

Mikhail Gorbachev meets Prime Minister of Norway

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met in the Kremlin on December 5 Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway and Chairwoman of the Norwegian Labour Party.

The sides discussed in a friendly and frank atmosphere a wide range of issues of bilateral relations and international affairs.

"We want our neighbours to understand us better," said Mikhail Gorbachev, "we want to be friends with Norway as well. Should questions or misunderstandings arise, address us directly, we are ready to resolve them in our mutual interests. The same applies to issues connected with the continental shelf and the division of economic zones in the Barents Sea. We have no evil intent with regard to Norway. Sympathy for its people is long-standing in our country. The coolness that is observed in Norway's attitude to the Soviet Union has no justification whatsoever. It is abnormal that the two countries have not had top-level contacts for nearly 15 years."

The sides agreed to continue the dialogue and maintain constructive, meaningful ties both at state and party levels—between the CPSU and the Norwegian Labour Party, and between representatives of the CPSU and Gro Harlem Brundtland as Vice-President of the Socialist International.

Mikhail Gorbachev, observing that this was their first meeting and that he wished his interlocutor to have a better idea of the philosophical foundations of the Soviet Union's foreign policy, set out the Soviet leadership's views of the present-day world.

The overall situation is explosive, but it also has vast opportunities for detente and co-operation inherent in it. In order to realise these opportunities it is necessary to discard notions characteristic of the past, that international politics can be determined by the interests of one power or of a group of powers.

Hundreds of countries with their distinctive features and distinctions have emerged on the world scene. And their right to independence, to independent politics, to their own social choice should be taken into consideration. The violation of this fundamental rule is the source of conflicts and tension. But the Soviet Union is guided by this rule and will uphold it everywhere and in front of everyone. In this connection Mikhail Gorbachev assessed the significance of his visit to India and the essence of the Soviet Union's relations with that great country, relations which are based on unconditional equality, respect for national dignity and understanding of each other's interests.

Another reality that is at the basis of the Soviet Union's foreign policy is the vital need for ending

the arms race. There is no time to be lost. If the military-industrial complex succeeds in involving a large part of the US economy in the development of SDI, no talks will help.

The interlocutors share a common awareness of the need for joint actions in the struggle for detente. The notion of "universal security" and the notion of "joint security" advanced by the Palme Commission are in fact identical.

But following Reykjavik Western Europe assumed a vague stand, Mikhail Gorbachev said. Moreover, as soon as the shift towards nuclear disarmament started, certain West European leaders took fright. And the US Administration assumed a direct course at removing the consequences of Reykjavik. All its actions, including the latest one, the breach of the SALT-2 Treaty, leave no room for doubt in this matter.

The Soviet Union will never go back on Reykjavik. The Reykjavik summit brought the situation with the arms race to an absolutely new level, and the way from it can and must only be forward. Mme. Brundtland agreed with such a stand.

Mikhail Gorbachev also said that the Soviet Union does not intend to disrupt the talks on nuclear arms, losing a sense of realism. "But we shall consent to possible agreements going into operation only if we have full confidence that the ABM Treaty is observed. This, specifically, is the basis for our package of mutual concessions and mutual interests. We have understanding for Western Europe's interest in the elimination of medium-range missiles but Europeans must make their contribution too. We made very serious concessions and we have a moral and political right to reciprocity," Mikhail Gorbachev said.

The question of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear testing, whose term of operation expires soon, came up for discussion. Mikhail Gorbachev said that the Soviet leadership was pondering on how it should act and noted that the Western public had a tendency to make requests and demands only on the Soviet Union to continue the moratorium. Meanwhile, for some reason, they do not apply the same persistence in demanding that the US stop their explosions. And so the following situation develops: everybody is for universal security, but it is only the Soviet Union that should wage the struggle for this with the United States. The West, too,

should make readjustments in this sense, and should not count only on the Soviet Union's readjustments.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Gro Harlem Brundtland exchanged opinions on environmental problems, and on the possibilities and prospects for joint solutions to these problems on a truly international level.

Mikhail Gorbachev informed Gro Harlem Brundtland of the conclusions which the Soviet leadership had drawn from the Chernobyl accident. He expressed the hope that the positive process started by the recent IAEA conference would gather strength and would help to ensure safe utilisation of nuclear energy.

Having briefly described the internal transformations in the Soviet Union as one of the principles of the dynamic foreign policy of the Soviet leadership, Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out the importance of this policy to other countries as well. This policy was meeting with increasing understanding in the world. He had become convinced of this once again during the visit to India.

"However hard we are hindered in our endeavours, and whatever 'versions' are invented to frustrate our plans, we are convinced of the correctness of such policy and we shall persistently implement it. At the same time, no one will manage to make use of our interest in peace in order to compel us to waive our security.

"Notwithstanding the entire complexity of the situation, it is easy for us, in a certain sense of the word, to pursue this course: our conscience is clear. We do what we say, and do not waste energy on thinking up crafty designs against the negotiating partner, and do not intend to use the confidentiality of the talks as a cover to draw him into a trap."

The conversation revealed a large degree of mutual understanding on the main, most topical problems of disarmament and European security, as well as on environmental protection issues—to the resolution of which Gro Harlem Brundtland makes a great and universally-recognised personal contribution.

Also present during the meeting were Anatoli Kovalyov, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Kjell Vibe, Permanent Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, and Olav Bucher-Johannessen, the Ambassador of Norway to the USSR. □

Mikhail Gorbachev meets theatre workers

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV on December 3 met a group of leading theatre workers and chairmen of the theatrical organisations of the union republics.

Dwelling on the key tasks of the country's development, Mikhail Gorbachev drew the group's attention to the need to use the entire potential of Soviet art for educating people, for renewing the intellectual atmosphere with a view to achieving a qualitatively new status of society.

In his statement, he stressed the need for creating highly artistic plays which would reveal real processes taking place in the USSR's life and the efforts to carry out the plans.

The Party intends to go ahead with the vigorous social policy directed at perfecting social relations, facilitating the renewal of forms and methods of work in the intellectual sphere and

promoting democracy in every way.

The results of the activity of creative organisations should be measured in new works of talent.

The meeting's participants unanimously approved the CPSU's foreign and domestic policy and the Soviet peace initiatives. They stressed the increased role of art in present-day Soviet society and the lofty civic responsibility of every creative worker for the preservation and enhancement of the country's spiritual wealth.

