



FREEDOM'S ARM

newsletter
of the
nevada state
libertarian party

JUNE, 1981

VOLUME 1 NO. 1

LAS VEGAS, NEV.

OUR FIRST RELEASE OF OUR NEW NEWSLETTER

by Bill Carlyle - Editor

We will be breaking our backs to bring you a newsletter each month from here on. We hope to have it informative and interesting, keeping all who read it abreast of what the plans and dreams are, of the Libertarian Party.

now for this task" says Ed. If you are available, please call Ed Junikka at 362-1868. This is very important, and requires very little time.

"HELP WANTED"

We wish to keep our party headquarters open five days a week. This is a job that requires someone to be at the office about six hours a day. A young lady of unswerving loyalty handled this the first part of the year. Unfortunately for us, she had to leave our employ. Her name was Debby Hasslar, affectionately known as "George".

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Libertarian Party will hold its national convention in Denver, Colorado this year. August 26 - 30, 1981 is a date to remember. What a way to spend a vacation, or to use it to just get away. If you are interested in becoming a delegate from Nevada, put your request in a letter and send it to the Party headquarters at 2105 Western. State and National party members are eligible. there will be more on this in the next newsletter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We will welcome any letters that you send us and we will answer each one. Letters which we consider timely and relevant will be gladly printed. If you would like to write an article for the newsletter please call the editor, Bill Carlyle at 456-7755 and discuss it with him.

"DISTRICT CO-ORDINATORS BEING SET UP"

The preliminary task of setting up districts in Clark County for the future use of the Libertarian political machine, is being handled by Mr. Ed Junikka. This is a task that requires putting people in charge of each assembly district. The people in charge would be our district co-ordinators, their job would be to get messages to Libertarians in the respective districts and to keep abreast of the happenings in each district. Mr. Junikka says that it requires very little time, but is terribly important to the party. "We need volunteers

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FACTS ON DEFENSE

--by Jay Hilgartner

The one final excuse in America for government spending, federal deficits, billions in taxes, and for the continued existence of a large State apparatus will probably be "national security" or, more to the point, "the Russians." With the military budget skyrocketing, U.S. military advisors in El Salvador, the return of military conscription on the horizon, and Utah and Nevada about to be buried under by the MX missile system, it is important that libertarians be able to counter the near hysterical fears that the Reagan Administration is voicing over our defense and the Soviet threat.

What about the allegations of "Soviet expansionism?" Just to make it clear from the beginning, the libertarian foreign policy of non-intervention in the political affairs of other countries is not, in any way, predicated on the behavior of the Soviet Union or any other country. It makes good sense in and of itself. But it is illuminating to take a closer look at the charge that Russia is gobbling up major portions of the world. History and a respect for the facts show something quite different.

When the invasion of Afghanistan was just getting started an organization called the Center for Defense Information (122 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002) and headed by retired Rear Admiral Gene R. LaRoque and retired Army Brig. General B. K. Gorwitz worked up a definition of "influence" and applied it to the Soviet Union. CDI defined "Soviet Influence" as "periods in the history of a country when a high level of Soviet involvement and presence are accompanied by a close and cooperative relationship with the Soviet Union." Special attention was paid to Soviet military involvement, Soviet dominance as an arms supplier, and the relative role of the Soviet Union as the major foreign partner of a country.

From that study, CDI concluded that Soviet influence in the world has declined from a peak in 1958. "At that time Soviet influenced countries had 31% of the world's population and 9% of the world's GNP, not including the Soviet Union. In 1979, the Soviets are influencing only 6% of the world's population and 5% of the world's GNP, exclusive of the Soviet Union." The study concluded, "Nothing that has happened since has really made up for the decline in the power of the Soviet bloc relative to the rest of the world that occurred when the Soviets lost China." Today in Africa and the Middle East the Soviet Union dominates Angola, South Yemen, Ethiopia, and Mozambique, four of the poorest countries in the world. Within the past ten years, however, within the same region, the Soviet Union has been kicked out of Egypt (in 1972 after \$2.7 billion in military assistance), the Sudan (in 1972 after \$1 billion in military aid). Twenty years ago the Soviet bloc included North Korea, Indonesia,

Albania, China and Algeria. Today all of these countries are either passive or openly hostile to the Soviet Union. Twenty years ago socialism appeared to be the "wave of the future." Today it is an idea discredited around the world. One of the demands of the striking students in Poland is an end to compulsory courses in Marxism-Leninism, the ideological foundation of the Soviet state. In short, regardless of their intentions, the Kremlin has had about as much success at trying to influence the world through force as has the United States.

