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PLA Article Says Japan Used Chemical Weapons in WW II

OW1208120792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1122 GMT 12 Aug 92

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 12 KYODO—The Japanese Imperial Army frequently used chemical weapons during the 1937-45 Sino-Japanese war and caused more than 80,000 casualties among Chinese guerrillas and civilians, charges a Chinese military interior journal obtained recently by KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

In an article published in June 1991 by the People's Liberation Army [PLA] Chemical Defense Command Engineering Academy, researchers claim Japanese troops used poisonous gases on more than 2,000 occasions from the time of the Lugouqiao (Marco Polo Bridge) incident in 1937 to the end of the war.

The article in "CHEMICAL WAR HISTORY" included new information taken from wartime military telegrams and the testimonies of Japanese prisoners discovered in public archives and combined it with earlier materials taken from the Japanese military and Chinese nationalists.

In Tokyo, the Defense Agency public information division said the Agency is in no position to comment on the results of the Chinese research since it is a different organization from the old Imperial Army.

According to the article, the Japanese Army engaged in a scorched earth policy of "burn, kill, and plunder" in the Huabei region of northern China during operations to mop up Chinese guerrillas and employed chemical weapons 423 times with more than 3,300 military and civilian casualties.

During the war, the Japanese used chemical weapons on at least 1,668 occasions, charges the report, causing more than 47,000 casualties with 6,000 dead.

Until this latest Chinese military report, materials of the Kuomintang military and political section claimed in 1946 that Japanese had used chemical weapons on 1,312 occasions with 36,968 casualties.

The report confirmed, however, that lethal mustard gas was employed in different strategies of guerrilla mop-up operations and used widely in campaigns against Nanchang, Wuhan, Changde, and other Chinese cities.

The report also mentioned there were some 671 types of gas used by the Japanese and of these 125 were considered lethal. The others were sneezing or tear gas and stimulants.

The Chinese were not prepared for the use of the gases and the report remarked that "the Japanese military achieved immense military results with just the small dose of stimulants."

The engineering academy is composed of specialists on the use of chemical weapons and the report looked at chemical warfare from World War I to the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s.

More than half of the 581 pages in the report are accounts of the Japanese Imperial Army's use of the weapons during the Sino-Japanese war.

The report remarks that "as direct victims (of the chemical weapons), the Chinese military and civilians have the responsibility to disclose the criminal behavior brought about by Japanese imperialists."

About two million of Japan's wartime chemical weapons reportedly remain in China and are the focus of a debate on how the weapons will be treated or disposed of.

Beijing has demanded that Tokyo accept all responsibility to dispose of the weapons, and in disarmament negotiations in Geneva Chinese representatives are requesting an article be included in a chemical arms ban treaty that the weapons are the responsibility of the nations that have abandoned them.

Foreign Minister Addresses UN Asia-Pacific Disarmament Conference

XINHUA Report

OW1708160892 Beijing XINHUA in English 1555 GMT 17 Aug 92

[Text] Shanghai, August 17 (XINHUA)—Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said here today that the Asia-Pacific region occupies an important position and has a significant influence in today's world, and the forthcoming 21st century will afford it greater opportunities and pose more challenges for it.

Qian made the remarks at the U.N. Conference on Disarmament and Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific region, which began today.

With a view to promoting regional disarmament and security in an all-round way as well as regional peace and development, the minister put forward the following views at the conference:

—In developing relations with one another, Asia-Pacific countries should strictly abide by the United Nations Charter and the five principles of peaceful coexistence, respect each other, treat each other with sincerity, cooperate with each other on an equal footing and live in amity. They should make joint efforts to turn the Asia-Pacific region into one of peace, security, good-neighborliness and prosperity.

—None of the Asia-Pacific countries should seek regional or sub-regional hegemony, or establish spheres of influence. Nor should they set up or participate in any military bloc directed against another country, build military bases on foreign soil or station troops abroad. Nor should they infringe upon another's sovereignty or territorial integrity, or interfere in the internal affairs of other countries under any pretext whatsoever.

—All of the Asia-Pacific countries should commit themselves to developing good-neighborly and friendly relations with their neighbors. They should settle territorial and border disputes as well as other problems left over from history through peaceful consultations in accordance with the relevant international conventions and U.N. resolutions, instead of resorting to force or threat of force. In this regard, peaceful negotiations may be

conducted when conditions are ripe; otherwise, a dispute or problem may be shelved until conditions are ripe. Pending settlement of a dispute, the countries concerned should adopt security-enhancing and confidence-building measures so as to avoid possible contingencies or conflicts.

—None of the Asia-Pacific countries should engage in any form of arms race. The defense capabilities of each country should be kept at a level commensurate with its legitimate defense needs. Those countries with the largest nuclear arsenals and arsenals of the most sophisticated conventional weapons should continue to assume a special responsibility and fulfill corresponding obligations in disarmament, support the establishment of nuclear-free zones or zones of peace in various sub-regions and pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states or regions.

—To promote common prosperity and development, Asia-Pacific countries should increase economic exchanges and co-operation. They need to expand and deepen the bilateral and multilateral economic relations between and among them, and strengthen and improve APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation) and other regional economic co-operation organizations.

Qian continued that, in order to realize modernization and focus on economic development, China needs a long-term, peaceful and stable international environment, particularly in the surrounding areas.

“China pursues an independent foreign policy of peace,” said Qian. “It has made maintenance of peace in the region and the world at large the overarching goal of its foreign policy and has taken development of friendly and good-neighborly relations with surrounding countries as its set state policy.”

“China has made unremitting efforts and due contributions to that end,” he added.

Qian said, “China has always attached great importance to and actively participated in the disarmament efforts of the international community.”

He noted that China’s military expenditure has always been kept at a very low level, much lower than that of any other big power.

“So long as all countries have good faith, trust one another, carry out active co-operation and make concerted efforts,” Qian said, “there is every promise of peace, stability and sustained development in the Asia-Pacific region in the 1990s and even the next century.”

Meanwhile, the minister met here today with Yasushi Akashi, chief representative of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

Further on Address

OW1808103592 Shanghai People’s Radio Network
in Mandarin 2300 GMT 17 Aug 92

[From the “Morning News”]

[Excerpts] The UN Conference on Disarmament and Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific region opened in the (Botman) Hotel in Shanghai on 17 August. Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen was invited to attend the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote speech.

In his speech, Qian Qichen put forward a five-point view on promoting regional disarmament and security in an all-around way, as well as regional peace and development. [passage omitted]

After expounding China’s position, Qian Qichen said: It is the common objective and mission of Asia-Pacific countries to promote regional disarmament and security, and to ensure regional peace and development. So long as all countries have good faith, trust one another, carry out active cooperation and make concerted efforts, there is every promise of peace, stability, and sustained development in the Asia-Pacific region in the 1990s and even in the next century.

(Davinichi), director of the UN disarmament affairs office, presided over and addressed the opening ceremony. Shanghai Mayor Huang Ju also spoke at the opening ceremony.

Huang Ju said: Security and disarmament are important issues concerning the future, destiny, and vital interests of the people of all countries. The people of Shanghai, who are working hard to achieve the splendid goal of modernization, always pay special attention and attach great importance to security and disarmament issues in the Asia-Pacific region. The Shanghai people resolutely support our government’s independent foreign policy of peace and of promoting good-neighborliness and friendship, and the strengthening of our relations with other countries established and developed on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. The Shanghai people firmly support our government’s efforts to achieve disarmament, and safeguard peace and security within and without the United Nations. In the present complex and changeable world, the political situation in the Asia-Pacific region is relatively stable, and economic development here is vigorous. This is a favorable international environment for China’s modernization drive. We will firmly seize this opportunity and strive to create a new situation in Shanghai’s development.

More than 40 people are attending the conference. They include vice foreign ministers from 18 Asia-Pacific countries and senior disarmament officials, as well as experts and scholars of disarmament issues. On 17 August, Foreign minister Qian Qichen met with Yasushi Akashi, chief representative of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, who is attending the conference. The same evening, Mayor Huang Ju gave a reception in the Xinjiang Hotel in honor of delegates from various countries.

‘Excerpts’ of Speech Text

OW2208053092 Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese
18 Aug 92 p 1

[“Excerpts” of speech by Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at the UN Conference on Disarmament and Security in the

Asian-Pacific region in Shanghai on 17 August 1992: "Excerpts of Foreign Minister and State Councillor Qian Qichen Speech"]

[Text] With the unprecedented major changes in the international situation, both the bipolar structure and the East-West military confrontation of nearly half a century have come to an end. The changes are conducive to preventing a new world war; however, they have not brought tranquillity and peace to the world and the situation has become even more complex, turbulent, and changeable. We are glad to see that the situation in the Asian-Pacific region is becoming relaxed and stable, and we are particularly glad that the region has the most vigorous economic development in the world. Many countries have developed the good trend of a beneficial circle of political stability protecting economic development and economic development further promoting political stability. Such a trend is a reliable basis for stability in the Asian-Pacific region. Of course, people also see that factors of instability still exist in the region.

With the end of the East-West cold war, the world has achieved certain progress in disarmament and arms control; however, disarmament has not changed the fact that big military powers still have a large number of nuclear and other sophisticated weapons of mass destruction, they are still developing space weaponry, and their powerful offensive naval and air forces are still deployed in the Asian-Pacific region. Military confrontation still exists among some Asian-Pacific countries. These facts are incompatible with the trend of peace and development, as well as the relaxed and stable situation, in the region. So an important problem for the Asian-Pacific countries to solve at present is how to seize the present good opportunities and adopt practical measures to further improve security in the region.

Security in the Asian-Pacific region is inseparable from the security of various countries in the region. If one of these countries lacks security, regional security is also out of the question.

Regional security is also inseparable from the world situation as a whole and from international relations. Only when a new, fair, rational, and stable international political and economic order is established on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence can we lay a solid foundation for lasting peace, stability, and security.

With a view to promoting regional disarmament and security in an all-around way as well as regional peace and development, I would like to put forward the following views for your reference:

1. In developing relations with one another, Asian-Pacific countries should strictly abide by the UN Charter and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, respect each other, treat each other with sincerity, cooperate with each other on equal footing, and live in amity.

2. Asian-Pacific countries should neither seek regional or subregional hegemony or establish spheres of influence nor set up or participate in any military bloc directed against another country, build military bases on foreign soil, or station troops abroad. Asian-Pacific countries should not

infringe upon another's sovereignty or territorial integrity or interfere in the internal affairs of other countries under any pretext.

3. All Asian-Pacific countries should commit themselves to developing good-neighborly and friendly relations with their neighbors. They should settle territorial and border disputes as well as other problems left over from history through peaceful consultations in accordance with relevant international conventions and UN resolutions, instead of resorting to force or the threat of force.

4. No Asian-Pacific country should engage in an arms race in any way. Each country's defense capabilities should be kept at a level commensurate with its legitimate defense needs.

5. It is necessary to strengthen and improve the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] group and other regional economic cooperation organizations and increase economic cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region.

To realize modernization and focus on economic development, China needs a long-term, peaceful, and stable international environment, particularly in adjacent areas. China pursues an independent foreign policy of peace, and it has made maintaining peace in the region and the world at large the general objective of its foreign policy. It has taken the development of friendly and good-neighborly relations with surrounding countries as its set state policy and has made unremitting efforts and due contributions to that end.

China has always attached great importance to and actively participated in the disarmament efforts of the international community. Our military expenditures have always been kept at a very low level, much lower than that of any other large power.

It is the common objective and mission of Asian-Pacific countries to promote regional disarmament and security and to ensure regional peace and development. As long as all countries have good faith, trust one another, carry out active cooperation and make concerted efforts, there is every promise for peace, stability, and sustained development in the Asian-Pacific region in the 1990's and even in the next century.

Further Reports on UN Conference on Asia-Pacific Disarmament

Conference Closes

*OW1908172792 Beijing XINHUA in English
1610 GMT 19 Aug 92*

[Text] Shanghai, August 19 (XINHUA)—The United Nations Conference on Disarmament and Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific region closed here today.

Participants who attended the three-day conference in Shanghai held in-depth discussions concerning security and disarmament in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in north-east and south-east Asia.

The participants, who came from 18 countries in the region, shared similar views concerning turbulent and ever-changing world situation. They noted that the Asia-Pacific

region is moving toward relaxation and stability and economic development is full of vitality, both of which are conducive to peace and security in the region.

They contended that in order to maintain peace and security in the region, Asia-Pacific countries should strictly abide by the United Nations charter and the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

Participants in the conference said that countries in the Asia-Pacific region should establish relations amongst themselves and should settle problems according to the above-mentioned principles.

They said that in order to maintain regional peace and security, multi-level and multi-channel security dialogues should be formulated and confidence building measures should be adopted in line with the multiple characteristics of countries in the region.

They went on to say that bilateral, regional and sub-regional economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region is an important factor for further promoting regional peace, security and stability.

The United Nations should play an important role in safeguarding peace and stability in the region, while at the same time promoting the establishment of a security dialogue, and helping to promote confidence building measures in the region.

Participants overwhelmingly voiced their appreciation for the important role China has played in maintaining international peace and security and promoting disarmament to ensure regional peace and cooperation.

