

# No Future on the Frontiers of Science Unless We Dump the Subversive FBI

by Brian Lantz

Sept. 17—The FBI is an enemy of creativity. The FBI—the investigative arm of the Department of Justice—has, for example, shown again and again its hostility to American advances in science and technology. It attempted to strip Albert Einstein of his American citizenship. It attempted to frame the very competent NASA Administrator James Beggs and succeeded in forcing his resignation, with disastrous results. It went after Lyndon LaRouche in the 1980s to put an end to the Strategic Defense Initiative involving U.S.-Soviet cooperation to implement new physical principles for mutual security. LaRouche went to prison.

In 1999, Taiwanese-American scientist Wen Ho Lee at Los Alamos National Laboratory was indicted on charges of spying. After nine months in solitary confinement, he was convicted of nothing more than “improper handling of restricted data.” In 2013, Chinese-Americans Guoqing Cao and Shuyu Li were accused of corporate espionage while employed at drug maker Eli Lilly and called “traitors.” The charges were dropped in 2014. Xiaoxing Xi, chairman of the Physics Department of Temple University, and his family, were arrested by the FBI at gunpoint in their home in 2015. He was charged with having



NASA

*The competent NASA administrator James M. Beggs was forced to resign in December 1985, when the FBI tried to frame him. One month later the shuttle Challenger exploded.*



from Wen Ho Lee defense page

*Taiwanese-American scientist Wen Ho Lee at the Los Alamos National Laboratory was indicted for spying in 1999, and held in solitary confinement for nine months. The government's case collapsed and he was convicted only of improper handling of sensitive data.*

sent restricted American technology to China. Months later, all charges were withdrawn.

No scientist worth his or her salt could ignore such a string of seemingly anomalous actions for the sake of maintaining a naïve view of the FBI.

## Who Owns the FBI?

As *EIR* has documented, the FBI was indeed *created* to accomplish the destruction of the United States as a sovereign nation.<sup>1</sup>

Lyndon LaRouche emphasizes that the roots of the FBI's methods lie in the 1901 assassination of President William McKinley—which led to Anglophile presidents such as Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson—and Bertrand Russell's and mathematician David Hilbert's worldwide attack on the scientific outlook, beginning in 1900.

The creation of J. Edgar Hoover's FBI and its methods centers on Ralph Van Deman, known as the “father of American military intelligence,” who was guided by his very experienced friend, Claude Dansey, of

1. The most recent such article is by Barbara Boyd, “[Is the FBI Running You? Are You Sure?](#)” *EIR*, Aug. 21, 2015, pp. 7-14.

British intelligence. Van Deman was, in turn, Hoover's mentor and remained one of his closest confidants until his death in 1952.

Van Deman modeled his methods directly on those of British intelligence, using what can loosely be termed "divide and rule" to "neutralize" revolutionary leaders and movements. Crudely utilizing those methods in the Philippines, Deman then went to British colonial India to gain further, first-hand experience. In the United States, in coordination with Hoover and Army Intelligence, he ran countless private citizen and vigilante operations to target "subversives," which were complemented by the power of the FBI and similar agencies on the state level.

Appropriately, Hoover was made an honorary Knight of the Order of the British Empire by King George VI in 1950.

### Albert Einstein the 'Communist'

The FBI targeted Einstein in 1932 when he was offered a half-year appointment at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J. The operation to deny visas to Einstein and his wife Elsa involved one of Van Deman's cloned vigilante groups, the Women's Patriot Corporation, and elements of the U.S. State Department. The former labeled him "a Communist and menace to American institutions." Einstein used his immense prestige by going directly to the press and embarrassed the State Department into issuing their visas. When Hitler came to power early in 1933, the Nazis ransacked Einstein's Berlin apartment and declared him an enemy of the state. Einstein settled in the United States. But Einstein had an ongoing battle with Hoover and the FBI—waged with his notable and very effective genius—which continued until Einstein's death in 1955.<sup>2</sup>

During World War II, Einstein was quietly barred from the Manhattan Project—Army Intelligence did not want the American people to know. During the Truman/McCarthy "red scares," Einstein encouraged the scientific community and the American people to resist. In a letter of advice to William Frauenglass, a targeted high school English teacher in Brooklyn—



*Heinrich Himmler (left) and Adolf Hitler review SS troops during Reich Party Convention ceremonies.*

which Einstein and Frauenglass later jointly submitted to the *New York Times*—Einstein wrote:

Reactionary politicians have managed to instill suspicion of all intellectual efforts into the public by dangling before their eyes a danger from without. Having succeeded so far, they are now proceeding to suppress the freedom of teaching and deprive of their positions all those who do not prove submissive, i.e., to starve them out.

