropov Democrat' and 'KGB asset.'"

Hamerman, whose multi-candidate political action committee, the NDPC, has already unveiled a 1984 national slate of more than 2,100 candidates who are "running with Lyn LaRouche," stated unambiguously: "Once again, Lyndon LaRouche is right. Judge Tierney is totally corrupt."

Carter-Mondale Dems echo Soviets on defense

A group of former Carter-Mondale officials calling themselves "Democrats for Defense" Feb. 2 joined the chorus of denunciations of the Reagan administration's defense budget, calling the 1985 military spending proposals "unbalanced, wasteful, and grossly unrealistic," and proposing to cut the planned growth in the budget to 5% for next year. The members are men of outstanding incompetence whose record speaks for itself.

Led by former undersecretary of defense Robert Komer (noted for his mishandling of the Iranian hostage-crisis) and Walter Slocombe, former SALT II negotiator and current adviser to Walter Mondale, Democrats for Defense issued its echoes of Moscow's repeated denunciation of Defense Secretary Weinberger's arguments for a greater U.S. defense effort to overcome a "decade of ne-

glect" resulting in Soviet military superiority over the United States.

Joining the "KGB Democrats" in their assault on U.S. defense programs are a number of submariners for Henry Kissinger inside the Reagan administration. Treasury Secretary Don Regan told the Senate Finance Committee that when he previously outlined budget items that could not be cut, "I said nothing about defense." Budget Director David Stockman told the Senate Budget Committee that the \$305 billion requested for defense spending in 1985 "isn't chiseled in stone" and added that the country is "in the same position as many companies on the eve of Chapter 11."

Former arms control chief Gerard C. Smith Feb. 2 targeted President Reagan's strategic defense initiative. Smith charged that President Reagan has pursued a policy of "ready, fire, aim" and called instead for the United States and the Soviet Union to preserve "a state of mutual insecurity—like two scorpions in a bottle, each unwilling to sting the other lest it in turn be stung to death." Smith, a leading Council on Foreign Relations nuclear freeze and disarmament propagandist along with Robert McNamara and McGeorge Bundy, added that "If one or the other came to believe it was sting-proof, it might be tempted to attack. And that is what is most dangerous about a nationwide defense, which the President envisions. If we go for defenses, the Soviets will certainly do the same and then our concerns about being attacked will rise."

Ruckelshaus bans another pesticide

EPA chief William Ruckelshaus officially banned ethylene dibromide (EDB) Feb. 3. This was only the first step in a plan to eliminate the use of all halogenated hydrocarbons, sources in the agricultural chemicals industry asserted to *EIR*, and will severely curtail the United States' ability to store grain for any period of time.

Grain reserves would be critical in case of war.

Ruckelshaus announced extensive restrictions on the use of EDB, a chemical alleged—without evidence—to be a carcinogen when used in the normal course of agricultural practice.

Reagan resumes fight for strike force in Jordan

The Reagan administration resubmitted a request to Congress Feb. 1 for \$220 million to build a Jordanian strike force to be used to protect the Persian Gulf Arab oil exporters. The request was submitted as part of the FY84 budget. Late last year the U.S. pro-Israel lobby successfully blocked the same appropriation. But there are indications that under pressure from the United States, Israel may be willing to pull back its opposition.

A spokesman for the Israeli embassy indicated the third week of January that Israel was moderating its position toward the increased U.S. military aid to Jordan. Embassy spokesman Victor Harel refused to dismiss the U.S. plan out of hand but said that it was under study. He stated that Israel is against any neighboring country obtaining sophisticated weapons as long as it is not at peace with Israel. Over the past month Jordan has made unprecedented moves, including reestablishing its parliament, in preparation for future peace talks with Israel. The Jordanian parliament includes members from the West Bank.

In an interview with Western journalists Jan. 28 King Hussein was cautious about discussing the "Jordanian RDF plan," and he did not affirm that Jordan would coordinate its actions with the United States to protect the Gulf; he said that Jordan would protect any Arab regime that called for Jordan's help. Hussein also reiterated the position of a growing number of moderate Arab states, including Egypt, that the Soviet Union must have a role along with the United States in peacemaking efforts in the Mideast.

Briefly

● **JOHN TOWER** (R-Tex.), the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman, is making it apparent that he would like to replace Caspar Weinberger as Secretary of Defense should Weinberger resign after the elections. Tower stated at Feb. 1 hearings on the defense budget that Americans who may be outraged when the Pentagon spends \$900 for a hammer should really be outraged that the Soviet Union has achieved strategic superiority over the United States, and that the United States has fallen from nuclear domination to inferiority in the last decade.

● **LANE KIRKLAND** has mobilized mass support for Mondale's candidacy from union officials. The trouble is, the AFL-CIO bureaucrats won't be able to begin campaigning door to door until their broken legs heal.

● **A NEW YORK** liberal is a man who can't remember what sex he wore to the office that morning.

● **AN NBC** broadcaster was lynched when his co-workers discovered him attempting to smuggle news onto the 7:00 P.M. network broadcast.

● **THE ELEVATORS** at Radio City are each permitted to carry either eleven persons or one-half of NBC producer Pat Lynch.

● **IF NBC-TV** chooses to call LaRouche a "political cultist," isn't it right to report that the folks saying this sort of nonsense are descended from a long line of successful abortions? It makes a lot more sense than saying over and over again (until you have run out of breath) that LaRouche is a "cultist."

● **IF BRIAN ROSS** learned to put his pants on over his legs, instead of his arms, maybe the FBI could put him on their regular Special Agents' payroll.

● **BILL BUNDY** would never drive a suicide-truck into a Marine barracks; he's too lazy.