Since the beginning of February, a major issue has been growing out of our reaction to New Zealand's decision to refuse to accept nuclear weapons or be expelled from ANZUS. New Zealand has already stated that the breaking of ANZUS will reverse that island's position, of which Lange would decide in 1985) of joint Australian-New Zealand-United States naval exercises. The US defense policy is endlessly worried about the anti-nuclear movements in Western European countries such as Belgium, West Germany, and Great Britain have been gaining power and recognition. With the West German government seriously worried about the repercussions from the recent wave of defections to East Germany, the West German Social Democratic party, much more amenable than the current Bonn government to an anti-nuclear public protest, might well gain power. Foreign policy is tied closely on a cooperative basis. The Administration feels, perhaps quite, that the New Zealand government could be the start of a wave of betrayals which could leave the United States isolated on the world scene. This explains the hand attempt to the New Zealand stance before other realignment in the US. More importantly, anti-nuclear weapons or be expelled from ANZUS. New Zealand refused to budge. "If the ANZUS treaty requires us to accept nuclear weapons, then it is the treaty which is the obstacle to the maintenance of good relations between New Zealand and the United States," Lange explained in a speech in Canberra. What is so frightening Washington is that it is willing to alienate one of the US' closest and most important allies. Militarily, New Zealand would be hurt if it rejected the US ships by the breaking of ANZUS. The US scrapped the forces, in their entirety, are composed of 12,700 men, 4 frigates, 5 patrol boats, and 3 Navy helicopters, little suggesting the US forces in the Pacific. New Zealand is not important to the United States as a military base; Australia and our Pacific interests are quite sufficient. Furthermore, the Soviet Union has increased its interest in the South Pacific. The incident behind the Administration's brutal reaction to this small sign of independence from New Zealand becomes clearer when one considers the political repercussions of New Zealand's actions. Washington has been increas-