The meeting was attended by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Alexander Yakovlev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. □

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Mikhail Gorbachev greets US-Soviet Trade and Economic Council

HERE follows the full text of Mikhail Gorbachev's message of greetings:

To the participants in the 10th annual meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council:

I convey my greetings to the participants in the 10th annual meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council in New York.

You have gathered at a moment of crucial importance for our countries and the whole of mankind. Today every one of us, a politician or a businessman, an American or a Russian, must go beyond the framework of the customary, feel in full measure the responsibility for the choice of the future.

Today one cannot walk away from concrete answers to the looming questions of war and peace. We in the Soviet Union are convinced that these should be bold and honest answers, the

only ones worthy of the strict criteria of the new political thinking in the nuclear age. Now, after the meeting in Reykjavik, everybody knows how far the Soviet Union is prepared to go for the sake of saving people from the threat of nuclear annihilation. I would like to hope that the hand extended by us will feel the warmth of another hand and not the cold of space weapons.

Correct, reasonable decisions are taken not in the heat of campaigns of kindling hostility for another nation, but in an atmosphere of the consolidation of trust and the development of mutually advantageous co-operation. Businessmen from the USSR and the US can make a substantial contribution to the creation of the most favourable atmosphere for the cause of peace. Durable and stable trade and economic ties between our two countries should become a positive factor in the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

The USSR is entering a new stage of economic development. We adopted unprecedented plans of restructuring the Soviet economy, its dramatic

renewal and modernisation. We take into account the possibility of the participation in this undertaking of foreign firms, including American ones. Measures to improve the system of foreign economic ties taken in the Soviet Union open up new prospects for co-operation.

Yet, understandably, real progress in all that can be made only on condition of equality and mutual benefit, by removing the obstacles put up in the way of normalising our trade and economic relations.

The American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council is an authoritative joint forum designed to contribute actively to the development of business ties between our countries. It can and must make a real impact on the climate in Soviet-American relations.

I wish fruitful work to the participants in the regular meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council.

Mikhail Gorbachev

Nikolai Ryzhkov receives Armand Hammer

NIKOLAI RYZHKOV, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, received in the Kremlin last Saturday Armand Hammer, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Occidental Petroleum Corporation, at the latter's request.

During the exchange of views on Soviet-American relations it was noted that the meeting of the leaders of both countries in Reykjavik, by charting a realistic road to a nuclear-free future, had opened up unprecedented opportunities for resolving the most urgent problems facing mankind.

That is why the central task in relations between the two countries, and of the entire international community, too, is to preserve the

positive element of Reykjavik and to obstruct the efforts of the enemies of nuclear disarmament to hurl the world back to positions that have no prospects. The Soviet Union most emphatically stands for moving ahead on the basis of what has been achieved and for searching jointly for mutually acceptable agreements.

Headway on key security issues, Nikolai Ryzhkov said, would have a favourable impact on the entire complex of Soviet-American relations, including the commercial and economic sphere. The vast socio-economic development plans currently being implemented in the Soviet Union and the switch to new forms of co-operation with other countries were creating felicitous conditions for the expansion of commercial and economic ties. However, Washington's discriminatory policy and all kinds of artificial bans and restrictions remained a

stumbling block in relations with the United States in that field.

Armand Hammer reaffirmed the growing interest of American business in an improved business relationship with their Soviet partners in trade, especially involving the use of new forms of economic ties. Of decisive importance for this would be an improvement in the political atmosphere in relations between the two countries and steps towards the realisation of the possible accords that appeared in Reykjavik which deal with the fundamental questions of war and peace.

The sides also examined concrete measures for the further development of bilateral co-operation between Soviet agencies and Occidental Petroleum Corporation, including matters related to the establishment of joint enterprises. □

Yegor Ligachev meets Chairman of Finnish Centre Party

"THE good-neighbourly relations between the Soviet Union and Finland are an example of the practical implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems," Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has pointed out.

He had a meeting in Moscow last Friday with Paavo Vaeyrynen, Chairman of Finland's Centre Party, who headed a delegation from that party which was on a visit to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

Ligachev described the CPSU's stand on present-day international problems, stressing the need for establishing constructive interaction among states and peoples, political parties and all public forces in order to avert the nuclear-space threat.

Vaeyrynen highly assessed the CPSU leadership's efforts in the campaign for peace, for the elimination of arms, wars and the war menace,

and stressed the great importance of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world, advanced during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to India.

He said that the Centre Party would continue to work actively for peace, detente and disarmament.

Special attention would be given to consolidating relations of trust and friendship with the USSR as the basis of Finland's foreign policy, he added.

COMMUNIQUE

THE need to use the opportunities established at the Reykjavik meeting for radical nuclear arms reductions, and the importance of actions towards nuclear disarmament and prevention of the emplacement of arms in space, are emphasised in a communique published in Moscow on December 5 on the results of the visit of the delegation from Finland's Centre Party. The delegation visited the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and stayed from December 1 to December 5.

The delegations pointed out the coincidence of the stands of both parties in the assessment of the international situation. They expressed satisfaction over the fact that an understanding on a meaningful and balanced final document had been achieved at the Stockholm Conference. This and the experience of other European meetings since the Madrid meeting create favourable conditions for holding a meeting in Vienna. The sides expressed the hope that at that meeting an arrangement will be reached on advancing the process of the Conference for Security and Co-operation in Europe in all spheres, above all on extending the mandate of the Stockholm Conference and spreading it to measures for disarmament.

Both sides believe that successful continuation of the European process is important. The representatives of the CPSU and of the Centre Party expressed their support for the proposal of President Mauno Koivisto on measures of confidence building in the military sphere in Northern Europe and adjoining seas.

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Meeting of Political Bureau of CPSU Central Committee

AT ITS meeting on December 4, the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed and fully endorsed the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's official friendly visit to India.

The extremely warm welcome that the Indian people and Government accorded to the Soviet guest was noted. The most important problems of the present, questions of the interaction of the two great peaceful powers in removing the threat of nuclear war and in upgrading all-round Soviet-Indian co-operation, had been deeply analysed during talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The loyalty of the two countries to the 1971 Soviet-Indian Treaty, whose consistent implementation sets a convincing example of the beneficial importance of peaceful coexistence of two states with different social systems, both for themselves and for international relations as a whole, has been confirmed. The Soviet-Indian summit meeting in Delhi showed again the closeness of the views of the two countries on the main international questions. As a result of it, co-operation between the Soviet Union and India in bilateral and international affairs has reached qualitatively new levels.

