

International Intelligence

Soviet general demands NATO military cuts

Speaking to parliamentarians meeting in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 7, from a podium shared with NATO Supreme Commander Gen. John Galvin, Soviet Gen. Vladimir Lobov, commander of the Warsaw Pact, demanded cuts in NATO military capability.

"I reaffirm eye to eye that we're not just talking about things. We're doing them and we expect something from you," he told parliamentarians from the North Atlantic Assembly. Soviet cuts in weaponry and soldiers were proof that Moscow "wanted to exclude war from the lives of people," he said. The speech marked the first time that the military commanders of the two blocs have shared a stage.

Lobov continued, "We don't kill people, we don't capture territory. We destroy military technology. This is an achievement of human thought. But you, tell us how you're doing that. Nothing yet."

General Galvin pointed out that unilateral cuts are not binding on anyone, and added that "although our expectations have been high, we see little decrease yet in the level of combat power available to the East."

Lobov snapped back, "Maybe he would like nobody to stand against the bloc at all. Maybe he would like just one bloc, NATO. . . . I understand these concerns . . . but we cannot ly. We need some sort of move on your side."

Hungarian communists change party name

The ruling Hungarian Social Workers Party voted itself out of existence on Oct. 7 and created a socialist party that says it supports Western-style democracy.

The delegates voted with an overwhelming majority to rename the party the Hungarian Socialist Party, with a program for a "gradual transition" to "democratic socialism." The new program announces the goal

of a "market economy" with "mixed property ownership," and the elimination of state subsidies to enterprises—a major condition for the nearly 1.5 billion deutschmarks in credits Hungary has received in September alone, via West Germany.

The program also declares Hungary an "independent . . . sovereign state," but specifies that "the basic element of foreign policy" is Hungary's relationship to the Soviet Union, which is defined as Hungary's "most important ally and partner." Hungary will remain in the Warsaw Pact.

Delegates voted to abolish the Central Committee and the Politburo, but will have a broad executive of 21 members, and a top executive of 4, chaired by Rezso Nyers. These measures prompted the first formal split, as the party's orthodox wing, led by former Politburo member and ideology secretary Janos Berecz, and former General Secretary Karoly Grosz, have refused to join the new party, and have declared that the old party still exists.

The "radical reformist wing," grouped around President Imre Pozsgay, Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth, and Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, lost a key vote on permitting party organizations in the economic enterprises.

Dalai Lama charges P.R.C. with genocide

The Tibetan Dalai Lama, upon winning the Nobel Peace Prize, charged the People's Republic of China with practicing a form of "genocide" by relocating millions of Chinese settlers to Tibet.

"Tibetans today are facing the real possibility of elimination as a people and a nation," said the exiled spiritual leader in his acceptance speech in California on Oct. 10. Communist China denounced the Nobel decision as "interference in China's internal affairs."

The Oct. 10 *People's Daily* said that the Nobel Peace Prize had become "a tool for certain people in Western countries to achieve their secret purpose. The West's scheme . . . is to whip up and support the

Dalai Lama clique in their plot to destroy China's unity of nationalities and split the motherland."

Liberia resumes relations with Taiwan

The Republic of China formally resumed full diplomatic relations with Liberia on Oct. 2, Taiwanese Foreign Minister Lien Chan announced on Oct. 2.

The Communist government in Beijing reacted on Oct. 10 by breaking diplomatic relations with Liberia. The official New China News Agency quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that Liberian Ambassador Christopher Ricks was called into the ministry and told that diplomatic relations were suspended.

A Liberian embassy official said Liberia wanted relations with both the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan. The R.O.C. recently agreed to provide more than \$200 million in aid to Liberia for education and road construction.

Members of the pro-democracy movement, writing from Hong Kong, described the news as a significant diplomatic victory for the R.O.C. and predicted that many more will follow. "Liberia is an African country and the P.R.C. is supposed to be the leader of Third World countries. No doubt this is made possible because of the economic aid promised by the R.O.C.; no such aid can be afforded by the P.R.C. The P.R.C. will have to face the problem of 'dual recognition' or diplomatic retreat [as] this severance will only encourage other Third World countries which are in need of money to follow suit."

Pope demands religious freedom for Ukraine

Pope John Paul II called on the Kremlin to legalize the Ukrainian Catholic Church, while speaking to a synod of exiled Ukrainian bishops at the Vatican Oct. 5, prior to leaving for a visit to South Korea.

Briefly

The Soviet authorities should "resolve the problem which they have ignored for decades. . . . The campaign of hostility and accusations carried out against [the Church] and its pastors does not help the outcome of reforms, it hinders them. Without the legalization of the Ukrainian community," the Pope said, "the process of democratization will never be complete."

