

## Kissinger Watch by M. T. Upharsin

### Who's nuts, Mr. Braden?

Columnist Tom Braden must have felt a little funny when he opened up his copy of the *Washington Times* April 6. In a front-page article in that edition, Henry Kissinger was charged with having "suppressed and kept secret from other officials intercepts showing that the Soviet Union intended to violate the 1972 nuclear arms agreements."

The article, written by Walter Andrews and headlined "Kissinger allegedly withheld Soviet plan to violate SALT I," presented the latest bit of the massive evidence documenting Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche's nationally televised charges that Henry A. Kissinger has been acting as a "Soviet agent of influence" for more than the last decade.

Not a very nice surprise for Braden, because the same edition of the *Washington Times* carried his raving diatribe "Lyndon LaRouche As Newest in Nuts." Braden, who had made a spectacle of himself on a February cable television broadcast of "Crossfire," in which he tried to defend Kissinger against LaRouche's charges, took his defense of Kissinger to new extremes.

Maybe no one at the *Times* told Braden that the newspaper was going to run an exposé on how his pal Henry had been doing such a good job for Moscow. In any case, no one prevented his stream-of-consciousness ramblings from being printed.

Clearly, LaRouche's March 26 half-hour address on ABC television titled "Henry A. Kissinger: Soviet Agent of Influence" upset Braden, because he just couldn't stop writing about it.

"Mr. LaRouche told us that Henry Kissinger was 'an agent of influence for the Soviet Union,' that Mr. Kissinger, along with McGeorge Bundy, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, Robert S. McNamara, and Bertrand Russell had conspired with Nikita Khrushchev to make American nuclear strategy conform to Soviet policy," Braden wrote.

Braden was a little piqued that LaRouche would include Russell, the "sage of Cambridge, author of *Principia Mathematica* and famed exponent of reason over faith" in his exposé. And the aging liberal was "left a little hazy" about how Hitler, Mussolini, Russian tanks on parade, and atomic-scientist Leo Szilard "played a part in the conspiracy Mr. LaRouche sketched."

But poor old Tom isn't as dumb as he looks. "No doubt, however," he concludes, "that Henry Kissinger is at the bottom of it all. He is not only 'a Soviet agent of influence' but 'a mole,' a man with a mind 'antithetical to the Judeo-Christian tradition,' and one of the principal instigators of 'the total collapse of the nation's morality.'"

### Dr. K.'s SALT secrets

Yet, if the charges in the *Washington Times* front-page story are investigated, Braden may permanently become more red-faced than he normally is. The *Washington Times* article on Kissinger says: "The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff and Congress would probably not have supported the agreements if the electronic intercepts of radio phone conversations between Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and a Russian weapons expert had been known. . . ."

The article by Andrews also says that the "May 1972 intercept of a Brezhnev limousine telephone conversation showed that the Soviets planned the development of a new giant SS-19 nuclear missile, then unknown to U.S. negotiators, and placed a loophole in the agreements that allowed for its deployment." "The mis-

sile," the article continues, "resulted in a sixfold increase in the number of ballistic nuclear warheads aimed at the United States, according to the Pentagon."

"The existence of the intelligence intercepts has been reported," Andrews writes, "but the claim that Mr. Kissinger knew of the intercept beforehand had not. Sources said he kept it secret in apparent fear that it would jeopardize congressional approval of the SALT I accord, of which he was a chief architect."

### Zumwalt blew the whistle

The information in the *Washington Times* exposé is not new, but it was brought out again when Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle and Retired Adm. Elmo Zumwalt, former chief of naval operations, testified on the matter before the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

"I believe there was information available to the government at the time, but unknown to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that confirmed that a violation was going to be made," the admiral said.

The admiral told the *Times* he had not become aware of the information until after he retired from the Navy in July 1974.

"Asked who had withheld the information, Admiral Zumwalt would only say, 'it was withheld at the White House level.' He declined to comment further, either about the nature of the information or who had withheld it."

Andrews added parenthetically, "Other informed sources said Mr. Kissinger knew beforehand and was the one who withheld the information from America's highest military officers."

"Dr. Kissinger has previously been reported as having been surprised by the SS-19, and as considering it evidence of Soviet 'sharp practice' as far as keeping to the terms of agreements."