

Reagan's second term: Beam defense is the key battle!

by Kathleen Klenetsky

On April 24, 1984, Walter Mondale gave a campaign address in Cleveland, Ohio, in which he stated that the Reagan administration's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) would be the number one issue in the U.S. presidential elections. "If Reagan is re-elected, the arms race on Earth will be extended to the skies," he warned. "If you help me get nominated, I can make the 1984 election a choice between Star Wars and a space freeze. . ."

"Star Wars" did indeed become the key underlying issue of the presidential campaign, but the results weren't quite what Mondale and his backers expected. Rejecting the streams of anti-SDI claptrap which had been steadily pouring forth from the national media, the Mondale apparatus, and Moscow, the American population *has* chosen between "Star Wars and a space freeze." And their choice, registered at the polls Nov. 6, is overwhelmingly and enthusiastically in favor of the President's proposal to develop a technological defense against nuclear annihilation.

That is the real significance of Reagan's humiliating defeat of his Democratic opponent. By handing Reagan a 59% share of the popular vote, and a record-breaking 525 electoral votes, the American people have roundly repudiated not only Mondale himself, but the whole nuclear freeze crowd and the "Let's make a deal with Moscow at any cost" mentality that goes with it. They also delivered a well-deserved kick in the pants to the Establishment news media, whose pro-Mondale, anti-"Star Wars" bias was so obvious it almost made *Pravda* look like a sterling example of objective reporting.

The LaRouche factor

The presidential campaign of Democrat Lyndon LaRouche played a critical role in shaping events leading to the Reagan landslide. Since January, LaRouche had purchased an unprecedented 14 separate half-hour national television

spots in order to educate the American electorate about the serious strategic crisis facing the United States—first as a candidate in the Democratic primaries; then, after Democratic National Committee chairman Charles Manatt declared the Democratic Party a "private club" and illegally excluded LaRouche from nomination at the San Francisco convention, by running as an Independent Democrat with running mate Billy Davis, listed on the November presidential ballot in 19 states.

Starting with his initial Jan. 21 broadcast, "Our National Defense Emergency," LaRouche repeatedly campaigned to mobilize Americans behind a beam-weapons-centered emergency defense mobilization to deter the Kremlin from pursuing its visions of world domination. He also stressed other themes: the worldwide demand from countries and peoples to overhaul the international monetary system and reorganize the world economy on the principles for fostering technological development embodied in the "American System"; and the urgency of driving the oligarchical "families" running Mondale and other "KGB Democrats," as well as "anything that smells of Henry A. Kissinger's policies" from their dominant role in American policymaking, if the continued survival of the United States is to be assured. Above all, LaRouche stressed, we are at a crisis-point in which 2,500 years of Western civilization could be lost, if Americans do not feel compelled now to act with the sense of responsibility and citizenship that established the U.S.A. as a republic.

LaRouche's broadcasts identified Mondale and Kissinger in the minds of millions of Americans as Soviet agents of influence.

His two Nov. 5 election eve shows were particularly devastating: Comparing Kissinger's mentality to that of a Bulgarian pederast, LaRouche documented that the former secretary of state not only opposes the President's defensive

beam weapon policy, but is also steering the United States into suicidal economic and political policies toward Ibero-America in order to line his own pocket and those of his partners at Kissinger Associates!

On his final broadcasts, LaRouche warned that the Soviets "sense that we have no longer the material strength or the moral will to defend ourselves. They are circling for the kill, the bloodlust of anticipated early victory steaming in their eyes and nostrils." If the United States delays developing a beam defense system beyond 1987 or 1988, LaRouche continued, "the Soviets will have such weapons, and we will not. Then, they would be sufficiently invulnerable to be able to rule the world almost without firing a shot."

In addition to this imminent strategic threat, the candidate also pointed to another looming crisis: the bursting of the "recovery" bubble leading to an economic blowout worse than 1929-33.