Further on Closing

OW1908173592 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1415 GMT 19 Aug 92

[By reporter Zhou Jierong (0719 6043 5554)]

[Text] Shanghai, 19 August (XINHUA)—The three-day UN "Conference on Disarmament and Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific Region" ended here this morning. Prvoslav Davinic, director of the UN Disarmament Agency, and Wang Daohan, adviser to the Shanghai Municipal Government, delivered separate speeches at the closing ceremony.

During the conference, participants from various countries held spirited discussions on security and disarmament issues in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in northeast and southeast Asia. During free-wheeling expressions of their views, they presented their opinions and suggestions on furthering disarmament and security in the Asia-Pacific region and on promoting peace and development there. They offered the following observations:

Despite the turbulent and changing international scene, the Asia-Pacific region is moving toward political detente and stability; it is experiencing strong economic development. This is extremely conducive to peace and security in the region.

To effectively maintain peace and security in the region, the countries there should strictly abide by the UN Charter as

well as the Asian-originated five principles of peaceful coexistence. They should act accordingly in establishing relations and solving various problems among themselves.

Peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region should be based on multilevel and multichannel mechanisms for holding security dialogues and on confidence-building measures instituted in line with the diverse traits of various countries in the region.

Asian-Pacific countries place importance on strengthening economic cooperation, including that of bilateral, regional, and subregional nature. This is an important factor in further promoting peace, security, and stability in the region.

The United Nations has played a positive role in resolving regional conflicts and in promoting peace, security, and disarmament. In the future, it should play an even more important role in safeguarding peace and stability in the region and in promoting the establishment of mechanisms for security dialogues and confidence-building measures in the region.

Prvoslav Davinic said emphatically: Participants in the conference highly appreciate the important role China has played in safeguarding world peace and security and in advancing the cause of disarmament, as well as its efforts toward peace and cooperation in the region.

Government Cautious on Chemical Convention Draft

OW2108221692 Beijing XINHUA in English 2148 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Geneva, August 21 (XINHUA)—A Chinese delegate made a statement here today on position of a convention banning and destructing [as received] all chemical weapons [CW], holding reservation on the draft convention for some drawbacks.

The statement was made and requested to be placed on record by Chinese Ambassador Hou Zhitong, head of the Chinese delegation at the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons of the Conference on Disarmament (CD).

Hou said as a non-chemical weapon state and a victim of the scourge of foreign chemical weapons, "China has always stood firmly for the early conclusion of a CW convention so as to realize a chemical weapon-free world as soon as possible."

Also, China has always attached great importance to, actively participated in and made due contribution to the negotiations of the convention, Hou said.

Regarding to the draft text of the convention, or WP400/Rev. 2, proposed by the chairman of the ad hoc committee on August 19, Hou said it has more positive aspects than the previous one, WP400/Rev. 1.

It generally reflected the current complex situation in which negotiations have made headway but divergencies still remain.

"The chairman's paper contains some positive parts on which years of negotiations have culminated in consensus, which contribute to safeguarding the fundamental objective of the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of all chemical weapons."

"These provisions are just, reasonable and balanced," and an essential guarantee to realize the fundamental objectives of the convention for the relevant states to fulfill without reservation or delay these obligations of international law.

But the Chinese ambassador also pointed out that this draft convention has not reflected adequately the just demands and reasonable propositions of many developing countries including China.

For this reason, he said, China cannot but express concern and reservations.

In elaborating, Hou said its scope of verification of the chemical industry is too broad.

"An extremely large number of chemical facilities not relevant to CW are subject, where there is no necessity at all, to declaration and verification. The intended inclusion of facilities for space chemistry is totally unreasonable," he explained.

"This will inevitably create grave difficulties for and interference in the chemical industry of the developing countries and adversely affect the effective verification of the chemical facilities truly relevant to the convention."

Secondly, he said, the draft places undue emphasis on challenge inspection being extremely intrusive and short-noticed and ignores the danger of abuse and the necessity to prevent abuse of the right to request such inspection.

"It goes without saying that no harm whatsoever to the major security rights and interests of sovereign states can be allowed," he said.

Thirdly, its provisions on the extension of the CW destruction period, the order of destruction and permission to convert some CW production facilities do not serve the fundamental objective of the convention and are detrimental to the security of non-CW states.

And finally, it also lacks balance in its Article 11 on economic and technological development.

Therefore, he concluded, China, like many other countries, feels greatly concerned that these drawbacks would adversely affect the universality and effectiveness of the convention and be detrimental to international peace and security.

For that reason, China, together with many other developing countries, has put forward on many occasions joint constructive proposals and requested that negotiations be continued to iron out differences and remove the grave drawbacks in this draft.

But regrettably "our appeals have not met with due response. Therefore the Chinese government still needs to further consider whether or not to sign this convention."

The Chinese delegation would not hold objection, however, if the committee agree by consensus to submit the chairman's draft to the conference on disarmament for consideration as annex to the committee's report, Hou added.

NORTH KOREA

Antinuclear Conference Urges U.S. To Withdraw Forces

*SK1708103392 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1013 GMT 17 Aug 92*

[Text] Pyongyang, August 17 (KCNA)—We hold that the United States must take measures to make people believe that there is actually no nuclear weapon in South Korea, not confining itself to propaganda about the “withdrawal of nuclear weapons”, since it has been proven through the inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has no intention to develop nuclear weapons and does not develop them, said the delegates of the United States, Japan, Canada, the Philippines and New Zealand who participated in the World Conference Against A-H bombs in a resolution they adopted at a seminar on Korea in Nagasaki on August 8.

The resolution demands an immediate withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea, saying that there is no excuse for the foreign forces to stay in South Korea any more today when the cold war structure has collapsed and the North-South agreement was adopted.

Daily Urges Scrapping of All Nuclear Weapons

*SK2008113792 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1016 GMT 20 Aug 92*

[“All Nuclear Weapons Must Be Scrapped, Urges NODONG SINMUN”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 20 (KCNA)—If the danger of thermonuclear war is to be averted on the globe and mankind be completely freed from nuclear threat, the test, production, stockpile and use of nuclear weapons must be prohibited and, furthermore, the nuclear weapons be totally scrapped, urges NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

For the complete scrapping of all nuclear weapons, it says, nuclear test must be stopped first of all and the development of new nuclear weapons be abandoned.

The imperialists, while advertising their measures to reduce the nuclear weapons, are developing new nuclear weapons by continuing nuclear tests. This does not diminish nuclear threat, but increases it.

The existing nuclear weapons must be steadily cut back and all of them be scrapped step by step. Nuclear arms cut can actually contribute to the human cause of peace only when it leads to the complete scrapping of all nuclear weapons. It is also essential to completely stop nuclear threat to other countries.

The countries possessed of nuclear weapons must neither use the nuclear weapons against other countries nor use them as a means of gratifying their dominationist desire in international politics until they are completely scrapped.

In building a nuclear-free world, it also stands out as an urgent demand for the nuclear possessing countries to

prevent the emergence of new nuclear powers while completely scrapping the nuclear weapons. It is most important in this to guard against Japan racing toward nuclear armament and decisively check it.

It is a fundamental demand in building a nuclear-free world to create nuclear-free, peace zones in all parts of the world and expand them.

The Workers’ Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea have made momentous overtures for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and are bending energetic efforts to carry them into practice.

The Korean people, as in the past, so in the future, too, will resolutely struggle to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and get all nuclear weapons completely scrapped and actively support and encourage the world people in their struggle for the creation of nuclear-free, peace zones.

SOUTH KOREA

ROK, DPRK Attend UN Regional Disarmament Conference

*SK1808053392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0918 GMT
17 Aug 92*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea, the United States, Japan, China, and Russia began discussion on Asia-Pacific disarmament at a conference that opened its three-day run in Shanghai Monday.

The Asia-Pacific Disarmament Conference, co-sponsored by the U.N. Conference on Disarmament and Beijing University, will cover nuclear issues on the Korean peninsula and institutionalizing a collective regional security forum, possibly using the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), officials said.

Other issues are to include prior notification of military exercises in the region and possible opening of military communication lines.

South Korea sent Kong No-myong, head of the Foreign Ministry’s Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) and Seoul-side chairman of the inter-Korean Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC), as chief delegate.

Other participants include Ronald Lehman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, Yasushi Akashi, chief U.N. representative to the Cambodian peace-keeping mission, Geliy Datemiy, head of staff at the Russian Defense Ministry, and Chen Peiyao from the Shanghai Institute for International Studies.

HUNGARY

Defense Ministry Denies Missile Systems Transfers

LD1308211192 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 2000 GMT 13 Aug 92

[Text] The TANJUG statement issued today, claiming that Hungarian missile equipment was taken to Slovenia, and further that Hungarian and Croatian authorities signed an agreement for the sale of a Hungarian missile unit, lacks all foundation. This is the information given to Hungarian Radio by the press office of the Defense Ministry.

Technical equipment of Hungarian missile troops, dismantled in the autumn of 1990, is being stored in its entirety under secure protection in an appropriate place at one of the Hungarian Army storage depots. The missile systems, or parts of them, were not placed on sale. The missiles belonging to the operational-tactical missile system were

dismantled; therefore, they are unsuited for military use or sale, said Laszlo Tikos, head of the press office of the Defense Ministry.

POLAND

Figures on 1992 Russian Troop Withdrawal Reported

AU1408154692 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 6 Aug 92 p 1

["P.K."-signed report: "The Withdrawal Continues"]

[Text] RZECZPOSPOLITA has been supplied with figures on the withdrawal of Russian forces from Poland by the Press Center of the Russian Federation Northern Group of Forces. This is the first time that a Polish newspaper has received such detailed information. The table below contains information for 1 August 1992. The left-hand column shows the numbers of troops and quantities of hardware to be withdrawn during 1992. The middle column provides figures on troops and equipment withdrawn by July 1992. The right-hand column shows the numbers of troops and quantities of equipment to be withdrawn at a later date.

	To Be Withdrawn in 1992	Withdrawn by July 1992	To Be Withdrawn Later
Troops	23,231	4,649	12,390
Equipment and Weapons:			
—Tanks	220	—	—
—Armored vehicles	698	25	64
—Artillery pieces, mortars	153	—	—
—Surface-to-air missile launchers	121	14	5
—Automobiles	6,509	1,035	6,000
Aircraft:	166	61	12
—Combat aircraft	151	55	—
Helicopters:	64	1	4
—Combat helicopters	41	—	—
Material reserves (tonnes):	100,714	14,321	129,857
—Ammunition	35,647	4,062	3,245

CUBA

Tlatelolco Treaty Conditions Considered

PA1908190592 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Aug 92

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Relations Ministry has confirmed Cuba's willingness to sign the Tlatelolco Treaty, which forbids nuclear weapons in Latin America, once the other countries in the area do so.

Pedro Nunez Mosquera, director of multilateral affairs for the Cuban Foreign Relations Ministry, said that Cuba has not signed the treaty because it cannot renounce its need for defensive weapons, taking into account hostile U.S. policies and the illegal occupation of the Guantanamo Base in eastern Cuba.

ISRAEL

Test Launch Planned Soon for Arrow Missile

TA1308050692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 13 Aug 92

[Text] Another test launch is planned soon for Israel's Arrow antimissile missile. The test will determine the fate of the entire project.

The missile's developers say they believe they can fix the faults revealed by the previous three test launches, which all failed. They are collaborating with American teams to draw lessons from the previous launches.

GENERAL

Ukrainian Conversion Hampered by Doctrine, Funds

*OW1408191192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1803 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukrainian Minister of Machine-Building, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion Viktor Antonov believes that the existing program of conversion in the republic has not been elaborated. In an interview with the newspaper "Delovaya Ukraina" ("Business in Ukraine") he stated in particular that his ministry has not yet received from the Defense Ministry "a concept of how profound the conversion should be", i.e. how many enterprises should be converted. Antonov thinks the reason is that the Defense Ministry "has still no military doctrine and strategic institutions for working it out".

Another problem of the conversion is a shortage of funding, the minister said.

He stressed that Ukraine will not produce aircraft carriers, cruisers or strategic missiles. According to Antonov, the conversion will be carried out in three main directions: the production of equipment for the defense industry, the production of medical equipment, as well as consumer goods.

STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTIONS

U.S. 'Experts' on Grounded Tu-160 Aircraft

*PM1708120292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to the assessments of U.S. military experts, only a small proportion of the Tu-160 aircraft—the most sophisticated strategic bombers of the former USSR—are now capable of taking off. VOA reports that experts connect this with the partition of the Soviet armed forces, when 30 Russian pilots who used to fly the Tu-160 aircraft in Ukraine left for Russia. Now they are training on the few aircraft of this type remaining there but over 20 Tu-160 bombers are at the Ukrainian military airfield without a crew. In addition they have none of the spart parts, which are produced in Russia.

Yeltsin Approves Draft Technical Agreement on START

*OW1708141092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1326 GMT 17 Aug 92*

[From "Diplomatic Panorama" feature based on reports by diplomatic correspondents A. Borodin, S. Ivanov and I. Porshnev; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Boris Yeltsin has approved a draft agreement between Russia and the USA relating to the treaty on reducing and limiting strategic offensive weapons signed on July 31, 1991 [START].