Einstein's letter, which reveals the moral strength of character required of great scientists, calls upon his fellow intellectuals to act in "the revolutionary way of non-cooperation in the sense of Gandhi's. Every intellectual who is called before the committees ought to refuse to testify, i.e., must be prepared for jail and economic ruin, in short, for the sacrifice of his personal welfare in the interest of the cultural welfare of this country."

The letter appeared on the front page, on June 12, 1953.

Hoover was at that time attempting to build a case for stripping Einstein of his American citizenship! Hoover also feared that word of his efforts would leak out. Einstein knew his house was bugged—and it was—and that his friends and associates were being interviewed and otherwise intimidated. Should we be surprised that the Nazi leader, Heinrich Himmler, was on Hoover's "special correspondents" list until 1939?

2. The FBI files on Einstein, or rather, that part of the FBI files which the FBI is willing to acknowledge, have been released with many redactions under the Freedom of Information Act and are found at <https://vault.fbi.gov/Albert%20Einstein>

What is the meaning of the FBI operations against Albert Einstein? Was it any different than the Nazis' targeting of German scientist Max Planck, Einstein's collaborator and good friend? To some extent this article has already answered the question, but not satisfactorily. Why were the FBI *and* the Bertrand Russell networks deployed against Einstein? To answer that question, we must more firmly live and act *from the future*. Jason Ross of LaRouche's science team wrote, in [a recent article](#):

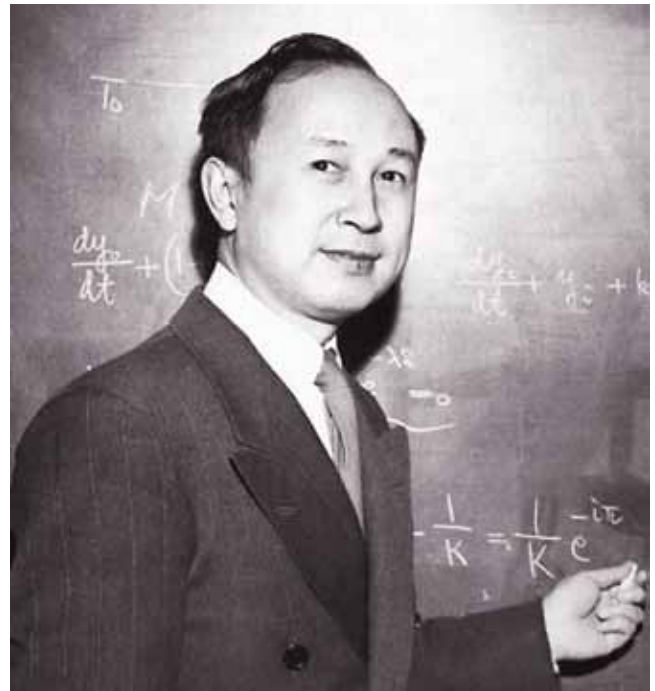
This great genius of the last century is the more remarkable for what followed him, or rather what failed to follow him. Within the shift in thinking at the turn of the twentieth century, especially towards mathematics and away from reality, both in physics and culturally—in essence, a rejection of mind as a component of the universe—Einstein stands out as a courageous pioneer demonstrating precisely that power of mind. His work ushered in a total reappraisal of the most basic concepts of science: those of space, time, energy and matter, and he continues to inspire new experiments offering new potentials for discovery, e.g., the construction and successful application of the LIGO project to detect gravitational waves. Why has the world not seen his equal since?

Reached for comment today on Einstein's present-day importance, Lyndon LaRouche responded that the focus must be on developing mankind's power to discover his own nature, via children who go beyond their parents. That process, that rate of fostering creativity in future generations, is a measure of development. He concluded, "It's not Einstein's mathematics; it's the self-creation of the human species. *That* defines the nature of the human individual."

