

National News

Baltimore Sun calls NASA scientists 'Nazis'

"When Americans landed on the moon, most of the world did not realize there was an invisible dark stain on the rockets that put them there."

That is the claim of a commentary published in the *Baltimore Sun* Oct. 29 by Washington bureau chief Ernest Furgurson. The Justice Department Office of Special Investigations alleges that several leading officials in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) had worked in the Nazis' rocket program, in some cases helping coordinate Nazi slave-labor projects to build this program.

Referencing the case of Arthur Rudolph, now living in West Germany allegedly to escape OSI investigation, Furgurson says that this case is a "stigma" that "touches the whole American space program, because that work was directed by scientists who worked on Hitler's rocket program. . . . While Redstones, Pershings, and Saturns have flown high bearing the U.S. flag, and Rudolph and his colleagues have been decorated for their achievements, that deep, dark stain has been there all the time. . . .

"How many more are there?" Furgurson asks.

Reagan camp in battle over defense policy

Opposing factions in and around the Reagan administration are battling for control of the defense policy of a second Reagan term. The issues involve primarily the Strategic Defense Initiative and the role of U.S. forces in the defense of Europe.

Martin Anderson, a former official in Reagan's Council on Economic Advisers who is currently a member of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and a fellow of the Hoover Institution in California, wrote an article in the *New York Times* Oct. 29

titled "Limited Missile Defense." Anderson upholds Henry Kissinger's argument that the United States should strive for "limited missile defense" as against "the complex arguments of a comprehensive 'Star Wars' missile defense system. . . . Full-scale strategic defense, if ever built, is decades away, and we may never be able to fully protect the U.S. from an all-out nuclear attack by thousands of Soviet nuclear missiles."

"Limited" defense, Anderson argues, could "intercept and 'kill' a nuclear missile or two" under conditions of an "accident" in which a Soviet missile is launched against an American city, or in cases of nuclear terrorism or use of nuclear weapons by a "third power."

Another commentary the same day, by conservative columnist Albert Weeks writing in the *New York Tribune*, challenges Kissinger's policy of withdrawing U.S. troops from Western Europe.

The Soviets' global strategy, he says, is to embroil the United States in hotspots—like Central America—so that "by distracting the opponent, by pinning him down," they can choose the "axis" for delivering their main blow, "at the decisive place and at the decisive moment." The West can be defeated, he writes, because even now the United States is being forced to disperse forces away from the "main axis" of Soviet attack—Europe—into Asia, the Middle East, and Central America.

Bundy demands campaign against beam weapons

McGeorge Bundy, a dean of the Eastern Establishment and former National Security Adviser to President John F. Kennedy, in a speech Oct. 30 called for an "extraordinary effort throughout the country" to prevent the realization of the Strategic Defense Initiative, if President Reagan is reelected. Bundy also denounced Defense Secretary Weinberger, the principal administration advocate of the beam-weapon defense program, as "incompetent."

Bundy spoke at Columbia University in New York City, honoring the late John Gor-

ham Palfrey, a former Columbia professor and arms control expert. President Reagan's vision of rendering nuclear missiles "impotent and obsolete" is "unachievable," Bundy claimed. "Star Wars may have a surface attractiveness, but it breaks down on the rock of thermonuclear reality. Not one of Mr. Reagan's technical advisers believes it can be achieved within the foreseeable future. . . . Only Mr. Weinberger, who is not restrained by any technical competence, thinks otherwise."

Bundy denied that there is a strategic imbalance between the United States and the Soviet Union: "We must come to understand that there is no significance in the words 'ahead' or 'behind' when talking about nuclear weapons. . . . There is not now, nor was there ever, a window of vulnerability. . . . We should not be afraid of unilateral moderation in our own strategic deployments."

Bundy said that if Mondale wins the election, "the center of hope" for arms control will "move to the Executive Branch." But if Reagan wins, "then we must have an extraordinary effort throughout the country to dissuade him" from pursuing "Star Wars."

New York state adopts 'brain death' statute

The New York State Appeals Court ruled on Oct. 30 that a person may be declared legally dead when his brain has ceased to function, even if his heartbeat and breathing are being maintained on a respirator.

New York has now joined the 38 other states which have adopted this measure, which permits "pulling the plug" on patients in comas and related states. New York Governor Mario Cuomo had previously declared a moratorium on hospital construction, and his health commissioner has attempted to limit acquisition of new medical technology.

