

# National News

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## Chicago declares itself 'nuclear free zone'

The nation's largest "nuclear free zone" was created on March 12 when the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance banning the design, production, or storage of nuclear weapons in Chicago. No one in Moscow was immediately available to say whether Soviet missiles would, in turn, be retargeted away from Chicago.

The ordinance, adopted on a voice vote, requires a phase-out of Chicago's nuclear weapons industry within two years. Alderman David Orr, author of the proposal, claims that Chicago has few companies and few jobs that will be affected by the ordinance.

Illinois Gov. James Thompson called the ordinance "stupid and un-American." A spokesman for the Governor quoted him as stating: "Are we supposed to just lay down for the Russians?"

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## Rudman in new tirade against Japan

Sen. Warren Rudman (R-N.H.) burst into a tirade in the Senate against Japan, after the posting of a record U.S. trade deficit of \$50 billion with Japan. Rudman, of Gramm-Rudman bill fame, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, stated:

"I have had it. I'm tired of their polite and protracted negotiations, of the befuddling and befogging of the issues. Maybe the only way to get their attention is to hit them right square between the eyes with a bat, and some of us are willing to pick up the bat."

Rudman was joined in this vein by Sen. Dale Bumpers and Sen. Ernest Hollings, who threatened trade legislation against Japan.

Their display is consistent with the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings budget-cutting bill, which, exempting only federal debt payments from budget cuts, raises usury to

the first principle of the American economic system. Since, therefore, the United States cannot produce goods that are competitive with those produced by the Japanese, the Japanese must be prevented from producing and selling such goods in the United States.

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## Vatican disciplines American heretic

The Vatican has cracked down on a leading American heretic, Fr. Charles Curran, professor of moral theology at Catholic University in Washington.

Curran disclosed at a press conference yesterday that Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, had sent him a letter Sept. 17, warning him he will be stripped of his right to teach as a Catholic theologian, if he does not "reconsider and retract" views that differ from official church teachings on questions of sexual morality.

Curran said he had been informed by Ratzinger in a personal meeting in early March, that Pope John Paul II had approved the findings of an inquiry which concluded that he no longer meets the definition of a Catholic theologian.

Curran would be hard-put to deny Ratzinger's charge, to say the least: He is pro-abortion, pro-homosexuality, pro-euthanasia, pro-masturbation, ad nauseam. He asserted yesterday, "I cannot and do not retract" the view that "dissent from authoritative, noninfallible church teaching is possible and in certain cases is justified."

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## Reagan says 'partial defense' possible

President Reagan said he might consider deploying a partial strategic defense, in an interview published March 13 in the *Baltimore Sun*. Reagan said he would "have to seriously think" about whether he would favor partial deployment of a point-defense

for land-based nuclear missiles, if it proved feasible.

Reagan cautioned that to deploy a partial defense "without a lot of further meetings and exchanges" could make it seem that the United States "might be seeking to get a first-strike advantage," which would be "the most dangerous thing in the world." But if a partial deployment were technically feasible, said Reagan, the United States might "go earlier to both our allies and to the others and say, 'Look, here is the potential now for this weapon and we want it to be used for all mankind,' and see what we could work out."

The original concept of the President's Strategic Defense Initiative envisioned a layered defense system, capable of intercepting enemy missiles in their boost phase and mid-flight trajectories as well as final, point defense of targets. Whereas opponents of the program like Zbigniew Brzezinski and Henry Kissinger have demanded "point defense only" deployment to protect U.S. missile silos, but not population centers, the President's remarks gave no indication that he has adopted this view, but only that, were point defense capabilities to come into being first, he might deploy them.

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## Did Tower resign over Pentagon post?

John Tower's resignation March 10 as chief American representative to the strategic-arms talks in Geneva may have been prompted by his realization that the post of defense secretary, which he has coveted since 1980, will not open up during the Reagan administration.

Writing in the *New York Post* on March 11, Niles Lathem reported that the former Texas senator had decided to leave his current position, because of the failure of his year-long drive to replace Caspar Weinberger. "Weinberger had been at the center of an intense, year-long bureaucratic war over his opposition to cuts in the defense budget and his hard-line views on arms control," noted Lathem. "His enemies in the administration and Congress had hoped to use the

Packard Commission [on defense reform] to get rid of Weinberger and replace him with Tower."

