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Worldwide Report

ARMS CONTROL

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10 October 1985

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

SOVIET REACTION TO REAGAN PRESS CONFERENCE 17 SEPTEMBER

Approach to Arms Race

LD182019 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, September 18 TASS -- Despite the constructive proposals of the USSR, the United States intends to continue blocking efforts which are aimed at attaining progress in curbing the arms race, preventing it from being spread into outer space. The evidence of that are pronouncements by President Reagan at the latest news conference. The President said that his administration would continue furthering the big outer space militarisation programme with a view of disrupting the existing military-strategic equilibrium and acquiring the potential for hitting the first nuclear strike with impunity. Reagan also advocated continuation of the anti-satellite "ASAT" system which has been tested by the Pentagon a few days ago.

Journalists, who were present at the news conference, strongly criticised the stand of the White House. The President was "hailed" with questions. Newsmen were skeptical about Reagan's attempts to present his "star wars" programme as "defensive" and "research".

"Aren't you really paving a way towards the militarization of the heavens because the Soviets are bound to build up a weapon offensive to counter the 'star wars'", said one of the journalists.

In an obvious attempt to tone down criticism in the course of the news conference, President Reagan said: "We are going to try to get into real discussions that we would hope could lead to a change in the relationship between the two countries...a change in which we can remove this threat of possible war or nuclear attack from between us and that we can recognize that while we don't like their system and they don't like ours, we have to live in the world together and that we can live there together in peace".

The President in his pronouncements on prospects of the Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space armaments due to resume in Geneva and also the coming November summit meeting in Geneva displayed the U.S. Administration's non-constructive approach to the most important question of the present -- the curbing of the arms race.

SDI Program To Continue

LD182037 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 18 Sep 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] The American Administration will persistently implement its Strategic Defense Initiative -- that is, the program to militarize space. The American Administration continues to present the "star wars" program as defensive, as only research. The American Administration is again referring to the fabrication of the alleged U.S. military lag. This is clear from U.S. President Ronald Reagan's White House news conference, which shows that the United States intends to continue blocking efforts to curb the arms race and to prevent it being carried into space.

What was remarkable at this news conference was not in fact the American President's replies, as there were no new opinions expounded in them, but rather the questions from correspondents invited to the White House. One American press agency compared the many questions to a squall breaking over the President. It is worth quoting these questions: Is it not the ideal moment to stop further tests of antisatellite weapons and to reach an agreement on their prohibition?

People are saying that the test of the ASAT antisatellite system shows that you are not seriously in the mood to curb the space arms race, and that this complicates the summit. It turns out that in fact you are paving the way toward the militarization of space, since the Russians will doubtless develop an offensive weapons system to counterbalance the "star wars" program. These are just some of the flood of questions.

And what of President Reagan? He stated that he does not consider the "star wars" program to be a subject for bargaining at the talks. Why bargaining? This is a matter of a principled approach to issues, an understanding of the profound danger which the militarization of space will bring. This is a matter of state responsibility for the fate of the world, for the lives of the peoples of this planet.

ASAT Research To Continue

LD180552 Moscow TASS in English 0550 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, September 18 TASS -- The United States will continue its research and development efforts under the "star wars" program, according to U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Speaking at a press conference in the White House, he made it clear that neither at Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms nor at the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting the United States was going to discuss the issue of the non-militarization of outer space in earnest. Reagan made a point of stressing that the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative was not "a bargaining chip". The U.S. President declared that research and development into creating a large-scale ABM defense with space-based elements and anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons would go on. He had to admit that the U.S. delegation had not brought any new proposals to Geneva.

Seeking to justify his unconstructive position, the U.S. President once again made slanderous attacks on the policy of the Soviet Union, reiterated inventions about a U.S. "lag" behind the USSR in the military field and, without adducing any proof, accused the Soviet Union of being reluctant to negotiate. The preposterous nature of such charges, however, is obvious in the light of commonly known facts, most notably the latest Soviet peace initiatives which have won worldwide approval and which open broad possibilities for far-reaching measures to limit and reduce nuclear arms.

No Hope for Arms Control

LD191321 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] President Reagan has held a news conference in Washington during which he said that the "star wars" program was not negotiable. When pressed on whether he was closing the door to curbs on testing or development of space weapons the President replied: I think that's a legitimate part of research, and yes I would rule that out. Here are some details:

The news conference coincided with the opening of the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly, where hopes are running high that the arms race could be finally slowed down and that space would not be turned into yet another area of confrontation. President Reagan crushed these hopes.