Using cessation of brain function as the ultimate criterion of death has been a controversial issue ever since Harvard University promulgated the first "brain death guidelines" back in 1974. Many scientists and physicians contend that not enough is known

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about brain functioning to fully assess when the brain is truly "dead." There have been numerous cases of patients whose brains had apparently ceased to function, suddenly reviving and resuming normal lives. During the last 10 years, numerous revised versions of the original Harvard guidelines have been issued, each looser than the ones they replaced.

Euthanasia proponents from the "right to die" movement have been the biggest proponents of "brain death" statutes. The Abrams Commission, the Carter administration-appointed "medical ethics" board which advocated starving terminally ill patients to death, drew up a model "Uniform Determination of Death" statute, based on cessation of brain function, which it urged all 50 states to adopt.

Rock music blamed for teenage suicides

Dr. Robert Litman, head of the Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center, told a conference in Overland Park, Kansas on Oct. 26 studying the causes of the recent rash of teenage suicides in many U.S. cities, that rock music is a key contributing factor in these suicides.

Litman warned that rock music "can be dangerous if taken too seriously," because it "tends to emphasize the negative side of living and deprecates work as an important value."

He played songs by several rock singers who had died from drug overdoses and cited these as cases of people who got involved in rock because they were "afraid to meet responsibilities and insecurities. . . . The depressions these performers suffered and the alienation they felt from society are symptoms of suicidal tendencies. The main danger is that many young people may echo the attitudes of such singers whom they choose as role models."

He cited an example of a boy who hanged himself after going to a rock concert, evidently in imitation of the rock singer, who did a mock hanging of himself during the show.

Celebration of Schiller Day set nationwide

The city of Houston has announced that it will officially observe Nov. 10 as "Schiller Day," in honor of the 225th birthday of the great German poet of freedom and friend of the American Revolution, Friedrich Schiller.

The international Schiller Institute, which organized support for the move, has vowed to make Nov. 10 the occasion for a nationwide outpouring of classical culture, as well as a demonstration of support for the Western alliance, against the "decouplers" of East and West who are trying to split the United States from Western Europe, and particularly from the Federal Republic of Germany.

The state of New Jersey had previously decided to celebrate Schiller Day, and the states of Texas and Oklahoma are considering doing the same.

Some highlights of the festivities planned include:

- Parades and rallies in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Leesburg, Va., Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and other cities, followed by evenings of poetry and song. Selections from Schiller's play *Wilhelm Tell* will be performed in several cities, and a documentary film on the life of Schiller, produced by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the Schiller Institute's founder, will be shown.

- Radio station KTCU in Fort Worth, Texas, has declared the week of Nov. 4-10 as Schiller Week, and will devote one hour of air time per day to music based on Schiller's poems and dramas, including broadcasting Verdi's opera *Don Carlo*.

- In Philadelphia, many of the city's ethnic constituencies are getting involved in the celebrations. Hungarian leaders told representatives of the Schiller Institute that they regard Schiller as "the poet of the Hungarian freedom fighters." Ukrainians described the work of Ivan Franko (1856-1916), a Ukrainian poet who translated Schiller's poems and considered Schiller "the greatest of writers and the greatest of political thinkers."

- **'THE SAVANTS** at Reagan-Bush headquarters were more worried about Lyndon LaRouche than Walter Mondale," reported columnist Harrison Rainie in the *New York Daily News* Oct. 31. "Reagan operatives said that if LaRouche won the right to go first, they would have withdrawn their \$750,000 commitment and bagged the President's television appearance on the theory that no one would be around to watch Reagan on the tube after 30 minutes of LaRouche."

- **EUGENE ROSTOW**, the former head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Administration (1981-83), attacked Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro for abetting Soviet imperial aims, in a *New York Times* commentary Oct. 28. Rostow, a Democrat, asks: "Do the Democratic candidates realize that the Soviet nuclear arms buildup of the last 25 years is designed primarily to compel American neutrality while the Soviet Union gains control of the Eurasian land mass, Africa, and even the Caribbean through the use of conventional forces, terrorism, and subversion?"

- **THE COUNCIL** on Economic Priorities, a private New York-based group, announced the release of a report Oct. 26 calling the Reagan administration's Strategic Defense Initiative an \$800 billion boondoggle that will "soak up" scientists from private industry. The CEP is headed by Alice Tepper Marlin, a leading member of the U.S. association for the Club of Rome.

- **THE SCHILLER** Institute will be allowed to plant a tree in Central Park as a part of the celebration of Friedrich Schiller's 125th birthday. But not a linden, as requested; the Park Department will only allow an elm, and that only on the condition that the institute agree to pay \$500 for care and maintenance of the tree for one year.