

# National News

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## SDI triggered Soviet economic crisis

The evaluation by statesman Lyndon LaRouche that Strategic Defense Initiative policy provoked the ongoing Soviet economic crisis, was echoed by columnists Evans and Novak on Feb. 6.

In an analysis of Gorbachov's emergence as a Stalinist hardliner, the columnists noted that, even among Soviet reformers, Gorbachov is not viewed as an initiator of change. These circles regard the SDI as the policy which shook up Soviet society sufficiently to allow their brief emergence.

These Soviet reformers attribute the SDI policy to Ronald Reagan, who announced it as policy on March 23, 1983. But it was LaRouche who developed the policy as initially outlined.

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## N.Y. state workers protest Cuomo budget cuts

On Feb. 6, some 10-15,000 state workers demonstrated in Albany, New York at the Governor's Mansion in protest of the planned layoff of over 7,000 state workers in an attempt to reduce the state's \$6 billion budget deficit.

The rally, which was described by the press as the largest of its kind in history, demanded that Gov. Mario Cuomo immediately meet with representatives of the workers, and rattled the fences around the Governor's Mansion to underscore their demand.

Demonstrators chanted "No Layoffs," and held placards reading "Saddam, Scud Cuomo," "Cuomo for President of Iraq," and "This Scud's for You, Cuomo." Speakers at the rally included the head of the Union of State Prison Guards, who termed Cuomo "an economic terrorist."

The demonstration came after a meeting between Cuomo and union representatives at which Cuomo announced that he fully expected their ire, and that they had no positive proposals for dealing with the crisis. Union leaders had proposed additional taxes on busi-

ness and the wealthy to reduce the deficit.

Cuomo is frequently mentioned as an aspirant to the Democratic Party's 1992 U.S. presidential nomination.

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## Conservative sees end of American republic

Black conservative columnist Alan Keyes attacked the imperialist nature of Bush's New World Order in a commentary in the Feb. 6 *Washington Times*.

"The phrase 'Pax Americana' makes me even more uneasy than talk about the new world order. Naturally it reminds us of the Pax Romana, the era of peace and order that ancient Rome imposed on the then known world. It should also remind us that the agent of this universal peace was not the Roman republic. It was the Roman Empire," Keyes writes.

Those "who support this concept of a new world order are really pushing for a policy of American imperialism. . . . What I can't forget, though, is that imperialism is in the first place a domestic policy. It implies the end of the American republic. . . .

"This new imperialism implies a time in which America actively engages in military adventures like the one we are presently pursuing in the Persian Gulf. Such endeavors push domestic concerns off center stage. They also turn citizenship into a spectator sport. A mentality of self-sacrifice and loyal enthusiasm for the leadership becomes more prevalent than the active, questioning, self-interested frame of mind suitable for the citizens of a self-governing republic."

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## Cleveland backs rights of Arab-Americans

The Cleveland, Ohio city council has passed a resolution which urges the protection of the civil rights of Arab-Americans.

"The war in the Persian Gulf has created an atmosphere which has led to an escalation of threats and actual violence towards Arab-Americans and American Muslims in this

country," and which holds "the potential for anti-Arab harassment and persecution," the resolution reads.

Cleveland has "historically welcomed immigrants, especially those fleeing hardship and oppression," and since it is the duty of the city to serve residents and protect their civil rights, the council "supports the civil rights of every Arab-American and commends those organizations who protect our Arab-American citizens from civil rights violations." The council also "joins with the mayor to instruct his officers and employees that his administration will not tolerate the violation of any civil rights of any person of Arab, Iraqi, Palestinian, or other Middle Eastern descent."

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## Conservatives oppose nuclear weapons use

Several conservatives have spoken out against the threatened use of nuclear weapons by the United States in the war against Iraq.

Former Rep. George Hansen (R-Id.), who spent two years in prison on a Reagan-Bush administration frameup and now heads "Free America," an anti-tax group, denounced U.S. policy in the Gulf, accusing the U.S. of "two-way morality" on the use of nuclear weapons, in an interview with *EIR*. "I don't like wars unless it's a total matter of national survival. And it's not," he said.

On his return from Baghdad in August 1990 after meeting with religious and political leaders, Bush refused to meet with him or the congressmen in the delegation, Hansen said. "The government had moved to Kennebunkport and Moscow. They were going to show the Soviets how to reduce their deficit!"

"The New World Order is America's right to be the world's Hessians, the world's busybodies. We police the world and go broke. Here we are dissipating our arsenal in this two-bit war. . . . Meanwhile, the Soviets are going back to a harder line. They're retooling. We think we'll police the world with our empty arsenal, while the

Russians are sitting there on a full arsenal.”