The Delhi Declaration on the principles of a world free from nuclear weapons and violence is a document of new political thinking suiting the conditions of the nuclear space age. The principles and ideas formulated in it express the interests of the entire world community, the aspirations and hopes of all peoples, and are aimed at achieving a peaceful future for

humanity. The USSR and India, and many other countries, have already been implementing them in their concrete foreign policy practice.

The talks between Mikhail Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi confirmed their common interest in improving the political climate on the Asian continent and in other areas, and the readiness to seek settlement of conflict situations, normalisation of inter-state relations and development of mutually advantageous economic ties. The advance to these aims could be made stage-by-stage, through creating an atmosphere of confidence and constructive co-operation on a bilateral and multilateral basis.

The entire atmosphere of the visit, the nature of the talks and, particularly, the dialogue between the two leaders and the documents adopted as a result, attest to the unique character of the relations taking shape between these two great powers that belong to different social systems. They attest to the huge importance of the co-operation between them and the broad prospects for it, to the benefit of their own peoples and for the sake of universal progress and peace.

A detailed resolution has been adopted which instructs ministries and departments, in contact with their Indian partners, to embark without delay on the implementation of arrangements and agreements reached in the economic, scientific, technological and cultural spheres, by acting with initiative and in a creative spirit, taking into account present-day requirements.

The Political Bureau heard a report on the conversations that Mikhail Gorbachev and

Nikolai Ryzhkov had with the Netherlands' Prime Minister Rudolph Lubbers and on the results of the Soviet-Netherlands talks. It was noted that the talks had given a new impetus to the development of mutually advantageous co-operation between the Soviet Union and the Netherlands, and the readiness was expressed for further developing dialogue with West European countries with the aim of seeking solutions to topical problems of European and universal security.

Having discussed the results of the talks between the Soviet leaders and Mathieu Kerekou, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Party of the People's Revolution of Benin and President of the People's Republic of Benin, the Political Bureau pointed to the community of views of the leadership of the two countries on ways of improving the international situation, specifically on the direct dependence of economic development on disarmament. The Soviet Union's principled line at further consolidation of friendship and co-operation with the People's Republic of Benin and other newly-free countries that have chosen the progressive road of development was confirmed.

The meeting discussed a report on the friendly visit of a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Ivan Kapitonov, to the Socialist Republic of Romania. The meeting also discussed some other questions concerned with implementing the economic policy set out by the 27th CPSU Congress, developing production and improving supply to the population, and deepening co-operation with fraternal socialist countries. □

Alexander Bessmertnykh's statement at press conference

AT a press conference in Moscow on Monday Alexander Bessmertnykh, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, made the following statement:

Events whose consequences may have the most serious impact on the further development of the international situation have been taking place lately in the field connected with strategic stability in the world.

The United States has not only announced its rejection of the 1972 Interim Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty, but also exceeded in practice one of the main limitations recorded in that Treaty by putting into combat service the I31st bomber equipped to carry cruise missiles. Thereby the United States took a provocative step without precedent, designed to wreck the treaty structure of limiting the arms race.

Washington has come out in the role of violator of the process of the cardinal reduction and liquidation of nuclear arms.

The present administration was brought to the flouting of the SALT-2 Treaty by the logic of its attitude to the fundamental problems of security. This logic is based on an obsolete stereotype of old thinking as though one's own security can be ensured at the expense of the security of others.

Also manifesting itself here is the peculiar logic of American diplomacy, when one set of things is said for the public and different things are done in practice. Look for yourselves:

In Reykjavik the President of the United

States gave his consent to the liquidation of all strategic offensive arms within the framework of an agreed-upon period. But now the United States opens the floodgates for an unlimited race precisely in these arms.

In Geneva, the American delegation says that it proceeds from instructions to "move ahead". But in reality it is not taking a single step towards accord and is putting a brake on the talks.

In Washington they are talking much about the importance of an "atmosphere of trust". Yet in practice they are leading things to growing unpredictability in the development of the strategic situation and suspicion in relations between states.

While declaring that SDI would allegedly make nuclear weapons unnecessary, the USA has set out to build up its nuclear potential both qualitatively and quantitatively.

To sum it all up, one can say that the current US Administration, which does not have to its credit a single agreement on arms control, is wrecking the agreements in effect in that field, is setting records in military spending, is initiating an arms race in outer space and leading things to undermining the ABM Treaty too.

There is a quite definite impression that in Washington they are in a hurry to bind a future administration with mutual responsibility in the field of the arms race.

In these conditions the Soviet Government had all grounds, one may say, to relieve itself automatically of the respective commitments under the Treaty and the Agreement being demolished by the Americans.

But the Soviet leadership has thoroughly weighed up the political, military and moral aspects of the evolving situation and arrived at

the conclusion that it is necessary to apply additional efforts to ward off the threat of slipping down the road leading to strategic chaos for mankind.

In this connection, the Soviet Government has stated that the USSR refrains for the time being from withdrawing from the restrictions under the SALT-1 Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty.

In taking such a serious decision, the Soviet Union proceeds from the enormous importance of the matter for all humankind, and from those noble and humane motives which stand behind the Soviet programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, behind our unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions and behind the large-scale, compromise proposals made by the USSR in Reykjavik.

The Soviet side gives the leadership of the United States an opportunity to weigh once again with all responsibility the possible consequences of its actions, to heed the unanimous opinion of the international community and the sober voices coming from political and public quarters, in the US included. The Soviet Government's decision is also a call upon the US Administration to show genuine restraint, to stop and refrain from steps that would finally derail the agreements on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments. There still exists a way out of the existing situation, it is still possible to take measures that would prevent an uncontrollable build-up in the strategic offensive arms.

As to the Soviet Union's future line, we will continue pursuing persistently a peaceful and dynamic foreign policy, but, as Mikhail Gorbachev said a few days ago, "No one shall be able to exploit our interest in peace to make us forgo our security." □

SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

THE following is the full text of the Soviet Government statement published in Moscow on December 5:

The other day, the United States additionally put into service the 131st heavy bomber equipped to carry long-range cruise missiles without dismantling an equivalent nuclear-weapon delivery vehicle in compensation.

By taking this step, it overstepped the aggregate limit, fixed by the SALT-2 Treaty, of 1,320 units on the number of MIRVed strategic ballistic missile launchers and cruise missile-armed heavy bombers.

The US does not conceal that this amounts to its total abandonment of the SALT-2 Treaty, which, as the American Administration put it, was left behind it. Therefore practical actions followed President Reagan's statement last May about the intention to break out of the 1972 Interim Agreement and the 1979 SALT-2 Treaty, a statement that drew anxiety and condemnation from around the world.

