Soviet Press Call For Renunciation of First Use of Nuclear Arms

Call To Renounce Use Of Nuclear Arms Linked to Trade and Development

Dec. 5 — Today's Pravda, the daily paper of the Soviet Communist Party, has a weekly press review by Vitalii Korionov, excerpts of which are reprinted below.

The progressive world press observes that the declaration of the Bucharest meeting (Nov. 26-ed) is an international programmatic political document. The vital interests of all humanity are met by the socialist countries' call to all states that signed the Helsinki Accords to commit themselves not to make a first use of nuclear weapons against each other.

It should be noted that Western responses to the new proposals have been diverse. The ideas put forward by the socialist countries are being studied, as a U.S. State Department spokesman stated, for example. It is certainly good if a responsible approach prevails in ruling circles in this study.

But it is impossible not to see the fact that the challenge of the socialist countries was greeted in quite a different fashion by militarist circles, which want a "nuclear sword of Damocles" to hang over the peoples. To judge by the Western press, NATO headquarters these days is diligently looking for "arguments" to mask their unwillingness to renounce the use of nuclear weapons demanded by all humanity.

In this situation, the deliberate course of the CPSU and Soviet state for affirming the principles of peaceful coexistence... takes on ever greater significance for the cause of peace.

The speech of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev at the Kremlin dinner for the fourth session of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (Nov. 30-ed) has evoked a lively response in the U.S. and other countries.

The Soviet Union strives to develop trade and economic and other ties with business circles in the U.S. and other capitalist countries. But no one should be under illusion: the USSR does this not because its economic development depends on the goodwill of its Western partners. The groundlessness of such presumptions is convincingly demonstrated by the entire history of the Soviet state...The USSR's stand on this is a deeply principled one. We are for the development of trade and other ties with the U.S. and other capitalist countries, of

a sort that facilitate the consolidation of general peace. This is not a conjunctural but a long-term policy, intended to apply for years and decades ahead...

There is a distinct contrast between the situation in the socialist world and the situation in the capitalist part of the globe. In reviewing the first results of the year now ending, the Western press prefers not to remember what it was writing a year ago in December 1975, but it might behoove them...

Reuters, for example, characterizing the mood of Washington at that time, asserted that economists were unanimous in the prediction that the firm recovery would continue at a steady pace throughout 1976. United Press International announced boldy: "The world is emerging from its decline, which will end in 1976."

Now the Western press is writing differently. Business Week described "the spectre of a new prolonged collapse, when the vestiges of the last one are not yet erased."

Bonn Generals Lust For Control Of Atomic Weapons

Dec. 5 — The following are excerpts of a commentary by Radio Moscow's V. Sakharov that appeared in the East German daily Neues Deutschland today under the headline "The Bonn Generals' Nuclear Weapons Drive."

Without doubt, the army of the Federal Republic of Germany has been suffering from symptoms of a grave illness. Now the West German Bundeswehr is seriously sick indeed. With them it is like a person obsessed with sex: give him a psychotest, show him a rectangle or triangle or square, and he thinks about Theme No. 1. No matter whether a right conservative or a social liberal government is in power, the Bonn generals think only in the categories of the Nazi Wehrmacht traditions. And indeed, the Bundeswehr now stands in these Wehrmacht traditions, as the instance of the Air Force generals Krupinski and Francke (who recently permitted an ex-Nazi to speak at a military base - ed) shows clearly.

Part of this Theme No. 1 is the Nazi military tradition in Bonn's military leadership. Bonn's generals are lusting for control of atomic weapons, as the case of the Army General Schnell elucidated once more...The case of General Schnell shows that wherever the mentioned atomic-power politicians in Bonn stop off, other atomic addicts pick up. A spokesman of the Federal Defense Ministry endorsed Schnell explicitly, by stating that in no

way did Schnell contradict the basic concept of the ministry... And, the government in Bonn has still not poured cold water on this atomic drive and its proponents.

