
Paris Beam-Weapons Conference Report

'We need a good, expensive arms race'

by Laurent Rosenfeld

So far, the French press has ignored the most important military strategy conference of the year in France—the March 23-24 meeting, sponsored by the Fusion Energy Foundation and featuring Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., on developing directed-energy beam weapons against nuclear missiles. But the conference had no sooner closed its sessions in Paris than its impact reverberated in statements by French political leaders and the press.

The meeting, on the first anniversary of President Ronald Reagan's speech announcing the scrapping of the old Mutually Assured Destruction doctrine and its replacement by the doctrine of Mutually Assured Survival, drew over 200 persons, despite a campaign of intimidation and blackmail led by Henry Kissinger that included threats to LaRouche and to his top representative in France, Jacques Cheminade. The presence of 30 to 40 military officers and representatives of most of the political parties in France, as well as many unofficial representatives of the government, shows how much the beam-weapons idea has penetrated French social and political strata.

Cheminade, the chairman of the France and Her Army Committee set up last June to promote beam defense, commented March 27 that the beam-weapons policy is just about everywhere in France now. "President François Mitterrand called for beam defense in The Hague in February. Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy followed suit a week later. Last weekend," Cheminade continued, "the top French opposition figure, Gaullist RPR leader Jacques Chirac, called for a European ABM defense program, and stressed the need for every European, and particularly the West Germans, to have the feeling of really being defended."

By Tuesday, March 27, the major Paris daily *Le Monde* carried an article by editor Michel Tatu reflecting the present official policy, giving the arguments for and against beam weapons, and concluding that "France has no interest in seeing both superpowers cover themselves with defensive barriers. But since they are doing it anyway, how could France remain behind?" Then on March 29, *Le Figaro* reported that French defense ministry officials claim that French "power lasers will be able to destroy satellites" within four years.

Cheminade explained to *EIR*: "The issue of beam weap-

ons is everywhere, but now we have to mobilize resources for a crash program. And for this, we also need a new world economic order, we need great projects such as a trans-African high-speed railway like France's TGV."

Top names in beam-weapons defense

Culminating a year-long series of major conferences in European capitals, the Paris meeting heard many of the best known figures in the pro-beam defense community of both Western Europe and the United States. Cheminade is secretary-general of the European Labor Party of France, which has led the political fight for the new ABM systems; speaker Helga Zepp-LaRouche chairs the co-thinker European Labor Party of West Germany.

Other speakers were Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum, editor of the German-language *Fusion* magazine; Dr. Giuseppe Filippini, director of the Italian Fusion Energy Foundation; noted American scientist Dr. Robert Budwejn; *EIR* Wiesbaden bureau chief Philip Golub; *EIR*'s director in Europe, Michael Liebig; French Gen. Etienne Copel; Colonel (ret.) Marc Geneste, vice-chairman of the Paris Center for the Study of Total Strategy, considered "the father of the French neutron bomb."

FEF Director of Research Uwe Parpart-Henke led a final roundtable discussion with French Col. Philippe Debas, Italian Colonel Magliano, a senior member of the Italian Socialist Democratic Party, and *EIR* contributing editor Christopher White, who elaborated on the economic base for a beam weapons program and for facing the Soviet challenge. West German Gen. Heinz Karst sent a written contribution to the roundtable.

LaRouche: 'I must defend Europe'

Lyndon LaRouche, known worldwide as the first to call for a "crash program" for beam-weapons defense in early 1982, keynoted the conference. "As many of you know, I am running in the primary elections in the United States. I am like an old horse in a horse race. But I have the advantage on my opponents: I am running in the right direction and my opponents are donkeys running in the wrong direction," he began.

"If a Hart-Mondale ticket gets elected," LaRouche con-

tinued, "then we better build a spaceship and go to colonize Mars, because life is going to become impossible on this planet. And if Reagan is re-elected while remaining under the control of Kissinger and his friends, then the disaster is almost as grave."

"Our aim," LaRouche said, "is to save civilization." Some people in the United States may want to decouple Germany from the United States, as Kissinger wrote in his March 5 *Time* magazine article; but if we lose Germany, Europe will go, and, next, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East will go. And we will end up fighting on our own territory. "I am committed to defend Europe, because I am a patriot, but, even more, because, besides being a patriot, I am a member of civilization."