The agreement will regulate technical issues connected with the granting and installation of equipment needed to reproduce telemetric information on magnetic tapes.

Practical work under the agreement will be carried out through the Russian center for diminishing nuclear danger and the U.S. Agency for on-site inspections.

A draft supplement to the protocol on telemetric information states that the party which grants equipment will ensure its installation, normal functioning and servicing, and supply spare parts at the request of the receiving party. A number of devices "relating to the reproduction of tapes with telemetric information" will be granted by the USA as an expression of good will.

The draft supplement stipulates that the equipment, spare parts and technical documentation granted under the agreement cannot be transferred to third countries or persons who have nothing to do with the implementation of this project.

On instructions from President B. Yeltsin the agreement will be signed on behalf of Russia's government by the Russian Federation's representative in the joint Russian-American commission on compliance and inspections.

Impact of Nuclear Force Ceilings Questioned

*PM2008113592 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 92 p 3*

[Article by Candidate of Technical Sciences P. Belov: "Missiles in SDI Sauce: Will We See the Day When Our Parliament Gives Bush a Standing Ovation?"]

[Text] Various opinions have been expressed to date on the preliminary accord between the Russian and U.S. presidents on strategic arms reduction.

Without a doubt, a breakthrough has been achieved in reducing the means of mass destruction. Undoubtedly this is the dawn of a new era in the two countries' mutual relations. This may be called a "breakthrough in American thinking," and with good reason the U.S. Congress gave B. Yeltsin 11 standing ovations!

Nevertheless, something alarms me, perhaps because my whole life has been bound up with strategic arms. My experience of life and work prevents me from seeing the disarmament process as exclusively "lyrical."

A country's nuclear arsenal must be neither too large nor too small: If it is too large there is the threat of total annihilation; if too small, a potential aggressor may go unpunished. The recent agreements, it may be expected, will save the planet from the first scenario but represent the second to the United States.

If the accords reached by Yeltsin and Bush are ratified, the level of confrontation will fall in comparison with the 1991 treaty from a correlation of 5,000-5,978 to 3,000-3,492

Russian and U.S. warheads respectively. In this process, the greatest reductions in Russia will affect the Strategic Rocket Troops, and 4,000 of the highest yield SS-18 and SS-24 missiles deployed in silos will be scrapped. The analogous correlations for warheads on planes and ships are 800-1,264 and 1,750-1,728.

Now for an impartial analysis of the situation regarding nuclear weapons in the Air Force, the Navy, and the Strategic Rocket Troops.

The Air Force. On the combat potential of heavy bombers I stress that we currently lag behind in quantity by 3.5 times; under the 1991 treaty the figure will be 2.36 times; but under the recent agreements it will be 1.5 times. The calculation applied to the U.S. arms was unfortunate—for some reason we agreed to count everything except long-range missiles as a single nuclear warhead, ignoring the numerous short-range missiles and bombs carried by U.S. B-2 and B-52 bombers. Bearing in mind our lag in guidance, detection, and radioelectronic countermeasures systems, the loss in the combat potential of strategic components of the Air Force clearly runs to several orders of magnitude.

Let us note that the lack of comparability between air force potentials was compensated for previously by the fact that United States "allowed" us to keep one-half of the SS-18 grouping (1,540 very large warheads in hardened silos) and also to increase the number of nuclear warheads on mobile ground-based ICBM's to 1,100. That, incidentally, "canceled out" the U.S. superiority at sea.

The Navy. The United States has a considerable superiority in the number of sea-launched nuclear warheads and in 1991 intended to retain a ratio of 3,456 to 1,960. It was proposed to maintain that situation in the first stage of the latest accords, too—as "recompense" for the 65 SS-18 missiles remaining at that time—whereas in the second stage the ratio is virtually equalized. However, this does not imply that the navies have equal combat potential.

In the specialists' opinion the real correlation of forces at sea just three years ago was 1:12, with a ratio of 1:8 in submarines. It is estimated that in the event of hostilities even using conventional weapons lasting eight to nine days the sides' losses would be as follows: Our navy—around 88 percent (complete catastrophe), the U.S. Navy around 13 percent (it would retain its combat capability).

The picture regarding safety at sea is not much better. A large proportion of the nuclear reactors now resting on the bottom of the world's oceans (about 10) and a large portion of the 50 or more warheads there are ours.

Ground-based ICBM's. The radical difference in the recent accords was the renunciation of heavy delivery vehicles with multiple warheads. The Americans' ancient dream of eliminating our SS-18, which they dubbed "the Satan," will possibly soon be realized.

The Americans believe that the SS-18 is the only system ensuring an "asymmetrical response" even when they have SDI, elements of which are currently being developed. According to their estimates, 100 SS-18s are capable of launching into orbit not only 1,000 real warheads but also

100,000 dummy targets. That figure is already beyond the capability of SDI in its simplified version, which is designed for just 200 nuclear warheads at present. When there are three times as many SS-18's as there are now, and if you adapt Stealth technology or "aerosol casings" [aerazolnyye obertki] to their real and dummy warheads, SDI becomes nothing more than a morale-boosting device to reassure the U.S. population.

Is this not the real reason for the possible U.S. attempts to "remove" the CIS' SS-24 silo-based missiles, presently stationed in Ukraine, and "persuade" Kazakhstan to scrap the "hundred or so" SS-18's left on its territory?

What does Russia keep in exchange for the SS-18? Some non-heavy [netyazhelyy] missiles with single warheads in silos as well as mobile ground-based ICBM's which have no equivalent in the world? If this is the latest form of "asymmetry" to equalize the potentials, why did the United States not try to eliminate it before?

Let us look at the prerequisites of the ground-mobile means of basing missiles. The idea of stationing missiles on mobile railroad and truck frames emerged about 20 years ago and was intensively researched in the United States when the means of stationing Minuteman and later MX missiles was being chosen.

These developments were widely publicized by the Americans and did not go unnoticed in the USSR. The U.S. "publicity" proved to be wasteful and disastrous disinformation for us. We deployed around 1,400 missiles in silos and almost 1,000 SS-20's and SS-25's plus several dozen SS-24's on railroad platforms at a cost of many trillions of rubles.

This "disinformation" was disastrous because the mobile complexes that now exist seem to have made Russia their hostage and, like the Chernobyl-style RBMK-1000 reactors, are a "time bomb." I think that the SS-24 and SS-25 missile systems are more dangerous to us than to the enemy: They are more susceptible to accidents and sabotage with disastrous consequences.

You can explain and even understand the dogged silence of our country's military-industrial complex on this matter. The "fathers" of the mobile complexes are fond of saying that "even a cup of hot tea is dangerous" and "a single SS-24 will 'attract' up to 300 U.S. nuclear warheads." So how is one supposed to understand the scientists from the Institute of the United States of America and Canada who propose continuing their deployment and increasing their number to 600-700 by the year 2000?

Questions, questions...

Two more questions—among the most important. On the timetable for the reduction of strategic arms and the need to review the 1972 ABM Treaty. We are being told today that by the end of the millennium 15-20 countries will possess nuclear weapons and the threat not only to the United States but to Russia, too, will increase. Therefore, let us revoke the treaty and create a joint "umbrella," remove the COCOM restrictions, and use our technologies to get rich. Tempting,

isn't it? But where is the guarantee that the umbrella is meant for two? After all, the United States has already paid two-thirds of the cost.

The high speed of strategic arms reduction presupposes a similar speed in their destruction. A conventional charge in a nuclear warhead becomes very unpredictable as it gets older. So to the 8,000 tactical nuclear warheads you must add approximately the same number of strategic ones. There are just three plants for dismantling them, each with a capacity of 1,500 nuclear warheads a year. The costs here are enormous, and so far hardly any resources have been allocated. A national program is needed to ensure the safety and burial of fissionable waste, first and foremost plutonium, but so far there has been a lot of talk, but no programs or techniques for disposing of the plutonium.

I do not tend to view the Washington accords as B. Yeltsin's error. As a politician he said what he had to say with due weight and professionalism, in my view. Now it is up to the other professionals but not the politicians. It is the job of the specialists and experts to conduct the skilled "de facto" research and up to the Supreme Soviet to finalize "de jure" the question of reducing our strategic forces.

As a specialist and expert I can attest that the increase in the number of ground-mobile launchers envisaged by the accords "undermines" peace even more and threatens Russia with unfavorable consequences in the event of the unilateral reduction of the SS-18 and SS-24 silo-based missiles, which are comparatively safe in exploitation, but we have not matured enough for such a "priority" basing mode; it will destroy us if we try to transport nuclear warheads using our crumbling railroad track and worn-out roads.

If the silo-based SS-18's and SS-24's are replaced by mobile SS-24's and SS-25's, the pursuit of policy from a position of strength and its related blackmail of the weak and the temptation to try to act with impunity could become a reality, especially since our president has promised not to go to war with the United States. It is not so long since the United States said that there are things more important than peace. What would happen if the zone of U.S. national interests suddenly included Kolyma or Tyumen, for example? And what could Russia do if that happened? After all, it is sitting on a "powder keg." Any localized conflict using highly accurate conventional weapons would quickly bring that to mind. You cannot rush despairingly to the nuclear button; it will not bring the aggressor to his senses because he is sheltering under the SDI "umbrella." In hopeless situations people do not predict the consequences of their actions very well, and this poses a threat to the whole world.

The parliamentary discussion of the problem of arms reduction is an apt place to assess the actual need for the adoption of bilateral rather than unilateral decisions. The phrases "catch up" and "overtake" are no longer appropriate. What have parities in the scrupulous counting of missiles got to do with that? You can survive if you do not overtax yourself once and for all. Other states—France, Britain, and China—live without parity, using common sense.

SDI, DEFENSE & SPACE ARMS

Cooperation in Space-Based Reconnaissance Urged

924P0164A Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Aug 92 p 7

[Article by Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences Volf Shteynshleyger: "When Everything Will Be Visible From Orbit: Space Radar and International Cooperation"]

[Text] The mass information media, particularly the foreign ones, have repeatedly pointed out that the war in the Persian Gulf was won by electronics.

The entire world saw the TV pictures which showed the precise hit of the projectiles which were aimed electronically at the target.

Possibly not so effective for showing on television but, however, having a greater influence on the course of the war, were the airborne radars for surveillance of the situation, the air space, of the ground and sea.

Thus, the airborne advance warning and control system (AWACS) made it possible to completely control the air space and this had a substantial impact on the success of combat operations. The terrain surveillance radar which was developed shortly before the start of this war, carried on a Boeing-707 aircraft, was of great help in determining the location of the Iraqi missile launchers.

An exceptionally important role in ensuring victory over the Iraqi Armed Forces was played by the earth satellites, making it possible to monitor the situation on land and at sea. Here it was discovered that the high surveillance capabilities of the satellites with optical and infrared sensors were substantially limited not only by the time of day and the weather conditions, but also by such factors as the smokiness of the atmosphere due to the fires at oil wells.

The radar carried on a Lacross satellite was the only space device which made it possible to obtain an image from the earth's surface through the cloud cover and the smokey atmosphere. It was very effective in detecting Iraqi missile launchers and tanks at night.

In this context, after Operation Desert Storm, there was a marked increase in the attention paid to space-based surveillance radars.

What are the prospects in the modern world for such devices which initially were developed for carrying out purely military tasks?

At present, when local conflicts and crisis situations are constantly breaking out in various regions of the world and could develop into major wars, the use of space-based surveillance radars which are all-weather and hence operational at all times, is very important, since they make it possible to monitor the situation and can help to lessen tension in these regions.

Here three types of radars are required: for surveillance of objects on the ground, at sea and aircraft in the air space.

Similar equipment is required for monitoring the carrying out of international disarmament agreements.

The questions related to the development of space systems for carrying out the designated functions have been repeatedly examined before the various U.S. Congressional committees.

Here it has been pointed out that for ensuring the required effectiveness of surveillance on a global scale, the space-based monitoring system should consist of several score satellites. The cost of such a full-scale system, according to the published data, is extremely high and has been estimated in many billions of dollars. Such expenditures are extremely burdensome for any individual country, even an understandably developed one. In line with this, one can understand the recently observed trend of pooling efforts by several countries in this area. Thus, Western Europe has set up the EASC Agency for using satellites to monitor disarmament. By the joint efforts of the European countries, they have proposed establishing a system of several satellites equipped with optical, infrared and radar sensors. According to the publications, a system of four satellites could cost 6-8 billion dollars.

In technical terms, the U.S. and Russia are the most advanced in the area of space-based surveillance radars and for a number of years, these countries have been using satellites equipped with a radar capable of providing great detail for the image of the earth's surface.

Thus, such a Soviet satellite, the Kosmos-1870, operated in orbit in 1987-1989 while at the beginning of 1991, a second analogous-type satellite, the Almaz-1, with somewhat improved performance was launched and is now in orbit. The obtained radar information has been very useful for ecologists and geologists.