A treaty which has sealed military parity between the USSR and the United States and limited the nuclear arms race for a whole number of years in its central area—the field of strategic offensive arms—has now been trampled underfoot. The value and usefulness of this agreement consisted in its provisions on the sides' commitments to observe both quantitative and qualitative restrictions on their strategic nuclear systems. The SALT-2 Treaty provided for substantially narrowing the possibilities to modernise these systems. Besides, it set corresponding limits on the main groups of strategic systems. Compliance with all these provisions, based on the sides' recognition of the principle of equality and equal security, ensured strategic stability and served as the point of departure in the search for ways of limiting and eliminating nuclear weapons.

The decision to beef up the US arsenal of strategic systems and violate the SALT-2 Treaty has been dictated by nothing other than a desire by Washington to upset the military balance between the USSR and the United States and assure itself of military superiority. These actions are fraught with serious consequences for international security.

By undertaking them, the United States opens the door to an unlimited race in strategic nuclear arms, which will inevitably sharpen the dangerous rivalry in the military field. The refusal to abide by the agreed restrictions on the quantitative growth and qualitative modernisation of strategic offensive nuclear arms can make the situation unpredictable.

The United States has dealt the final blow to the SALT-2 Treaty now, but it has been undercutting it for more than a year. In the very first days after taking over the White House the Reagan Administration gave up for lost the Treaty's ratification. At the same time it launched activities that were in clear violation of the SALT-2 Treaty. Ignoring the special restrictions set by the Protocol to the Treaty for example, the United States has started mass deployments of long-range cruise missiles. Washington has obviously circumvented the Treaty also by stationing its medium-range missiles in Western Europe as a supplement to the US strategic potential.

Work has forged ahead full tilt, in the meantime, to carry out an unprecedented programme for modernising and building up strategic offensive arms in all areas, with new MX and Midgetman inter-continental ballistic missiles, B-1B and Stealth strategic bombers and nuclear-powered submarines with Trident-1 and

Trident-2 missiles being developed and built.

Washington's attitude to the issue of stopping nuclear weapons testing has been a vivid manifestation of the militarist fever gripping it. The United States has not only refused to follow the example of the Soviet Union and declare a moratorium on nuclear explosions, but has also been reluctant to discuss the issue and declined to go into talks whose aim would be a complete and ultimate end to nuclear weapons testing.

The SALT-2 Treaty was of course a serious impediment to all these militarist programmes. This is why in Washington they decided to do away with it once and for all.

The military-industrial bosses' interests, connected with the development of a large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements and of space strike weapons, enter into conflict with the ABM Treaty in just the same manner.

By means of the 'Star Wars' programme the United States wants to extend the spiral of the arms race over to outer space and to convert outer space into a military citadel and staging area for the establishment of US hegemony. This is why, to the US Administration, the ABM Treaty is the next target after the SALT-2 Treaty. The US Administration has set about gradually shaking this agreement loose as well.

Washington cannot but be aware that such a policy gives rise to mounting indignation around the world. Hence the endeavours to cover it up with talk about "mutual restraint", and with declarative statements about commitment to nuclear disarmament, statements that are accompanied with every kind of invention as to alleged violations of the obligations by the Soviet side.

The United States' break out of the SALT-2 Treaty does not leave a trace of that scrim of verbiage and fully lays bare the militarist essence of the US policy for the whole world to see.

As for US propaganda efforts to misinform the world public by ascribing to the Soviet Union some violations of the strategic arms agreements, these are a desperate and dishonest attempt at diverting attention from the United States as the true disrupter of strategic stability and at finding if only some justification for its departure from the international treaties.

The Soviet Union has been always strictly and honestly abiding by all the articles and all the provisions of the SALT-2 Treaty, just as those of other international agreements as well.

It is significant that the United States decided to deal a blow to the structure of fundamental accords in the field of strategic arms limitation precisely at a time when a prospect for improvement in the international situation had appeared, at last.

The Soviet programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 has found widespread understanding and a favourable response throughout the world. The initiatives which were put forward on the basis of the programme and with which our country went to the meeting in Reykjavik opened up real ways towards a nuclear-free world.

The idea of a comprehensive system of international security is striking deep root. The new thinking in international affairs, which has found reflection in particular in the Delhi Declaration signed by the leaders of the USSR and India recently, is more and more tangibly supplanting the dogmas of power politics. Possibilities for a fundamental change in the entire international situation have begun to show themselves.

The choice of precisely this moment by the US Administration to torpedo the SALT-2 Treaty cannot be regarded otherwise than as a major provocation and an attempt at stopping the

tendency towards relaxation of international tension.

The US step is a logical element in the campaign of malicious attacks against the historic opportunities which the Reykjavik meeting offered and which would open up the road to a nuclear-free world which, as it turned out, is being derailed by the US militarist circles so much.

Washington is making a big mistake. The exceeding of the limits set by the SALT-2 Treaty will not strengthen US security.

The results of the six years of the present administration's stay in office confirm: in the field of arms limitation the administration, without constructing anything, has destroyed and is destroying much.

Naturally, the US decision, as the Soviet Government warned in its statement of May 31, 1986, gives the Soviet Union all grounds to regard itself free from its commitments under the 1972 Interim Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty.

At the same time, the Soviet side believes that there is still an opportunity for stopping the dangerous course of events that is being provoked by the irresponsible actions of the present American Administration.

In America and outside it, it may be presumed, there is still enough political wisdom and the mere sense of self-preservation not to allow the wrecking of the entire structure of accords on the limitation of strategic arms that was created over 15 years.

Taking into account the immense universal importance of the issue and the need to preserve the key constraint on the strategic arms race, the USSR refrains for the time being from abandoning the limitations under SALT-1 and SALT-2.

All who cherish the cause of peace should realise that the task of uniting the forces in favour of the persistent search for a way out of the dangerous impasse into which the US militarist circles are pushing mankind is urgent and acute today as never before. A reliable obstacle should be placed in the way of the imperial ambitions of domination on Earth and in outer space.

The Soviet Union, for its part, resolutely counterposes a course of peace and international security to the irresponsible policy of the current American Administration. □

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The delegations deem it important to implement measures for confidence building and security in the North European region, the most important of which is Finland's proposal to create a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe. Reiterating their support for the idea of creating such a zone, representatives of the CPSU confirmed the Soviet Union's readiness to promote its implementation by concrete actions. The Centre Party delegation highly assessed the Soviet Union's additional steps to supplement security in the north of Europe which were announced by the Soviet side in Helsinki in November 1986.

