

Neo-conservatives use SDI against Clinton's Russian diplomacy

by Marsha Freeman

Six days before President William Clinton met with Russian President Boris Yeltsin at President Franklin Roosevelt's home in Hyde Park, New York on Oct. 23, a group of congressmen, backed by the Center for Security Policy, introduced H.R. 2483, the Defend America Act of 1995. This legislation is not meant to, and will not defend America. It is one in a series of initiatives by the Center to try to destabilize the foreign policy of the President, to undermine any U.S. working relationship with the Russian Republic, by continuing George Bush's policies of weakening, while provoking, the States of the former Soviet Union.

The bill calls for the President to give notice to the Russian government that the United States will withdraw from the bilateral 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, and within one year of passage, the Department of Defense is mandated to carry out at least one test of a defense system that will violate the treaty. This last provision was characterized by a former member of the Reagan cabinet, who was instrumental in President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) announcement on March 23, 1983, as a "stick-it-in-your-face" demonstration.

This proposed unilateral withdrawal from the ABM Treaty is supposedly being put forward to counter threats from rogue States. In his statement of support for the legislation, a self-professed agent of the British Crown, Henry Kissinger, wrote that, "as one primarily responsible for the negotiations of the 1972 ABM Treaty, I nonetheless believe the time has come to review whether the treaty stands in the way of our developing necessary defense to deal with the proliferation of long-range ballistic missiles, particularly by Third World nations."

Unilateral withdrawal from the ABM Treaty—regardless of its provisions, or the number of times the treaty was violated by the former Soviet Union—will not make the United States safer. But it will set back the diplomatic overtures being pursued by the President, to engage the Russian government in a constructive dialogue in order to resolve strategic issues, such as Russian participation in Bosnian peacekeeping, or U.S. objections to the sale of nuclear reactors to Iran.

The perfidy of the Center for Security Policy

Frank Gaffney, who established the Center for Security Policy in 1988, occupied various positions in the Department of Defense during the Reagan administration, including Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Forces and Arms Control, under Richard Perle, from 1983 to 1987. Gaffney seems to fashion himself as a younger version of Henry Kissinger. "Talking with the Russians hasn't gotten us anywhere, but cost us money and protracted the situation," he stated in an interview. The United States "won't be able to move Russia in the direction of defense against third parties by sweet persuasion and diplomatic initiatives."

Attached to the press release put out by the Center announcing the introduction of the Defend America Act, was a list of over 60 high-level, mainly retired military and policy officials, whom, the press release asserted, support this legislation. Calls to a number of these people revealed that they had not been shown the legislation, nor had they been asked to endorse it. All they had been asked to sign was a more general statement in support of strategic defense, one year ago, to try to pressure the new Republican majority in Congress to reassert such programs in their agenda.

One former Reagan administration cabinet member, whose name was listed as a supporter, when shown the legislation, angrily stated that the original concept of the SDI was to "bring the Russians into the game." The idea, he said, was to engage all the nuclear nations in developing a global defense to protect every nation. It is "anathema to me to be so provocative," he said, concluding that it is "politically a mistake."

Sabotage in other arenas

These antics concerning strategic defense are coherent with the Center's efforts in other policy arenas. In just the past two months, the Center has called for Russia-basher Lady Margaret Thatcher to be the new head of NATO; for the U.S. Congress to refuse to fund the Palestinian National Authority; for the United States to increase sanctions against Cuba; and in a Nov. 8 press release, warned the Congress not to engage in "impluse memorializing," following the

assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, by charging ahead with the peace process.

On Nov. 13, the Center issued a press release praising the legislation introduced by Rep. Joel Hefley (R-Colo.) to prohibit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense in the deployment of ground forces for peacekeeping in Bosnia, which undermines President Clinton's authority in trying to negotiate a peace settlement.

But not everyone who is listed as a supporter of the Defend America Act had their names put on without their knowledge. Some have signed onto the idea of resurrecting strategic defense, and are working with Gaffney's neo-cons, not understanding that international terrorism and economic collapse—which are fueled under the guise of supporting “democracy” and the “free market”—are the real threats to global security.

