

EIR Feature

Japanese elite hear strategic, economic dimensions of SDI

by Linda de Hoyos

On April 23, the cabinet of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone began a series of ministerial meetings for formal consideration of Japan's strategic participation in the United States Strategic Defense Initiative. At the first meeting, the Nakasone cabinet heard a report urging cooperation from the third and largest delegation to the United States to survey the SDI program, which had just come back from Tokyo. The Nakasone cabinet—which has internal disagreements on the SDI—is expected to pass out an affirmative answer on Japanese participation in the SDI.

As the Nakasone government was sitting down for its final deliberations on the most crucial strategic issue of the latter half of the 20th century, 180 members of Japan's elite from government agencies, the press, and the top-of-the-line Japanese corporations, were gathered at the Capitol Tokyu Hotel, at a conference sponsored by the Fusion Energy Foundation and the Schiller Institute. The topic: "The Strategic Defense Initiative: Its Strategic, Economic, and Scientific Dimensions." It is the assessment of many of the Japanese participants at the conference that the FEF-Schiller event will have a "major impact"—positively—in determining the view toward the SDI among Japan's leaders, and in shaping the consensus-making process that could lead to the full strategic commitment from Japan to the SDI.

Since 1983—aside from discussions with President Reagan, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, and SDI program director Lt.-Gen. James Abrahamson, and private briefings by the Fusion Energy Foundation—Japanese military, government, and business officials have been treated to conflicting explanations of the SDI and its feasibility. A concerted effort has been made to present the SDI as the High Frontier program of Kinetic Kill Vehicles, which, compared to beam weapon defense systems, are both grossly inadequate militarily and costly.

The Japanese have also faced constant equivocation coming from both the State Department and Pentagon bureaucracies. Most recently, Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle arrived in Tokyo on the heels of Weinberger's early April trip to Japan. Perle, who operates on behalf of the Israeli Mossad-linked Jewish Institute of National Security Affairs, was caught red-handed by this news



Lyndon LaRouche visits a high-energy physics laboratory in Tsukuba City, Japan.

NSIPS/Carlos de Hoyos

service telling Japanese officials that the SDI may not continue past 1988. This news had the desired effect, from Perle's treasonous standpoint, of "chilling" Japan's commitment to the SDI.

The FEF-Schiller Institute conference went a long way to clearing the air, and giving Japan a full political and scientific overview of the role that SDI can and must play in bringing humanity into the 21st century.

As Lyndon LaRouche stated in his speech read at the conference, under conditions in which the populations of the allied nations are mobilized to solve problems on the frontiers of science associated with the SDI, "We shall accomplish the desired victory of strategic defense over thermonuclear offense, and shall also solve the principal non-military strategic problems of our planet." The presentations at the conference, by American, European, and Japanese representatives proved the point.

The strategic crisis

The two-day conference opened on April 22, by showing that the SDI is required to counter the growing threat from the Soviet Union. Col. Molloy Vaughn (USA-ret.) and French Army Gen. Revault d'Allonnes (ret.) showed that in both the Asian and European theatres, the Soviets have vastly increased their military capabilities, while those of the United States and its allies have undergone a steady erosion. In Western Europe, General d'Allonnes informed the audience, the Soviets are building a first-strike capability. From the floor, a leader of Japan's military further noted that the Soviet claim that they are not carrying out their own beam weapon

defense program is "pure disinformation." The Soviet offensive and defensive military build-up constitutes the gravest threat from Russia to Japan since World War II.

With this strategic crisis fresh in everyone's mind, Kevin Zondervan, manager of the Concept Analysis Department of the Aerospace Corporation in California, presented a detailed overview of what a beam weapons defense system requires and where the current SDI research stands. The first morning's panel was concluded by Professor Makoto Momoi, of the Yomiuri Research Institute, who issued an urgent call for Japan's participation in the SDI. "Every day that Japan does not participate in the SDI, is another day lost" in working to counter the Soviet threat, he said. "We must make a strategic decision to join the SDI based on the strategic realities that we face."

The afternoon panel ended with a similar call by Ozeki Tetsuya, of Jiji Press and the Japan Research Institute, this time motivated by the derivative economic benefits of the SDI. Friedwardt Winterberg of the Desert Research Institute, Dr. John Cox, a laser specialist from the University of Florida, FEF director of research Uwe Henke v. Parpart, and FEF European director Jonathan Tennenbaum informed the audience of the economic spin-off potentials of the SDI. The SDI will not only produce new products and industrial techniques. The SDI, explained Winterberg, will create "super-technologies," new arrays of technologies that will allow humanity to explore the universe and change it in ways we cannot imagine now.