The representatives of the Centre Party noted that their party unconditionally supports Finland's foreign policy course—the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line. The sides noted that this line, based on the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance between Finland and the Soviet Union, guarantees the development of friendship and co-operation in relations with the USSR. It expresses Finland's striving to conduct a peaceful neutral policy in the interests of international peace and its striving to maintain friendly relations with all countries. □

Law of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Individual Enterprise

THE aim of individual enterprise in the USSR is to meet to a fuller extent society's needs in goods and services, increase the employment of citizens in socially useful activities and give them opportunities to make additional incomes in accordance with the input of work.

I. General Provisions

ARTICLE 1. Individual Enterprise

In accordance with the Constitution of the USSR and this Law, individual enterprise shall be allowed in the USSR in the sphere of the crafts and the provision of services for the population and also other activities based exclusively on individual labour of citizens and members of their families. The state shall regulate individual enterprise to ensure that it serves the interests of society.

Individual enterprise is socially useful activities of citizens in the production of goods and the provision of paid services, which are not connected with their labour relations with state, co-operative and other public enterprises, institutions, organisations and citizens and also with labour relations within a kolkhoz.

The state shall encourage the entry of citizens engaged in individual enterprise into contract relations with state, co-operative and other public enterprises, institutions and organisations and the setting up by such citizens, in accordance with established legal procedures, of co-operatives, voluntary societies and associations.

Individual enterprise involving the use of hired labour or aimed at deriving unearned incomes or harming other interests of society shall be prohibited.

ARTICLE 2. Legislation on Individual Enterprise

Relations linked with individual enterprise of citizens shall be regulated by this Law and other legislative acts of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Union Republics.

This Law shall not apply to creative activities of citizens in the field of science, engineering, literature and art and also to the performance of occasional paid jobs and jobs which are small in size and remuneration.

ARTICLE 3. Categories of Citizens Allowed to Engage in Individual Enterprise

Individual enterprise shall be allowed to citizens who have come of age and participate in social production (when they are free from their main work), to housewives, invalids, pensioners and university, college and school students.

Taking into account the needs of society in cases envisaged by the legislation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Union Republics, other citizens not involved in social production can engage in such activities.

Citizens can engage in individual enterprise along with members of their families who live with them (spouse, parents and other next of kin who have reached the age of 16 and dependents).

Executive committees of local Soviets of People's Deputies may, taking into account social needs, allow skilled handicraftsmen to teach other people with an ability and calling for the trade. Provisions for this shall be endorsed by the State Committee of the USSR for Labour and

Social Issues in collaboration with the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

ARTICLE 4. Property Used in Individual Enterprise

Citizens shall engage in individual enterprise using materials, tools and other property which is their personal property or the property of the customer and also property hired by contract from enterprises, institutions, organisations or individuals.

Persons engaged in individual enterprise shall acquire the necessary materials, tools and other property in the state and co-operative retail trade network or on the markets and also use the natural resources necessary for their activities observing established rules.

In cases and in the order envisaged by the legislation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Union Republics, such persons can acquire surplus or unused materials and other property from enterprises, institutions and organisations.

ARTICLE 5. The Rendering of Assistance to Citizens Engaged in Individual Enterprise

Executive committees of local Soviets of People's Deputies, enterprises, institutions and organisations, in order to more fully satisfy the requirements of the public of a given locality in appropriate goods and services, shall render the citizens engaged in individual enterprise help in acquiring materials, tools and other property necessary for the conduct of this activity and in marketing the output produced; they can lease non-residential premises and other property to them in an established manner, and also furnish them with required information. In the first place such assistance shall be rendered to citizens who have signed contracts with enterprises, institutions or organisations, and also to citizens with a reduced capacity for work or engaged in individual enterprise in remote or difficult-of-access areas.

The USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supplies, its territorial bodies and the Councils of Ministers of the Union Republics shall provide the citizens engaged in individual enterprise with necessary material and technical resources.

Credits can be provided in an established manner to citizens engaged in individual enterprise for the purchase of required materials, tools and other property, and also for leasing or renting it.

The legislation of the USSR and of the Union Republics can grant privileges to individual categories engaged in individual enterprise—war and labour veterans, invalids, persons suffering from chronic ailments, and others—in connection with the conduct of this activity (priority entitlement to leasing non-residential premises, acquiring the necessary property on easy terms and so forth).

ARTICLE 6. Permits for Engaging in Individual Enterprise

Citizens who have expressed a wish to engage in individual enterprise must receive a permit from the executive committee of the district, city, borough, township or village Soviet of People's Deputies at the place of their permanent residence. The term of the permit will be fixed by the executive committee of the appropriate Soviet of People's Deputies, but shall not exceed five years.

The decision on refusal to issue a permit for engagement in individual enterprise can be appealed against in the executive committee of the higher Soviet of People's Deputies, the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic or the Council of Ministers of the Union Republic if it does not have a regional division.

Types of individual enterprise which do not require an engagement permit can be determined by executive committees of territorial and regional Soviets of People's Deputies, Councils of Ministers of Autonomous Republics and Councils of Ministers of Union Republics not having a regional division. The decision on this shall be made known to the public.

ARTICLE 7. Registration certificate; patent

Before the start of individual enterprise, a citizen shall receive a registration certificate or purchase a patent at the financial department of the Executive Committee of the district, town or town-district Soviet of People's Deputies.

The determination of kinds of labour activities to be patented and of annual patent payments is within the competence of constituent-republican Councils of Ministers.

Government impositions are levied in an established order for the issuance of registration certificates and patents.

ARTICLE 8. Obligations of citizens engaged in individual enterprise

Citizens engaged in individual enterprise shall observe the order established for such activities; the rights and lawful interests of customers, clients and other persons; guarantee appropriate quality of goods manufactured and services rendered; observe sanitary, fire-prevention and other rules and norms pertaining to their kind of activities.

Citizens engaged in individual enterprise whose incomes are liable to taxation in accordance with the active legislation, shall take an account of all incomes and expenditures, and declare incomes received to the financial department of the Executive Committee of the district, town or town-district Soviet of People's Deputies in their place of permanent residence.

ARTICLE 9. Taxation of citizens engaged in individual enterprise

Citizens engaged in individual enterprise in cases and order stipulated by the legislation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall pay taxes on incomes derived from such activities. The amounts of taxes are established in accordance to incomes derived and with consideration for community interests.

