

## **Pinkos Beware!**

*The following is excerpted from a longer article, "New Group Targets Political Bias on Campus", in the August 30, 1985, issue of Science.*

According to a new lobby--Accuracy in Academia (AIA)--there are 10,000 Marxist professors on U.S. college campuses who are instilling a leftist bias in young minds. AIA plans to recruit student volunteers to identify suspected leftists, audit their classes, and challenge them publicly if necessary.

In theory, AIA will be an unbiased guardian of free speech. But in practice it is likely to reflect the views of its leaders, who see a greater threat from the political Left than from any other source. Some observers worry that AIA will spawn an intellectual vigilante squad, in itself a threat to academic freedom.

Since announcing its plans in early August, says AIA president Malcolm Lawrence, the group has been "networking," making lists of sympathetic contacts, spotting problem courses, and ordering college catalogs. Lawrence plans to get at least 100 course guides, covering all U.S. public colleges and a sample of private ones as well. Already \$22,000 has been collected. A mass appeal for contributions will be mailed to 250,000 people this fall. On 15 August the newly hired executive director, Laszlo Csorba III, moved into his office. Lawrence hopes to build to a staff of 15 in 3 years. But at present, most of the work will be done by Csorba, a 1985 graduate of the University of California at Davis with a B.A. in political science.

Lawrence explains that AIA is a spinoff of its parent group, Accuracy in Media, a watchdog that searches out and criticizes liberal bias in the press. AIM's director, Reed Irvine, is convinced that press bias has its origin in the universities, and for many years he has wanted to root out the problem at its source. Now AIA will begin the task.