House Minority Whip Rep. Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) and David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union, also disavowed a call for first use by Jeffrey Wright, head of the Young Americans for Freedom, at the national convention of the Conservative Political Action Committee in Washington. Virtually everyone at the convention disagreed with the call, the Feb. 8 *Washington Times* reported.

Gingrich's press spokesman Tony Blankley told a reporter that the congressman disagreed with the idea of using nuclear weapons first, that refraining from their use is the price of being a decent democratic country; as such, the United States should not use weapons of mass destruction unless attacked first by nuclear weapons. A person like Hitler might do it, but we don't, he said. Second, if the United States crossed the first-use line, it would set a precedent for other nations such as Pakistan, India, Israel, or perhaps eventually some Arab nation, to also cross over. We don't want to see millions of people needlessly slaughtered, he said.

## Webb attacks Bush, media, for war hysteria

There has been no parallel to an American President "relentlessly maneuvering our nation into a war," including massive jingoistic manipulation by the press, since at least the Spanish-American War and the William Randolph Hearst propaganda, wrote former U.S. Navy Secretary James Webb in a commentary in the Feb. 4 *Wall Street Journal-Europe*. "One must go back to the Mexican War, to find a President so desirous of putting the nation at risk when it has not been attacked."

Webb warned that all the attempts to preserve the coalition against Iraq would collide with growing internal instability in various countries in the region, including Syria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, and Yemen. Beyond this, "when the Emir of Kuwait returns with his 70 wives and fleet of personal jets, bringing behind him the legion of young men who danced out the war in the discos

of Cairo and London, the world is going to take a cool look at the uncomfortable totality of Mr. Bush's moral principles."

Webb also warned, in an interview with Radio Canada International on Feb. 7, "When the Arab world fully sees the magnitude of casualties in Iraq, you will have an enormous and quite volatile reaction." He said developments like the potential anti-U.S. backlash in the Arab world, would rapidly erode the support for Bush evidenced in opinion polls.

## Michigan judge bars use of 'murder machine'

Oakland County, Michigan Circuit Court Judge Alice Gilbert has permanently barred Dr. Jack Kevorkian from using his home-made murder machine.

Gilbert, in rejecting Kevorkian's argument that sought to expand the basic right of a third person to include a right to assisted suicide, wrote in her 35-page opinion that "The rights of privacy and self-determination do not encompass the right to direct another person to kill or the right of a third person to participate in the killing. . . . Patients cannot confer a right upon a doctor to assist a suicide. Patients cannot dictate to a physician how to practice medicine."

Last June, Kevorkian used his "machine" to kill Janet Adkins, a retired Oregon woman with Alzheimer's disease. Kevorkian was originally charged with murder, but the charges were later dropped when an Oakland County District Court judge ruled in December that Adkins died by her own hand after throwing the switch on Kevorkian's machine, which released lethal drugs into her system. Suicide is not a crime in Michigan. Therefore, Kevorkian rationalized, neither is "assisted suicide."

Judge Gilbert said Kevorkian was not qualified to evaluate Mrs. Adkins, and evidence of the victim's suicide wishes were "too sparse." Rather, she said, the video of Kevorkian's interview with Adkins shows Kevorkian "rather anxious to try his invention that he has advertised, and Janet Adkins appeared as a likely candidate."

## Briefly

● **JIM BAKKER'S** 45-year sentence was overturned by a U.S. appeals court on Feb. 12. The court ruled that the trial judge had showed prejudice in sentencing the TV evangelist. His conviction was upheld.

● **SCHILLER** Institute leader Leni Rubinstein, who oversees publication of the *EIR's* bi-monthly Chinese-language *Global Strategic News*, received the "Friend of the Democracy Movement of the Year" award from the New York Chinese community on Jan. 25, for her "passionate work and support to help the enslaved nation of China to be organized."

● **EIR RADIO REPORT**, designed for radio station coverage of breaking news and in-depth reporting, is available to radio stations.

● **NO INDIVIDUAL** honors, as in the Vietnam war but unlike in Panama and Grenada, will be accorded American soldiers killed in Saudi Arabia when they arrive at Dover Air Force Base, the Moroccan paper *Al Bouyane* of Feb. 3-4 reported. The military directive has reportedly angered military families.

● **U.S. MARINES** should defend Anglo-American interests only when the International Monetary Fund fails, writes "anti-war" MIT professor Noam Chomsky in the German daily *Tageszeitung* Feb. 9. The use of the IMF is "less expensive than the use of the U.S. Marines or the CIA," he said, leaving some doubt as to whether he intended to be sarcastic.

● **DEMANDS** for the impeachment of George Bush displayed in European anti-war rallies, were covered by Cable News Network Feb. 9.

● **HENRY G. BARR**, a longtime top aide to Attorney General Richard Thornburgh, was found guilty Feb. 5 on all counts of an indictment charging conspiracy to distribute and use cocaine. Barr is the highest-ranking present or former federal official to be convicted of drug charges.