Patentees shall be exempt from income taxes on patented individual enterprise.

ARTICLE 10. Patent payments

Patent payments shall be determined on the basis of average annual incomes of persons engaged in similar activities at state, co-operative and other collectively-owned enterprises, offices and organisations, or of persons engaged in similar non-patented activities on an individual basis, and of the corresponding income tax rates. Patent payments shall be included in USSR state budget revenues according to the procedure established for income taxes not raised from the population.

II. Individual Enterprise in the Crafts

ARTICLE 11. Procedure of Individual Enterprise in the Crafts

Manufacture of articles for sale shall be considered as individual enterprise in the crafts.

Craft articles shall be sold under a fixed procedure at the place of manufacture or in other cities and regions in accordance with the civil code.

ARTICLE 12. Activities Permitted in the Crafts

Manufacture of the following articles shall be permitted in the crafts:

- 1) garments, shoes, headwear, fur articles, clothing and haberdasheries;
 - 2) yarn, woven material, knitwear and embroideries;
 - 3) furniture and other joinery articles;
 - 4) carpets and rugs;
 - 5) pottery and ceramics;
 - 6) toys and souvenirs;
 - 7) house and garden utensils;
 - 8) fishing tackle (except banned gear);
 - 9) articles of wood, paper, bone, reed, willow, straw, cane and other like material.
- Other crafts shall be permitted, unless banned by the legislation of the USSR and Union Republics.

ARTICLE 13. Activities Banned in the Crafts

Manufacture of the following articles shall be banned in the crafts:

- 1) articles of pelts of valuable fur animals, obtained through hunting and subject to compulsory delivery to the state, unless they bear a state seal (stamp), and also of pelts of carnivorous fur animals which may not be kept by individuals;
 - 2) chemicals, perfumeries, and toiletries;
 - 3) toxic substances and narcotics and medicinal preparations;
 - 4) articles of precious metals, precious stones and amber or articles incorporating such material;
 - 5) all types of weapons, munition, explosives and fireworks;
 - 6) duplicating and copying apparatus, all types of stamps, seals and printing type.
- Legislation of the USSR and Union Republics may also ban other crafts should they run against public interest.

III. Individual Enterprise in the Service Sector

ARTICLE 14. Procedure for Individual Enterprise in the Service Sector

Paid consumer services shall be considered as individual enterprise in the service sector.

Paid consumer services shall be rendered in accordance with the civil law.

ARTICLE 15. Activities Permitted in the Service Sector

The following activities shall be permitted in the service sector:

- 1) building, repairing, installing and renovating housing, summer garden houses, garages and other like projects;
- 2) cultivating individuals' plots;
- 3) grazing;
- 4) maintenance of and repairing private cars and other transport vehicles;
- 5) repairing metalware and domestic gadgets, including radios and TV sets;
- 6) repairing garments, shoes, headwear, fur articles, clothing and haberdasheries;

7) repairing furniture and other joinery articles and garden utensils;

8) repairing carpets and rugs;

9) photography and other photographic work to private order;

10) hairdresser's and cosmetician's services not involving curative operations or surgery;

11) stenography, typewriting and book-binding;

12) transport services by owners of private cars and other transport vehicles;

13) personal services to single elderly citizens, handicapped and other disabled citizens;

14) board and lodging to tourists, day trippers and other citizens under contract with various sectors (accommodation, everyday services, etc).

Other activities shall be permitted in the service sector, unless banned by the legislation of the USSR and Union Republics.

ARTICLE 16. Activities Banned in the Service Sector

The following activities shall be banned in the service sector:

1) repairing and reprocessing articles of precious metals, precious stones and amber or articles incorporating such material;

2) maintaining gambling houses, amusement machinery and baths, organising games of chance and sport-related and other totes;

3) repairing all types of weapons.

Legislation of the USSR and Union Republics may ban other operations in the service sector should they run against the public interest.

IV. Individual Enterprise in Social and Cultural Areas

ARTICLE 17. Individual Enterprise Activity in the Social and Cultural Areas

Individual enterprise in the social and cultural areas shall be recognised as the provision of paid social and cultural services.

Engagement in individual enterprise activities involving instruction in particular trades, professions and practices and also requiring medical, educational and other specialist knowledge shall be allowed to citizens with proper experience and, in cases envisaged by the legislation of the USSR and of the Union Republics, those with proper training.

Individual enterprise activities involving the provision of paid social and cultural services shall be performed in accordance with the standards of civil and other legislation.

ARTICLE 18. Types of Services Permitted in the Social and Cultural Areas

The following services shall be permitted:

- 1) Instruction in dress-making and knitting;
- 2) Instruction in playing musical instruments, choreography;
- 3) Teaching shorthand and typewriting;
- 4) Tutorship;
- 5) Translation of texts from foreign languages and also from the languages of the peoples of the USSR;
- 6) Practising medicine.

Other types of social and cultural services shall be allowed unless prohibited by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics.

ARTICLE 19. The Types of Individual Enterprise in the Social and Cultural Areas Which Shall be Outlawed

The following types of activity shall be outlawed in the social and cultural areas:

- 1) Practising medicine in specified areas established in conformity with the Health Legislation of the USSR;

2) Instruction in subjects and courses outside the curricula of the schools of general education, vocational schools, specialised secondary and higher educational institutions of the USSR;

3) Entertainment organising.

Other types of individual enterprise in the social and cultural areas may be outlawed by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics if found to contradict the interests of society.

V. Other Types of Individual Enterprise

ARTICLE 20. Individual Enterprise in Arts and Crafts

Individual enterprise in arts and handicrafts, that is, the production of articles of traditional folk as well as decorative and applied arts for sale shall be exercised with permission from an appropriate arts council and in conformity with the provisions of Article 7 of the present Law.

The State shall encourage arts and handicrafts.

ARTICLE 21. Individual Enterprise in Areas Outside the Scope of the Present Law

Relations involving individual enterprise outside the scope of the present Law (like fur trapping, hunting, and gathering activities) shall be governed by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics.

VI. Supervision of Individual Enterprise Liability for a Breach of Individual Enterprise Legislation

ARTICLE 22. Supervision of Compliance with Individual Enterprise Procedure

Individual enterprise activities shall be supervised by the executive committees of the local Soviets of People's Deputies.

The financial and Ministry of the Interior agencies shall be under obligation to identify citizens engaging in individual enterprise activities in violation of the order established or in outlawed types of individual enterprise.