Be like Einstein: be a *mensch*.

### Qian's Case: Is Brilliance Subversive?

In 1935 Qian Xuesen (sometimes transliterated Tsien Hsue-shen), then a 24-year-old mainland Chinese student, used a scholarship to get to M.I.T. and then to Caltech to earn his doctorate. Theodore von Kármán, the legendary Hungarian-American aerodynamicist, pronounced Qian an "undisputed genius" and made him one of his closest collaborators. In No-



*Qian Xuesen, one of the founders of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech, was targeted by Joe McCarthy's red scare and was deported. He had been a colonel in the U.S. Army. He became the father of China's rocket program.*

vember 1943, Qian was one of the founders with von Kármán of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech, which has played a vital role in the U.S. space program. During World War II, Qian contributed groundbreaking work on ballistics. Made a Colonel in the U.S. Army, Qian was among those who debriefed the German rocket scientists at Peenemünde at the end of the war.

Because of his important scientific role, Qian was targeted in the "Second Red Scare" (1950-57) run by the notorious Joe McCarthy with Hoover's side-kick, Roy Cohn, at his side. The FBI accused him of being a Communist sympathizer and of attempting to steal secret documents. Subsequent examination of the documents showed they contained no classified material. Although allowed to continue teaching at Caltech, he was effectively subjected to five years of house arrest. He was never prosecuted. In 1955 he was finally deported; by that time he was eager to return to China, where his brilliance was appreciated. A pre-eminent scientist in several fields, Qian went on to lead the People's Republic of China's ballistic missile and space programs and died in 2009 at age 97. He had also had a role in its nuclear weapons program.



After his return to China, former Navy Secretary Dan Kimball, who knew him personally, said, “He was no more a Communist than I was, and we forced him to go.” In 1987, Dr. Qian was awarded Caltech’s distinguished Alumni Award for his lifetime achievements.

### The FBI Assault on NASA

NASA Administrator James Beggs was indicted in 1985 for allegedly violating federal procurement regulations years earlier, when he had been executive vice president at General Dynamics. Although a very competent head of NASA, he was forced to take an indefinite leave of absence.

One month after his resignation, with NASA under the incompetent Acting Administrator William Graham, Space Shuttle orbiter Challenger was launched from Kennedy Space Center in freezing weather, weather too cold for a safe launch. The ship exploded, killing seven of our precious astronauts. There had been controversy in NASA that morning over whether to launch. Beggs, who still maintained an office, was in his office and said it was too cold. But Graham approved the launch.

The story behind the story is bigger than the FBI, as usual. Graham, an outsider to NASA, had been sworn in as its Deputy Administrator in November 1985, apparently in anticipation of the indictment of Beggs in December. His previous experience was in weapons research. As Acting Administrator, he had made clear his intention to clear out the senior, most experienced people leading NASA. Not only was that leadership highly competent technically, much of it also had a very infectious technological optimism. Beggs himself had attacked the Club of Rome and Malthusians generally in a 1984 speech. The Challenger disaster damaged Graham’s ability to carry out his plans, and he left NASA in October 1986 to become the director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

All charges against Beggs and his co-defendants were dropped in 1987. At a press conference, Beggs said that the charges had been politically motivated. He



*FBI Agent James Hal Francis, operating under the name John Clifford, carried out an operation—Operation Lightning Strike—at the Johnson Space Center in Houston in an attempt to induce criminal acts.*

received a belated letter of apology from Attorney General Edwin Meese in 1988 as Meese was leaving office, after one of his deputies, for a year, had refused to apologize.<sup>3</sup>

In the same decade, the FBI also mounted extensive operations against Lyndon LaRouche, the author of President Ronald Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), premised on international scientific cooperation with the Soviet Union in developing defensive systems based on new physical principles that would render thermonuclear weapons obsolete. LaRouche was also, naturally, an outspoken and influential advocate for the U.S. Space Program. And LaRouche defended Beggs.

Scientific progress depends on cooperation and collaboration, including on the international level. It is, in fact, *mission critical*, but the FBI consistently opposes it.

