

# For a 'Strategic Defense Initiative' against AIDS and other pandemics

by Warren J. Hamerman

In 1985, the lid was blown off the coverup of the true, horrifying dimensions of the global AIDS pandemic. The two principal institutions which have systematically downplayed the threat to mankind posed by this disease are:

1) The **World Health Organization (WHO)**, based in Geneva, whose Communicable Disease Division, which coordinates all AIDS and other lethal disease work internationally, is headed and manned by a Soviet nest of infectious disease specialists—Dr. Sergei K. Litvinov, Dr. T. A. Bektimirov, Dr. Morosov, et. al. Litvinov's superior in the Soviet chain of command is none other than Dr. Yevgenii I. Chazov, who received the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize on Dec. 11, 1985. Chazov has been a member of the Communist Party Central Committee since 1982, a deputy Soviet health minister, and the senior personal physician to the last several Russian party chiefs.

2) The **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**, based in Atlanta, as a government agency, has been ordered by the brutal cost-cutting of Don Regan, James Baker III, the Office of Management and the Budget, and the International Monetary Fund to downplay the extent of the disease. Budget allocations for the very costly, but absolutely necessary programs will never be made, unless the policies currently prevailing are abandoned.

A realistic estimate of the magnitude of the threat posed by AIDS will necessitate a crash program of public health measures and research. The principal costs will include: 1) an Apollo Moonshot-style basic biomedical and optical biophysical research effort, especially widening the frontiers of biological laser spectroscopy technologies; 2) mass screening for AIDS carriers, strict quarantining to prevent the spread of the pandemic; 3) full hospital care using state of the art medical technology for all those suffering with the disease; 4) preventive economic measures to revive insect-eradication programs, repair collapsed sanitation systems, alleviate crowded and collapsed housing conditions, and upgrade the nutritional intake of populations to conform with protein-rich diet spectrums modeled upon those developed for astronauts.

Such costs must be expended not only for the United States, but also in an emergency effort to upgrade the hell-hole conditions in the disease-spawning tropical areas of Africa, Asia, and Ibero-America.

*EIR's* role in provoking an open policy debate on the real threat of AIDS is indicated by the following two reactions to our exposés:

1) On July 1, 1985, *EIR* issued a Special Report entitled *Economic Breakdown and the Threat of Global Pandemics*, which exhaustively documented the charge that the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are waging "Malthusian biological warfare in depth" against the populations of Africa and other areas of the planet which they have chosen to "triage" as so-called overpopulated "Fourth World" regions. The report reviewed the devastating accuracy of a 1974 study by a scientific task force formed on the initiative of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., which produced a study forecasting the precise consequences to the world's population and biosphere as a whole if the Fourth World and zero growth policies of Robert McNamara at the World Bank were imposed.

The CDC swiftly counterattacked. On Aug. 27, Dr. James O. Mason, acting assistant secretary for health and director of the Centers for Disease Control, sent an official response to this author in his capacity as director, since 1974, of the *EIR* Biological Holocaust Task Force. Dr. Mason dismissed the *EIR* assessment, on the grounds that the standard of living in the United States and Africa was *rising*, the national security of the United States was not threatened by AIDS, and that the World Health Organization could be absolutely trusted. He furthermore made statements about the AIDS epidemic in Belle Glade, Florida, which he knew not to be true, in order to impeach the massive evidence from Belle Glade (and Africa) that there is a direct causal link between breakdown and the spread of AIDS among the "non-risk" general populations—for example, immune suppression of populations through malnutrition, so-called mechanical insect transmission when the mosquito carries contaminated

blood like a "flying syringe" from one victim to another, aerosol transmission under constant contact as with tuberculosis or the sheep disease which is closely related to AIDS named *visna*, and co-infection "packages" of tropical disease which work in tandem to suppress the immune system.

2) The Soviet nest at the WHO was first exposed in an *EIR* cover story of Oct. 25, 1985, entitled "Soviet Role in Covering Up the Deadly Threat of AIDS," and provoked a howl of protest only five days later by the journal *Literaturnaya Gazeta* (see issue dated Oct. 30, 1985, the subsequent issue, on the eve of the Geneva summit, and the issue of Dec. 11, for three direct Soviet responses to *EIR*'s charges). The substance of the preposterous Soviet counterattack was to charge that our journal and its founder, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., were only "exposing" the nest of Soviet operatives at WHO headquarters in Geneva in order to "cover" for the Pentagon/CIA, which had allegedly synthesized AIDS as a biological weapon and then unleashed it on the Western nations.