NATO Admiral Hill-Norton's 'Swan Song'

Dec. 8 - "Why Does the Admiral Cry SOS," a commentary by Tass political reporter Vladimir Goncharov is exerpted below.

On the eve of yesterday's press conference of Adm. Peter Hill-Norton, Chairman of the NATO military committee at the NATO headquarters, where the NATO council is currently meeting, journalists were exchanging confidential remarks such as "Admiral Hill-Norton will resign," "The captain of the NATO ship is leaving the bridge," "Hill-Norton's report to the present NATO council session will be the last," and "What will poor old Peter tell us?"

At last the admiral presented himself before journalists assembled to hear his "swan song." He struck an exceedingly gloomy note, judging from the reports of newsmen who heard it.

However, Admiral Hill-Norton lamented not his own

fate and the prospect of wiling away his time by the fireplace. The admiral was anxious about the fate of NATO.

He said that events were developing extremely unfavorably for the North Atlantic bloc, that the Soviet military threat to the West was growing and that Warsaw Pact strength was increasing rapidly while that of NATO slowly; in a word, that the NATO ship was about to sink! SOS! SOS! SOS!

After uttering this naval distress signal, the admiral made a dramatic pause; then an inspired look came into his eyes again.

Reports on the press conference say that in conclusion, Admiral Hill-Norton called on the political leaders of the NATO countries to increase allocations for armaments in order to strengthen the bloc's military potential.

In other words, his final statement means that the NATO ship could avoid being wrecked, but only if the hole in the hull is immediately stopped with dollars, pounds, marks and guldens!

This brought to a close the melodramatic act put on by the British admiral before he retired. However, this bit of theater is unlikely to impress the West European public as Hill-Norton had hoped. It is not the first time such farces are acted out on the NATO stage, each preceding another dangerous spiral in the arms race.

MILITARYSTRATEGY

Furor Over Soviet Civil Defense Program Betrays U.S. Confusion on Soviet Strategic Posture

Dec. 10 (NSIPS) — Major articles appearing in Science magazine and the National Observer this week indicate that the recent report by the Boeing Aerospace Corporation on the Soviet civil defense program has forced the question of Soviet strategic warfighting superiority out of intelligence back rooms and into the public spotlight. The raging debate over Soviet civil defense capabilities and their ongoing development also betrays the fact that most U.S. analysts are attempting to adduce Soviet policy from the available "hard" facts, not from estimations of the significance of those facts in the light of long-standing of oft-stated Soviet strategic policy.

Science, the official weekly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, gives extensive coverage of reactions to the testimony by Boeing analyst Thomas K. Jones, a former member of the U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) staff, that 98 per cent of the Soviet population would survive a nuclear war and that Soviet industry would recover in two to four years, while the U.S. would be devastated for more than a decade. Strongly supporting Jones' analysis

is the leading member of the nuclear-confrontationist Committee on the Present Danger, former Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze. Nitze argued in the January issue of Foreign Affairs that the Air Force M-X, a mobile ICBM, is needed to alleviate the strategic imbalance. According to Science, beyond Nitze and an expert on Soviet civil defense, Prof. Leon Gouré of the University of Miami, Florida, the strongest intelligence agency supporter of the Jones thesis is the Air Force Intelligence Service. The CIA, on the other hand, is reportedly skeptical of realized or planned Soviet advantage, while the Defense Intelligence Agency, which is in overall charge of the armed services' respective intelligence operations and officially responsible for intelligence on targeted Soviet cities and facilities, has taken an intermediate position. The National Observer adds Nobel Laureate and physicist Eugene Wigner, a close associate of Nelson Rockefeller's advisor Dr. Edward Teller, and Conrad Chester, chief of the Emergency Technology Section of Oak Ridge National Laboratoy, to the list of those who concur in the Boeing finding of a decisive "civil defense gap."