

National News

Livermore man testifies on SDI

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory associate director George H. Miller, told Congress that some space-based kinetic-kill vehicle (i.e., anti-missile missile) architectures can be overcome by Soviet countermeasures to the point that they "would negate the boost-phase mission and seriously degrade the post-boost effectiveness" of the U.S. ballistic missile defense program, the Strategic Defense Initiative.

He reported that both the ground-based free electron laser and the nuclear pumped x-ray laser have made "significant technological accomplishments." He said that despite low-power experiments that indicate the feasibility of laser propagation through the atmosphere, "significant work remains to be done . . . before we will demonstrate propagation at high power."

He reported "significant progress" on the x-ray laser program, which is moving "toward its goal of actually demonstrating weapon-level performance in an underground nuclear event."

His testimony included a warning that, in the hands of the Soviets, a nuclear pumped x-ray laser "could make the survivability of any U.S. space-based defense a much more difficult prospect."

Ousted Shin Beth head has contract canceled

The former head of Israel's Shin Beth, Avraham Shalom, was briefly in charge of evaluating security at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport and the New York and New Jersey ports, after being fired from his job in Israel. But apparently, that fact raised some eyebrows in the right quarters. Shalom's private security company has now had its New York contract canceled.

The cancellation is one more sign of a downgrading of the U.S.-Israel "special re-

lationship" in the wake of the Pollard spy affair and the Iran-Contra scandal.

Avraham Shalom, a.k.a. Abraham Bendor, was fired from Shin Beth last year after a two-year scandal surrounding the 1984 murder of two Palestinian terrorist prisoners. He now runs a private security firm.

Shalom's firm, Atwell, is owned by Mossad superspy and arms trafficker Shaul Eisenberg; its New York representative is former Mossad officer Peter Malkin. Malkin, Shalom, and Rafi Eytan ran the celebrated 1960 kidnapping of Adolf Eichmann in Buenos Aires. Shalom and Eytan oversaw the diversion of weapons-grade uranium from Pennsylvania's NUMEC nuclear plant to Israel.

Someone obviously deemed security arrangements at New York's ports a bit too sensitive a matter for such a fellow.

Robertson seeks Jewish vote

Television evangelist Pat Robertson, now running for the Republican nomination for President, gave an interview to the *Jerusalem Post* in which he took the official Israeli position on most issues, including the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy affair.

The Pollard affair involved a special Israeli intelligence unit, called Lekem, which obtained U.S. secrets for bartering to the Russians. Pollard was thus representative of a hostile penetration operation by Israel. He and others yet to be uncovered, according to official Justice Department statements, fit a profile of "false flag" agents, wittingly or unwittingly stealing for the Russians under Israeli auspices.

But Robertson mentioned none of this, and tried to downplay the affair in the remarks quoted in the April 3 *Post*. He said that the Pollard affair will not affect long-term U.S.-Israel relations, calling it "a rogue operation," after his private talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

He also told the *Post* that if he were President, he would move the U.S. embassy

from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a red flag to America's Arab allies.

Robertson operates a television station in southern Lebanon, and has been to Israel 15 times.

He has his own worries back home, of course. In the wake of the sex and slush fund scandals that hit Jim and Tammy Bakker, which could spread to discredit "televangelism" in general, polls showed that Christian fundamentalists oppose Robertson's presidential candidacy 7 to 1.

Former Congressman Hansen arrested

Former U.S. Rep. George Hansen (R-Idaho) was arrested by federal authorities on April 15, for alleged parole violations. The author of *To Harass the People: The IRS and Government Abuse of Power*, has been conducting an intensive campaign to clean up Justice Department abuse of human rights.

Hansen expected to be arrested, as he told members of the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the United States, in a recent meeting: "They want to muzzle me." When, on Dec. 19, he was released from federal prison where he had served six months for violating financial disclosure laws, he refused to agree to parole restrictions which limit his travel and mandate detailed monthly financial statements.

He believes that his outspoken opposition to what he terms the "Justice Department and their foreign style of law enforcement," led to his original conviction.

Accuracy in Media charges AIDS cover-up

"AIDS Cover-Up" is the front-page headline of the April 17 *Washington Inquirer*, publication of Accuracy in Media, an organization of investigative journalists. The ar-

Briefly

ticle reports on an AIM Report released the same week, charging the Reagan administration and Centers for Disease Control with orchestrating a cover-up of the rate of and way AIDS spreads in order to justify inaction.