### ‘Despicable, Disgusting, Rotten’

In 1991 the FBI again targeted NASA’s manned space program, headquartered at Johnson Space Center in Houston, this time with an operation code-named Operation Lightning Strike, directed and coordinated from FBI headquarters. Special Agent James “Hal” Francis was deployed to Houston as “John Clifford” to carry out a fishing expedition. He set up a phony company, complete with a financial history and ratings. The intention was not to entrap a known criminal; there was *no evidence* that anyone at Johnson Space Center was doing anything illegal. The purpose was to induce criminal acts.

“John Clifford” was peddling a miniaturized lithotripter, a device that uses ultrasound to break up kidney stones and gall stones. This one was a fake, created for the FBI by a real, existing company. Its apparent merit was its small size—it was small enough to be used on the Space Shuttle. Higher-ups at FBI headquarters oversaw the targeting, starting at the top of NASA’s

3. For more on Beggs and the attack on NASA, see Marsha Freeman, “[How the Space Shuttle Program Was Sabotaged](#),” *EIR*, March 28, 1986, pp. 48-57 and 72.

manned space program. Targets included the then head of the Life Sciences Division, and former NASA Administrator James Beggs and his Washington consulting firm. They were approached to “influence-peddle” the fake lithotripter to NASA headquarters and in Congress. The FBI’s scam did not work.

Astronaut David Wolf, another target in the sting, appeared on the NBC Nightly News and revealed that Clifford/Francis had telephoned him nearly twenty times to try to get him to accept a favor in exchange for influence peddling. Astronauts are American heroes, and the FBI had been desperate to change that. Along with NASA professionals and good, hardworking “ma and pa shop” NASA contractors, it was the American public that was dragged through this filth.

The FBI’s Lightning Strike unearthed *no prior criminal activity*. In the end, only small fish—two lower level NASA employees and seven contractors—were entrapped, and then psychologically worked over and induced to plead guilty to lesser charges, or induced to implicate others to avoid further prosecution. Only one defendant, Dale Brown, fought the charges in court—and he won. Lives and careers were ruined. There was also serious damage to the functioning of NASA.

In 1994, after Operation Lightning Strike had (at least officially) ended, James Beggs explained to *Houston Press* reporter Steve McVickers what that damage was, and what he thought of the FBI’s intentions:

I think the whole idea of the government running stings in which you [use] government employees who lie and offer bribes with impunity, I think that’s outrageous. I don’t see any difference in that from what the Nazis did. *What really disturbs me about them doing this kind of thing to NASA is that you sow the seeds of distrust among the people in the agency who are responsible for running a very difficult and exceedingly hazardous program. To sow the seeds of distrust, deliberately, in that program is about as despicable and disgusting and rotten a thing to do as I can imagine.* [Emphasis added.]<sup>4</sup>

FBI operations aim at destroying *collaboration*. Re-

flect on what is actually being organized by the leading nations of mankind—with the current, unfortunate exception of our United States. Particularly the New Silk Road initiatives and the results of the G-20 Summit in Hangzhou, China, Sept. 4-5, premised, as they are, on building mutual respect and collaboration among nations.<sup>5</sup> That is what’s now in the air! Why then tolerate these dirty, secret police operations, intertwined as they are with cynical geopolitics, that sow mistrust and undermine the work and the lives of our scientists and scientific organizations, and mankind’s greatest endeavors. After all, what is man really?

### FBI Terror Against Chinese-Americans Today

Recall the more recent cases mentioned at the beginning. Taiwanese-American scientist Wen Ho Lee, working at a U.S. national laboratory in 1999, is indicted for spying, *spends nine months in solitary confinement*, and is convicted of nothing more than mishandling restricted data.<sup>6</sup> Chinese-Americans Guoqing Cao and Shuyu Li are accused of corporate espionage in 2013 and *are called “traitors”* by the prosecution. The charges are dropped. Xiaoxing Xi, chairman of the Physics Department of Temple University, and his family, *are arrested at gunpoint* by the FBI in their home in 2015. He is charged with having sent restricted technology to China. Months later all charges are withdrawn, but without prejudice to possibly charging him again. Meanwhile, free-wheeling claims of “Chinese hackers” are also being used to intimidate Chinese-American high-tech companies.