Okay, but what about the charges of Soviet military superiority? For the sake of brevity I'll play the same game of "bean counting" as the militarists frequently do to drum up hysteria for higher military budgets. By bean counting I mean the method of comparing the U.S. arsenal bomb for bomb, missile for missile, etc. as if that is supposed to provide some accurate measure of our true defense capability. Even ex-Secretary of Defense Harold Brown termed such comparisons "enormously misleading," but, what the hell.

In terms of nuclear weapons, the U.S. far outnumbers the Soviet Union (again, for the sake of brevity, I'm setting aside the important questions regarding the morality or efficacy of nuclear weapons as a deterrent). The Soviet Union outnumbers the U.S. in total number of launchers by 2,500 to 2,284. But the U.S. outnumbers the Soviet Union where it counts -- in total number of deliverable warheads. The United States has 9,500 strategic warheads, the Soviet Union 6,000. When you add on to that tactical nuclear weapons (weapons placed on short-range delivery systems) the U.S. has 30,000 warheads to the Soviet Union's 20,000. In fact, the elimination of all 2,150 of our dangerous and potentially vulnerable land based ICBMs would still leave the U.S. with a 1,350 warhead advantage over the Soviets.

The Soviet Union's nuclear forces are far more vulnerable than ours. Seventy-four percent (74%) of all Soviet strategic warheads are mounted on vulnerable land based ICBMs while only 23% are so mounted in the U.S. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of the Soviet Union's nuclear weapons are on non-alert bombers, submarines in port, or ICBMs on land, while the U.S. maintains 3,000 warheads in submarines on the open sea, at all times, where they are virtually undetectable. Just one U.S. Poseidon missile submarine carrying 16 Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs) with 10 to 14 warheads on each is capable of delivering a 40 kiloton bomb to each of 224 targets in the Soviet Union. We have 31 such submarines in addition to 10 Polaris missile subs. (It is estimated that just five of these subs could kill 40 million people in the Soviet Union outright -- within a very short time of impact).

The bean counting continues.

It is charged that the Soviet Union's medium and

heavy bomber force now outnumbered the U.S. B-52 force by 675 to 414. But these figures count medium range (capable of reaching targets in Europe and Asia, but not the U.S.) Soviet Badger and Blinder bombers equally with the long range U.S. B-52. The 348 U.S. B-52 bombers and 66 FB-111 bombers are capable of delivering 2,700 nuclear weapons to targets in the Soviet Union. The Soviet heavy bomber force carries only 300.

The Soviet Union leads the U.S. two to one in ballistic missile submarines. True, but the U.S. subs carry more warheads giving the U.S. a three to one lead over the Soviet Union. U.S. subs carry a total of 5,000 warheads compared to the Soviet Union's 1,200.

Of course, bean counting really isn't all that helpful, one way or the other. The existence of large numbers of nuclear warheads, regardless of which "side" can deploy them, is frightening by itself. Even if only a very small percentage of the warheads in the Soviet arsenal were to reach their targets in the U.S., American society would be destroyed. The same goes for the Soviet Union. Of course, whichever side launched first would also suffer an equally devastating counter-attack within hours. Nuclear overkill is a reality.

Bath Ironworks, a shipbuilding company, has been trying to drum up subsidies lately by purchasing full page ads in the Washington Post pointing to Russia's "five to one lead over the U.S. in surface combat ships." This is an absurd comparison which includes everything from aircraft carriers to PT boats. The Pentagon reported in 1980 that "With regards to larger oceangoing surface combatant ships (over 3,000 tons) the U.S. Navy has deployed more than twice the number of platforms as the Soviet Navy." The U.S. Navy has 524,000 personnel compared to 433,000 for the Soviet Navy and 1,500 naval and marine combat aircraft, the U.S.S.R. has 870. The U.S. has 14 aircraft carriers, each boasting a crew of 5,000 and a complement of 100 aircraft. The Soviet Union has none (unless one counts their four small carriers for helicopters and vertical take-off and landing aircraft. These are incapable of launching high-performance aircraft and are dwarfed in significance by the fact that the U.S. has 12 similar class helicopter carriers not counted in the 14 carriers listed above). The aircraft carrier, of course, is the nucleus of modern naval power projection.