At a mass for 750,000 people in Seoul on Oct. 8, the Pope said he wanted to visit the People's Republic of China, where millions of Catholics are believed to belong to an underground Church, Reuters reports.

The Pope expressed "deep affection, hope and sorrow" for the people of Communist North Korea. Vatican officials said there had been no response to an invitation by the Vatican and the South Korean government to North Korean Catholics to attend the mass.

The mass ended the 44th Eucharistic Congress in Seoul, attended by more than 100,000 foreign delegates and gave the Pope the chance to meet for the first time bishops from Vietnam and Burma where the Catholic Church survives with difficulty.

Holocaust prepared against Soviet Jews

Soviet Jewish refusenik Ida Nudel warned that a holocaust is being prepared against Jews in the Soviet Union, in an interview with the *Sunday Telegraph* of London Oct. 8. "The situation in the Soviet Union now is exactly like before Kristallnacht," the murderous November 1938 Nazi attack on Jews, she said.

Nudel said the situation is made worse by the Western attitude toward Mikhail Gorbachov, whose reforms she regards as a brilliant ruse that has been completely swallowed in the West. Asked whether emigrés from the U.S.S.R. feel homesick, she replied, "Sure people feel homesick. But one trip back and they are cured forever."

Soviet Jews panicked when the U.S. decision to restrict Soviet Jewish emigration went into effect on Oct. 1. U.S. embassy officials in Moscow handed out 30,500 visa

applications in two hours, and expected to print up to a million more, but only about 70-80,000 applicants will be accepted. "The Jews of the Soviet Union are in a panic," declared Micah Naftalin, Washington director of the U.S. Council for Soviet Jewry.

The new system favors people with close relatives already in the United States, and those who belong to groups that the U.S. government considers persecuted. But the Bush administration is reclassifying certain groups as "non-persecuted." The French daily *Le Figaro* reported Oct. 4 that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III that since Soviet Jews now have the right to emigrate, they were no longer classifiable as "refugees."

A political obituary for Britain's Thatcher

The British interest rate increase was barely in effect, when the Oct. 7 London *Economist* wrote a political obituary for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as its cover story, entitled, "Go? Did Someone Say Go?" with a picture of an inquisitive-looking Mrs. Thatcher holding an earphone to her ear.

The editorial sarcastically comments that Friday, Oct. 13 will be Mrs. Thatcher's 64th birthday. Conservative Party stalwarts gathered that day for the party's annual conference "will wave their Union Jacks and sway to the strains of Happy Birthday."

"If the faithful still think that age has not withered her, the rest of the British electorate thinks it detects more than a few wrinkles, more than a little greying at the temples. . . . What has long been her government's strongest hand—an air of competence in its management of the economy—is now short of winning cards." Noting that inflation is rising, the current account deficit is becoming alarmingly large, and unemployment is on the rise, the *Economist* says, "If a miracle has been achieved, it is currently well hidden."

The *Economist* says that "Mrs. Thatcher's departure might be good for Britain," but, "She should not go yet."

● **DMITRI YAZOV**, the Soviet defense minister, spent his first free morning in the U.S. at the Civil War battleground in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Was he thinking about an upcoming civil war in the Soviet Union? was the question posed by the *Times* of London Oct. 4.

● **BRONISLAW GEREMEK**, chairman of the Solidarnosc caucus in the Polish Parliament, announced Oct. 10 that he is confident that Poland "will regain its freedom and independence, like Finland." He called on Poles to recall the period of 1918, when the nation was reconstituted after nearly 150 years of partition and occupation by Russia, Austria, and Prussia.

● **THE INTERNATIONAL** Institute of Strategic Studies contends in a new report that if Mikhail Gorbachov carries out the cuts in conventional military forces he has promised, "The unilateral reductions will . . . virtually eliminate the surprise-attack threat which has so long concerned NATO planners."

● **BLACK SABBATH**, the Satanic heavy metal rock group, canceled a scheduled appearance in Bangkok on Oct. 11, due to lack of political and financial support. The Thai government had issued a restraining order to the rock-pop press not to carry any news on the group, and it could not find a company sponsor.

● **A U.S. CIVILIAN** seaman, Jeffrey Rogers, was killed at his home near the Subic Bay Naval base in the Philippines on Oct. 10.

● **THE ELN GUERRILLAS** in Colombia assassinated Msgr. Jesús Emilio Jaramillo Monsalve, the first time a high Church official has been killed by the terrorists. The guerrillas said he was a traitor to the revolutionary cause and defender of the oil multinationals.