

International Intelligence

Pravda hits Reagan on ABM speech anniversary

The Soviet Communist Party daily *Pravda* published an editorial attack on President Reagan March 23, on the first anniversary of the President's speech announcing a new U.S. strategic doctrine based on the development of anti-ballistic missile-defense capabilities.

"On no other occasion, perhaps, are so many hypocritical and pseudo-peaceable words wasted today as in connection with the plans for deploying a large-scale anti-ballistic missile system," *Pravda* stated.

Pravda claimed that U.S. anti-ballistic missile beam weapons would have the sole purpose of protecting the United States from retaliation after a first strike against the Soviet Union. "By continuing to tread the path of preparing for nuclear war on the ground, on the seas, in the air, and, now, in outer space, Washington inevitably places itself in opposition to the fundamental interests of all people and indeed becomes the 'focus of evil' it is so busy trying to locate. . . . [Its] policy is disorganizing international relations, creating crises in the economies of even developed capitalist states, bringing whole continents onto the brink of bankruptcy and confronting the United States itself with insoluble internal problems. And the main thing, this policy is pushing mankind closer and closer to nuclear catastrophe."

Italy's Craxi denounces 'Star Wars'

The recently-issued official program of Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi's Socialist Party contains an attack on President Reagan's strategic defense doctrine, under the heading "The Socialist Commitment Against Space Weapons." The document will be presented to the party congress in Verona in May.

The platform states: "Technological progress, often coming in the race toward space, opens the way to more and more alarming prospects. We agree with the So-

cialist International, which asks for a treaty to ban every kind of space weapon. If this is not done in the short run, then the 'Star Wars' thesis will become far more obsessive than that of nuclear war. . . . This perspective would become a reality if the two superpowers, within the span of ten years at most, were each to deploy a satellite umbrella to intercept every kind of nuclear missile launched from the other side into its own territory (or, more probably, launched against the allied European countries). In this case the most important part of the SALT-I treaty, the ABM Treaty which prohibits any kind of anti-missile missile system . . . would fall into disuse."

The platform continues: "Despite the fact that it is not possible to stop technological progress in general, even if it contributes to the building up of more and more catastrophic weapons, we can and must freeze any research aimed at bettering existing weapons systems. We agree on this issue with the Socialist International. . . . Despite the fact that technological progress has opened up apocalyptic prospects, it has also made it possible to better control the arms race. Disarmament is easier to verify now. . . . Peace means détente and détente means disarmament."

LaRouche speaks in Paris on beam defense

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. addressed a conference in Paris March 23 organized by the French organization France et son Armée on the first anniversary of President Reagan's famous speech on ABM defense. The conference was attended by over 200 people, including senior military and diplomatic personnel.

"We must commit ourselves to a good, expensive arms race," LaRouche declared. "We are fighting to save world civilization. . . . This is the significance of-beam weapons: They touch on two or three of the most important areas of scientific inquiry and research for the next 50 years. The three areas are the following:

- high-energy controlled plasmas;
- development and application of co-

herent forms of energy, e.g., lasers and particle beams, but not only that;

- biology, although nothing has been done in biology since the time of Louis Pasteur, because biology since then has not been the study of life, but the study of death, desperate tries to reconcile living processes with inorganic chemistry."

Soviet military texts published in France

The first French translations of Soviet Marshal V. D. Sokolovskii's *Military Strategy* (3rd edition, 1968) and Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov's *Always ready to defend the Fatherland* (1982) have appeared on the market in Paris—albeit belatedly—published respectively by the Circle for the Study of Total Strategy (CESTE) and the Foundation for the Study of National Defense. Sokolovskii's book has served as the basic text on Soviet war-fighting doctrine for two decades. Ogarkov is the current Chief of the General Staff, and has written numerous articles on the mobilization of the Soviet economy for a military build-up.

The appearance of the books at this time reflects the heated debate among French military strategists on the future of France's nuclear deterrent, the *force de frappe*, in an era in which the United States and Soviet Union are developing anti-ballistic missile defense.

Le Monde commentator Michel Tatu, reporting on the publication of the texts, points out that "some of Sokolovskii's reflections, i.e., that nuclear weapons don't change the nature of war, which remains 'an instrument of policy', and which, as in the past, must take recourse to the advantage of surprise and to all-out attack, are somewhat embarrassing at a moment when Moscow is encouraging the pacifist movements in the West. One must ask if what Sokolovskii wrote in a period when the Soviet military power was very much inferior to what it is today and very much inferior to that of the United States, reflected their thinking then, is it not even more important today, when they have parity with America, and the SS-20 in Europe?"