What about NATO? The removal of all 200,000 U.S. active duty combat and support troops from Europe (we have an additional 100,000 non-combat military personnel in Europe) would not result in a military disadvantage for Western Europe, in terms of numbers of troops. Western European active duty combat and support troops number 823,000 NATO plus 270,000 non-NATO French troops totalling 1,093,000 troops. When we remove all U.S. forces

Continued on page 4

WE HAVE ENOUGH MONEY

The Clark County Central Committee met at their regular meeting and issued the following statement. "We have now reached a point in our growth, where it is no longer necessary to raise money for the party." This was of course expected. Ever since the large corporations started funneling the political contributions into the party, insiders knew that it was only a matter of time before the central committee was forced to start declining donations from the small individual person.

If you believe any of the above, the Libertarian Party has some land in Florida they would like to talk to you about.

The Libertarian Party is an ongoing organization which is dedicated to individual liberty in the body politic. This is something very alien to the political spectrum. It is the only political party in the world which puts the individual above the state and the individual rights above all other rights. The Libertarian Party is the framework of the mechanism that will keep you and yours free in a world that is saying, more and more, that you owe your existence to a higher state authority. This authority which will look after you and decide what is right and what is wrong for you.

The Libertarian Party needs your support, and it needs your contributions. It costs money to be heard, and we are now in a position where we need to shout. It requires approximately \$1,000.00 per month to run the party headquarters. The cost of our benevolent government postage has just increased. Everything

Continued on page 4

NEW CHAIRMAN TO BE PICKED

On May 31, 1981, a breakfast meeting will be held at Denny's restaurant across from the Showboat Hotel. The address is 2545 Fremont St. The meeting will be held at 10:00 AM. The 31st is the last Sunday of the month.

The purpose of this meeting will be to pick a new chairman for the Clark County Central Committee. Mr. Ron Witig, our present chairman, is going to be leaving the state in another month. It is certainly going to be hard to replace him. I don't know if we will be able to find anyone crazy enough to devote the time that is required of this job. Everyone who knows Ron, will attest to the fact that when the chips are down, he is the one who can be counted on to hold everything together. As a matter of fact he is usually so involved in working for the Libertarian cause that there is no sense talking about any other subject.

Anyone who is interested in becoming involved in the political aspect of Libertarian thinking, is invited to attend this meeting and getting his or her feet wet so to speak. The party needs people who have had past experience in politics, or who would like to learn the ins and outs of the political world. Remember, things don't change by themselves, they have to be changed.

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DEFENSE....Continued

from Europe, Western Europe would still have 893,000 troops opposed to the Warsaw Pact's 899,000 troops. Add to this Europe's GNP, twice that of the Warsaw Pact, a far greater technological sophistication, and anti-Soviet feelings in the Warsaw Pact itself (as exemplified in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and more recently, Poland). Could the Soviet Union Seriously count on these countries to help them foolishly invade Europe?

The list can go on. Not enough in this space can be said of the myths and falsehoods expounded in the name of "national security." The important point for libertarians when addressing the public is not to dismiss the Soviet Union but to put that country's relationship with the world in perspective. We should always point out that whoever wants to pay for or fight for the defense of another country should be perfectly free to do so. But no one has a right to compel others to follow. Of course, we should emphasize that the libertarian foreign policy is good for the prosperity and security of America regardless of the actions of the Soviet Union in the future.

ENOUGH MONEY.....Continued

else such as the telephone, wages, printing, transportation, and the myriad other expenses that go with selling a product have increased. The party will be contacting everyone we can think of to give their support. We know that it is not getting easier to give up your dollars, but it is imperative that we forge ahead. Please contribute as much as possible when you are contacted. If you would like to give for a specific item such as rent, office equipment, or telephones, we will be happy to make arrangements for it.

Contributions may be sent to the party headquarters at 2105 Western, Las Vegas, Nev. 89102 or call the chairman of the finance committee, Mr. John Ketchum at 382-4695.

Editorial by William Carlyle

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