

Soviets offer launch of U.S. satellites

by Scott Thompson

EIR has caught red-handed a group of U.S. pseudo-scientists from the Institute for Security Cooperation in Outer Space, in a plot to sabotage U.S. defense capabilities. It was Carol Rosin of ISCOS whom we exposed in 1984, for conducting into the House of Representatives legislation against the Strategic Defense Initiative, which she admitted had been drafted by officials in the Soviet embassy. Now the same group is capitalizing on the recent "accidents" in the space program—which some say may have been a result of Soviet irregular warfare sabotage—to put Moscow forward as the savior of the U.S. space effort. Using the propaganda cover of Mikhail Gorbachov's *glasnost*, they are proposing a Soviet program to launch the U.S. satellites.

The Soviet Union has offered three of its boosters—the Proton, SL-4 Soyuz, and Vertical—to launch U.S. communication and other satellites. "A window of opportunity exists for the Soviets until 1991-92," said Tom Cremins of ISCOS. This "window" arises from the mishaps that have plagued U.S. boosters since the Challenger disaster, and a bottleneck in booster production that may not be solved for as much as five years.

The Soviets stepped into the gap through their space agency Glavkosmos and V/O Licensentorg, offering bargain basement rates of \$24-43 million to place a satellite in orbit. There is a potential \$7 billion market in the satellite launch business. The Soviets are being assisted by a group of U.S. law firms and companies, all of which are working with ISCOS. The group includes opponents of NASA who are trying to shut down the space agency with proposals for private enterprise to take over.

Joint ventures

One of the leaders in the business of marrying the U.S. aerospace and telecommunications business with the Soviets' Glavkosmos is the law firm of Heron, Burchette, Ruckert, and Rothwell in Washington, D.C. This is the same firm that incorporated ISCOS, and its team working on the satellite launch business includes Sarah Carey, who is on a retainer with ISCOS. Carey is one of the leading experts on joint venture schemes with the U.S.S.R. She heads a regular seminar conducted by the law firm on the subject, which is one of the cornerstones of Gorbachov's *perestroika*, the reorganization of the Soviet economy onto a war footing. Proposed

joint ventures include introduction of high technology from the West in a partnership, where the Soviet Union holds the majority interest in the new venture being created there. Gorbachov has repeatedly stressed the importance of joint ventures, which are taking on alarming dimensions, especially with West Germany and Japan.

In a two-day seminar sponsored by the Soviet State Committee on Science and Technology, Carey and two other attorneys briefed the Soviets on what would make joint venture activities most attractive to Western customers. She also worked on this project with the legal committee of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council, which was set up at the height of the détente era to promote trade by such figures as then Treasury Secretary George Shultz, David Rockefeller, Soviet Trust agent Armand Hammer, and Donald Kendall of Pepsico. The Trade Council is known to be penetrated by the KGB.

Together with Grier C. Raclin, Sarah Carey is part of a team at Heron, Burchette which has interested several U.S. firms in the possibility of a Soviet space launch. One of Heron, Burchette's main bargaining positions is its ability to negotiate with the U.S. government, where the State Department's Office of Munitions Control presently bans all satellite exports to the Soviet Union on national security grounds. Burchette is attempting to get around these concerns by offering to keep the satellite under a special surveillance team of technicians until launch, but significant information would still have to be exchanged with the Soviets to mate the satellite to the launch booster.

Another firm involved in trying to drum up business for Glavkosmos is Space Commerce Corporation of Houston, whose head is Arthur Dula, of the firm of Dula, Shields, and Egbert. On May 15 Dula brought a team from Glavkosmos to the United States, which reportedly met with officials of Hughes and Western Union, but found no takers. A deal with Telesat Canada reportedly fell through, when Telesat signed on for an Ariane space launch.

Dula is a member of the Houston Space Business Roundtable, which advocates replacing NASA's function with private enterprise. He represents the firm of Space Services Inc., which is attempting to build a small booster for this purpose. But Dula argues that there is still a gap that can only be filled by the Soviet Union.

Dula has been in close contact with ISCOS, according to ISCOS officials. Carol Rosin, the head of ISCOS, is putting together a task force that will look for loopholes in the law banning the export of U.S. satellites to the Soviet Union. But, in an interview made available to *EIR*, Rosin reports that she pins her main hopes for such technology transfer arrangements upon a change in administrations. Only when President Reagan is replaced by a liberal Democrat does Rosin envision full cooperation between the U.S. and U.S.S.R. in such ventures.