Soviets to French CP: leave the government!

The Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia* March 17 ridiculed the chairman of the French Communist Party, George Marchais, for his statement one year ago that the Communists, by joining the government of Socialist Prime Minister François Mitterrand, could tackle problems like rising unemployment and inflation.

"But what does life show?" asked senior commentator Vikentii Matveev. "Unemployment in the country did not go down, but is growing. New mass layoffs are underway."

Matveev indicated the reason for Moscow's dissatisfaction with Mitterrand, attacking the French president for spending money on the arms race "at the price of major national tension." Mitterrand has called for the creation of a European manned space station that would play a defense role in cooperation with U.S. strategic defense capabilities.

Soviet Pugwisher denied visa in Denmark

Dr. Vladimir Pavlichenko, a Soviet participant in the East-West Pugwash disarmament conferences since 1958, has been denied a visa to participate in a Pugwash meeting on "Conventional Forces" in Copenhagen, reported the Danish conservative daily *Berlinske Tidende* March 21. He had previously been denied entry into Canada because of alleged KGB connections.

The Copenhagen meeting was scheduled to discuss what one participant called "a non-provocative defense system . . . a new approach" calling for "less dependence on the United States and ridding Europe of nuclear weapons."

The paper reported that a demonstration took place outside the building of the Pugwash meeting: "A group calling itself the European Labor Party, wearing Halloween masks [it's Halloween in Denmark—ed.], distributed leaflets proposing that the Pug-

wash movement be given the Arne Treholt Award for 1984." Treholt, an official in the Norwegian Foreign Ministry, was recently exposed as an agent of the Soviet KGB and the author of the Socialist International's proposal for a "nuclear-free Europe."

Bangkok meeting charts project for Kra Canal

EIR and the Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) held a joint seminar in Bangkok March 19 on the prospects for an international project to build a canal through the Isthmus of Kra in Thailand.

Dr. Uwe Parpart, director of Research of the FEF, presented the foundation's recommendations for the construction of a \$10.4 billion two-lane canal. A two-lane canal would be required in view of the rapid expansion of general cargo traffic that can be expected, particularly heading west toward the Indian Ocean and Europe. Financing should be sought from the export-import banks of interested countries including the United States, Japan, and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Dr. Nonthapunthawat, vice president and chief economist of the Bangkok Bank, also addressed the question of financing the project. Thailand's foreign debt is now at \$13 billion, and the canal project and related infrastructure development could be expected to increase the debt by another \$38 billion over ten years. With Thailand's export earning capacity projected at about \$15 billion in ten years, this gives a ratio of 2:2.5 of projected debt burden to export-earning capacity, an acceptable level. Thus he concluded that financing should not present any major obstacle.

The conference was attended by 40 people from Thai military and economic strata and the government, as well as representatives from the Japanese firms Mitsui and Mitsubishi, and the Far Eastern shipping companies Maersk Lines, Evergreen Shipping, and Thaisao. The Fusion Asia International Board was represented by Dr. Svasti Srisuch.

Briefly

● **L.N. TOLKUNOV**, the chief editor of the Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia*, is a KGB major general, according to a Russian defector source. From 1967-1982 the head of the Soviet KGB was Yuri Andropov. The official Soviet biographical description of Tolkunov lists him up to 1965 as having been Andropov's deputy.

● **EAST GERMAN** Defense Minister Heinz Hoffmann arrived in Moscow on March 20 with five of his eight top military deputies. West German commentators are saying that the chief significance of the visit is the fact that the first major delegation from East Germany to the Soviet Union since the death of Soviet President Yuri Andropov is composed of military leaders.

● **HENRY KISSINGER** has written a letter to the editor of *Der Spiegel* magazine, hailing the West German weekly as his own favorite news source. *Der Spiegel* published March 5 a four-page slander against Lyndon LaRouche, which featured a defense of Dr. Kissinger from LaRouche's attacks against him.

● **AN ARMENIAN INSIDER** tells us the fundamental problem of being a Cartesian these days in Moscow. It seems that there is no verb form "I am" in the Russian language as used today, although there are various past and future tense forms that can be used. "No wonder there are so many purges going on in Russia," the insider commented. "I think, therefore I was."

● **THE FOREIGN MINISTERS** of the principal NATO nations are all going to Moscow soon. Giulio Andreotti of Italy will make the trip in April, followed by West Germany's Hans-Dietrich Genscher in May. The next month, it will be Britain's Geoffrey Howe. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is slated to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in early summer to try to organize a Reagan-Chernenko summit.