Only quite recently have analogous satellites been developed in Western Europe and Japan. However, only the U.S. and Russia have developed the on-board systems for early detection of aircraft in the air space. These are the well-known American airborne surveillance radar system AWACS and the corresponding A-50 Soviet system.

Analogous satellite-based systems (a sort of space AWACS) have not yet been developed, however prominent American military and civilian specialists give very great importance to the creation of such systems. (In contrast to the systems relating directly to the SDI, this system has been classified by the Americans as a ADI, an abbreviation for the name "Air Defense Initiative.") In the discussion of this problem before the Congressional committees, the American Congressmen have pointed out that in the aim of saving on financing, such space-based systems should be made multi-purpose, that is, capable of providing radar surveillance both over the air space as well as surface and ground targets.

We feel that in the interests of Russia and the other technically developed nations, cooperation should be organized for the joint development and operation under UN aegis of radar as well as space-based facilities for monitoring crisis situations in the world and for the compliance with

disarmament treaties. Such cooperation will make it possible to pool the efforts of the participating countries and accelerate development.

The direct reduction in the outlays of each country due to a simple increase in the number of participants is far from the only beneficial effect of cooperation. Our country possesses significant experience and resources in developing various types of space radars and its scientific-technical contribution ("know-how") can be very great, and this, naturally, should be given due consideration. In addition, the very development of a number of the radar subsystems, space devices and the ground infrastructure (receiving, recording and processing of the radar information) and so forth can cost less in our country than in the West, due to the substantially lower labor costs. This will be of economic interest to the partners. The nation will be able to earn significant foreign exchange.

There is a second and very promising area.

This is research and space monitoring (this term has gained ubiquitous use in the scientific literature and is the equivalent to the concepts of "control" and "surveillance") of natural resources and ecology.

It is a question of obtaining radar images of the earth and water surface for carrying out a number of national economic and ecological tasks. For example, the adjustment of geographic maps; the locating of areas of the earth's surface which are of interest for geologists in prospecting for minerals; determining the ice situation for the passage of vessels in the northern latitudes; monitoring the ecological state of the surface of the oceans and seas, the forests, agricultural land and so forth.

Work in this promising area is being intensely carried out in the U.S., Canada, the nations of the European Community and in Japan. Here mutually advantageous forms of cooperation can be found with our country.

It is to be hoped that the appropriate bodies in the structures of the Russian presidential staff, the Russian Supreme Soviet and Government will become closely involved with the above-given questions and will find an effective solution for them.

CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE

Ukrainian Aide Views Talks on Arms Allocations

924P0165A Kiev GOLOS UKRAINY in Russian
23 Jun 92 p 12

[Article by Maj Gen Vadim Grechaninoy, chief of the Center for Strategic Research of the Main Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and candidate of military sciences and Lt Col Vladimir Lartsev, candidate of philosophical sciences: "The Difficult Path to Compromise"]

[Text] Along with the question of the fate of nuclear arms located on Ukrainian territory and the future of the Black Sea Fleet, a most important place in the military relations of

the former USSR republic is held by the problem of the dividing of weapons and equipment of the former Soviet Army.

This is tied to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) signed by the Soviet Union and 21 other countries on 19 November 1990 in Paris. As is known, this document sets the ratio of nonnuclear military potentials for the nations of NATO and the former Warsaw Pact in Europe.

Within the quotas set by CFE for the West and East, each of the countries, both of the North Atlantic Treaty and the formed socialist community, have been given maximum conventional weapons levels which the states which signed the Treaty should have 40 months after it has come into force.

Within the former USSR, the groupings of the Leningrad, Baltic, Belorussian, Kiev, Carpathian, Odessa, North Caucasus, Transcaucasus, Moscow and Volga-Ural Military Districts as well as the Western (Germany) and Northern (Poland) Groups of Forces come under the force of CFE. In accord with the Treaty, the entire territory of the European Soviet Union has been divided into three regions: central, flank and rear. For each of these regions, maximum quotas have been set for combat equipment and weapons which can be left in the combat units and separately in storage.

As a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the European CIS states which were formed on its ruins became the successors to CFE. For them, from the foreign policy aspect, compliance with the document signed on 19 November 1990 in Paris has become a condition for obtaining economic aid from the developed capitalist countries and this is essential for emerging from the crisis.

On the domestic level, the problem of dividing up the combat equipment and weapons of the Soviet Army has "bogged down" on the interest of ensuring national security for the states formed from the USSR and the right of obtaining their share of the legacy of the Soviet Union.

All these factors caused the start in December 1991 of talks between the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia on dividing up the combat equipment and weapons of the former Soviet Army.

From the very outset this has been difficult and contradictory. In many regards this has been determined by the selfishness of the position which was assumed at the very outset by the Moscow delegation toward the other participants in the talks. For example, for tanks Russia requested 8,800 units and this is 66.1 percent of the total treaty quota. This naturally caused sharp disagreement among the representatives from the other CIS states and to some degree united them against Moscow at the talks.

As a result, the latter was forced to move from direct pressure in defending its interests to a round-about maneuver. For precisely these reasons the Russian delegation proposed at the talks that the criterion for dividing would be the method of a "generalized indicator" in figuring the portion due to each republic.

The essence of this is, on the basis of the area of the state's territory, the size of the population and the length of its frontiers, to calculate a mean coefficient for each country participating in the talks. For the Russian Federation, this would be 54.1 percent, for Ukraine 21.8 percent; for Belarus 6.6 percent; for Moldova 2.3; for Georgia 3.8 percent; for Azerbaijan 4.3 percent; for Armenia 2.8 percent.

Such an approach did not gain support from the other delegations. The difficulty is that a significant share of the "generalized indicator" for Russia would be comprised of the territories of the northern tundra, the islands of Novaya Zemlya and Franz Josef Land, the waters of the Arctic Ocean, the expanses of the Northern Urals, Arkhangelsk Oblast and the north of Karelia. For reasons which would be comprehensible for any military man, it would be absurd to deploy tanks, armored fighting vehicles (AFV), artillery and, incidentally, the army aviation in this strategic expanse. The conclusion emerges that a large portion of the weapons and combat equipment which should go to Russia after the dividing up can be deployed by Russia only in the central regions on the frontier with the Baltic, Ukraine and Belarus.

If one recalls the territorial claims voiced periodically by the Russian statesmen against Ukraine, the playing of the Crimean card, the nonconstructive position on the Black Sea Fleet and certain other actions, then one can understand the prospect stemming from the "generalized indicator" method of Moscow receiving a significant military advantage over its neighbors is not only alarming but also causes the most serious fears.

The indicator proposed by Moscow even on the general level was advantageous and acceptable only for the Russian side with its large northern territories and low population density in these regions. All the remaining European CIS states (Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine and the Transcaucasian Republics), in turn, possess small-sized territories but have a high population density and a sufficiently developed infrastructure.

The complexity of the situation developing at the talks was also determined by the fact that the sovereign CIS states are interested, in their turn, not in collective defense, but rather national security and the defensive capabilities of their state within their own frontiers and not the frontiers of the military districts. Considering all this, the Ukrainian delegation proposed its own "averaged criterion" for the dividing of the combat equipment and the weapons and this, in our opinion, makes it possible to carry out the calculation more objectively.

This is deduced on the basis of statistical analysis and determining the mean component from the following indicators:

1. The necessary amount of conventional weapons for each CIS state considering a comparative analysis of the strategic situation at the moment of the Treaty's signing (19 November 1990) and today.
2. The needs of the specific CIS state for conventional weapons in relation to the population size and the amount

of conventional weapons in the adjacent countries of Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia.

3. The size of the population of the given state.
4. Consideration of the regional levels set by the Paris Treaty for the central, flank and rear areas in the overall quota for combat equipment and weapons demanded by each state participating in the talks.
5. The demand for weapons and combat equipment as determined by the national plan for military organizational development of the specific state.

If one proceeds from the assumption that the CIS, like any normal union of civilized countries, has at least the slightest common strategic interests, then it would be natural to argue that the amount of weapons and combat equipment which should be claimed by Ukraine, Belarus and all the other participants in the talks as a result of the division should correspond to that percentage of the total amount of weapons and combat equipment which the specific republic of the former USSR had at the moment the Treaty was signed in 1990.

Determining the average percentage of our state for the types of weapons in the total amount set by the Treaty for the USSR would make it possible to deduce an "averaged criterion" of the figures for Ukraine. This would be 27.9 percent.

In the course of four rounds of meetings, as a result of hard and painstaking joint work, it has been possible to come closer together and basically agree on the level of requests for the weapons to be divided by Moscow, Kiev and Minsk in the central region. However the levels of the states of the Transcaucasus and Moldova, on the one hand, and Russia, on the other, remain unapproved. Nor was it possible to eliminate these contradictions in the course of the fifth and sixth rounds of meeting in April-May of this year.

The developing situation has caused great concern in the international community. Numerous written messages and oral statements began to be received from the leaders and politicians of the U.S., Canada, Germany, France and a number of other countries. In these they drew the attention of the parliaments, governments and heads of states of the former USSR to the inadmissibility of drawing out the talks on dividing the conventional weapons of the Soviet Army and to the necessity of a quick signing of an agreement on this question and its ratification by the Supreme Soviets.

Their main argument has been that at the beginning of July 1992 in Helsinki there will be the previously planned meeting of the heads of the member states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe [CSCE] and prior to this, all the problems should be settled related to the adopting of a decision on the coming of CFE into force. In preparing for this meeting, in Oslo, a conference was held for all the 29 CFE member states on the foreign ministers level. The task of the given forum was to verify that the prerequisites for CFE to come into force had been met.

Even before this conference, the delegations of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and

Georgia had found an acceptable agreement. This made it possible for them at a meeting on 15 May in Tashkent to sign a special agreement on the principles and procedure for the CIS countries to carry out CFE.

Reports on CIS Troop Withdrawal From Germany

Arms Scrapped Near Berlin

PM1208103192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 8 Aug 92

[Report by V. Kondratyev from Germany; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Last Monday the FRG began with great pomp, as the first country in Europe, to scrap conventional arms under the agreement which was signed in Paris at the end of 1990, and today Russia also embarked on the implementation of its treaty commitments at the Western Group of Forces [WGF] which has its headquarters in Wuensdorf near Berlin, in Germany. A total of 46,000 weaponry units are to be eliminated, 16,000 by NATO and 30,000 by the former Warsaw Pact.

It is an expensive business. The German side is spending more than 5,000 German marks [DM] per armored carrier, and DM12,500 per tank on the operation. Our expenditure is about half that, but it has to be admitted that we will get something from the German companies for the scrap metal.

Who stands to gain, and who stands to lose here in military terms? In the past this was a very controversial question. What is the situation in the new conditions?

[Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces] Whenever something that was created is broken up there is a certain amount of sadness. However, in view of the fact that a time is coming where we are no longer confronting one another in a ready-to-fight position, I believe that this makes up for the sadness which I have mentioned.

[Kondratyev] So preconditions are created to forestall an attack, to ensure that nobody is capable of starting a war of aggression, and even if the FRG is initially destroying only the former GDR Army's weapons, at least they will not end up being sold to other countries, Hungary or Czechoslovakia for example, that would like to buy them.

Our own defense capability is at a high level. On what was once a forward-based position in the East-West confrontation, first-class equipment is still on display—primarily combat aircraft. The legendary 16th Air Army, which is stationed in Germany and in which Ivan Kozhedub himself once served, is marking its 50th anniversary. Marshal Shaposhnikov commanded this army at one time, and despite the somewhat sad occasion for our servicemen—the scrapping of military equipment—a festive mood reigns in Berlin today.

German Report

*LD0808213392 Hamburg DPA in German
1902 GMT 8 Aug 92*

[Text] Wuensdorf/Berlin (DPA)—The scrapping of 2,500 armored vehicles belonging to the CIS Armed Forces began today at the main headquarters of the Western Group of Russian Forces in the Brandenburg town of Wuensdorf, near Berlin. According to Radio Free Berlin, this was announced by a spokesman of the international inspection team monitoring adherence to the treaty on conventional disarmament in Europe. Within the framework of the agreement signed in 1990, 29 states have to dismantle 40,000 weapons systems by the end of 1995.

In Wuensdorf, the first armored vehicles were scrapped in the presence of Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, the former defense minister and current supreme commander of the CIS Armed Forces, and General Matvey Burlakov, the supreme commander of its Western Group.

According to television reports, no official representatives from Bonn were invited to the action. On the German side only an environmental expert from the Brandenburg Government is said to have taken part. This could not be confirmed by the Potsdam State Chancellory today.

First Tank Army Leaves

*LD1808200792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1929 GMT 18 Aug 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Konstantin Savvin]

[Text] Berlin August 18 TASS—Official activities to bid farewell to the First Tank Army of the Western Group of troops began in Dresden on Tuesday [18 August]. Attending the meeting in the Dresden House of Officers were Colonel-General Boris Gromov, Hero of the Soviet Union and Russian Deputy Defence Minister, Colonel-General Matvey Burlakov, commander-in-chief of the Western Group of troops, First Tank Army veterans, and also representatives of the Saxony Government and Bundeswehr officers.