"We are at the verge of the greatest technological revolution in mankind's history," LaRouche's speech empha-

sized. As both Tennenbaum and LaRouche pointed out, this revolution will produce a 100-fold leap in the energy-flux density of technologies. The SDI is the solution to the most critical problem in the U.S. economy, Henke noted—the fact that productivity of U.S. industry has not increased since 1972!

Henke further noted that it is the economic potentialities of the SDI the Soviets most fear. The Soviet economy, and Soviet society in general, are far less capable of realizing the economic spin-offs of beam weapons, than the United States and Japan.

Given the giant strides in science and technology represented by SDI, Mr. Ozeki noted, it is not enough that Japan become a mere commercial partner in the SDI—as West Germany has decided to become. Such a decision would limit Japan to being a subcontractor or producer of components. Japan must enter the SDI as a full strategic partner, enabling Japan to get in on the “bottom floor” of the scientific breakthroughs achieved. This was later seconded by panel speaker Dr. Nobuki Kawashima, of the Aeronautics Institute of Tokyo University. The parallel developments in space and energy research, Kawashima said, will be crucial for bringing about full Japanese participation in the SDI.

The consensus of the Japanese participants was that Japan has the ability to make unique contributions to the SDI, particularly in the fields of command and control; communications; management; and logistics. Dr. Cox, who had visited the Osaka Laser Engineering Institute on April 21, noted that the United States has very little to teach Japan in research and development, perhaps only in the field of diagnostics. Japanese full-scale participation in the SDI will shorten the research time for deployment by a full two years, Henke asserted.

Mutually Assured Survival

The experience of World War II, noted Professor Sakata of the Tokai University, on the second day of the conference, has made it very difficult for people in Japan to speak out on the subject of the SDI. Indeed, the SDI goes to the heart of the crucial problems that remain outstanding from that war, as stated in a speech by West German leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche read to the conference. “One problem, which has certainly befallen most Western nations today,” Mrs. LaRouche said, “is that after the Second World War, we did not succeed, or were only partially successful, in restoring the respective souls of each of our various nations. We have accomplished an enormous amount in terms of conquering technological progress and rendering it useful—and Japan certainly deserves first place in this respect. And yet, the West as a whole seems to have lost something; in part, this is rooted in the mistakes of Allied occupation policy, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany.

“What we need today, more urgently than anything else, is a universal ethical renewal: nothing less than a complete reversal of the process of moral degeneration which has been

under way in Western Europe and North America since approximately the mid-1960s. It is urgent that we introduce the cultural paradigm shift necessary for achieving the total transformation of our thinking; for this is the precondition for realizing the Strategic Defense Initiative, and for passing beyond the barbaric phase of human history.”

How the war was won but the peace lost in World War II was the subject of the speech by Webster Tarpley, a Contributing Editor of *Executive Intelligence Review* and also a candidate for the U.S. Senate in New York, who gave a full exposition of the two factions of American foreign policy. The republican faction is represented by Lyndon LaRouche and Gen. Douglas MacArthur, for whom national development and sovereignty are the keystones of foreign policy, and who would define policies to build up America. The other is that of the Harriman faction in the United States, the faction that politically destroyed MacArthur, which follows the British System model of imperialist geopolitics, which carves up the globe into two imperial dominions, the one from the West, the other from Moscow. It is this latter faction, that has struck a deal with Moscow to prevent the U.S. SDI program from going forward.

The Japanese people have to understand, said Professor Sakata, that the SDI represents a change in doctrine from Mutually Assured Destruction—used to terrify the world—to Mutually Assured Survival.

Both Gen. d’Allonnes and Takeo Sasagawa of the Sankei Shimbun asserted that the SDI allows the smaller countries to defend themselves. Western Europe has been impotent in the face of the Soviet build-up, said d’Allonnes, but the SDI now gives the European nations the ability to defend themselves individually and collectively. Sasagawa noted that the basic philosophy of the SDI is Mutually Assured Survival. If Japan and other nations do not join the SDI, the achievement of a strategic defense program by the two superpowers would still be problematic for other nations.

By overturning MAD, the SDI implies, Gen. d’Allonnes told the audience, the creation of a grand alliance of republican nation-states against the Soviet empire.

It was at this point that rumblings from the Soviets in the audience erupted into a growl. To the disbelief of all present, the Soviet science attaché present declared that Russia is using technology only for peaceful purposes, and that any statements to the contrary are just hype from the U.S. military. He railed against the SDI as a plot to “militarize science” and make the United States militarily superior to the Soviets, which Moscow will not allow.

The Soviet attaché had no answers to the question posed by the FEF’s Henke in reply—namely, why has the Soviet Union consistently refused the offer for joint and parallel development of the SDI that has come repeatedly from President Reagan and Defense Secretary Weinberger?

Undoubtedly unbeknownst to himself, such ravings served to underline the urgent necessity for Japan’s commitment to the U.S. beam weapons defense program.