The key to meeting both the defense and economic crisis, he said, is to rally the American people on a bipartisan basis behind a national emergency defense mobilization modeled after Franklin Roosevelt's 1939-43 policies, with the SDI as its centerpiece.

Toward the end of the campaign, Reagan started to break out of the election-year box in which James Baker III and the rest of the White House Palace Guard had managed to put him, by advising him not to talk about the SDI or any other "controversial" ideas for fear of losing the election. After following that advice for months—and watching his poll ratings decline—Reagan, in the second presidential debate Oct. 21, changed course. He zealously defended his strategic defense program, reiterated his offer to share this technology with the Soviets, denounced Malthusian complaints about overpopulation and economic growth, and stressed his obligation to act in the interest of future generations—all policy attitudes associated with LaRouche.

LaRouche's Oct. 23 national television broadcast, documenting Walter Mondale's activity as a Soviet agent of influence, immediately followed the second televised debate between Reagan and Walter Mondale. It was after that one-two punch was delivered that opinion polls showed the gap between the President and Mondale rapidly widening again toward the 18% margin recorded at the voting booth on election day.

Reagan and Weinberger: full steam ahead

President Reagan now has a firm mandate from the American people to proceed full steam ahead with the SDI. The President signaled his own intentions in an Election Day interview with the *Washington Post*. According to the obviously unhappy *Post*, "Reagan expressed an unrelenting commitment to the U.S. weapons idea most criticized by the Soviets, his Strategic Defense Initiative plan. . . . 'I think this could be the greatest inducement to arms reduction,' Reagan said. 'It [nuclear missiles] is the only weapons system that's ever been invented for which there has never been a

Kissinger vows to break LaRouche-Reagan links

At a luncheon address to the American Stock Exchange in Washington, D.C. Nov. 7, Henry Kissinger was asked by an Italian journalist: "Dr. Kissinger, you have been quoted in *New Republic* saying that the Reagan administration's consultation with Lyndon LaRouche is 'almost unforgivable.' Are you taking any action to encourage the administration to break its ties with LaRouche?"

Kissinger grimaced at the question, and answered, "Frankly, I don't comment on Lyndon LaRouche. I was brought up with stormtroopers as a child and I don't want to deal with them as an adult."

"No, no, you misunderstood me, I am not attacking you," the journalist replied, but Kissinger turned to take another question before closing down his presentation.

Later, the journalist sought out Kissinger privately, after reassuring his security guards that she meant him no harm. "Please, Dr. Kissinger, I want an answer, I want to know what you will do about this LaRouche." Kissinger thawed, grinned, and grunted, "Okay. I will do everything in my power to break the links between LaRouche and the Reagan administration, and you can quote me."

"Thank you," the journalist replied. "Now, can you answer my second question? What do you think about the charge broadcast by LaRouche that you have brought to diplomacy the morality of a Bulgarian pederast?"

At this, Kissinger screamed, "I won't answer that. I won't answer that."

defense weapon created.' If such a weapons system can be devised, Reagan continued, it would be an incentive to the Soviets to reduce or eliminate missiles, 'since we've proven that it's possible to be invulnerable to such an attack.'"

Simultaneously, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger intervened against the anti-"Star Wars" propaganda which the Soviets and their Western allies have been spreading throughout Europe, with the dual aim of "decoupling" Europe from NATO and using the threat of such decoupling to force Reagan into dropping the strategic defense program.

In West Germany's leading conservative daily, *Die Welt*, Weinberger explained why Germany and America's other European allies would benefit from the strategic defense program, and invited the Bonn government to participate actively in its development: "The Strategic Defense Initiative is a

prudent shield against the possibility that the Soviet Union could extend its research and implement an efficient system for defense against ballistic missiles unilaterally. This would destroy the stability of the nuclear balance and threaten the security of the West.”

