

# National News

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## NATO alliance eroding, analysts warn

Three State Department analysts warned of the consequences of the erosion of the NATO alliance in the *Washington Post* March 19.

Authored by Kenneth Dillon, Glenn Cella, and Bowman Miller, the article reviews the shift in European opinion toward the United States in the last 20 years. The shift in the traditional postwar view of the United States, stressed the authors, has been augmented by the Soviet use of direct propaganda, disinformation, and agents of influence to besmirch the U.S. image in European eyes.

The authors feel that the alliance will survive the current strains, but stress that "successive bouts of anti-Americanism drain the reservoir of good will and sense of joint purpose" that has made the alliance so successful.

"In the long term," they add, these bouts "lead members—including the United States—to give more credence to alternative solutions to their security problems." "The cumulative, corrosive effect is the real concern," the authors conclude, "and also by nature the most difficult to isolate and treat before it is too late."

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## Environmentalist foreshadows fascism

The North American drought should be the "environmental Pearl Harbor" to force through a global population reduction and land conservation campaign, says Lester Brown of the Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C., in Worldwatch's "State of the World 1989" report.

A raving malthusian, Brown argues that global food shortages are caused by environmental damage, and technological progress in agriculture will no longer be able to increase food production, since such technological breakthroughs "have largely run their course."

Therefore, the only measure that will work is worldwide land conservation and aggressive efforts to cut population growth. Brown asserts that the one positive trend in world population, is that the infant mortality rate in Africa and Latin America is rising. "By the end of the next decade, food security may replace military security as the principal preoccupation of many governments," he adds.

Says Brown, "My guess is that the Pearl Harbor in the battle to save the planet will probably be the next major drought in North America."

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## Mafia cases given to U.S. Attorneys

U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh has tentatively decided to abolish most or all of the government's 24 regional Organized Crime Strike Forces, which were set up decades ago to eliminate Mafia influence, according to the *New York Times* March 19.

Thornburgh told the *Times* that the problem with the strike forces "is that they are an independent field office of the Department of Justice that competes with the U.S. Attorneys."

Thornburgh said he would prefer to replace the strike forces with a "cadre of experienced prosecutors" who could be dispatched from Washington to assist the U.S. Attorneys in handling organized crime cases. The new model is said to be the operation set up by U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani in the Southern District of New York, and will likely give greater centralized political control over the new task forces. The plan to dismantle the strike forces comes as the units are winding up an extraordinary series of successful prosecutions of high-level Mafia figures.

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## Debt-drug link used to attack sovereignty

The U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics Affairs prepared a re-

port during March calling for using Third World debt as a "lever" in gaining cooperation on drug control issues.

According to journalists who have received the report, entitled the "International Narcotics Control Strategy Report," "this is just another U.S. attack on sovereignty."

Reportedly the State Department has called for the creation of a "superfund" of \$300 million to provide assistance to those Third World countries that cooperate with the United States to bring the drug situation under control. Afghanistan, Burma, Iran, Laos, Lebanon, and Syria are listed as countries which have refused to cooperate on drug matters, and therefore should be cut off from potential U.S. aid.

The report pointedly excludes mention of the People's Republic of China, the world's largest opium producer, in promoting the trade.

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## Allied commander calls for stand-off missile

NATO Supreme Allied Commander Gen. John R. Galvin, called for the development of an air-launched stand-off missile capable of carrying the battle in Europe to the Warsaw Pact's rear echelons, in an article published by NATO's *Sixteen Nations* on March 22. NATO lost such capability with the signing of the INF Treaty and the dismantling of the Pershing II missiles.

In the context of the ongoing debate on the modernization of the ground-based Lance missile, Galvin said that NATO should not "be dependant on just one weapons system." Besides a modernized Lance version for the 1990s, it should also have "a follow-up system to the Lance with a larger range and greater precision."

Galvin called for a "tactical air-ground missile with a range of 400 kilometers, which would enable our own aircraft to escape the highly-developed air defense system of the Warsaw Pact." Such a missile would enable NATO aircraft to "hit targets in the rear combat zones of the Warsaw Pact," Galvin explained.

## Briefly

### Cardinal Casaroli defends the SDI

"The Strategic Defense Initiative could be the temporary solution [to the problem of peace], though not the real solution to the nuclear age," stated Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican secretary of state, on March 19. Casaroli was speaking at Georgetown University, in Washington, D.C. on "Catholic Teaching and International Relations: Assessing the Present and Shaping the Future."