The strategy failed, Lathem said, when Weinberger appeared to accept the Packard Commission's recommendations. Rhett Dawson, chief staff member of the Packard Commission, was formerly a top aide to Tower.

Tower has been replaced by Ronald Lehman, currently deputy assistant for national security affairs at the National Security Council.

On March 11, Weinberger said that "some of these things can help, and some of them would cause a certain number of problems," in reference to the "reform" proposals of the Packard Commission and Senate Intelligence Committee.

## Is intelligence chairman target for blackmail?

Serious questions are being raised about whether Sen. David Durenberger should continue as chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, following revelations that the Minnesota Republican is experiencing serious problems in his personal life, which could make him susceptible to blackmail by the KGB or other foreign intelligence services.

According to accounts in the *Washington Post*, *Washington Times*, and other newspapers, Durenberger recently concluded a lurid, extramarital affair with his former 28-year-old secretary; is seeing a psychologist; was arrested early this year on disorderly conduct charges in Boston; and has two sons with serious drug problems. Durenberger himself admitted in an interview with a home-state newspaper that because of "marital problems," he has taken up residence in a Christian retreat house, and is making "sort of a historical review of some of the events in my life and how I was unhappy in my relationship with my wife and with other people."

Several of Durenberger's colleagues, including former Intelligence Committee chairman Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) and

committee member Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.), are strongly hinting that Durenberger should give up the committee chairmanship, because its highly sensitive nature is incompatible with unstable personal behavior. "When you get playing around with another woman, that can cause problems [threatening national security interests], probably more than being on narcotics," the March 12 *Washington Times* quoted Goldwater as saying.

A product of the Benedictine St. John's College in Minnesota and a close friend of Zbigniew Brzezinski, Jimmy Carter's National Security Adviser, Durenberger has already backed some highly questionable policies, including his early demand that the United States mount covert operations to destabilize the Marcos government of the Philippines, and his recommendation that Washington unilaterally withdraw its tactical nuclear missiles from Western Europe.

## New York Rabbi says Koch 'has moral AIDS'

Rabbi Yehuda Levin, former Right-to-Life candidate for Mayor of New York, said March 11 that City Mayor Ed Koch "has moral and political AIDS, and he's trying to infect you all." Levin spoke at a preliminary City Council hearing on a homosexual "non-discrimination" bill which had been approved by a sub-committee of the council 5-1. Mayor Koch, a bachelor, has strongly supported the bill.

While the city's Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish religious leaders led an opposition force to the hearings, "gay advocate" Andrew Humm replied, "You may think of me as a faggot, but you will not make me ashamed of the way I live and I love," for which he was applauded by the homosexuals in the audience and kissed by the man sitting next to him.

When Mayor Koch gave a detailed analysis of the bill's good points, the Hassidic Jews in the audience stood up en masse and turned their backs. The gesture was morally understandable, if, perhaps, an unwise temptation.

## Briefly

● **SEN. SAM NUNN** will soon reintroduce a treasonous measure to withdraw U.S. troops from Europe, according to a spokesman for the Institute for East-West Security, which overlaps with the Trilateral Commission. The issue of withdrawing American troops from Europe "is sure to become a major topic in Congress soon," said Terry McNamara, because of Gramm-Rudman budget-cutting pressures. He "doubted" that more than a "token number of U.S. troops, probably around 20-30,000," would actually be withdrawn.

● **MONEY-LAUNDERING** legislation was the subject of hearings begun in the Maryland state legislature on March 11. The bill, introduced by legislator Clarence Davis and backed by the National Democratic Policy Committee, would make it a crime for banking officials and institutions to launder drug money. Davis was supported by a contingent of 20 NDPC activists and candidates plus 50-60 black junior high school students from his district. They applauded when he stated: "Mr. Chairman, we've got to get the scum off the streets, but we also have to go after the big boys at the top."

● **THE NEW JERSEY** State Senate voted overwhelmingly in favor of bill sponsored by Sen. Frank Graves for a mandatory three year minimum sentence for drug pushers. The bill was approved 35-2 after nearly an hour of debate in which supporters argued that the state is losing the war on drugs and that new, tougher measures are needed.

● **THE PENTAGON** has enjoyed an "inflation windfall," according to a new report by the General Accounting Office. Inflation, claimed the report, was "overestimated," and therefore, since September the Pentagon has received several billion dollars more than Congress intended. The GAO, of course, assumed an inflation rate of 3-4%. *EIR* has proven that inflation is now actually 14%.