Soviets Issue Daily Warnings On Danger Of World War III

The Warsaw Pact nations have given the most urgent warnings of the danger of nuclear war this week in commentary after commentary at the highest levels. Concerted Soviet pressure is being applied to Western Europe in this context, to assist it to break with the source of the war danger — a desperate Carter Administration faced with the bankruptcy of the U.S. dollar.

Lest there be any misunderstandings on this score, Soviet press commentaries have directly compared the Carter government to the out-of-control lunacy of Hitler in the 1930s. Bluntly, the official Soviet news agency Tass told Western Europe it must break with Carter's war policy, or the horror of World War II rubblefields will be repeated many times over; Carter's 'clean' neutron bomb, will result in making Europe an "atomic desert." Another Soviet commentary in the German Democratic Republic daily Neues Deutschland called the fanfare around the neutron bomb a political move on the part of Washington to force Europe to end "European detente," and attacked West German Foreign Minister Genscher for saying there should be no "anti-American overtones" in the debate on the bomb's potential deployment on Western European soil.

The Soviets have moved aggressively for an alternative to war, supporting collaboration for economic development with the Arab nations at the ongoing Belgrade Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Soviet articles have quietly encouraged an open break with the dollar. The party daily *Pravda* Aug. 2 praised West German moves to dump the dollar and the official Czech press *Rude Pravo* Aug. 3 noted with favor anti-dollar possibilities at the OPEC meeting in Vienna.

The first substantial Soviet coverage of the Ethiopia-Somalia dispute has pinned the blame on the United States. The Soviets are making strong efforts to defuse down the war danger on the east African horn, and the Western press reports that the Soviets are "urgently pressing" Somalia for an immediate ceasefire. Both Somali and Ethiopian delegations have recently been in Moscow, where a compromise plan is said to have been broached.

'The Dangerous Course'
by Tass Political Observer Yuri Kornilov,
Moscow, July 29

Six months have gone by since the Administration of the Democratic Party headed by President James Carter came to power in Washington. Six months in our dynamic time is quite a lot. The first results can be summed up.... What has been done in the past six months in the United States to ensure the further favorable development of Soviet-American relations?... Unfortunately, it should be said: Nothing or very little. Moreover, certain steps of the new U.S. Administration represent a reverse movement from progress that has already been scored earlier in Soviet-American relations. And the most dangerous of these steps is the course at the unheard-of spiralling of the Pentagon's military budget, at serial production of the new types of mass destruction weapons, from cruise missiles to barbarous neutron bombs, that is a direct pushing of the world toward another round in the arms race....

...Those in the USA who are launching another round of such a race should be fully aware of the following: yes, the USSR consistently and firmly upholds the cause of peace, the cause of détente, but it did and will never go against interests of its security, and, if it is compelled to, does everything necessary to ensure such security. And let no one in the West have any illusions that the Soviet economy, as they say, "will not bear an additional load" which the supporters of the arms race would like to impose on it. It will bear it, if necessary!

I believe, that now Soviet-American relations have entered such a period, which can be called a decisive one to a certain extent...

And those dangers (of a new arms race — ed.) are quite serious. For the White House — which in the recent period of time grew fond of listening to all kinds of "advice" and "recommendations" from learned historians — it would not be superfluous to turn in this connection to the known historical examples. Let us recall at least the situation in the 1930s in Germany where the policy of unbridled militarization and the arms race was justified by the need to "resist bolshevism" (in our days this term is transformed into the notorious "Soviet threat"). At that time, just as is happening now, some people stated in just the same way that guns would make it possible to maintain peace. The outcome of that militarist policy is well-known.

Washington 'Brings World Closer to Nuclear Holocaust' Tass statement July 30 (Moscow)

...Washington is trying to put on a serious face in proving the advantages of this new type of mass destruction weapon (neutron bomb — ed.) on the grounds that it only kills people, while leaving material values undamaged. This is how "humanism" and "morality" look in Washington's policy.

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One cannot help seeing that those, who are publicizing the neutron charges as allegedly some "clean" weapon of limited effect, are as a matter of fact trying to gloss over the fundamental difference between the conventional and nuclear weapons, instill in the minds of people the idea that the nuclear weapon is no more dangerous than a rifle, and consequently it can be used as simply and easily.