Emphasizing that the SDI is not violating the ABM treaty, not implementing a U.S. first strike strategy, and not decoupling the United States from Europe, Weinberger wrote:

“An efficient defense against ballistic missiles could improve the security of the Federal Republic of Germany considerably by protecting her against the threat posed by Soviet missiles.

“Such a defense system would not only improve the capabilities of NATO to deter a nuclear attack, but would also strengthen the deterrence potential of the alliance as a whole against any aggression against Western Europe carried out by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact. The Soviet capability to threaten missile attacks against such facilities as are essential for the conventional defense of Europe—like air bases, ports, depots, and telecommunications facilities—could be reduced.

“An efficient defense against ballistic missiles would help to create big uncertainties in the mind of the aggressor, and thus help to decrease the probability of a successful conventional attack on Western Europe and even the probability that the Soviet Union may consider such an attack as its first option.

“After all, all of us have to face the fact again and again, that in a world of nuclear weapons, we share a common fate and that we are united in our vulnerability against an attack carried out with nuclear weapons. That is exactly why we have to bring together our best minds for the important task of utilizing the scientific options which can unite us in a world in which no nation must fear the sudden outbreak of nuclear war any longer.

“For the time being, we must not overlook the reality of today, however. I cannot fail to underline again how important the contribution of the Federal Republic of Germany is to an efficient deterrent force of all the allies.

“The Strategic Defense Initiative can strengthen deterrence. We should always be aware that it is better to destroy weapons than human beings.”

Concluding his article, Weinberger attacked the policy associated with Kissinger and the decouplers:

“Our own obligations to the security of the Federal Republic of Germany and also of Western Europe as a whole remains strong and alive. Not least because of that, we have stationed 325,000 of our best troops in Europe, and we are committed to having them stay there.”

Kissinger: Negotiate it away

But Kissinger and Kissinger’s bosses in the Eastern Establishment like McGeorge Bundy are preparing, as Bundy put it in an Oct. 30 speech, an “extraordinary effort” to stop the SDI.

The Soviets, with continuing repeated attacks on LaRouche and his associates by name, and Kissinger and his allies in the West see the mass movement coming into being around LaRouche’s ideas as the main obstacle to their success, since “LaRouche Democrats” could provide the crucial margin of bipartisan support for the President to proceed full tilt with a crash program for beam weapons.

So “stopping LaRouche” has become a public preoccupation of these forces. An 11,000-word cover story published in the Nov. 19 issue of *New Republic* documented the fear of LaRouche’s influence, arguing that LaRouche was instrumental in formulating the administration’s beam-weapons program, and quoting Henry A. Kissinger calling it “outrageous, stupid, and nearly unforgivable” that LaRouche should have any kind of input into the administration.

Kissinger himself popped up on ABC television on election night to announce, “I think I have the impression that the President has decided to negotiate.” He argued that the Soviets are prepared to crawl to the negotiating table because of “internal crises”—a shameless, witting lie which Kissinger has been spouting since August.

Arms-control ‘czar’

The Soviets themselves made clear their real intentions the day Reagan was reelected. In a speech honoring the 67th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko blasted Reagan’s SDI as an “insane scheme” which aims “to achieve military superiority. . . . If the door to weapons in outer space is not closed now,” he declared, “tomorrow will be too late.”

A campaign is now afoot to get Reagan to appoint Kissinger as his arms-control “czar.” The idea of creating a special envoy, with total control over arms-control policy, was first proposed during the summer by Robert McFarlane, a former Kissinger protégé, and Baker. The proposal is being billed by senior administration officials as a means of vastly reducing Weinberger’s influence, thereby opening the door for negotiating away the SDI.

The chief contenders for such a post reportedly include, aside from Kissinger, Gen. Brent Scowcroft, William G. Hyland, former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger, McFarlane, and Howard Baker, who has just retired from the Senate. All are closely identified with Kissinger, both personally and politically.

Reagan confirmed at a Nov. 7 press conference that the idea of a “czar” has been discussed with the Soviets, but that no decision has yet been taken on whether to set up what he termed these “informal channels.”