The immediate danger

As Lyndon LaRouche explains in his recent Presidential campaign policy document, *The Blunder in U.S. National Security Policy*, “The most immediate source of the danger to U.S. security, globally and in the hemisphere, comes from the continued toleration of the 1989-93 Thatcher-Bush policy toward the emergence of a post-Soviet eastern Europe.

“That free market policy, under the rubric of meeting IMF [International Monetary Fund] conditionalities by eastern European debtors, transformed Russia and Ukraine, rapidly, from scientific-industrial powers, into starving Third World nations, stripped of industry and agriculture, living on the sales of exported raw materials to Anglo-Dutch financial

interests—at bargain prices.”

The continuation of these policies is a leading feature of the global strategic crisis, LaRouche states. A transformation of U.S. policy toward Russia, along the lines of rebuilding that nation's scientific and industrial potential, is the framework under which discussion of strategic defense must be subsumed.

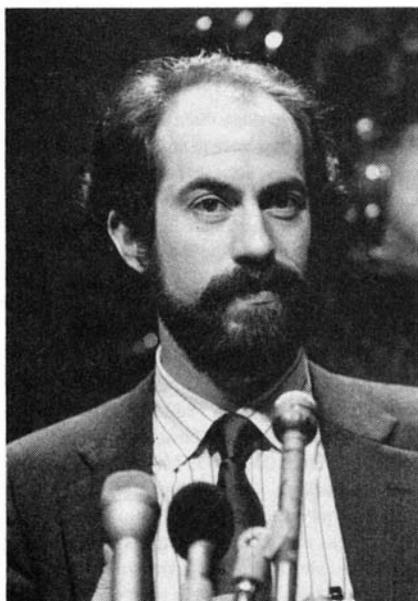
Documentation

On Oct. 11, 1995, the Committee to Reverse the Accelerating Global Economic and Strategic Crisis: A LaRouche Exploratory Committee, released the report The Blunder in U.S. National Security Policy, written by Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. Under a section on the origin of the SDI, LaRouche discusses both his public and private activities in formulating what became the SDI program. These policy formulations were directly opposed to those circulated by the Heritage Foundation and High Frontier, the which contributed to the death of the SDI effort.

The origin of the SDI

The immediately relevant issue of Russia's economy today was implicitly defined by the preceding activities around the policy known as the “SDI.”

The origin of what was later announced as a “Strategic



Neo-conservative saboteurs of the nation's defense, left to right: Frank Gaffney, founder of the Center for Security Policy, who styles himself as a youthful Henry Kissinger; Lt. Gen. Daniel O. Graham (ret.), former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency; former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle.

Defense Initiative" (SDI) in President Ronald Reagan's March 23, 1983 TV broadcast, was a series of developments from the 1974-77 interval, including 1977 exchanges with the then recently retired Air Force Maj.-Gen. George Keegan. What was to become known as the SDI, was first presented in programmatic outline in August 1979, as a policy-paper of this present candidate's campaign for the Democratic Party's 1980 Presidential nomination. Later, during a period from February 1982 through February 1983, the same policy was the principal topic of a series of back-channel exploratory chats between this writer, acting in the interest of the U.S., and the Soviet government. What President Reagan offered Moscow initially, in the approximately five-minute segment of the March 23 broadcast, was a confirmation, point by point, of the proposed policy which this candidate had outlined to the Soviet representatives during the exploratory chats.¹

There were three leading considerations which, taken in combination, prompted and guided the present author's 1974-77 development of the proposal which became known later as the SDI. The first consideration, was the accelerating shift toward "forward basing" of strategic ballistic missiles, by both NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Advanced positioning of NATO missiles in Europe, and Soviet strategic-missile-launching submarines off the U.S. Pacific and Atlantic coasts, are notable examples. Second, was the increased precision in targetting. Third, was the implications of controlled use of an effect called "electromagnetic pulse." Continued development in these three directions, was bringing the world close to the possibility of what was termed "thermonuclear first strike"; worse, the use of warheads which enhanced an electromagnetic-pulse effect, in forward-based strategic missiles, implied a situation in which the detection of a small number of forward-based missiles aimed at air-space over either the U.S.A. or Soviet Union could be sufficient to prompt a full-scale launch of strategic nuclear counter-strike by the targetted party.