Contrary to *Literaturnaya Gazeta*'s claims, the Soviets themselves are involved in extensive research capable of producing the AIDS virus. Litvinov's operations officer in Geneva is T. A. Bektimirov, who in the early 1970s conducted research reported in such papers as "Isolation of a Leukovirus from a Continuous Human Cell Line" (*Arch. Gesamte Virusforsch.* 39:309-16, 1972). T. A. Bektimirov's co-worker V. M. Zhdanov was a collaborator of Boris Lapin, the Soviet Union's retrovirus expert stationed at the Sukhumi Primate Center, who as early as the late 1970s was experimenting with the AIDS-related virus disease Simian Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or SAIDS, in his African green monkey colonies. In the early 1970s, Doctors Lapin and Zhdanov had published numerous joint papers on animal RNA tumor viruses being expressed in human cells. Thus Lapin and Zhdanov published numerous papers on infecting human cells with deadly animal retroviruses. In short, the scientific nest currently controlling global AIDS policy at the WHO belonged to the Soviet scientific team which investigated retrovirus "species jumps" from primates to humans. *The AIDS virus HTLV-III/LAV is, of course, the most famous such retrovirus which made a species jump.*

Dr. William A. Haseltine of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute of Harvard testified before the Senate hearings chaired by Sen. Lowell Weicker (R.-Conn.) that over 10 million Africans had already been infected with AIDS. The most likely hypothesis for the origin of the new disease was a virus "jumping the species barrier" from the African green monkey to humans within the past 20 to 30 years, he reported.

The same Dr. Zhdanov who specializes in retrovirus "species jumps" and is currently the director of the Ivanovskii Institute of Virology, was the first Soviet scientific official to admit, in a Dec. 7, 1985 interview in the newspaper *Soviet-skaya Kultura*, that there did exist "some" AIDS cases in the

Soviet Union. In their published scientific papers in the late 1960s and early 1970s, V. M. Zhdanov and T. A. Bektimirov were engaged in extensive research on the isolation of C-type RNA viruses from stable cell cultures of human tumors, and, in collaboration with Lapin at Sukhumi, investigated the ways of "cross-infecting" monkeys with these viruses.

Concentrated Soviet work has been coordinated by Vlail Kaznacheyev and Ludmila Mikhailova in Novosibirsk, with other experiments ongoing at the Institute of Physiology and Biophysics and the Frank Institute in Pushkino, just outside Moscow. Kaznacheyev is the former chief of the Medical Division of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Siberia; his 1981 book *Ultraweak Radiation in Intercellular Interactions* describes the exploration of methods to create and transmit disease agents (pathogens) in the laboratory. Kaznacheyev found that he could induce a "cytopathologic mirror effect" when low-level ultraviolet radiation passed through a quartz window from a chamber whose cells were infected with virus. The cells in the adjoining chamber showed the same clinical

cles could pass from the infected chamber into the adjoining chamber. A disease process was induced in the second chamber by weak light radiation alone. The Kaznacheyev group experimented with 12,000 pairs of chambers over a 10-year period.

### The retrovirus pool

The potential for extremely rapid spread of AIDS worldwide is indicated by a presentation made by Dr. Robert Gallo to the Nov. 22-23 conference in Brussels "On African AIDS." He reported on the development of a "pool of human retroviruses" in the Tropics, and the anticipation that new retroviruses will be discovered soon. South America is another area where such discoveries are expected. er these new retroviruses will be part of the same family as the AIDS virus or from new families, cannot be predicted.

During the "budding" of the AIDS virus, there is a rearrangement of the glycoprotein morphology. Differences in glycoprotein morphology distinguish the different AIDS viruses being studied in various laboratories. Dr. Myron Essex of Harvard has remarked that the AIDS virus glycoprotein coat may be mutating 100 times more often than that of even the highly mutagenic influenza virus. From a genetic standpoint, the similarity of the Pasteur Institute's LAV to the sheep *lentivirus* (or slow incubating virus) *visna* is very close, except for the existence of an additional so-called "F" gene in the LAV virus. The function of this gene is unknown. Therefore, while the entire genetic map for the basic AIDS virus has been completed, the functional aspects or "grammar" of the genomic language has not been entirely understood. Using computer maps, a phylogenic "tree" of the evolution of the AIDS virus with respect to other retroviruses has been completed by the Pasteur Institute team. Further-

more, according to Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute, there appear to be an unusual number of "variations" in the virus isolates from Africa.