The AIM Report quotes extensively from the work of Dr. John Seale of Britain and Dr. Mark Whiteside of southern Florida. Both believe that AIDS can be transmitted by means other than sex, IV drug-use, and blood transfusions—for example, biting insects in Tropical areas.

The AIM Report seems to go out of its way to avoid mentioning Lyndon LaRouche. Both Seale and Whiteside have worked closely with LaRouche on the AIDS issue. Just about the only location in which the work of Seale and Whiteside has previously been published is *EIR*.

AIM cites five groups with responsibility for the cover-up: homosexuals, timid medical and scientific journals, doctors "who have been slow to appreciate the magnitude of the AIDS epidemic," journalists who "have been afraid to contradict the conventional wisdom," and politicians who rarely discuss the issue seriously, and succumb to pressure from homosexual groups in their home districts.

Hart will try to keep his pants on

Gary Hart, the former senator from Colorado, formally announced his presidential candidacy in Denver on April 13. Hart played up the old theme of "New Ideas," a slogan for which he became known in 1984. Since his 1984 "New Ideas" were never revealed, they have not lost their novelty.

The national media punctually declared him the "Democratic frontrunner."

Hart's campaign, however, is dogged by debt problems stemming from 1984—an unpaid \$1.3 million—and he is being sued by some creditors. After a fundraiser the evening of April 15, federal marshals showed up the following morning to seize the funds

in performance of a lien.

But in an April 13 *Washington Post* profile, Hart's 1984 campaign strategist, Washington attorney John McEvoy, is quoted saying that the biggest threat to the blow-dried candidate's campaign is that he "is always in jeopardy of having the sex issue raised if he can't keep his pants on."

Indian economist: 'Stand up with LaRouche'

Speaking before 70 persons in Chicago on April 14, Dr. K.D. Sharma, a leading Indian economist and Sanskrit scholar, stated: "We in India had heard of Lyndon LaRouche. Lyndon LaRouche is known as the greatest man this country has produced since Benjamin Franklin. Mr. LaRouche has dedicated himself to the betterment of all. . . ."

Sharma is a member of the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the United States, and expressed shock at what he has learned of a recent series of politically motivated raids, midnight arrests, and indictments handed down against presidential candidate LaRouche's associates.

Speaking of the Oct. 6, 1986 raid on businesses of LaRouche associates in Leesburg, Virginia, Sharma said: "Do you know what manacles are? They are used around the legs. This doesn't happen in America, only in Russia. They chopped the doors down. This doesn't happen in America, this happens in Russia. What is this midnight knock at the door? If you are a LaRouche supporter, you are subjected to that midnight knock at the door.

"What has happened to America? What have you citizens forgotten? Why have you allowed these things?"

"The time has come for you to stand up, alongside Lyndon LaRouche, and the battle for Justice. The time has come for your voice to be heard. You must raise it up now! Will you do this for our generation, and for those generations which must come in the future?"

● **SABOTAGE** has not been ruled out as the cause of the disasters besetting the U.S. space program since the Shuttle Challenger's explosion in January 1986. So indicated President Reagan in an April 10 appearance before the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. Asked if Russian sabotage were involved: "Let me just say we aren't ignoring anything in our investigation of the space problem."

● **NASA CHIEF** James Fletcher, in testimony before Rep. Bill Nelson's space subcommittee April 11, urged proceeding with the Mars Sample Return Mission, and warned that the Soviets could land a man on Mars by the turn of the century. He also stated that both a fourth Shuttle orbiter and expendable launch vehicles are critical to the space program.

● **WASHINGTON TIMES** editorial page editor William P. Cheshire and four staff members resigned April 14, charging that Editor-in-Chief Arnaud de Borchgrave had allowed a Moonie executive to dictate editorial policy. Cheshire said that it "is no longer possible, in my judgment, for the *Times* to maintain independence from the Unification Church under the editorship of Mr. de Borchgrave, if it is indeed at all."

● **THE CIA** fired off an angry memo to Defense Secretary Weinberger after outgoing assistant secretary Richard Perle compromised the security of U.S. eavesdropping in Moscow in March 26 testimony before a joint session of the Foreign Relations and Judiciary committees. Perle described "an extremely sensitive communications intercept" between Leonid Brezhnev and his defense minister, Andrei Grechko.

● **FATHER FRANK HAIG**, the brother of candidate Alexander Haig, complained to a caller that violent factions fight in "the Northern Virginia think tanks, with big-money backing," have had one result: "There will be no front-runner" in the 1988 campaign.