

National News

Soviets praise Hart as defense-cutter

In a remarkable display of altruism, a leading Soviet economist has volunteered his solution for the United States' economic problems: cut the defense budget. In a full-page article in the official Soviet economic weekly, *Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*, Dr. N. Ivanov says that his prescription has been endorsed by "many leading economists and political figures of the U.S."

He writes: "Sharp criticism of the militaristic policy of the Reagan administration, which has unleashed an unprecedented nuclear arms race, has been delivered, for instance, by Senator Gary Hart, who is running as a candidate for the post of President of the U.S." The helpful Dr. Ivanov especially warns U.S. policy makers of listening to the arguments of "advocates of the arms race" who claim that "expanding the scale of military R&D has a beneficial influence on economic development as a whole and that it stimulates scientific and technological progress."

U.S. officials report on Soviet x-ray laser gains

Aviation Week & Space Technology reported April 2 on revelations by U.S. officials about a Soviet lead of "at least 10 years . . . in some important areas of directed-energy weapons technology that can be applied to a layered ballistic missile defense capability, adding exponentially to the capability to provide a damage-limiting defense."

This particularly applies, according to the report, to x-ray laser development. "Development of laser weapons and particle-beam technology includes recent efforts in the U.S.S.R. to provide the capability for a nuclear-pumped x-ray laser similar in design to the device being developed in the U.S. by the Lawrence Livermore Labora-

tory," said *Aviation Week*. The Soviet x-ray laser program, it reported, is being coordinated by F. V. Bunkin of the Lebedev Physics Institute, who is also "a key participant in the Soviet's blue-green laser communications program, with experiments being conducted to communicate with submarines." The Kurchatov Institute, a center of the Soviet nuclear-fusion research program, is also involved in the research. U.S. officials quoted in the article say that experiments probably related to the x-ray laser have been detected at the main Soviet testing grounds at Semipalatinsk.

Courts allow League debate without LaRouche

The Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Robert Nix, Jr., prevented effective court review April 5 of the League of Women Voters' discriminatory decision to bar Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. from the nationally televised Pittsburgh candidates' debate that evening. Justice Nix was the recipient of the Anti-Defamation League's "Democratic Heritage Award" earlier this year.

LaRouche had taken an emergency appeal to Pennsylvania's highest court when lower Court Judge Sylvester Sylvestri denied an injunctive action which would have ordered the League to place candidate LaRouche in the debate.

Attorneys for LaRouche immediately went into the federal court in Pittsburgh before Judge Cohill on a temporary restraining order application. LaRouche's attorney, David Davis, argued that the League's arbitrary ban of LaRouche from the debate was a violation of his constitutional rights. The League argued that it was a private organization and therefore free to determine who could appear in the candidate debate.

Davis replied that the League was treating a nationally televised candidates' debate designed to affect the election as if it were a private tea party called at a corporate office. He noted that the eyes of the world and the

nation were on Pittsburgh, and for the Court to blind itself to that fact, by accepting the League's legal artifices, was equivalent to sanctioning an unconstitutional exclusion from the ballot.

Although Judge Cohill expressed interest in the issues raised in the case, he noted that due to the extreme lateness of the application and upon the record before him he could not grant a temporary restraining order putting LaRouche into the debate.

North Carolina's new primary ballots

Federal District Court Judge Fox signed a preliminary restraining order April 2 that enjoined the state of North Carolina from continuing to omit the name of Lyndon LaRouche from the presidential primary ballot. The state must print new ballots with LaRouche's name on them, and replace absentee ballots already distributed, the court ordered.

The State Attorney General's office rushed to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia last Thursday even before the order was signed, seeking a hearing for a stay on Fox's supposed order even before Judge Fox had put pen to paper. That court reversed Judge Fox's decision. LaRouche's attorney, Irvin Tucker of Raleigh, North Carolina, commented, "Should an appeal prevail in favor of the state and reverse Judge Fox's order, I will be prepared to take this to the U.S. Supreme Court."

A LaRouche campaign spokesman added, "In light of the Federal Election Commission's vote to certify LaRouche for matching funds, the state of North Carolina will have an even harder battle against the LaRouche action." The state's statutory requirement for a position on the ballot is candidates who "have become eligible" for federal matching funds. LaRouche's attorneys argued that the State Board of Elections had applied the statute unconstitutionally. The LaRouche Campaign had met matching funds requirements as of Dec. 30, 1983, but

the first FEC movement toward certification occurred only in March.