In a June 2016 town meeting in his district, Texas Congressman John Culberson (R), whose Appropriations subcommittee controls funds for both the FBI and NASA, raved, “You don’t know how many closed door meetings I’ve had with the FBI about the Chinese.” “The Chinese steal everything,” he said. This, then, is Culberson’s report: The un-American activities at the FBI are alive and well.

We will have no future on the frontiers of science

5. See, for example, these contributions to the Sept. 16, 2016 issue of *EIR*: Helga Zepp-LaRouche, “[The G-20 Summit: ‘A Change of World-Historic Dimensions.’](#)” pp. 5-11, and William Jones, “[China Changes the Course of World History.](#)” pp. 12-18.

6. Lee eventually received \$1.6 million from the federal government and media organizations in a civil suit for the leaking of his name to the press before any formal charges had been filed against him. Federal Judge James A. Parker blasted the Justice Department for misconduct and misrepresentations to the court.

4. For more on Operation Lightning Strike, see Marsha Freeman and Jeffrey Steinberg, “[FBI Dirty Tricks Target NASA with Phony Scandals.](#)” *EIR*, Feb. 24, 1995, pp. 42-25. See also Gary Cartwright, “[The Sting.](#)” *Texas Monthly*, August 1996.

unless we get rid of this noxious influence in our national life.

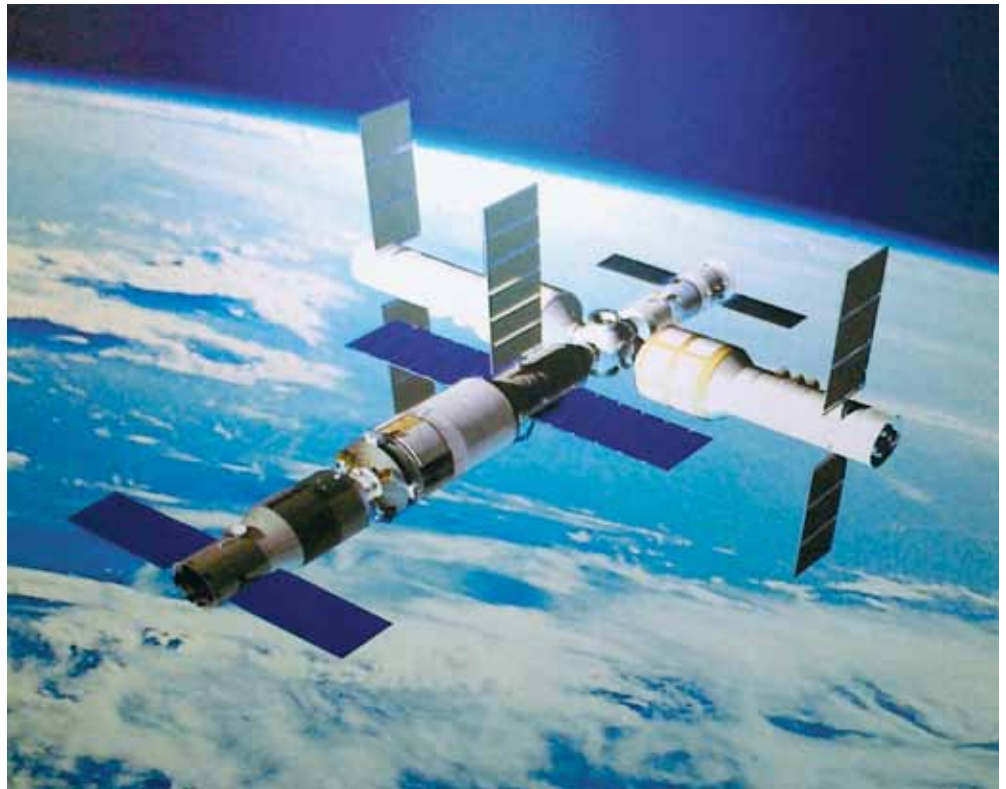
## The American Spirit, from China and Russia

New international leadership is coming into being, making bold decisions to act for the future of mankind. As a feature of this process, a new era of space exploration is opening, prompted by the initiatives of China, Russia, and India, in cooperation with developing nations and their scientists and engineers. It is infectious! Yet here in the United States, we are still operating under the bankrupt Bush-Obama policies, bipartisan Congressional budget-cutting against NASA, and the FBI's continued intimidation of our nation's best potential leaders and scientists.