This trend defined precisely the condition under which the Pugwash-designed,² Kissinger-negotiated ABM Treaty

of 1982 could become the cause of general thermonuclear war. Without the means to destroy incoming missiles, the U.S. President was left with no option but freezing like a scared rabbit, or full-scale counter-strike, a totally unacceptable situation. The trend toward a growing first-strike risk could be reversed only by revoking, or outflanking that ABM Treaty. It was at that point of the investigation, that the implications of strategic ballistic missile defense became very interesting.

High-speed interceptor rockets, or kindred so-called "kinetic energy weapons," were not a solution. They lacked the speed, they lacked absolutely the economic efficiency needed to give a decisive strategic advantage to the defense over the offense. However, both superpowers had the beginnings of technologies, typified by powerful lasers, which had the inherent advantages of speed and potentially of economy, needed to equip the strategic ballistic missile defense with an effective economic advantage over the strategic nuclear offense.³ 1982 researches showed, that there was a provision for the development of precisely such technologies of strategic ballistic missile defense in the initialled version of the 1982 ABM Treaty: "new physical principles." The political problem was, that such defensive weapons-technologies could be developed only through a science-driver type of "crash program," like the World War II Manhattan Project, or the 1960s Kennedy Aerospace "crash program."⁴

These points were presented to a heavily attended, two-day conference in Washington, D.C., during February 1982, shortly before the beginning of the exploratory "back-channel" discussions with the Soviet representative. The gist of the policy issue was outlined in a published paper of March

3. On the Soviet side, this point had been made in the 1962 edition of Marshal V.D. Sokolovsky's *Soviet Military Strategy*.

4. To clear away a popularized, false mythology circulated about SDI, the following should be noted here. One does not wish to attack gratuitously the Graham who subsequently suffered a severe illness; but, the policy issues are clear and of importance to the present day. During the Summer of 1982, until the announcement of March 23, 1983, the leading opponent of the future SDI was a spokesman for a pseudo-scientific book, called *High Frontier: A New National Strategy* (Washington, D.C.: High Frontier, [Heritage Foundation] 1982), Lt.-Gen. USA (ret.) Daniel O. Graham, former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency. Graham had been an opponent of then Air Force Intelligence chief Maj.-Gen. George Keegan's efforts to bring the importance of "new physical principles" to the attention of the President Ford administration. Graham's Autumn 1982 attacks on Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. and also Dr. Edward Teller, were fanatically irrationalist, even explicitly anti-science. After March 23, 1983, Graham was put forward, with Heritage Foundation backing, as the originator of the SDI! Later that year, Graham put heavy pressure on Dr. Teller to write a letter denouncing LaRouche's 1982 attacks on Graham's lying about LaRouche; Graham repaid Teller for this by wide public circulation of a fraudulent representation of Teller's letter. Graham was consistent on one point; before and after March 23, 1983, he continued to do his utmost to attempt to prevent any work on "new physical principles" as a basis for strategic ballistic missile defense.

1. Later, after March 1983, under pressure from the Heritage Foundation and other interests, the SDI policy underwent significant changes, and this candidate was frozen out of the policy-shaping as a result. However, through and beyond 1986, it was the LaRouche version of the SDI, which the Soviet government believed to be the real SDI policy of the U.S. government, and Moscow reacted accordingly.

2. The first formal announcement of an ABM treaty-design was made by Bertrand Russell's agent, Dr. Leo Szilard, at the Second (Quebec) Pugwash Conference of 1958. Szilard's lunatic address there established him as the title-role-model of the Stanley Kubrick *Dr. Strangelove* film. Kissinger had been brought into the Russell-Szilard thermonuclear one-world designs through the sponsorship of McGeorge Bundy; Kissinger served as Pugwash during the 1960s, and carried Szilard's policy into its form as SALT I and the 1982 ABM Treaty.