### Testing and the AIDS coverup

For political reasons, various people have tried to downplay the magnitude of the AIDS pandemic, especially in Africa, by asserting that the blood antibody tests tended to be unreliable and give many "false positive" results. Even more important than the question of "false positives" on serological-antibody tests, are the far from negligible questions of 1) "false negatives," 2) "weak positives," and 3) "unmatured positives." Weak- or low-concentration (low "titre") positives are extremely problematic. They can, for example, represent a *true* positive reaction to a related virus.

Dr. Gallo reports, for example, that the way he discovered the existence of the human leukemia virus HTLV-II was by doing virus isolates from "weak positive" samples to HTLV-I antibodies. Unmatured positives result from the fact that, after people are infected, there is a lag time before they test positive. Scientists privately estimate that the number of "false negatives" and "weak positives" builds in as much as a 10% error in serological testing. If "unmatured" positives are also included, we may be talking about as many as 15% more infections than the tests are showing. Of course, one must subtract from this the relatively smaller number of "false positives." In other words, blood supplies are still dangerously contaminated. Furthermore, there is basically a "window period" after infection and before sero-conversion.

Thus, in many circumstances, we may be dealing with individuals who test "negative" for the HTLV-III/LAV antibodies, even though they are carrying the virus. At the Brussels conference, turmoil was created by a paper which reported that 27% of spouses of AIDS and AIDS Related Complex patients in Central Africa and Belgium were *virus carriers, who were negative by antibody testing*.

As several leading AIDS researchers have concluded, the AIDS virus could be considered the perfect "biological warfare agent," since it is remarkably successful in evading destruction by the immune system: 1) The virus escapes the immune system by destroying the system itself; 2) all human retroviruses remain silent; they don't express themselves until a late point; 3) the virus evolves a change in its own code, the more it reproduces.

Therefore, to be successful in mass screening for AIDS-virus carriers, new optical spectroscopy technologies must be utilized which go beyond antibody tests and directly assay for the presence of the AIDS virus itself. For such modern mass screening, the knowledge of optical biophysics must be brought to bear on the problem.

Exemplary of the most advanced optical biophysics technologies for the war against the AIDS pandemic would be the utilization of the modern diagnostics for accurate virus

assays, thereby avoiding most of the problems of "false negatives," "weak positives," and "latent window positives." One such optical spectroscopy technique has been developed by the Los Alamos National Laboratories and is now the property of MESA Diagnostics for application to the flow cytometer. In this technology, 20,000 cells per second can be passed through a tube subject to laser light at varying wavelengths. Current experimentation includes the range from 633nm (nm stands for nanometer, or one-billionth of a meter) down to as low as 42nm, according to public sources.

The current sensitivity of the technology enables it to identify viruses as long as they are in a "titre" or concentration of greater than  $10^{10}$  (10 billion) virus particles per milliliter. In contrast, the serum viral titre in a patient with AIDS usually does not go higher than  $10^4$  or  $10^5$  viral particles per ml.

The sensitivity question is not only a matter of increasing the power of the instrument laser beam, but also requires determining which frequency bands must be explored, based on a more advanced perspective of biophysical processes in general. Thus DNA's potential ability to function as an "exciplex laser" within very narrow bands of frequencies, should be investigated, as suggested by Fritz Popp at the University of Kaiserslautern in West Germany.

Likewise, the resonant frequencies of glycoprotein attachment sites for viruses such as in AIDS are crucial. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) has already made experimental inroads into identifying crucial changes in the electromagnetic resonance qualities of the glycoprotein coat of those breast cancer cells which are strongly metastatic. The NMR work on cancer has been done at the Texas Medical Center by James Fraser et al.

With the development of the flow cytometry technology, particularly in solving the problem of "sensitivity" in low-titre samples, it may be possible to get a virus signature from a blood sample and compare it to a "signature library" in approximately four minutes.

