

strated, sparking a protest march of 30,000, under slogans calling for an improved supply of food and consumer goods, more democracy, and replacement of the leadership. The march culminated in an attempt to storm the building of the provincial government in Titograd. Many injuries were reported from the ensuing clashes with police and militia.

In the Jan. 12 protest, as many as 120,000 people poured into Titograd from across the republic, and besieged government buildings.

Tanjug, the federal news agency, said the entire Montenegro government tendered a collective resignation, as did Montenegrin delegates on the Yugoslav Politburo and a Montenegrin member of Yugoslavia's collective state presidency.

Unrest is also reported in other parts of the country, primarily from the larger cities Split, Zagreb, Undine, and Dubrovnik.

Gorbachov warns against 'panic'

Mikhail Gorbachov has issued his second warning in as many days against "panic" in the Soviet Union about the collapsing economy. "There is no basis for pessimism, dependency, let alone panic," he told a group of Russian intellectuals Jan. 6.

Gorbachov attacked both the left and right opposition to *perestroika* after he was compelled to admit that the economic and social structures of the empire are breaking apart.

"In the latest period," he said, "we saw a very critical evaluation about the situation coming from the population, from the press, and some experts. People have denounced the lack of food in the shops, the lack of merchandise in general, the queues in front of the shopping centers, and the lack of apartments. People tend to identify these problems with *perestroika*, but it is not responsible. The heavy heritage of the past is guilty."

Meanwhile, Gorbachov's reforms have been attacked, and the KGB called upon to shut down civilian unrest, in a series of

"reader's letters" to Soviet newspapers. Apparently leading as a mouthpiece of calls for a Stalinist solution is *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya*, whose editors reported that "many such letters" had arrived.

"I think," wrote one reader from Dagestan, in the Russian Republic, "that in Stalin's time, the fight against such phenomena was conducted more efficiently." The police and secret police should begin to intervene, he wrote. "You were supplied with weapons and power. Act as the situation requires, therefore."

Soviets tighten AIDS testing of foreigners

Effective Feb. 1, foreigners visiting the Soviet Union for more than three months will have to undergo an AIDS test unless they can produce a certificate proving they are free of the disease, the Foreign Ministry announced in the second week of January.

Spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said that anyone carrying the AIDS virus will be "requested" to leave the country. "The Soviet Union is still lagging behind in terms of AIDS cases and we do not want to catch up. Hence our concern."

By the end of 1988, some 17 million Soviet citizens had been tested, of which only 112 carriers are officially reported. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet had decreed compulsory AIDS testing for both Soviet citizens and foreigners in August 1987. Gerasimov said that the new regulations adopted Jan. 5 were a modification of the 1987 decree. It is not clear from Gerasimov's statement whether the U.S.S.R. intends to begin testing at all the country's ports, airports, and land borders on Feb. 1.

All Soviet citizens who leave the U.S.S.R. for more than a month are also to be tested upon their return, cancer researcher Dr. Nikolai Trepeznikov told a London *Guardian* correspondent in Italy.

The *Guardian* notes that the World Health Organization is opposed to any form of screening for the HIV virus—but will the WHO, which is Soviet-dominated, oppose the Soviet move?

Briefly

● **KRASNAYA ZVEZDA** (*Red Star*), the Red Army newspaper, reported unprecedented criticism of top Soviet military leaders, at a meeting of the "party committees and activists of the General Staff." "Meaningful criticism" was leveled at four of the five deputy chiefs of staff.

● **SIKH MILITANTS**, pledged to avenge the execution of Indira Gandhi's assassins, gunned down 14 Hindus in two attacks in the north Indian state of Punjab on Jan. 7. The assassins had been executed a day earlier in New Delhi. In one atrocity, the Sikhs shot dead 10 poor farmers, and in another, killed four brick kiln workers.

● **SAUDI DIPLOMATS** are being assassinated by Islamic terrorist groups thought to be linked to Iran. The groups claiming responsibility are the Soldiers of Justice and the Islamic Holy War in Hejaz. The latest casualty was a secretary at the Saudi Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand.

● **ISRAEL** and China will increase contact through their United Nations ambassadors, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said Jan. 9. This is one result of "hallway meetings" at the Jan. 7-11 chemical weapons conference in Paris. Arens met with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen there. Israel and China do not enjoy diplomatic relations, but have extensive ties in the areas of arms and drugs.

● **JAPANESE** Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno will visit Moscow in May. In March, a working group on a Japan-Soviet peace treaty will meet in Tokyo. Ministerial talks are ongoing around five bilateral accords suggested by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze during his December visit: environment, space utilization, economic cooperation, investment, and banking.