1982, which presented the proposed strategic ballistic missile defense policy as a means for freeing the United States of the disastrous foreign policy assumptions installed under Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The beautiful irony of strategic ballistic-missile defense based on "new physical principles," was, that that requirement for a "crash program" could be key to securing agreement between the two principal super-powers. Just as the 1960s "crash" aerospace program had repaid the United States more than ten cents for each U.S. government penny spent, a science-driver program of the type required for a "strategic ballistic missile defense," would supply a very large, and equitable technological boost for both superpowers and their allies, at a time when all these economies were in the midst of a prolonged and deepening slump.

On all of these points, the Soviet government agreed; it agreed on the scientific-technical feasibility of the outlined program, and concurred that the economic "spill-over" benefits would be significant. Nonetheless, in a February 1983 meeting, the Soviet representative indicated other reasons his government would reject a U.S. offer based upon this author's description. Nonetheless, a month later, President Ronald Reagan delivered exactly that offer.

There was an additional point of discussion during that February 1983 meeting with the Soviet representative. It was during that meeting that this candidate for the Presidential nomination advised the Soviet government that, unless some such agreement on a "science-driver" program were reached, the Soviet economy would collapse in approximately five years; the reasons for this doleful estimation were supplied on that occasion.⁵ It actually took six years, not five. The seeds for the later "productive triangle" proposal of 1989, were already present in that discussion of the future of the Comecon sector's economy.

5. There were three reasons for this writer's February 1983 estimate, as delivered to his Soviet opposite number, that the Soviet economic system would collapse in about five years. First, was the general situation, that the Warsaw Pact system, a war-economy based upon what the famous Soviet economist E. Preobrazhensky had once termed "primitive socialist accumulation," would collapse from a combination of wear-and-tear and also a suicidal, post-1983 infusion of "information theory" and "systems analysis" from the West. Second, the capital-investment cycle indicated that a breakdown, from lack of renewal of infrastructure and productive investment, would overtake the Comecon in about five years time, especially in the critical East Germany keystone sector, setting off chain-reaction effects throughout the bloc, including the Soviet economy proper. Third, it had become clear that Moscow, under the military leadership of Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, was preparing for an independent war-winning potential against NATO; this would strain the weakened Comecon economy to the limit. After the dissolving of the East Germany Communist regime, NATO discovered the Warsaw Pact had been in preparation for an early overrunning of western Europe, right up to the point, during 1989, the Wall crumbled politically.

Spannaus hits 'Contract' in campaign for Senate

by L. Wolfe

Vowing to provide leadership to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia in a moment of grave political and economic crisis, LaRouche Democrat Nancy Spannaus threw her hat into the ring for the Democratic nomination to challenge incumbent U.S. Sen. John Warner (R).



Spannaus made her formal announcement on Nov. 15 at a press conference in Leesburg, the county seat of Loudoun County, where both she and Lyndon LaRouche live, and again the following day in the state capital, Richmond. In both places the message was the same: That she was the candidate best suited "to lead the necessary fight in the elections that will determine whether our country survives into the next century."

Spannaus stated that she was the strongest possible candidate who could stand against the "fascist austerity onslaught encapsulated in the 'Contract on America' program" being pushed by House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), and pushed in the state by Gov. George Allen, whom she called "Baby Newt."

Her credentials

She cited her credentials as a "political brawler," pointing to her successful effort as the leader of the fight in the Senate race against that "Son-of-a-Bush," Oliver North, in 1994. "What I did was essential in leading the charge against Ollie," she reminded people. "I said and did what had to be said and done. We beat Ollie to the ground with our attacks, and then some other people jumped in to finish the job. If we had not made our intervention, Oliver North, not Chuck Robb, would have been our other U.S. senator."

Locally, Spannaus pledged to lead the fight against the powerful oligarchical families of western Loudoun, whom, she said, her supporters here helped kick in the local elections by crushing Sheriff John Isom, Commonwealth's Attorney Bill Burch, and defeating Kristen Umstadd, the Dem-