The current timetable for flow cytometer application to the AIDS question must be swiftly upgraded. The instrument, costing \$160,000, is projected for market availability in 1987, with plans for usage on AIDS tests to begin even later. One such diagnostic technology on the flow cytometer called Circular Intensity Diffraction Scattering (CIDS) has for some time been able to accurately distinguish, for example, between three types of influenza virus. It can also distinguish among the four types of Marburg virus and the various kinds of equine encephalitis virus.

CIDS is only one part of a multiparameter light scattering which includes circular intensity but also 16 different polarizing elements at each angle going through increments at  $3^\circ$ . A "Mueller Matrix" has been developed as a calculation technique of all of the different light polarization data to get a unique signature for each virus. The different polarizing elements include left and right polarization, circular polari-

zation, other scattering effects such as "upshifts" and "downshifts" in frequency, as well as total light scattered. These readings are currently taken at approximately 3° increments around the laser-irradiated sample and the data is then analyzed by the Mueller Matrix to develop a signature unique for each species of virus, bacteria, or whatever. Already, utilizing the method of circular dichromism, plasmids within bacteria can be signatred.

The amount of data which will be generated by the accurate measurement of polarization data from biological material will do much to deepen our understanding of the coherent processes which underly the living state. Since AIDS is associated with the breakdown of the immunological, neurological, and respiratory systems of its victims, conquering

this disease with advanced technology would unlock the door to solving problems of aging and preparing man for space colonization.

The importance of reviving the full spectrum of U.S. biophysics capabilities is made more urgent by the fact that the U.S. research program was destroyed in the late 1960s and officially buried when Henry Kissinger manipulated President Richard Nixon into signing the 1972 treaty protocols against biological weapons research and development.

A Strategic Defense Initiative against Disease, focused on advancing biophysics and raising the standard of living in the tropical and urban hell-holes of the world, is not merely a health question per se; it is a vital military question. At stake is the very survival of Western civilization.

## LaRouche warned the world of AIDS threat

*From "Spread Panic, Not AIDS," Sept. 15, 1985:*

It is now becoming clear, that during the period of the 1986, 1987, and 1988 election campaigns in the United States and Western Europe, the hottest political issue will be the spread of a new global pandemic more deadly than the bubonic plague: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Governments, political parties, and candidates will rise or fall, on the basis of a spreading, and entirely justified popular panic directed against those politicians and governments which either attempt to cover up the spread of this pandemic, or to use the immoral and fraudulent pretext of "homosexuals' civil rights" as a pretext for blocking urgently needed measures of quarantine and prevention.

*Excerpt from "I Announce My Candidacy for the 1988 Democratic Party Presidential Nomination," Oct. 4, 1985:*

AIDS is the leading issue which every serious candidate must face, but it is also a symbol of the economic and foreign-policy issues in the mind of the majority of citizens. The justified terror of the deadliest communicable disease known to mankind, means that over the coming 12 months the two major political parties will be split apart over the AIDS issue.

The popular demand for massive action against the spread of this deadly disease, will trigger an explosion of traditional American moral and scientific values.

*From "The Lessons of Augustinian Statecraft for the Contemporary Dark Age of Civilization," a speech to the Nov. 1-3, 1985 conference of the Schiller Institute in Rome, dedicated to St. Augustine:*

Today, we are confronted by a man-made evil far more destructive than general thermonuclear war, a zooming spread of epidemic disease, which is more threatening to mankind as a whole than Europe's Black Death pandemic of the mid-14th century. The breakdown in nutrition and sanitation, is spreading both old and new pandemics, including the deadly AIDS, from areas of great misery, into the populations of wealthier regions. Today, as during the 14th century's dark age, the spread of anti-science irrationalism has fostered revival of evil cults out of the bowels of Babylon.

*From "Why the Administration has Tolerated the CDC Cover-up of AIDs," EIR, Dec. 20, 1985:*

The gay-lesbian-druggie voting blocs are a significant factor in shaping congressional and administration policy on the AIDS issue, but this is not the decisive issue for the White House itself. The Reagan administration itself tolerates the cover-up because the administration is terrified of the economic-policy issues involved. . . . Once the administration faces the simple medical fact, that AIDS is a general pandemic, not limited to "dirty sex and needles," the administration has to face up to the fact that there never was a "1983-84 Reagan economic recovery."