The arguments that the neutron charges are meant for use in the first place as a tactical weapon directly in the battlefield serve the same aims. The calculation is simple here, to prove that its use would not inevitably lead to a large-scale nuclear holocaust.

The inconsistency and danger of such arguments is obvious. Behind them are attempts to justify and substantiate practical actions, that can only bring the world closer to a nuclear holocaust....

The Soviet Union would like to hope that the U.S. leadership is aware of the responsibility it assumes by starting a new round of the arms race, and that sanity and political realism will prevail in Washington.

'Does The FRG Need The U.S. Neutron Bomb?' by Tass Commentator Vladimir Senchenkov, Moscow July 31

A wave of alarm has swept the Federal Republic of Germany in connection with the decision of the Senate of the U.S. Congress to appropriate funds for the manufacture of neutron warheads....

...General J. Steinhoff, who recently held the post of Chief of the NATO Military Committee, who can hardly be rated among advocates of détente, warned in one of his recent interviews that the creation of the neutron bomb, this small version of the nuclear weapon, tempts the use of it in combat and thus makes war a possibility. One cannot help asking in this connection, for what special advantages for the FRG as a result of deployment of neutron warheads in its territory does (West German Social Democrat — ed.) Werner hope? Doesn't it seem to him an "advantage" that if a conflict is provoked it will be the FRG itself, which is the nuclear arsenal of the USA, that would first be turned into an atomic desert?

Real Threat of a New War, Says Soviet Navy's Commander

Agence France Presse Wire appearing in the Colombian daily El Pueblo Aug. 2

(AFP)-Moscow — "As long as imperialism exists, there exists the real threat of a new war" said the Commander of the Soviet Navy Admiral Gorshkov July 31. "The imperialist states, which are increasing their armaments, increasing their military budgets and creating new offensive weapons are threatening peoples," he said on the occasion of Soviet Navy Day.

"Under these conditions the primary task of the Soviet Navy is always to be ready to defend the sea borders and guarantee the interests of the State."

Gorshkov reaffirmed that the Soviet Navy "executes its sacred duty to defend the peaceful work of the people."

He said that the putting into use of the first Soviet aircraft carriers had "considerably raised the military capacity of the naval forces of the Soviet surface."

Writing in *Pravda*, July 31, Gorshkov criticized the Atlantic Alliance and especially the "increase of military budgets of NATO countries and the creation of new arms systems."

Gorshkov wrote: "The rejection of the NATO command of following the road of détente obliges the Soviet Union to take measures, as a consequence, to strengthen its defense."

He also discussed the ways of Soviet naval warfare and defined as one of its "primary functions," the "development of its submarines equipped with different types of missiles that can reach any point in the world ocean."

'Oil Multinationals' Responsible For African Tensions

Top Soviet Mideast commentator V. Kudryavtsev Aug. 2 blamed the Ethiopia-Somalia dispute directly on the United States. The African Horn crisis, he charged in the government paper *Izvestia*, is part of Washington's policy of stirring up "nationalism" and "separatism" as tools to achieve "balkanization" of the Middle East and Africa. This policy is designed to allow the U.S. to rule "through the hands of others."

Kudryavtsev warned that the U.S. will set up conflicts and "even wars" to dismember Ethiopia and "render progressive Somalia helpless, if possible through the same hands."

In the past, wrote Kudryavtsev, the "oil multinationals" (Rockefeller) have used this same strategy to incite the Biafra-Nigeria war and to split the oil-rich Cabinda province off from the People's Republic of Angola.

'The Salvation of Humanity'

In an August 3 news interview carried by the Cuban Press Service Prensa Latina, Bulgarian head of state Todor Zhivkov warned that "détente has not yet acquired an irreversible character," and "on the contrary, parallel to this, the arms race is intensifying."

The Zhivkov interview, which appeared in all the Bulgarian media, focused on the importance of Warsaw Pact initiatives to prevent world catastrophe: "The Soviet Union's proposals to end the arms race," he declared, "stem from human considerations for the defense of world peace and the salvation of humanity from the obvious catastrophe that a third world war would be."