Meanwhile, Kissinger’s boys within the White House were trying to convince the President that, as James Baker III put it, while the elections were “a victory for his [Reagan’s] philosophy and a victory for him personally . . . I’m not sitting here claiming it’s a big mandate.” The White House Chief of Staff predicted that Reagan would have a lot of trouble getting his legislative package through Congress.

The world responds to Reagan landslide

Democratic presidential loser Walter Mondale:

I think just as you have to know when to get into politics in terms of elective office, it takes strength to know when it's time to do something else. And I believe in my life that time has come.

I have no plans for seeking the Presidency or any other elective office again. I think the time has come to pursue certain economic necessities, among other things.

Democratic Party chairman Charles Manatt:

I'm not depressed, because I never get depressed. . . . We've gained in the Senate, kept our majority in the House and will never, ever have to face Ronald Reagan again.

The Financial Times, London, Nov. 8:

President Johnson in 1964 and President Nixon in 1972 both won by margins comparable to President Reagan's this year, only to see their authority blown to tatters in one instance within a couple of years and the other within a couple of months. . . . A second Reagan administration will not be able to rely on the ideas which they first brought to Washington four years ago, without risking the political fate of Herbert Hoover.

Two goals which we would like to see [him] pursue most urgently: The first is a measure of real progress towards better relations with the Soviet Union. . . . Mr. Reagan's new willingness to take arms control seriously is very welcome. . . . In particular, it would be reassuring if he were to reconsider some of the new strategic weapons programs and especially the so-called Star Wars initiative. . . . Reality, in the form of a slowing of economic growth and a weakening dollar, already shows signs of catching up with him. . . . Here is an area where the newly elected President can take tough decisions, or wait for tough decisions to be imposed upon him.

The New York Times, Nov. 8, lead editorial titled, "The Mandate, the Mandate":

Nothing much has changed. The voters' resoundingly approved the President's performance so far—and then elected a Congress unlikely to let him do much different. . . .

Telegram signed by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet,

which is headed by Communist Party leader Konstantin Chernenko:

Esteemed Mr. President, please accept congratulations on your re-election as President of the United States. It is hoped that the coming years will be marked by a turn for the better in relations between our countries. This would be in the interests of both our peoples and the cause of world peace.

On its part, the Soviet Union is prepared for joint work to rectify Soviet-American relations on the basis of equality and respect for the legitimate interest of each other, remove the threat of war, and radically improve the international situation.

Speaking to the Soviet Communist youth group on the eve of the election, however, Chernenko had the following to say:

It is the U.S.A. and its allies who have set themselves the insane goal of achieving military superiority over socialist countries. . . . Naturally, we cannot allow this to happen. And we shall never allow it to happen. . . .

Life itself on Earth is in jeopardy. . . . If the world situation causes worry, responsibility for this is borne fully and entirely by the imperialist reactionary forces led by the U.S.A.

CIK, official news agency of Czechoslovakia:

There is a danger that after the elections, Reagan and his government will even intensify this strategy of talking about peace on the one hand and pursuing the arms race on the other because they will not have to pay attention to anybody.

West German Chancellor Kohl:

I am sure that with this victory he will very quickly take significant, decisive, and urgently necessary steps together with Europe and Germany in the field of disarmament and reduction of tensions.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Abdel Meguid:

Now that he has received a new mandate, it is to be hoped that the situation in the Middle East will get the President's attention.

Philippines President Ferdinand E. Marcos:

There is much to cheer about [in the Reagan victory]. [Outside the U.S. embassy in Manila, 100 demonstrators burned effigies of Reagan and Marcos and called for an end to U.S. economic aid to the Marcos government.]

Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini:

This is a good omen. Only strong popular support can allow the President of the United States to take the necessary steps for the resumption of the dialogue of the two superpowers.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra, the Nicaragua junta leader:

With Reagan's re-election, we are on the brink of a North American invasion.