Replying to a question concerning delays in the development of beam weapons, LaRouche said, "Had I been elected President in 1980, we would already have some form of antiballistic-missile beam weapons, perhaps not a foolproof system, but we would be better off now than we are." The timetable for development, he stressed, is a political question; if a full crash program were begun now, something would be available in a few months. "So, the delays essentially depend on us. We must commit ourselves to a good, expensive arms race."

LaRouche, still denied the Secret Service protection he is legally due as a major U.S. Democratic presidential candidate, attended the conference in the face of physical threats. Henry Kissinger had phoned French politicians, asking them to sabotage the conference. "LaRouche and Cheminade are people that I hate. They are personalities to be shot down," Kissinger is reported to have said to a French political figure.

It took an international mobilization of citizens from many nations to ensure the necessary security protection for the LaRouches during their Paris visit. An advertisement was taken out in two major French dailies debunking the slanders that Kissinger's friends were spreading in France. One of these lies is that the Fusion Energy Foundation must be KGB-linked, since beam weapons would annihilate the credibility of "nuclear deterrence." The ad asked, "Do Kissinger's friends in Paris mean that President Reagan, who announced his 'Mutual Assured Survival' doctrine one year ago, is also a KGB agent?"

A Euro-American crash program

In his introductory speech, Jacques Cheminade said, "We want to gather people who share an identical design—the conviction that Europe, that the great European classical culture can and must be defended." Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum of the FEF reviewed the scientific developments that led to the possibility of developing beam weapons, showing how far the Soviets are ahead of the West with an effort about 10 times that of the United States. While President Reagan's speech of one year ago was a step in the right direction, a \$2 billion U.S. program for beam weapons development is far from being the crash program that we need to face the Soviet

challenge, he concluded.

U.S. scientist Robert Budwein told the audience, "The development and deployment of defensive weapon systems are essential to both the stability and deterrence of a nuclear war. The reason is that we cannot rely on deterrence by the threat of retaliation only; what if it fails?"

"Our nation must plan for this eventuality. If we do that in a realistic and serious manner, then we will greatly enhance the chances that deterrence will succeed. And, in the event that we do not succeed in avoiding a nuclear war, we will at least have a chance of surviving and 'winning' such a war." Budwein ended with a message to the Europeans present from Dr. Edward Teller, an outspoken advocate of beam weapons defense systems: There need be a closer collaboration between the United States and its European allies, as well as other Western countries, and the United States wants to share these technologies, as well as their development, with Europe.

Giuseppe Filippini, the president of the FEF in Italy, used the example of the Malvinas War, in which the British fleet turned out to be barely defensible against sea-skimmer missiles such as the Exocet or the Harpoon, to describe how conventional anti-missile systems are ineffective. The only solution for defending naval units is the use of laser and particle beam defense systems.

'Force de frappe' is not enough

General Etienne Copel, former deputy chief of staff of the French Air Force, asserted that France cannot continue to rely only on its independent nuclear *force de frappe* and must prepare for a conventional and chemical attack by the Soviet forces. The only way to call any bluff by the Warsaw Pact, said Copel, is to rapidly develop and deploy the neutron bomb, a weapon that with its low blast and high radiation can break any blitzkrieg offensive. These weapons should obviously be deployed in West Germany, near the East German and Czech borders.

General Copel's name was front-page news in France in the two weeks before the conference, since he had resigned just 15 days earlier over his disagreement with some features of the French defense policy.

Jacques Cheminade detailed how the French deterrent has become obsolete, and the NATO doctrine is "one strategy too late." He, too, proposed the deployment of neutron bombs, as well as a real space policy and a modernization of the French strategic forces. Cheminade called for a national mobilization for defense, and against Kissingerian decoupling of Europe from the United States.

The tradition of the great French military engineers Vauban, Guibert, and Gribeauval, the great Lazare Carnot, the founder of the Ecole Polytechnique, and Charles de Gaulle, was a tradition of emphasis on firepower and mobility, he stressed. "Beam weapons combine these two parameters better than anything else so far." Cheminade concluded with quotes from de Gaulle: "Let the United States, Europe, and France together do their duty."

The fight against cultural pessimism

On the second day of the meeting Helga Zepp-LaRouche called for a "fight against cultural pessimism, appeasement, and capitulationism." She warned against "the illusions about a new 'springtime' in the East-West relations," and explained that there is little time left to save Europe. "It is useful," she said, "to look at three problem areas in an interrelated way: 1) European-American relations, 2) the internal political, economic and military situation in Western Europe, and 3) the specific situation in the Federal Republic of Germany."