The Cardinal repeated twice that the SDI could be a "temporary" or a "partial" solution to peace, giving possibly the clearest, and most favorable assessment of SDI from the Catholic Church to date. He cautioned, however, that the SDI could also raise problems "for the other side, because one power by defending itself can attack the other."

Casaroli attacked the concept of Mutually Assured Destruction. "Whatever forms and modalities deterrence may have taken, today, it has a name: terror! And terror has, in its turn, a name and rationale: Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD). Contrary to what Winston Churchill deemed to think at the start of the nuclear age, 'survival' will not be 'the twin sister of destruction.' Destruction will have for her twin sister only further destruction!"

The Cardinal also pointed to the "intoxications of *Realpolitik*," in what some observers saw as a denunciation of Kissingerism. He called for new relations based on "Natural Law" and offered the services of the Catholic Church as moral advisers to governments.

Casaroli linked the military question with the question of debt, quoting a papal encyclical, "In today's world, including the world of economics, the prevailing picture is one destined to lead us more quickly toward death, rather than one of concern for true development." He cited Pope John Paul II's encyclical that the true name for peace is development.

A priest, who did not declare his name, accused Casaroli of having suppressed a document issued by the Pontifical Academy

of Sciences in 1983, because it rejected SDI. Cardinal Casaroli answered that the Academy is not an official institute of the Vatican, but represents only its members.

### Scientists refute ozone scare

An increasing number of leading scientists are refuting environmentalist hysteria that ozone depletion and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are destroying the ecology.

Osmund Holm-Hansen, head of polar research at Scripps Institute of Oceanography, told the *Wall Street Journal* March 21, "There is no real cause for alarm." Penny Panhale, the National Science Foundation's program manager for polar biology and medicine, also told the *Journal*, "Researchers aren't seeing any pronounced effect from ultraviolet radiation." Polar plants "seem to have ultra-violet blocking compounds."

Climatologist Reed Bryson from the University of Wisconsin told *EIR* March 16 that the large increase in chlorine in the Antarctic is due to the eruption of a volcano upwind from the monitoring station at MacMurdo, which is ejecting several times more chlorine and sulfuric acid into the atmosphere than all man-made chemical pollution.

Bryson said a recent study showed that the amount of ultraviolet radiation reaching the United States is lower today than 10 years ago, in contradiction to the "ozone depletion" theory.

Fred Singer, the chief scientist of the Department of Transportation, told *EIR* in an interview March 16, "There is no scientific evidence to warrant a phase-out of CFCs." The claims of the Ozone-Trans panel that the ozone layer over the United States has been depleted by 3% is completely absurd, he said, since the seasonal variability of the ozone layer is 100 times greater than their calculations.

In the 1970s, Department of Transportation plans to build a supersonic transport (SST) faster and larger than the Concord were killed by environmentalist allegations that it would destroy the ozone layer.

● **DR. JAMES FLETCHER** announced that he will resign as NASA administrator on April 8, stating that he had come back to NASA for a second tour as administrator to help after the *Challenger* accident, but that he had been anxious to return to private life all along. Dr. Fletcher stated that he is "getting on in years."

● **WILLIAM REILLY**, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, said he still believed the Natural Resources Defense Council to be "a responsible and effective environmental organization," after the NRDC lied about the dangers of the chemical Alar in a report that caused mass panic across the country.

● **RICHARD CHENEY**, the new secretary of defense, told the *Washington Times* March 17 that the threat from the Soviet Union is decreasing while the threat from the Third World is mounting. "I think . . . especially if current trends continue, that is to say, if we see a lessened Soviet threat, that increasingly our military requirements are going to be influenced by the need to deal with conflicts in the Third World to deal with low-intensity conflict."

● **HOMOSEXUAL** adoptions were banned by the Washington State Senate, which approved a bill March 16 to prohibit homosexuals from becoming foster parents. The bill was introduced last year after a case of sexual abuse occurred in a state-licensed foster home.

● **PRESIDENT BUSH** lambasted the media for picking on him while he is dealing with "ticking time bombs we need to defuse without delay," in speeches in Houston and Colorado Springs March 16. The President identified the ticking time bombs as Third World debt, drug abuse, insolvent savings and loans institutions, and his minimum-wage proposal.