ARTICLE 23. Liability for a Breach of Individual Enterprise Legislation

A breach of the individual enterprise procedure or engagement in individual enterprise activities specifically prohibited shall incur liability envisaged by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics.

Persons having violated the individual enterprise procedure may be banned from engaging in such activities. The decision shall be taken by the Executive Committee of the Soviet of People's Deputies which has issued the permission. The registration certificate or permit shall be withdrawn. The decision may be appealed against as prescribed by Article 6 of the present Law.

All income derived by citizens from outlawed individual enterprise activities and individual enterprise activities without appropriate permission shall be withdrawn to the benefit of the State in the order established by legal procedure.

A. Gromyko,
President of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

T. Menteshashvili,
Secretary of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The Kremlin, Moscow, November 19, 1986.

(Continued on next page)

Viktor Karpov's statement on Soviet-US talks in Geneva

A FOUR-DAY working meeting of representatives of the Soviet and American delegations, within the framework of the talks on nuclear and space arms, came to a close in Geneva last Friday.

The head of the Soviet delegation, Viktor Karpov, made the following statement on its results:

The Soviet side placed at the centre of the meeting's discussions the new comprehensive proposals of the USSR that were submitted at the talks on November 7 of this year on the results of the meeting between the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev, and the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, in Reykjavik.

The key importance of solving the question of strengthening the regime of the ABM Treaty for attaining accords on radical reductions of nuclear arms, right up to and including their total elimination, was pointed out and a well-argued

criticism of Washington's policy of departing from the understandings reached in the Icelandic capital was made.

The attention of the American side was drawn to the extremely negative consequences that the administration's decision to put into service the 131st B-52 strategic bomber equipped with long-range cruise missiles will have. This measure, signifying that the United States has transcended the limits imposed by the SALT-2 Treaty, contradicts the logic of Reykjavik and creates additional obstacles at the talks.

The consultations showed that no changes had occurred in the American side's approach—it is still blocking the essential work directed at achieving mutually acceptable agreements.

The American side remains opposed to any restrictions on the implementation of the SDI programme which, as is known, is the chief obstacle in the way of nuclear disarmament.

It actually evaded discussing the Soviet proposals of November 7, 1986, and did nothing

to overcome the differences that remain between the sides.

Instead, the American representatives reproduced their previous unilateral positions, which have nothing in common with Reykjavik and whose implementation would instigate an arms race in all directions, including its transfer into outer space.

The meeting was in fact additional confirmation of the fact that the US is continuing the course towards departing from the platform agreed upon in the Icelandic capital, towards renouncing the mutual understanding outlined there with regard to the need for a comprehensive solution to the problem of nuclear and space arms.

From the Soviet side, the US approach was assessed as an attempt to revert the talks to the situation where they were actually in an impasse—due to the US stand as well.

The representatives of the Soviet delegation pointed out the inadmissibility of this course, and called on the American side to adjust its position and undertake reciprocal steps so that practical work could be started at the next round of talks in January next year on translating the positive results of Reykjavik into binding agreements. □

Pravda on Human Rights Day

"It should be stressed especially forcefully today, which is Human Rights Day, that implementing these rights and liberties in practice is inseparable from solving the most pressing problem of the times, that of preserving and strengthening universal peace."

The newspaper *Pravda* says this in a leading article today devoted to the 20th anniversary of international covenants on human rights adopted by the United Nations.

"The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community," it continues, "have every reason to be proud of the contribution they have been making to the practical realisation of human rights and liberties.

"Maintaining a determined effort to remove the threat of nuclear war and making ever new concrete and realistic initiatives to build a nuclear-free world and affirm relations of peaceful co-existence and extensive co-operation among all countries and peoples, the CPSU and the Soviet State uphold fundamental human rights by practical action."

Writing of the situation in capitalist countries, *Pravda* asks: "Can there be any real democracy where millions upon millions of people are

doomed to unemployment, are homeless, suffer racial and national oppression, are victimised for thinking freely, and deprived of the right to education, medical aid and social security and often even of the right to their daily bread?"

"A society where the human being is brainwashed through the propaganda of war, militarism and violence, where hatred of other peoples is cultivated, and racist, fascist and revanchist ideas are inculcated is a society of flouted rights."

"The pledges of commitment to human rights by imperialist politicians backing the fascist regimes in Chile and Paraguay, arming the Israeli Zionists and perpetrating crimes on lands belonging to Arab peoples are sheer hypocrisy.

"State terrorism, which has been institutionalised by US ruling quarters as a norm of their foreign policy, is guiding the hands of mercenary cut-throats killing children and women in Nicaragua, encouraging the suppressors of democracy in South Korea, El Salvador and Pakistan, and emboldening the South African racialists," *Pravda* says.

"Anti-Sovietism is not only blinding the US ruling elite. It is a serious obstacle to normalising the international situation," it adds.

"The Soviet people", *Pravda* says, "strongly denounce the imperialist policy of trampling on human rights." □

KIRILL LAVROV HEADS NEW SOVIET THEATRE UNION

KIRILL LAVROV, the prominent Leningrad actor, has become chairman of the board of the USSR Union of Theatrical Workers. He was elected on Saturday at the board's first plenary meeting. Oleg Yefremov, head producer of Moscow's Arts Theatre, was elected first secretary.

Kirill Lavrov, who is 51, has been a leading actor with Leningrad's Bolshoi Drama Theatre for over 30 years now. He has played many roles in the classical repertoire, in plays by Gogol, Chekhov and Gorky and in stage adaptations of Dostoyevsky.

His portrayal of Lenin on stage and in the cinema holds a prominent place in his creative biography.

He has starred in many films, including in the screen adaptation of Konstantin Simonov's novel *The Living and the Dead*, and in the film *The Taming of Fire* about the development of rocketry in the Soviet Union.

Oleg Yefremov, 59, came to Moscow's arts Theatre in 1970. Before that he had been head producer of Sovremennik Theatre in Moscow. One of his most popular productions in recent times was in the play *This Way We Shall Win* by Mikhail Shatrov.

The Union of Soviet Theatrical Workers held its founding congress last week in the Kremlin. It was attended by over 800 Soviet theatrical workers from all over the country.

It was the general opinion of delegates and guests that the positive changes in the theatre, as in all Soviet arts, would help people to fight even more vigorously for further improvements in the atmosphere and life of society.

"At all stages of the work to be done," pointed out Vasili Zakharov, USSR Minister of Culture, "we would like to see in this new creative union an active and equal partner. Working with it, we wish to make two hands out of the one theatrical mechanism, as one of the leading masters in Soviet theatrical art aptly put it."

