

Congress is not told the truth about these homeland defense technologies. Moreover, many members of Congress do not want the truth anyway. If it re-elects them and extends their political power, it is of interest. Defense *spending* serves these interests. *Defense* does not.

The lawyers in Congress are running American defense like a civil lawsuit. Most lawsuits never go to trial. They are settled by negotiation *after* the lawyers have shown as strong a case as possible to their respective opponents through depositions, discovery, and other expensive legal maneuvers.

Congress is told by the defense establishment that America's defense "case" is so strong that the Soviets will not dare go to trial. They'll want to settle out of court for a few \$100 billion in taxpayer money and a large transfer of Western technology and production. It is the allegation of Soviet perceptions that is important to them - not the reality of America's military survivability.

Who cares if well-informed school children could see the obvious weaknesses in America's position. The Defense Establishment has "witnesses" who say everything is fine. In civil law the credibility of your witnesses is often more important than their truthfulness. \$300 billion buys an army of very credible witnesses.

This opposition to homeland defense works so well, that virtually no other mechanism is needed. The bureaucrats and businessmen fight so hard to protect their individual turfs that the whole process takes place automatically. They do not even need to be organized.

### NEW MYTHS

Myths have become the hallmarks of the nuclear age. As our science and technology become more and more advanced and make possible a truly new era in the quality of human life, there seems to be a parallel increase in mythology, mysticism, and irrationality. This irrationality is being used by elitist elements to hamstring our technology and to maintain and extend their own positions of privilege.

Like elitists throughout history, they do not care how much human suffering and misery they cause so long as they are able to live in luxury and enjoy a sense of power. The propagation of debilitating myths is a major mechanism for the extension of power. As one myth grows old, it is replaced by another.

Propagation of myths among the American people is being especially enhanced today by two factors. First, the decay of our school curricula, especially in the physical sciences, has left the American people increasingly ignorant about natural truth and about the thought processes that are useful in accurately determining the truth. Second, a large percentage of American minds have been seized by the passive media of television. The evening news manipulators are becoming substitutes for individual thought.

Let us look at five new (actually they are replays of old themes) myths:

1. *Now that the Soviets have instituted political reforms at home they no longer constitute a threat.*