Lieutenant-General Leontiy Shevtsov, commander of the First Tank Army, said the Army has fulfilled its mission and will from now on accomplish the tasks assigned to it on the territory of the Russian Federation.

"We are turning one of the last pages of the Second World War today," Colonel-General Gromov told the meeting. "The withdrawal of the Western Group of troops, which is being completed, is a remarkable event in the life of the Russian and German peoples. This event is evidence of our firm intention to tread the path of friendship and mutual understanding, which is in the interests of all peoples," Gromov added.

Saxony Finance Minister Georg Milbradt also addressed the meeting.

Further Report

*LD1908201392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1857 GMT 19 Aug 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Konstantin Savvin]

[Text] Dresden August 19 TASS—A public meeting was held on Dresden's central square on Wednesday [19 August] to bid farewell to the First Russian Tank Army which is leaving Germany for Russia.

Saxony's Finance Minister Georg Milbradt, who attended the meeting, said the withdrawal would have been impossible just a few years ago. The current situation brought about by radical changes in Europe, is the first sign of normalisation, the minister said. He pointed out that both sides should use the opportunity granted by history to pave the way for fruitful partnership and cooperation.

The Dresden Oberburgomaster Herbert Wagner called for laying the foundation for genuine partnership between Germany and Russia in new conditions. He called on the people of both countries to expand peaceful cooperation. Wagner wished Russian servicemen success.

The ceremony was followed by a reception held in the palace of culture by local and municipal authorities in connection with the withdrawal of the Russian Army from Saxony.

Belarus To Set Up National Army by 1993

*MK1108134792 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 11 Aug 92 p 1*

[NEGA report under "In Brief" rubric: "Belarusan Army's Prospects"]

[Text] Around 100 large military units will be formed in the Belarusian National Army within Belarus before the end of 1992. Specifically, it is proposed to form a mechanized brigade based on the Western Group of Forces.

Further on Russian Troop Withdrawal From Poland**Walesa Writes to Yeltsin**

*LD1208194192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1832 GMT 12 Aug 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Potemkin]

[Text] Warsaw, 12 August—Lech Walesa, president of the Republic of Poland, has sent a letter to Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation. Referring to the conversations with the Russian president in Moscow and Helsinki, the press office of the head of the Polish state reported today, L. Walesa mentioned in the letter issues related to the withdrawal of the former USSR's troops, and especially to financial accounts between Russia and Poland.

Also, the Polish president also informed the Russian president about a memorandum to governments of Western states prepared by the government of his country. According to the press office, this deals with financing by Polish firms of construction in the Russian Federation of housing for servicemen from the units which are being withdrawn from Poland.

Withdrawal Said On Schedule

*PM1808084192 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI
in Russian 15 Aug 92 p 2*

[Vladimir Nikanorov report under the general heading: "The Soldiers Are Coming... From Poland: With What and To Where?"]

[Text] A delegation of Russian military experts led by Colonel General Anatoliy Kleymenov, deputy chief of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff, has come back from Poland. The talks with representatives of the Polish General Staff focused on problems associated with the withdrawal of the Northern Group of Forces from Poland.

Of late the Polish press has reflected a certain degree of tension in relations between the two countries. A number of accusations have been leveled at the Russian military. They are alleged to be engaged in illegal trade and are apparently deliberately destroying the installations destined to be handed over to the Poles... Things have reached the point where the Polish side has even banned Russian military transport aircraft from flying over its territory, including aircraft en route to the Western Group of Forces. The direct reason for this was the suspicion that these aircraft were allegedly taking out stolen automobiles.

Colonel General Kleymenov commented on the situation as follows.

"Suspensions were dispelled when we gave permission for all automobiles destined for shipment to be inspected. Nothing reprehensible was discovered. So the incident can be considered closed. Especially as an agreement was signed on transit flights by Russian military aircraft through Polish airspace as a result of our talks in Warsaw.

"The document bearing, in addition to my signature, that of Brigade General Robelek, deputy chief of the Polish Army's General Staff, makes it possible to continue the systematic withdrawal of Russian troops from Germany without violating Poland's sovereignty. It lays down strictly defined through routes for our aircraft across Polish territory. Provision is made for cooperation with the Polish Army in emergency situations."

The troop withdrawal from Poland is proceeding as planned, precisely in accordance with the schedule of which the Polish leadership were informed. To date more than 45,000 personnel, 453 tanks, 953 armored combat vehicles, all artillery, and anti-aircraft missile launchers have been withdrawn. Virtually none of our combat aviation remains on Polish territory.

More than two months ago in Moscow a Russian-Polish protocol was signed regulating property, financial, and other problems. According to this protocol, the intention was to set up a joint Russian-Polish commission whose activity would be aimed at seeking ways of cooperation. Regrettably, this commission has still not been set up. Yet sessions of this commission could, *inter alia*, have clarified the situation regarding military camps, which, according to some Polish newspapers, "are deliberately being looted by Russian servicemen." Of course, anything may happen. But under the agreements we will surrender all real estate to the Polish side

only once the troops have withdrawn from a particular installation. If there is anything wrong with it, it is eliminated before the property is handed over. This handover takes place in accordance with the document to which both sides were signatories. At present all the camps handed over by the Russian units have been accepted by the Poles without complaints.

On the other hand, one is not as yet conscious of any desire on the part of the Poles to implement the promises made by the Polish president in May as regards taking part in providing amenities for the troops being withdrawn from Poland and thus speeding up this withdrawal. What is more, Russian units are still being prevented from selling property that belongs to them. Although Polish enterprises have responded with interest to proposals in this connection.

Latvia: Kozyrev Withdrawal Statement 'Unacceptable'

*LD1308225692 Riga Radio Riga Network in Russian
2000 GMT 13 Aug 92*

[Text] A closed session of the Commission for Foreign Affairs took place in Latvia's Supreme Soviet today.

As the chairman of the Commission, Indulis Bergmans, stated after the session, it was devoted to the recent statement by Russia's Foreign Minister Kozyrev on Russia's policy on the Baltic republics.

In the course of the session, Martins Virsis, Latvia's deputy foreign minister, briefed the members of the commission on the talks that took place in Moscow between the foreign ministers of the Baltic states and Russia.

The Commission for Foreign Affairs resolved that Russia's position *vis-a-vis* the Baltic republics is unacceptable for three reasons:

First, the Russian side is linking issues of the withdrawal of its troops to Latvia's internal political problems. As a result of this, relevant talks on the withdrawal of Russian troops are impossible. Such a position creates the impression that Russia has an interest in deliberately blocking the talks' progress.

Second, in the statements of the foreign minister, a few points are similar to an ultimatum, which can be assessed as interference in Latvia's internal affairs.

Third, the Commission for Foreign Affairs supports Sweden's initiative that matters connected with the withdrawal of occupation troops must be examined within the framework of the European Security and Cooperation Conference, inasmuch as the Baltic republics have always advocated the internationalization of this problem.

In the view of Indulis Bergmanis, Latvia must bring international pressure to bear on Russia, using Latvia's UN membership and the fact that most countries support Latvia's interests. Moreover, Latvia can bring nonviolent pressure to bear on the Russian military units stationed on its territory.

Dniester President 'Intends' To Form Army*OW1308103992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0944 GMT 13 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The president of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic Igor Smirnov disclosed on Wednesday [12 August] that the region intends to set up its own army. He said this could have been done on the basis of the 14th Russian Army stationed there, but the move was blocked by its former commander Colonel-General Yuriy Netkachev.

The session of the Bendery city council where he spoke stressed that the Bendery railway junction is ready for the resumption of traffic of the Odessa and south-western railways.

According to the chairman of the city council Vyacheslav Kogut, the resumption of traffic is hindered by the demands of the leaders of Tiraspol who are waiting for Chisinau's consent to the addition of the villages of Varnitsa, Hajimus and Gyska to Bendery.

Lithuanian Aide on Talks on Russian Troop Pullout Schedule**Wants Complete Withdrawal by End of Year***OW1408181292 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1740 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuanian minister without portfolio, Gediminas Serksnys, said in an interview to a BALTFAX correspondent Friday that at the round of Russian-Lithuanian talks in Vilnius on August 11-12 the Russian side announced its plan to withdraw 11,000 servicemen from Lithuania by the end of 1992, 7,000 in 1993, and the remaining 17,000 in 1994.

According to the information provided by Mr. Serksnys, Russia has already withdrawn from Lithuania 3,800 of its troops there.

Mr. Serksnys commented, in the meantime, that Lithuania is insisting that Russia complete its troops withdrawal by the end of this year.

Russian Withdrawal Plans Outlined*LD1508095992 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International
Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Excerpts] Russia is ready to withdraw 11,000 troops from Lithuania this year, 7,000 more next year, and another 17,000 in 1994. This was stated by Minister Without Portfolio Gediminas Serksnys, a member of the Lithuanian state delegation negotiating with Russia, as he gave details of this week's meeting with the Russian delegation in Vilnius. [passage omitted]

Gediminas Serksnys added that to date Russia has withdrawn 3,800 troops from Lithuania.

Landsbergis Welcomes Progress in Talks*LD1608204492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1954 GMT 16 Aug 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kazys Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius August 16 TASS—Lithuanian Parliamentary Speaker Vytautas Landsbergis has welcomed the results of the talks between the Lithuanian and Russian state delegations last week as a "step forward, but only the first step."

In an interview with Lithuanian television broadcast late on Sunday, Landsbergis said the progress lies in the very fact that "the talks have at last begun, while previously there were only attempts either to delay or dodge them."

He described as a positive sign that "Russia has made its own proposals" to the schedule of the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania, adding that the proposals "sounded in Moscow almost like demands and conditions," Landsbergis said.

Speaking on the political situation in Lithuania, Landsbergis said it will be largely dominated by the upcoming election campaign in the republic which is expected to be very "fierce."

Latvian Delegation Statement on Troop Withdrawal Talks**Rejects Linkage***LD1708094892 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
2000 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Text] The Latvian state delegation participating in talks with the Russian Federation today made an official announcement in connection with the recent meeting in Moscow between the foreign ministers of the three Baltic states and Russia. The announcement states that the Latvian side rejects any attempts to link the question of army withdrawal to the resolution of other problems and does not agree to any preconditions, especially any that contradict the agreement that was previously reached and publicly confirmed by both sides. The Republic of Latvia bases its relations with the Russian Federation on the 1920 peace treaty between Latvia and Russia. Latvia does not have any territorial claims against Russia. The sides plan to continue the talks in late August.

Preliminary Russian Proposals Rejected*OW1408140392 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1331 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Latvia is categorically objecting to any attempts at tying the issue of the Russian troops withdrawal with concomitant solution of any other problems, therefore, it won't accept any preliminary conditions advanced by Russia. This position of the Latvian Government has been outlined in the nota verbale coordinated Friday by the Latvian state delegation for talks with Russia headed by Latvia's state minister, Janis Dinevics. The Latvian MFA [Ministry of Foreign affairs] is expected to pass this nota

verbale to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in terms of its official response to Andrey Kozyrev's proposals on August 6.

The Latvian MFA note contains a message that the Latvian legislation is aimed at building a democratic society providing equality to all the nationalities residing in Latvia. The latter, the note reads, has been amply certified by various European Council experts.

The Latvian side also notes that any actions performed by Russia indicative of its imperial tymbre with respect to the Baltic countries would be adversely received by the Latvian public and may affect the good neighborhood relations between Russia and Latvia.

Estonian Government Discusses Russian Troop Withdrawal

Considers Making Defense Ministry Responsible

*OW1408180692 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1739 GMT 14 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An Estonian Government meeting this Saturday will consider the possibility of transferring responsibility for all questions connected with the withdrawal of Russian troops from the republic to the Estonian Defence Ministry. Estonian Deputy Defense Minister Toomas Puura [name as received] informed Russian military personnel of this decision during a meeting Friday.

In an interview with a BALTFAX correspondent, Puura noted that the Ministry will gain the full authority needed to effectively resolve all questions connected with military property. Puura added that Estonia will not hinder the removal of mobile army property, but that immovable property should remain inside the republic. "If it works out this way we should be able to resolve the question reasonably quickly," he said.

Commissions To Be Established

*OW1508182592 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1507 GMT 15 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] High-ranking officers in the Estonian and Russian Armed Forces had a meeting in Tallinn yesterday (August 14) at which they decided that a commission should be set up on each side to deal with various matters related to the withdrawal of Russian forces from Estonia.

The composition of the commissions will apparently be clear by the end of next week. The Russian commission will be headed by the commander of the 144th division, Col. Anatoliy Vetronogov.

The parties discussed the transfer of Russian armed forces property to Estonia, the movement of Russian servicemen through Estonian territory and across its border, and other questions. Both sides expressed the conviction that such meetings would help develop friendly relations between the two nations and rule out the possibility of conflicts like those which took place in Estonia in July.

The Estonian delegation included Defense Minister Ulo Uluots, his deputy Toomas Puura, the chief of Kaitseliit, Maj. Manivald Kasepold, and a chief of section from the Border Protection Department, Edgar Aaro. The Russian delegation consisted of the deputy commander of the North-Western Armed Forces Group, Lt.-Gen. Pyotr Ledyayev, and officers from army and naval units stationed in Estonia.