While "the U.S. nuclear umbrella has been the essential substance of the Western Alliance since 1949, and the sole obstacle which has prevented the Soviet Union from engaging military adventures," it is clear that the Soviet priority has been "to establish hegemony over Europe up to the Atlantic and to simultaneously wipe out any American influence from the continent." And if Europe falls into the Soviet sphere of influence, she asserted, then it is only a matter of time before the Soviet Union becomes the only superpower.

The main problem today in Euro-American relations is tendencies towards decoupling, as expressed in the Kissinger March 5 *Time* piece. Kissinger, Hart, Mondale, and Carrington are working, she said, on a "New Yalta agreement" with the Soviets, based on the decoupling advocated by State Department senior official Lawrence Eagleburger and U.S. Ambassador to Bonn Arthur Burns, who proposed reunifying Germany in the context of a "neutralized" (i.e., Soviet-controlled) *Mittleuropa*.

Within Europe, she said, the European Community has reached a deadlock and is being destroyed by Margaret Thatcher, who wants to implement Peter Lord Carrington's "New Yalta" policy. It is clearer now than ever that French President Charles de Gaulle was right in opposing Britain's entry into the Common Market. But there are also the cases of Denmark, Belgium, and the Netherlands, which have refused the stationing of the Euromissiles; there is the "March on Rome" organized by the Italian Communist Party to prepare a putsch or a coup de force; there are the incidents at the Franco-Spanish border.

As for the Federal Republic of Germany, Soviet propaganda has convinced a large section of the citizens, including most of the youth, that their country's enemy is not Moscow, but Washington. Even while opening the door to a Finlandized "reunification," the Soviet press preparing the pretext for a possible invasion by writing of new Nazi tendencies in West Germany. The Soviet Union portrays itself as the "peace-loving victim of the U.S. aggressive and provocative policy." In fact, as Mr. LaRouche had said the day before, the only provocative act of the United States was to disarm itself.

Changing the present NATO doctrine

Michael Liebig of *EIR* spoke on the need to change the present NATO doctrine of flexible response, "which has always been strategically unsound," and has now become "un-

workable and self-defeating for the Western Alliance"; and Col. (ret.) Marc Geneste, vice-chairman of the Paris Center for the Study of Total Strategy, sketched the history of the strategic doctrines of the Western Alliance, showing how the present doctrine is bankrupt.

The final roundtable was opened by Uwe Parpart-Henke, director of research of the FEF in New York. Parpart took up Leibniz's formula for kinetic energy ($E = mv^2$) to show the formidable advantage of weapons whose velocity is close to the speed of light, and Max Planck's formula ($W = h[\nu]$) to show how lasers and other beams can induce negentropic effects by being "tuned" to their targets and induce resonance effects in them, thereby destroying them. On military strategy, he argued that there is no basic difference between "strategic" and "tactical" weapons, nor between "defensive" and "offensive" warfighting. Only stupid liberalism prompted countries to rename their "War Department" a "Defense Department" or defense ministry, he said.

Chirac: 'Europe must make its own defense effort'

From La Lettre de la Nation of March 26, 1984.

"Europe must make its own defense effort by negotiating, in the form of a treaty, a new European defense alliance," declared Jacques Chirac on Saturday March 23 in Nogent sùr Marne, in closing remarks to the second convention of RPR-Banque (an association of banking and credit businesses).

The President of the RPR proposed that the Europeans "imagine and discuss, for example, the development of an anti-missile system in which the Federal Republic of Germany could participate."

To Jacques Chirac, it is indispensable to reactivate public opinion in the context of the European elections, especially to establish a closer political cooperation.

This cooperation should be based mainly at the structural level upon the "creation of a permanent European secretariat" and the installation of military means of intervening in the world, whenever European interests are jeopardized.

"It is indispensable," he said, "that each European, especially the Germans, have the conviction of being defended at his frontier."

The plan for a "new European defense alliance" should be launched, based on a "firming up of ties between Europe and the Atlantic alliance, and especially the Americans."

"Europe must," added Chirac, "make important sacrifices for its defense in the face of the integrated logistics of the Warsaw Pact forces." He deplored "the present inability of Europe to coordinate its efforts at the heart of NATO and with France."