The new union unites the theatrical societies that currently exist in all Union Republics on an equal and voluntary basis. □

(Continued from previous page)

RESOLUTION OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR On the Enactment of the Law on Individual Enterprise

In connection with the adoption of the Law on Individual Enterprise, the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics hereby resolves that:

1. The Law on Individual Enterprise shall be put into effect as from May 1, 1987.

2. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR shall be instructed to conform the legislation of the USSR to the Law on Individual Enterprise.

3. The Council of Ministers of the USSR shall conform the decisions of the Government of the USSR to the Law on Individual Enterprise.

4. The Supreme Soviets of the Union Republics shall be instructed to conform the legislation of the Union Republics to the Law on Individual Enterprise.

A. Gromyko,
President of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

T. Menteshashvili,
Secretary of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The Kremlin, Moscow, November 19, 1987.

The quickest way to a nuclear-weapon-free Europe

By Vladimir Katin, *Novosti* political analyst

THE Soviet-American summit held in Reykjavik in the autumn did not live up to the nations' expectations. But it proved useful at least because it changed the situation in Europe and elucidated the true intentions of the Western European leaders. Reykjavik has shown who is who on the issues of disarmament and elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe and worldwide.

The summit in the Icelandic capital has given birth to three chief trends in Western Europe as far as the problem of nuclear disarmament is concerned. First, the public sincerely welcomes the shifts towards freeing the continent from nuclear armaments. Second, attempts are being made to take only the medium-range missiles issue from the package of Soviet proposals. Third, the leaders of West Germany and some other countries now deny any variant of eliminating American nuclear weapons in Europe, and fear anything of the kind happening at all.

We understand those who regard the Reykjavik summit as a gleam of hope for a world

without nuclear bombs and who stand for the elimination of Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe. These people are really against the missiles. But Moscow cannot take such a step if the whole package of its proposals on strategic arms reduction and elimination and space non-militarisation is not accepted.

The Soviet side has been explaining its stand. If countries reduce some weapons of mass destruction but at the same time build up other, even more sophisticated ones, it will be a fraud and not disarmament.

Moscow cannot accept the zero option on medium-range missiles in Europe and give the United States *carte blanche* in SDI. In a situation like this the American missiles now spearheaded against the USSR from West Germany, Britain, Italy, Belgium and Holland would be replaced by the weapons created within the framework of the SDI system. Besides, the NATO countries where Pershing-IIs and cruise missiles are now stationed are taking part in the establishment of such a system.

The USSR's consent to the zero option on medium-range missiles in Europe is a major concession. It jeopardises its own security by not counting Britain's and France's nuclear arsenals. But the Soviet side can take risks if it knows for certain that the United States will accept its

proposals on strategic armaments and observe the ABM Treaty for 10 years.

Bonn was the first to voice alarm over a possible dismantling of American nuclear weapons in Western Europe. Formerly the West German Federal Chancellor harped on the danger of Soviet SS-20s and clamoured for President Reagan's zero option in every speech. But today he says that West Germany cannot do without American nuclear weapons.

In this way Bonn has exposed its true policy. The Soviet missiles were only used as a pretext for deploying more American nuclear weapons in West Germany. The Bundeswehr is seeking direct access to nuclear weapons now that vast amounts of them have been stockpiled in the country. So some people in Bonn were frightened by the prospects of eliminating medium-range missiles, which took shape in Reykjavik.

The Soviet proposals on eliminating nuclear weapons by the end of the century, advanced by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of January 15, open the quickest way to a nuclear-weapon-free Europe. The Western European leaders have had enough time to study these proposals, which were addressed to all countries. It is high time for them to give a clearcut answer to these constructive initiatives. □

UN Resolution on comprehensive system of international peace and security

THE 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly has adopted a resolution on the 'Establishment of a Comprehensive System of International Peace and Security' submitted for its consideration by the group of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union.

The resolution takes into account the opinion of many UN member-countries which took part in the discussion of this issue.

It sets out main directions of establishing a system of comprehensive security for all, stresses the role of the UN and provides for the continued discussion of the question at the next session of the General Assembly.

The groundwork has thus been laid for further extensive constructive dialogue with regard to the essence of the new philosophy of security in the nuclear-space age, and practical ways for restructuring international relations on its basis.

One hundred and two votes were cast in favour of the resolution. The United States and France alone voted against. Forty-six delegations abstained (NATO members and some other countries).

The following is the text of the resolution:

Establishment of a Comprehensive System of International Peace and Security

The General Assembly,

deeply concerned at the tense and dangerous situation in the world and the danger of

continuing down the path of confrontation and the arms race, towards the abyss of the nuclear self-destruction of mankind,

deeply concerned at the numerous threats to international peace and security resulting from the persistent violations of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

also concerned at the continuous escalation in the global arms race, especially the nuclear arms race and the consequent threat posed to the security of all states,

conscious of the urgent need to strengthen the foundation of universal security, on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and in compliance with the generally recognised norms and principles of international law,

conscious of the growing interdependence of countries and the fact that the contemporary world has no reasonable alternative to the policy of co-operation and interaction among states, pursued on the basis of equality with unconditional respect for the right of each people to make its sovereign choice of the ways and forms of its development,

reaffirming the important role of the United Nations as an indispensable forum for conducting negotiations and achieving agreements on measures to strengthen international peace, security and co-operation and to democratise international relations,

having in mind the necessity to strengthen international co-operation on the basis of existing consensus with a view to promoting the well-being and economic development of all countries, in particular developing countries,

having discussed the question of a comprehensive system of international peace and security:

1. Solemnly reaffirms that the collective security system embodied in the Charter of the United Nations continues to be a fundamental and irreplaceable instrument for the preservation of international peace and security.

2. Also reaffirms the need to adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, especially respect for the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of states, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and the right of all peoples to self-determination.

3. Recognizes the invaluable role of the United Nations in the preservation of international peace and security, harmonization of the policies of the member-states and the imperative need to strengthen and reinforce the United Nations.

4. Calls upon states to focus their efforts on ensuring security on an equal basis for all states and in all spheres of international relations.

5. Calls upon member-states to make their contribution to practical measures to ensure compliance with the implementation of the provisions of the Charter with particular regard to the crucial and interrelated areas of disarmament, crisis and conflict settlement, economic development and co-operation, and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

6. Further calls for the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations.

7. Decides to continue consideration of this question at its forty-second session under an item entitled 'Comprehensive System of International Peace and Security'. □