Commissions To Resolve Troop Withdrawal

*LD1608162192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0255 GMT 15 Aug 92*

[By BALTIC NEWS SERVICE correspondent Yuriy Maloveryan for TASS]

[Text] Tallinn, 15 Aug—At a meeting between the Estonian and Russian military in Toompea on Friday, it was decided that both sides will set up commissions to collaborate in solving questions connected with the withdrawal of units of the Russian Army from Estonia. The meeting was attended from the Estonian side by Defense Minister Ulo Uluots and from the Russian side by Lieutenant General Petr Ledyayev, deputy commander of the Northwestern Group of Forces. The composition of the commissions is due to be finalized by the end of next week. From the Russian side the head of the commission has already been appointed. He is Anatoliy Vetronogov, staff colonel of the 144th Division.

"The fact that there is now a specific individual with whom we can tackle all issues is particularly important to us," Toomas Puura, Estonian deputy minister of defense, told this BALTIC NEWS SERVICE correspondent.

At the meeting the sides exchanged information connected with the transfer of facilities, the movement of the military along Estonian territory and across its border, and other aspects of the Russian troops' stay in Estonia. The representatives of both sides expressed confidence that such meetings will help to establish good relations and to prevent the type of conflict which occurred in Estonia in July.

Reports on Ukrainian Implementation of CFE Cutbacks

To Eliminate Arms Beginning 18 Aug

*LD1508092592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0122 GMT 15 Aug 92*

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Zayka for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 15 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—From 18 August to 17 September, Ukraine plans to eliminate some armaments in line with the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe, whose aim is to reduce military potentials of its member states. "According to the treaty, Lieutenant General Ivan Oleynik, deputy defense minister for armaments, cited this report by the press service of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, saying that 2,450 tanks, 2,220 combat armored vehicles, and also artillery systems of more than 100-mm caliber are subject to reduction and elimination. Factories in Zhitomir, Kiev, Lvov, Nikolayev, and Kharkov have been prepared for the elimination of this equipment."

From an economic point of view, the elimination of this equipment is extremely unprofitable, he noted. For example, the cost to eliminate only one T-64 tank amounts to more than 7,000 rubles [R] and of a combat armored vehicle to more than R4,000. Moreover, this equipment could be used for peaceful purposes. For example, after appropriate reconstruction they can be used successfully in the national economy. Thus, the Kiev tank repair factory jointly with scientists of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences as long as two years ago mastered the production of fire-extinguishing units that do not have analogies in world practice.

The elimination of combat equipment will be carried out under strict international monitoring. All member states who signed the treaty have been notified in advance about measures planned by Ukraine for the elimination of armaments.

CSCE Observers Arrive

*OW1508184492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1509 GMT 15 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Military experts of the CSCE states have been arriving in Ukraine today to inspect the elimination of weapons in accordance with the treaty on conventional armaments in Europe.

Ukraine's Deputy-Defence Minister Lieutenant-General Ivan Oleynik said that about 2,450 tanks, 2,200 armored vehicles and artillery systems with a caliber exceeding 100 millimeters will be eliminated from August 18 to September 17 at arms enterprises in Zhitomir, Kiev, Lvov, Nikolayev and Kharkov. The general said that the elimination of the military equipment is economically inexpedient: the elimination of one tank costs more than 7,000 and of an armored vehicle—more than 4,000 roubles. If rebuilt, this equipment could be used for civilian purposes, he said.

Defense Aide Gives Amounts To Be Scrapped

*OW1808110592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0956 GMT 18 Aug 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Ukrainian deputy defence minister for armaments Lieutenant-General Ivan Oleynik has told IF [INTERFAX] that in keeping with the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe Ukraine is to scrap 2450 tanks, 2220 armored combat vehicles and all artillery guns with a caliber exceeding 100 mm. Facilities in Zhitomir, Kiev, Lvov, Nikolayev and Kharkov have been prepared for the purpose.

The general believes that from the economic viewpoint the destruction of the vehicles is extremely undesirable for Ukraine. It will take over 7,000 rubles to scrap one T-64 tank and 4,000 rubles to scrap an armored vehicle. The deputy minister thinks the machinery could be used for peaceful purposes.

According to the press service of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry, under the treaty the country will scrap part of the

weapons between August 18 and September 17 under international supervision. All sides to the treaty were informed in advance about Ukraine's plans concerning the limitation of armaments.

21 T-55 Tanks Dismantled at Lvov

*LD1908044492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 2130 GMT 18 Aug 92*

[Text] The first batch of 21 T-55 tanks has been dismantled and destroyed at the Lvov armored vehicle maintenance plant. These are the first steps in the reduction of Ukrainian military hardware envisaged by the treaty on conventional weapons and equipment in Europe [CFE].

Boris Tarasyuk, chairman of the Ukraine national committee for disarmament issues and deputy foreign minister, reported to an ITAR-TASS correspondent that Ukraine has ratified this treaty and was the first to start implementing it. This will help the state to build peaceful, good-neighborly relations with European countries in the atmosphere of security and trust.

Foreign Observers Present

*LD2208020292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 19 Aug 92*

[Text] A group of military experts from Great Britain, Germany, the United States of America, and France are following how Ukraine is fulfilling the terms of the agreement on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

I recall that the destruction of the first group of T-55 tanks has started at the Lvov armored vehicle maintenance plant.

It is the first time that we have conducted a disarmament inspection, said the French representative Christian Jougues, leader of the group of observers, and obviously we don't yet have sufficient experience, but we underwent special training before arriving in Ukraine. We can confirm that what we have seen will serve as an example and model for the skillful organization of the process of reducing arms. The method that was used at the enterprise fully complies with the terms of the agreement.

Norway Completes Inspection of Armed Forces

*PM1808150192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
18 Aug 92 Morning Edition p 4*

[ITAR-TASS report under the "From Our Correspondents and News Agencies" rubric: "Norway Completes Inspection of Russian Armed Forces"]

[Text] "The results of an inspection of the armed forces on the territory of Russia have strengthened the belief that the provisions of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe are being observed," one of the Norwegian officers declared.

The group of inspectors has completed a check of the information provided on Russia's Armed Forces. It was conducted in accordance with the agreements signed by the CSCE member countries on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe.

Lithuanian Premier on Talks With Nordic Leaders

LD1908204792 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0600 GMT 19 Aug 92

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The processes taking place in the Baltic region have been discussed by the prime ministers of eight countries. Reports were made by the prime ministers of these countries about the processes and changes currently under way, internationality relations, how relations with Russia are developing, and how the problem of the withdrawal of the Russian troops is being solved. The issues related to economic cooperation between the economic community of the Nordic countries and the Baltic states and the assistance to these countries was also discussed.

Commenting on this meeting, Lithuanian Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala stressed that the Nordic states, especially Norway and Finland, are showing somewhat greater inclination to help drought-stricken Lithuanian agriculture.

Talks were held on the construction of the motorway, the Via Baltica, with the head of the Finnish Government. It was proposed to set up a joint project of four or five states which could be assisted financially by other northern states as well. Abisala said that the above assistance could not only help construct the motorway but also establish a certain economic zone along the Via Baltica.

During the meeting with the head of the Swedish Government, especially great attention was paid to what further assistance can be expected in the negotiations with Russia on the withdrawal of the troops and that these troops be withdrawn sooner. It was also suggested that perhaps it would be worthwhile to set up a separate fund which would be directed at the construction of apartments in Russia for servicemen of the withdrawing troops. It must be said that this idea is not especially popular in the Nordic states; however, some interest in this has been shown. If it is seen that this is the only obstacle preventing Russia from withdrawing its troops, then some financial help can be expected. A promise was given to help Lithuania to sell for hard currency the installations which have been foreseen for this purpose. [sentence as heard]

Concerning the assistance in the introduction of the litas, this process is progressing gradually.

Abisala pointed out that interest was shown in the situation concerning minorities and human rights in the Baltic states. It seems that the three Baltic states have succeeded in clarifying the situation.

It was stressed by the Lithuanian prime minister at a news conference that this problem is an artificial one and that it was created by Moscow in order to put political pressure on the Baltic states and that the policy pursued by Lithuania regarding minorities is on a European level. In some cases it even surpasses this level.

Danish Prime Minister Schleuter said that the sooner the Russian troops are withdrawn, the greater the stability in the entire region will be and that Russia will benefit from this as well. Assessing the statement adopted by the prime ministers of the Nordic states on the withdrawal of the Russian

troops, Lithuanian Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala said that it is one more step taken in support of the Baltic states.

The heads of the governments were invited to come to the meeting in [name indistinct] with their wives. A separate agenda for the visit was arranged for them.

Notes Statement on Troop Withdrawal

LD1908200892 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 18 Aug 92

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Lithuanian Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala met Swedish Prime Minister Karl Bildt this morning. The meeting was held behind closed doors.

Abisala has just returned from the meeting, held in Denmark, and gave an interview to our correspondent, Valdas Kanapienis:

[Begin recording] [Kanapienis] [Words indistinct]

[Abisala] One must not expect any results, and by this I mean concrete results, from this meeting, because it was an annual summer meeting of the prime ministers of the Nordic Council states. It is always an informal and free meeting without a special agenda and is not held to discuss any specific documents.

However, the ministers violated tradition by adopting a special statement on the issue of the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Lithuania. The rest was, as I have already said, more of an educational nature: the start of some official proposals and the clarification of the situation. It was interesting to see that although we are close neighbors and one could say coworkers at many international forums, the situation is not sufficiently clear to them. It was evident that they lack information on how we live here. Therefore, it was useful in this respect to be present at this meeting, not to mention getting personally acquainted, which means a great deal to a politician.

The only official document adopted by the Nordic Council ministers is the statement on the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Lithuania. It urges carrying this out sooner and withdrawing the troops from the capital first. [end recording]

Latvian Chairman, Russian Commander Discuss Withdrawal

LD2008212892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2046 GMT 20 Aug 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga August 21 TASS—Head of the Latvian parliament Anatolijs Gorbunovs and General Leonid Mayorov, commander-in-chief of the North-Western Group of Forces, had a meeting on Thursday [20 August]. In the opinion of both sides, the meeting will make inter-state negotiations about the Russian troop withdrawal more specific. [BALTFAX in English at 1832 GMT on 20 August in a

similar report adds: "A spokesman for the Latvian parliament told Baltfax that Col. Gen. Leonid Mayorov emphasized he would do everything possible to withdraw troops from the Baltic countries as soon as he received an order to do that." The general promised to help tighten discipline in Army units and promote the observance of laws of the states where Army units are stationed.

Mayorov called the attention of the parliamentary speaker to the fact that a number of social problems had aggravated of late. In August there were difficulties for retired military drawing pensions in Latvian roubles and the payment of salaries to the military in Latvian roubles. This resulted from lack of coordination between the actions of the Latvian and Russian banks. Gorbunovs noted that although the interests of the two sides do not always coincide as regards particulars, the two states are united in one thing, the need for the troop withdrawal. He noted that Latvia and Russia are still unable to reach agreement about the time-frame for the troop withdrawal. Gorbunovs pointed out that the higher military establishments situated in Latvia continue working, although an arrangement was reached at the negotiations that studies at these educational establishments should be stopped.

Russian Official on Baltic Withdrawal Talks

*PM2108153892 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
22 Aug 92 Morning Edition p 6*

[Interview with First Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev by Vasily Kononenko; place and date not given: "Baltic Countries Prepared To Help Provide Facilities for Russian Servicemen"]

[Text] In connection with the request submitted to the United Nations by Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia to include the question of the complete withdrawal of Russian troops from their territory on the agenda of the 47th General Assembly session, IZVESTIYA asked Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, Russian Federation first deputy foreign minister, to comment on this situation.

[Kononenko] Fedor Vadimovich, please tell us about the objectives and results of the talks with the Baltic states and why they are dragging on.

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] First I wish to note that the recent round of talks in the Baltic region was nothing out of the ordinary in the prolonged cycle of work by our delegations. The delegations were formed back in the spring to tackle the range of problems that had arisen as a result of the "divorce" in the family of the former USSR. There is a whole package of property, political, economic, military, humanitarian, and other issues here, and moreover they are highly complex and not often met with in interstate relations.

[Kononenko] But the discussion was mainly about military matters?

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] Yes, the delegations of the Baltic states are currently giving priority to military problems. It is well known that the troops that used to belong to the USSR and then to the Joint Command and which are still in the Baltic states, are now under Russia's jurisdiction and are

maintained by Russia. There are tens of thousands of officers, warrant officers, and soldiers. As you will understand, it is impossible to withdraw them overnight, and our partners are taking this fact into account, despite the calls that are heard there for this process to be pushed through without regard for the realities. As a result of the talks a mutually acceptable approach, in my view, has now emerged. It amounts to the following:

The Baltic states insistently demand the speediest possible agreement on the timetable and dates for the troops' withdrawal. In this connection I wish to say that we have a Russian leadership directive to do this by the end of 1994. This gives us only just over half the time allowed earlier. If our partners officially accept this as a starting point, all the other questions, including the formulation of a concrete schedule for the redeployment of troop units, will certainly be resolved.