Reagan denies import of Lamm's 'duty to die' pitch

At his April 5 televised press conference, President Reagan sidestepped a question on the "euthanasia" policies of Gov. Richard Lamm of Colorado. For politically opportunist reasons, the President argued that the true meaning of the Governor's statements had yet to be determined, and that therefore, he, President Reagan, was withholding judgment.

"Mr. President," asked a reporter, "some people might say that you're a man who's approaching the golden years, and I'd like to know what your reaction is to Governor Lamm of Colorado who said that some elderly people have a duty to die and get out of the way and fall like leaves to provide humor for the younger generation."

The President replied, "Well, I think I was as shocked as anyone was to hear such a statement. I since, however, have seen reports that that was not exactly the way it was said and that he was referring outright to terminal cases of the kind that have been under so much discussion over recent years, of someone who had a very limited time and was, for example, in a coma and simply being artificially kept alive—that this is what he was talking about. I don't know. . . . I have not had anyone fill me in on the actual case and how he said it. And having been interpreted incorrectly myself sometimes, I'm not going to speak out until I know."

Reagan thus left the impression that he did not oppose "pulling the plug" in certain cases.

Reagan rejected the "sleaze" allegations against his administration as riddled with corruption, but his own opportunistically pathetic performance on all the substantive issues put before him left him highly vulnerable to the "Watergating" atmosphere

now being orchestrated in and around the administration.

Gen. Danny Graham seeing visions

High Frontier leader Lt. Gen. Danny Graham appeared at a "Keep The Faith" forum in Montvale, New Jersey on March 30, speaking immediately after Father Vincent P. Miceli, S.J., formerly of the Gregorian University in Rome, told the group that the current strategic crisis is a fulfillment of Our Lady of Fatima's prophecy vision.

Some of Graham's "visions":

- It is "the LaRouche people" and "Pentagon bureaucrats" who want to delay building an effective ABM system for 20 to 30 years by insisting upon directed-energy systems.

- President Reagan's March 23 speech was based upon the "High Frontier program," because President Reagan once sent Graham a thank-you note for dedicating his book to the general.

- Directed energy systems cannot be built in the near future, because those scientists who think they can be built cannot agree on which of the five approaches is best.

Graham has targeted groups including the Fidelity Forum, the Cardinal Mindzenty Foundation, Catholics United for the Faith, and Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, for his promotion of an obsolete anti-missile system and his espousal of ESP research for the military. Graham has also launched a new American Space Frontier project, which will work through the Conservative Caucus of Howard Phillips and Citizens for the Survival of a Free Congress of Paul Weyrich.

When asked about laser-beam defense, Graham said that his program already included them as a second generation. Unconfirmed reports say it was Danny Graham, then DIA Director, who shot down an extensive Air Force Intelligence study in 1973-75 which said that the Soviets were near a technological "breakout" in directed energy ABM capabilities.

Briefly

- **NEARLY 150,000** military and civilian personnel will conduct massive war exercises the week of April 9 to test the U.S. ability to defend against and respond to Soviet nuclear attack. The White House insists that the war games were not scheduled in response to the Soviets' current global showdown deployment.

- **HOUSE DEMOCRATS** put through their "deficit-reduction" package April 6 by a vote of 250-168, with double the defense cuts proposed by House Republicans, and with \$32 billion more in tax increases and spending cuts than proposed by the administration.

- **PRESIDENT REAGAN** demanded bipartisanship in the spirit of the Kissinger-controlled Scowcroft Commission report, the "Committee to Fund the IMF," and the Kissinger Commission on Central America at his speech at Georgetown's Center for Strategic International Studies on April 6.

- **HENRY KISSINGER'S KGB** ties were exposed in a front-page article in the April 6 *Washington Times*. The article documented Kissinger's role in withholding intelligence about Soviet intentions to violate SALT I.

- **TOM BRADEN**, Kissinger's intimate, lost his cool in his column in the *Washington Times* April 6, as he rushed to attack LaRouche for his March 26 television blast at Kissinger.

- **BARBARA MIKULSKI**, Democratic congressperson from Maryland, has accepted the challenge from LaRouche Democrat Debra Freeman, her two-time opponent, to debate. Mikulski's announcement that she would meet Freeman "at any public forum, any time" came before 200 people at a Baltimore synagogue April 1, two days after Freeman's March 30 challenge: "Are you man enough to debate me?"