Let us refresh ourselves and begin to recover some of the profound intention that lay behind the U.S. space program. Consider what President John F. Kennedy said, shortly before his assassination, in his singular address to the United Nations General Assembly in September 1963:

Finally, in a field where the United States and the Soviet Union have a special capacity—in the field of space—there is room for new cooperation, for further joint efforts in the regulation and exploration of space. I include among these possibilities a joint expedition to the Moon. Space offers no problems of sovereignty; by resolution of this Assembly, the members of the United Nations have foresworn any claim to territorial rights in outer space or on celestial bodies, and declared that international law and the United Nations Charter will apply.

Why, therefore, should man's first flight to the Moon be a matter of national competition?



China.org

*An artist's rendition of China's planned 60-ton, multi-module space station, set to be established in orbit by 2022.*

Why should the United States and the Soviet Union, in preparation for such expeditions, become involved in immense duplications of research, construction, and expenditure? Surely we should explore whether the scientist and astronauts of our two countries—indeed of all the world—cannot work together in the conquest of space, sending someday in this decade to the Moon not the representatives of a single nation, but the representatives of all of our countries.<sup>7</sup>

There is still that spirit today, and it is coming most profoundly from China. It was just announced in June that China and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs have agreed to collaborate in involving other, especially developing nations, in China's upcoming space station, of which the core module is to be launched in 2018. The European Space Agency and Russia's Roscosmos are already involved in talks with their Chinese counterparts. The agreement was presented by Ms. Wu

7. The text and audio recording of the speech are available, [here](#), as is a video excerpt [here](#).



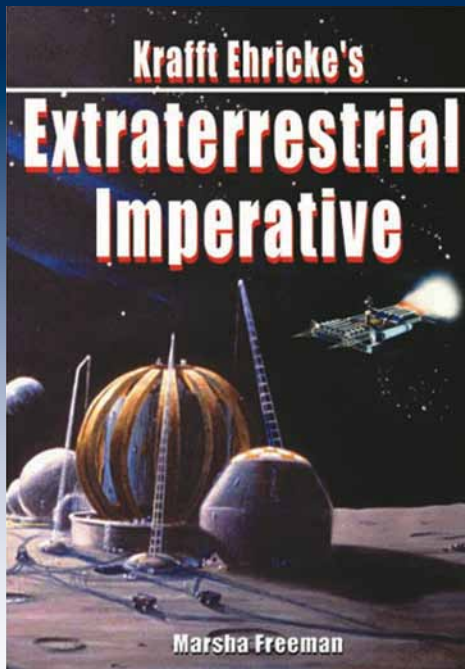


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*Helga Zepp-LaRouche in conversation with Xu Dazhe, the Head of the Chinese space agency CNSA, at the International Aerospace Forum in Washington, D.C. in January, 2013.*

Ping, Deputy of China's Manned Space Agency. Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, also speaking to reporters in June, stated, "This is a very promising sphere in whose development both the Russian and Chinese sides are interested. . . . This cooperation is of purely peaceful, civilian nature and will finally benefit the entire humankind rather than only the participating states."

Within the American scientific community itself, there is still the natural, human passion for scientific collaboration. Science is, after all, a dialogue across generations—across both time and space. Speaking at the International Astronautical Congress in August 2015, NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said he believed the ban on collaboration between the United States and China in space, banned by Congress since 2011, is temporary. Bolden, a former astronaut, stated, "My successor will have a different policy." The policy will change, Bolden said, because if not, in the future, "we'll be on the outside looking in." Xu Dazhe, Administrator of the China National Space Administration, responded succinctly: "China has no difficulties in our cooperation policies with other agencies."



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## Krafft Ehrlicke's Extraterrestrial Imperative

by Marsha Freeman

At this time, when there are questions about the future path of America's space program, Krafft Ehrlicke's vision lays out the philosophical framework for why space exploration must be pursued, through his concept of the "Extraterrestrial Imperative." Freeman's book presents Ehrlicke's long-range vision for our space program and the fight that he waged for that vision.

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