[Kononenko] One hears people say: If Russia sends no new recruits to the Baltics, the officers and warrant officers will go home sooner.

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] That reasoning is unrealistic. Many of the units stationed there are "reduced-strength" [kadro-vannyye] units and consist mainly of officers and warrant officers. For them to resettle in Russia, housing and many other things must be provided. We propose to resolve as a package all the problems that have accumulated—military, economic, humanitarian, and so forth. This should not, however, be taken to mean that we will delay the process of troop withdrawal until such time as all the other questions are resolved, for instance property questions. There should be no artificial linkage here. At the same time we want to define the legal status of Russian servicemen in the Baltic states for the whole time they are there. This is extremely necessary both to ensure their rights and to prevent all kinds of incidents.

I must note the constructive stance of our partners in the talks in this sphere. Thus the Estonian side, with a view to facilitating the troop withdrawal process, is showing readiness to make materials and construction workers available to build housing for servicemen in Russia and to create joint firms and enterprises based on military facilities. Of course, we cannot rely on such help alone, because the expenses will be huge. But all the same, it would be very welcome. The Lithuanian side proposed the idea of forming an international resettlement fund to finance the construction of social facilities in the areas where the troops are to be redeployed. There is a similar understanding in Latvia. In this way the sides' positions are being worked on intensively and agreements and accords on individual problems have already been initialed. As for property disputes, a reciprocal renunciation of claims by all sides could be the optimum solution.

I would like to mention another military aspect—the fate of a number of strategic facilities on Baltic territory. I am talking about missile attack early warning stations, which are very important to Russia's security. In the event of the ill-considered elimination of these stations, the whole existing system of world security would be disrupted,

leading to great complications. It is not only our military experts who consider it important to preserve them even after the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic states, until new, similar facilities have been created elsewhere. We, for our part, are prepared to propose conditions for their operation that would rule out suspicion in terms of a threat to these states' national security, for instance joint duty [dezhurstvo] at the said facilities.

[Kononenko] It is no secret that Russian servicemen and their families are facing difficulties with material and technical supplies, there have been ethnic incidents, and sometimes no one will help them defend their rights. What can you tell us on this subject?

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] As far as the difficulties are concerned, they are not arising as a result of the Baltic states' actions, they stem from the grave economic situation of Russia itself. There have, of course, been incidents, and it is not easy to rule them out in the future. We hope that with the commencement of full operation of the Russian embassies in these states, the danger of clashes of this kind will be reduced. We are instructing our staffers to devote priority attention to safeguarding the rights and interests of Russian citizens on the basis of existing and future bilateral accords in this sphere as well as international norms. There are already agreed draft documents in this sphere which it would be expedient to sign in the near future. But we are not losing sight of the developing domestic political situation in the Baltic states—the upcoming elections there and the possible strengthening of the positions of radical nationalist forces.

SHORT-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

Scientists Doubt Safety of Missile Destruction

PM1808145792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Aug 92 First Edition p 2

[Andrey Shishov report under the rubric "Own Correspondents Report": "Nizhniy Novgorod: Consequences Have Not Yet Been Predicted"]

[Text] Tactical nuclear missiles, which are being removed in accordance with the quadripartite agreement with Ukraine, Byelarus, and Kazakhstan, have started being dismantled at Arzamas-16.

The explosives and detonators are being destroyed and the warhead cases are being crushed. Radioactive components are being packed in special containers and are being sent to their place of manufacture.

According to the Ukrainian representative and the leadership of the "Avangard" Plant, where this historic act is taking place, all work is being conducted according to schedule.

However, the prevailing opinion among the very people who have devised the nuclear weapons is that it is necessary to stop their brainchild being dismantled until such time as all safety measures have been created, as this process is particularly dangerous and will have unpredictable consequences.

The Nizhniy Novgorod authorities have not for the moment expressed their point of view about what is happening.

NUCLEAR TESTING

Nuclear Testing in Orenburg Oblast

924P0162A Moscow SPASENIYE in Russian
No 27-28, Jul 92 p 6

[Article: "Nuclear Explosions in Orenburg Oblast: A Digest"]

[Text] On 14 September 1954 during the course of military exercises participated in by more than 200,000 soldiers and officers in the rayon of Totskoye Station, Orenburg Oblast, an atomic bomb was exploded at 0933 hours at an altitude of 350 meters.

In addition to the low-altitude, atmospheric explosion described above, underground nuclear explosions were also conducted on the territory of Orenburg Oblast and near its borders during the periods 1970-1974 and 1983-1984. They were carried out approximately between Orenburg and Ilek, as well as between Orenburg and Tyulgan. Near the borders of this oblast the greatest number of underground explosions took place south of Ilek on the territory of Uralsk Oblast, Kazakhstan and northeast of Sharlyk—a total of 13 underground explosions.

Underground Nuclear Explosions in Orenburg Oblast and Near Its Borders

Date of Explosion	Coordinates		Energy Yield (kilotonnes)
	deg. N. lat.	deg. E. long.	
25 Jun 1970	53.200	55.700	8.4-3.0 (double)
22 Oct 1971	51.610	54.450	17-3
21 Sep 1972	52.190	51.940	10-1
24 Nov 1972	52.140	51.830	3.3-0.6
30 Sep 1973	51.660	54.540	17-3
26 Oct 1973	53.630	55.380	6.6-1.2
08 Jul 1974	53.680	55.080	4.1-0.7
10 Jul 1983	51.330	53.290	21-3
10 Jul 1983	51.340	53.290	21-3
10 Jul 1983	51.370	53.300	21-3
21 Jul 1984	51.356	53.249	27-9
21 Jul 1984	51.374	53.257	5.5-2.0
21 Jul 1984	51.353	53.271	21-7

The Totskiy explosion was revealed some 38 years later. The statement by the RSFSR Council of Ministers Commission on the Extraordinary Situation dated 20 June 1991 noted that in the Buzulukskiy, Sorochinskiy, and Totskiy rayons the rate of oncological diseases was somewhat higher than the average for the oblast as a whole. That is to say, the rate was higher in those rayons located in direct proximity to the epicenter of the explosion. Nevertheless, the cause of the above-named diseases in Buzluk and Buzlukskiy Rayon was seen by the commission as not so much in the radiation as in the pollution of the environment with harmful substances by the city's enterprises.

Another commission—also sent down “from above”—based on a three-day investigation in December 1991, has stated that from 1975 through 1990 a trend was observed in this oblast in the direction of an increase (about 4 percent per annum) of incidences of oncological diseases and death from them. At the same time, however, the commission considers that the above-indicated instances in Totskiy and the nearby rayons do not permit us to draw an unambiguous conclusion concerning a linkage between these facts and radiation effects; and they demand additional studies.

Under the aegis of the Tayfun NPO [Scientific Production Association], a commission of the Institute of Experimental Meteorology in Obninsk also does not seem to want to offend the military department; and it has depicted the underground explosions as practically innocent children's games. Again and again, what is emphasized is their “modest [as published - original text ends here]

Commentary Criticizes U.S. Nuclear Tests

LD1308053692 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 12 Aug 92

[Commentary by Yuriy Solton]

[Text] The deputy U.S. energy secretary on military programs, Richard Claytor, has told reporters that it is very

important for the United States to continue nuclear testings. Commentary by Yuriy Solton.

This is far from the only statement over the past month made by the American military in support of the nuclear testings. They seem to carry out a campaign to discredit the decisions by the American Congress on suspending nuclear blasts for nine months to one year up to their cessation in 1996.

The Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and the American assistant president for national security [title as heard] Brent Scowcroft in a message to the Congress said they would recommend that President Bush veto any bills on a nuclear moratorium. The military claim tests are needed to check the safety and reliability of nuclear armaments, but this is not the main thing. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR newspaper has reported with reference to Defense Ministry officials that the administration intends to develop new types of nuclear weapons. This is the essence.

It's noteworthy that no nuclear tests have been held for over two years at the nuclear sites of Russia and Kazakhstan. Moscow officially declared a moratorium till October. It is prepared to stick to it even further if other nuclear powers join the moratorium. France has already joined it. China, after a long break, exploded in May its nuclear installation, declared its intention to seek that all members of the nuclear club cease nuclear testings. However, the U.S. Administration and the British Government, though not denying the possibility in the distant future, do not want to give up their programs to develop nuclear weapons. Today when the situation in terms of international security is changing for the better, when Russia and the United States are negotiating deep reductions in their nuclear arms, favorable conditions have shaped up for ceasing testings. The special position occupied by the United States and Britain only prompts others to continue nuclear explosions, which is opposed by the overwhelming majority of countries.

Russia 'Ready for Talks' on Nuclear Testing

PM2108151192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 22 Aug 92 First Edition p 7

[Interview with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev by unidentified ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent; place and date not given: "Moscow Favors Total Ban on Nuclear Explosions"]

[Text] [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] Recently the U.S. Senate, hard on the heels of the House of Representatives, voted to impose a moratorium on U.S. nuclear tests until 1 July 1993. What do you think of this decision?

[Kozyrev] Russia's position on nuclear weapon tests is absolutely clear. We have always been resolute advocates of their immediate and total cessation and have declared our willingness to embark immediately on the elaboration of an international agreement on this with the participation of all states. It has long been known that there are no technical obstacles to the elaboration of an effective agreement that would at last extend the ban to underground nuclear weapon tests. It would be a significant step forward to further limiting the nuclear armaments in the nuclear states' arsenals. Certainly, the Senate's decision opens up new possibilities of that happening and, of course, we would welcome it if the United States were to join the one-year moratorium announced by Russia in October 1991.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] It is known that France has suspended its nuclear tests until the end of the year. What will Russia do when the moratorium year is up?

[Kozyrev] The president has not made a decision yet. I believe that the logic of the development of events in this sphere does not rule out the possibility of Russia continuing to eschew nuclear tests as long as tests are not carried out in the United States.

I believe that the Russian Supreme Soviet will have something to say on this subject. It could appeal directly to the U.S. Congress to halt all nuclear tests.

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA] What are the prospects of a resumption of the Russian-U.S. talks on nuclear tests?

[Kozyrev] We are ready for talks. If the United States is not prepared to stop nuclear tests altogether today, we propose the resumption of stage-by-stage talks on further restrictions on nuclear tests as a step on the road to halting them altogether. We believe there is a possibility of a significant limitation of the number of tests and of their yield.

To be frank, we would prefer talks on a total ban of all nuclear tests.

CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

Ukrainian Reports on Chemical Weapons Convention

Convention To Be Signed

OW1008152992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1308 GMT 10 Aug 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Kiev today that Ukraine would be one of the first states to sign an international convention banning the production, storage, and use of chemical weapons. The convention is at present being drafted by a special committee on chemical weapons in Geneva acting within the framework of the disarmament conference. Ukraine is taking part in the committee's work as an observer.

Experts Help Draft Convention

OW1108141092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1339 GMT 11 Aug 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukrainian experts have taken part in the Geneva conference discussing a document banning the manufacture and use of chemical weapons and making binding the destruction of the existing stockpiles of such weapons.

It was pointed out at a press conference in Kiev that the representatives of the majority of countries that had taken part in the conference expressed the desire that the negotiations on the problem, which have been going on for more than 20 years, be finished this year.

A Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that there were no stockpiles of chemical weapons on Ukrainian territory at present but that the republic had some 200 civilian chemical plants whose production also needed control.

Baltic Chemical Weapons Inspection Postponed

LD1708180392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1204 GMT 17 Aug 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Krupennik]

[Text] St. Petersburg August 17 TASS—A scientific expedition to examine burial places of chemical weapons in the Baltic Sea scheduled for this summer was postponed till 1993, TASS learned from the St. Petersburg-based "Okeanotechnika" Association on Monday [17 August].

The association was established on the basis of the St. Petersburg technical university and incorporates over 40 major scientific and industrial organisations engaged in a practical solution of the Russian "Ecobaros" ecological programme.

The scientific expedition to examine post-war burial places of poisonous substances in the Baltic Sea had been approved by the Russian Government and the necessary funds had been allocated for the purpose. Nevertheless, the expedition had failed to set out in July and the "Ecobaros" project was postponed until next summer.

Commenting on the situation, the organisers of the expedition said that problems connected with the exposure of burial places affect vital interests of 30 million people living in the Baltic region.

Before taking concrete steps, it is necessary to find out the position taken by the Baltic countries, the United States, Great Britain and Germany.

An international conference on the problem attended by all countries concerned is expected to be convened in September to work out a further strategy of scientific research.

ASIAN SECURITY ISSUES

Nazarkin Cited on Asia-Pacific Disarmament Conference

OW1708025992 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 16 Aug 92

[From the "Sunday Outlook" program]

[Text] The Asia-Pacific Regional Disarmament and Security Conference sponsored by the United Nations will be held in Shanghai from 17 to 19 August, attended by some 40 government delegations from the region. Radio Moscow reporter Solovyev interviewed Nazarkin, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Disarmament Department and the Russian Government's representative to the conference.

