

Will the Kremlin respond to Reagan's generous offer?

by Criton Zoakos

We publish below, as an *Executive Intelligence Review* exclusive, the full text of one of President Reagan's most important speeches, made on Aug. 6, 1986, at the Old Executive Office Building.

It is not a mysterious, unattributed "leak," not speculation, not interpretation, but the President's own description, in his own words, of the contents of his own letter of July 26, to Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov, on the subject of arms negotiations and of the Strategic Defense Initiative in particular.

The official Soviet reaction to the President's letter has been highly unusual. One might say that they have been caught off balance.

What specifically caught the Soviets off balance, is the fact that Reagan has now placed on the negotiating table the following five elements:

- 1) The Soviet Union is now called upon to respond to the U.S. offer to share American SDI technology and proceed with joint or parallel deployment of SDI systems.
- 2) The SDI is not a bargaining chip. Its deployment has not and shall not be negotiated.
- 3) An agreed perspective of SDI deployment must stimulate an actual large-scale reduction of expensive and otherwise obsolescent offensive strategic weapons.
- 4) The United States rejects point defense and money-wasting "High Frontier" types of technologies.
- 5) The United States is placing the SDI's "mind-boggling" technologies to "increase our productivity," "expand the limits of human potential," and serve "the cause of human progress."

In discussing these "mind-boggling technologies," Rea-

gan made a point of emphasizing the growing international cooperation, in the West, toward realizing the Strategic Defense Initiative: "The best minds from some allied countries are already working with us in this noble endeavor. . . . We and the other free people of the world are on the edge of a giant leap into the next century."

Technology surge

These are not empty words from the President, as the excellently informed Soviet intelligence services well know. The SDI's research, development, and testing work in the U.S.A., Europe, and Japan has been going through a phase of impressive "technology surge," which makes the President's offer for sharing, not only generous, but also substantial and attractive.

Moscow has been familiar with what the broader implications of President Reagan's offer might be, since the publication, in March 1984, of a policy study by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., titled *Draft Memorandum of Understanding Between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union*.

How Moscow will react, only time will show. Their only public response was from General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov on July 28, from Vladivostok: "I have received a reply from President Reagan. It calls for thought; we have begun to study it. We will deal with this with responsibility and attention. For us, what is important first and foremost is to what extent the proposals contained in the letter meet the principle of equal security. . . ."

What say you, Marshal Ogarkov? Does sharing of Strategic Defense Initiative technology and joint deployment "meet the principle of equal security"?