Answering a question from Radio Moscow's reporter, Nazarkin said: The main task of the conference is to obtain concrete suggestions for bilateral or multilateral talks on easing military tension through frank exchanges of opinions. Despite the fact that some positive changes have taken place in the Asia-Pacific region in recent years, there still exist numerous complicated problems. Here I wish to particularly stress the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Not so long ago, many people had the impression that the constructive dialogue between North and South Korea was progressing very smoothly, and the Korean Peninsula seemed set to turn into a peaceful and stable region in no time at all. This process was indeed very moving, and an all encompassing treaty signed by North and South Korea promised to end 40 years of hostility and mutual distrust. Pyongyang and Seoul also adopted a joint communique on making the Korean Peninsula a nuclear-free zone. After a long period of complications, the problems pertaining to the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspection of facilities related to the use of nuclear energy within the territory of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in accordance with the non-nuclear proliferation treaty signed by the DPRK have also been solved. However, over the last few months, the situation has once again become complicated. Pyongyang has refused to let South Korean experts inspect its nuclear facilities in accordance with a clause in the North-South Korea joint communique, causing a new upset in their relations.

This certainly raises some major concerns as it directly affects the security of the Far East region. If a way to overcome this situation can indeed be found, what kind of contributions can the international community make in this regard? This matter will be discussed in detail at the Shanghai Asia-Pacific Regional Disarmament and Security Conference sponsored by the United Nations, along with other urgent issues regarding the easing of military tension in the Asia-Pacific region.

In answering a question from the reporter, Nazarkin stressed that Russia also planned to positively shorten the

process of disarmament in the future. He said that Russia has greatly reduced its military presence in the Far East and that further reductions will take place in the future. However, he added that measures for easing military tension in the Asia-Pacific region should be carried out through coordination and joint efforts of all countries concerned, and that this issue would also be discussed at the Shanghai conference.

Nazarkin said: I wish to give due credit to China's efforts in connection with this. China has done a lot toward easing military tension in the Asia-Pacific region, including the reduction of its own armed forces. The fact that the second conference of this type sponsored by the United Nations is to be held in China clearly shows that China desires unity, peace and stability in the region.

Yeltsin Postpones Troop Withdrawal From Kurils

OW1708112892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1029 GMT 17 Aug 92

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 17 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Sunday [16 August] that Russia can remove its troops from the disputed islands off Hokkaido by mid-1995, at least a year later than a deadline suggested in May to Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Yeltsin, in a television interview with the Nippon Television (NTV) Network of Japan, said Russia could achieve the demilitarization of the islands by mid-1995. Yeltsin indicated he is prepared to sign an agreement for the withdrawal during his September 16-19 visit to Japan.

The islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets—are known in Japan as the northern territories, situated east of the northernmost main island of Hokkaido. The former Soviet Union seized the islands from Japan at the end of World War II.

In May, Yeltsin told Watanabe during a visit to Moscow that Russian soldiers would be completely evacuated from the four islands "within one or two years."

But in the interview, recorded at a holiday home in Sochi on the Black Sea, Yeltsin said that after consulting with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachyov, it is now clear the troops could be withdrawn by mid-1995.

Yeltsin's latest statement effectively means a postponement to the deadline and will put pressure on Watanabe to seek a clarification when he visits Moscow again at the end of August.

Yeltsin also said his advisers have prepared 11 different proposals for a solution to the islands dispute, but he has not yet decided which of them to table during his visit to Japan.

A Russian military document said there are about 7,000 Russian troops and 430 naval personnel on the four islands and warned that their withdrawal could seriously damage security in the Russian Far East.

REPUBLIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES

Ukrainian President Reiterates Nuclear-Free Policy

*LD2108034592 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 18 Aug 92*

[Report by unidentified correspondent on news conference
by President Leonid Kravchuk with recorded remarks from
Kravchuk; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Kravchuk] We have deter-
mined our status, the Supreme Council has determined it,
we have determined it all together through the people, and
the Supreme Council in the name of the people, that we will
be a non-aligned state, a state which will have a nuclear-free
status. This is our fundamental position, and we will not

deviate from this position. We will act in accordance with
signed and adopted treaties, with treaties ratified by the
Supreme Council, including the START treaty, which will
soon be submitted to the Supreme Council. We will not
deviate from this.

We want to be regarded as an economically strong state, as
a lawful state, as a spiritual state, and not as a state armed
with nuclear missiles. I am against this, believe that today
we have enough force, and there will be enough force
tomorrow.

I have in mind conventional military forces, to defend the
interests of Ukraine. I am convinced of this and believe this,
that there will never be a nuclear war in the world. There-
fore, nuclear weapons are nonsense. They are merely a
mirage of fear. [passage omitted]

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Nordic Premiers Urge CIS Troop Pullout From Baltics*PM1908162092 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 18 Aug 92 p 5*

[Report by Maria Romantschuk: "Nordic Demand: Rapid Retreat From the Baltic Region"]

[Text] Ronne, Bornholm—Russia should hurry to reach a decision to withdraw its troops from the regions around the capitals of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, the Nordic prime ministers say in a statement from their meeting in Bornholm yesterday.

The prime ministers are pleased that the negotiations that will lead to the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic region have begun. Now the prime ministers hope that Russia will rapidly be able to produce a timetable for the troop withdrawal and, above all, give a date for when the process will begin.

"It is important that the process be started," said Poul Schluter, the host for the Nordic prime ministers' meeting.

Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt does not think that the Nordic prime ministers can or should demand an exact date from the Russian authorities, but thinks it sufficient to tell them that the withdrawal should take place as soon as possible. He views the fact that the Russian authorities are now talking about the withdrawal taking place over two years as progress. In the past, it has been said that the troops will be withdrawn in 1997-99.

"The process is moving in the right direction," Bildt said, adding that Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania must negotiate an agreement with the Russians themselves.

Finnish Prime Minister Esko Aho thinks that the negotiations that have taken place between the Baltic states and Russia bear witness to the fact that there are now the political prerequisites for an agreement.

"The process has advanced since the CSCE meeting, and now a political solution is closer than ever," Aho said, pointing to the meeting of foreign ministers in Moscow on 6 August in which the foreign ministers of the countries affected took part.

Poul Schluter does not think that it is possible to be satisfied with the situation with the Russian troops in the Baltic region, but that a step forward has been taken.

"Each and every country has the right to decide whether it wants foreign troops on its territory," he said.

The Nordic prime ministers stated that a swift and positive solution to the question will lead to increased stability in the whole of the Baltic region.

Today the five Nordic prime ministers will hold talks with their counterparts from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The Baltic prime ministers have been invited to the meeting in Bornholm to discuss questions of current interest.

The situation in the former Yugoslavia was also discussed at yesterday morning's meeting.

Prime Minister Esko Aho had to explain to his Nordic counterparts why Finland decided to introduce visas for Yugoslavs. According to Aho, Finland was not criticized for its strict refugee policy, due to the fact that Denmark has not taken in more refugees from the war-torn region than Finland.

Nordic, Baltic Premiers Discuss CIS Troop Withdrawal*PM2008111292 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 19 Aug 92 p 8*

[Report by Maria Romantschuk: "Date Expected Soon for Russian Troop Withdrawal"]

[Excerpt] Ronne, Bornholm—The Baltic prime ministers are confident that actual negotiations on the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic region can begin soon. This became apparent when the three Baltic prime ministers—Estonia's Tiit Vahi, Latvia's Ivars Godmanis, and Lithuania's Aleksandras Abisala—met with the five Nordic prime ministers in Ronne yesterday.

Lithuanian Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala estimated that there will be a timetable for the troop withdrawals within a month or two. In his view, the talks which have taken place hitherto between the Russian and the Baltic authorities can be described as a political show. In Abisala's view, the statement on the Russian troop presence in the five Baltic states from the CSCE summit in Helsinki in July prepared the way for negotiations. In his view, this is shown by the meeting between the Russian foreign minister and the Baltic foreign ministers on 6 August.

The Baltic prime ministers are still hopeful that the negotiations on troop withdrawals will be followed internationally in some way so that the matter is not just an issue between Russia and each individual Baltic country. It is an idle hope that the Russian troops will leave Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as soon as possible.

The Baltic prime ministers expressed their satisfaction that on 17 August the Nordic prime ministers had also issued a statement calling for a swift troop withdrawal. [passage omitted]

GERMANY

Foreign Minister Welcomes Chemical Weapons Ban Agreement*LD0708182692 Hamburg DPA in German 1657 GMT 7 Aug 92*

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel has described the agreement in Geneva on chemical weapons as a great success for German policies. In a statement issued in Bonn, Kinkel stressed that a convention had been successfully worked out "by which the manufacture, possession, and deployment of these diabolical weapons is banned throughout the world." However, the text represents a compromise which "does not completely fulfill all the ideas

of the parties to the negotiations." Kinkel called on all states "to state their readiness as soon as possible to become the first signatories to the convention banning chemical weapons at the signing conference planned for the new year in Paris."

CIS Forces in Germany Begin Conventional Disarmament

*AU1308123392 Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG
in German 10 Aug 92 p 4*

[Ingo Preissler report: "Foreign Currency for Scrapped Tanks"]

[Text] On 8 August the Western Group of the Russian Armed Forces in eastern Germany began the destruction of 2,300 armored vehicles in Wuensdorf. After Germany, Russia was thus the second state to implement the treaty on conventional disarmament, which was signed in 1990.

Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Armed Forces, and Sergey Filatov, vice president of the Russian Supreme Soviet, along with a team of international inspectors, were present when two welders lit their flame cutters. As early as in the spring the Russians, together with a German company, secretly started to disassemble their technical combat equipment in the tank repair factory south of Berlin. The advantages from the viewpoint of the military are obvious: The costs for the withdrawal by 1994 will be reduced. At the same time, cargo space will be gained. In addition, the Russians want to sell 18,000 tonnes of ferrous and nonferrous metals in return for foreign currency. Interest in these metals is great, Colonel Germanovich, who is responsible for disarmament, stresses. But then—one more crazy thing—Bonn was angry about the Russian zeal for disarmament, because the treaty on withdrawal and stationing expressly envisages that all weapons must be taken home.

As late as on Friday an exchange of notes formally gave the blessing for action. This had been preceded by tough negotiations, which mainly focused on setting down environmentally compatible waste disposal in line with German laws. In the view of Gundula Herweg of the Potsdam Environment Ministry, this was managed better in an extensive addendum to the treaty than in the actual withdrawal treaty. Now the sale, the removal of unrecycled parts to Russia, the reuse of material by troops in Germany, and waste disposal have been settled precisely. Particularly regarding the latter, the ministry provides advice on finding the "black sheep" among the German companies.

There are enough dangerous substances—such as oils, grease, and asbestos parts—in the 596 BMP-1 armored personnel carriers; 1,719 troop transporters of the BTR-60 and BTR-70 types; and four bridge-launching vehicles, which are all gathered in Wuensdorf and are awaiting for their disassembly. The radioactive substances, however, including their valuable night-vision equipment, are all to be removed to Russia. Work must be finished by the end of 1994.

CIS Withdrawal From E. Laender on Schedule *AU1808102392 Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Aug 92 p 3*

[ADN/ND report: "Half Term in CIS Withdrawal"]

[Text] Wuensdorf/Dresden—There is a half term in the withdrawal of the CIS forces from eastern Germany: This week the 1st Guard Tank Army will be officially bidden farewell in Dresden; more than 1750,000 of the formerly 340,000 CIS soldiers will have left Germany. In total, the Russian Army will clear out of 158 garrisons this year.

As for the modalities of the withdrawal, in an ADN interview over the weekend Major General Chernilewskiy, deputy commander in chief of the Western Group of CIS forces, signaled a readiness to make concessions concerning an early inspection of the CIS Army premises. "We are not hiding any old leftovers. No ecological problems will be 'camouflaged.'"

As for the development of crime, in particular in connection with the arms trade, the officer said that "in most cases" the "initiative does not come from our Army members but either from German citizens or from emigrants who live in Germany." However, the increasing crime on the other side cannot be overlooked either. This even includes cases in which transports of the Russian Armed Forces "are shot at in broad daylight," as in Jena two months ago.

NORWAY

Officers Inspect Kola Military Installation

*PM1808111492 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian
17 Aug 92 p 3*

[NORSK TELEGRAMBYRA report: "Visit to the East Builds Confidence"]

[Text] "Our inspection of the Russian military installation has strengthened our confidence that the disarmament agreement is being observed," Colonel Jostein Belbo told NORSK TELEGRAMBYRA. Yesterday evening, Norwegian officers returned to Norway after a two-day military inspection in Russia. The Norwegian team visited an artillery camp in the Pechenga valley on the Kola Peninsula, some two miles from the Norwegian border.

Belbo described the visit as most positive, and stressed that there can be no doubt that the Russians are keeping their promises within the framework of the disarmament agreement on conventional forces in Europe, the so-called CFE agreement.

Norway has a quota of seven military inspections in former Warsaw Pact countries, and the inspection in Russia is the first Norway has carried out. Norway must inspect six additional military installations before 14 November.

The CFE agreement gives a country the opportunity to inspect another without advance agreement on what is to be inspected. Recently, Russian officers carried out a similar inspection in northern Norway.

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