The President's news conference was held 2 days before the opening of the third round of Soviet-American talks in Geneva on strategic and medium range nuclear arms and space weapons. His remarks about SDI not being negotiable leave no room for guesswork as to what sort of instructions the American arms control negotiators have been given. Forty years ago the United States exploded the first atomic bomb and then destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In an obscene display of arrogance, the murder of civilians in good weather conditions that were absolutely necessary for the purity of the experiment the atomic bombing of Japan was justified by moral considerations.

Almost to the day 40 years later, the Americans, the Soviet people, and the rest of the world were told on Tuesday [17 September] they have nothing to expect, that new weapons will appear and stay around for many years to come, that arms control, as Kenneth Adelman once put it, is nothing but a sham. It was not for nothing that during his news conference President Reagan voiced concern over excessive expectations on the outcome of the Soviet-American summit in November. In December last year, the United States found itself in splendid isolation at the 39th session of the UN General Assembly when 150 countries adopted a resolution on the prevention of the militarization of outer space. It was based on Soviet initiatives. The Reagan administration has greeted the anniversary 40th session with two tests of space weapons. It destroyed one of its Titan missiles with a chemical laser and a disabled satellite with a rocket launched from an F-15 fighter on 13th September.

On Tuesday the Reagan administration slammed the door on restraint, as the Soviet Union had warned if space becomes an arena of military competition there will be nothing in terms of meaningful arms control. Nothing in arms control means less security and that most certainly includes the United States.

State Department Clarification Hit

LD192233 Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 19 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The U.S. Administration continues its attempts to justify in the eyes of the public its actions to militarize space. President Reagan claimed at a press conference in the White House on September 17 that the research done under the "Strategic Defence Initiative" did not violate any treaty and would be continued. Moreover, he considers development and testing under the "star wars" program a "lawful aspect of research" and rules out any possibility of an agreement on these aspects of the program.

Clarifying the President's position, a State Department spokesman has just said that the SDI is a research program which is fully in accord with the ABM Treaty and other international commitments and that the ban on research is impossible and undesirable. Asked if the ABM Treaty permitted testing under the SDI program, he said that the treaty definitely allowed some tests.

All these statements are deliberate untruths. Article 1 of the treaty records the commitment of the sides "not to deploy ABM systems for a defence of the territory of its country and not to provide a base for such defence", and Article 5 -- "Not to develop, test or deploy ABM systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based or mobile land-based."

It is therefore clear that the very purpose of the U.S. "research" -- the development of attack space weapons and a comprehensive ABM system -- is basically at odds with the letter and the spirit of the treaty.

"Innocuous scientific research," as Washington presents it, has long evolved into purposeful programs for the development of attack space weapons. The development and testing of some of them is in full swing in the USA. Laser weapons of different types are being perfected in laboratories and at testing grounds along with rail guns and particle beam weapons. Experiments which, according to American officials, are important to the fulfillment of the "star wars" program were conducted with the use of the Discovery and Challenger spaceships this year. Experiments with nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers are being carried out in a mine in Nevada.

On September 6, a prototype of the "Miracle" laser weapon was tested at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico and a stage of a ballistic missile was destroyed. All these experiments are incompatible with specific stipulations of the ABM treaty.

The test of an ASAT system against a space target on September 13 can only be viewed as an action immediately leading to the beginning of the deployment of attack space weapons. The plan obviously is not only to develop a satellite-killer capacity in the immediate future but also to improve anti-missile systems, air-launched and in other basing modes, prohibited by the ABM treaty, under the guise of ASAT testing.

Statements by U.S. officials that "star wars" development projects are in accord with the ABM Treaty are empty words. Very different statements by U.S. Administration officials look more like the real thing. U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger openly stated, for instance, that if the ABM Treaty could obstruct in any way Washington's plans, so much the worse for the treaty.

It is clear from the latest statements by senior Washington officials that they still refuse to seek accords on the prevention of an arms race in space and would not remove the blind wall, their "star wars" program, blocking the way to agreements on nuclear armaments in Geneva. Moreover, in seeking to wreck the ABM Treaty, Washington wants to destroy the foundation of the arms limitation and reduction process.

The U.S. mass media conclude that in his address on September 17, the U.S. President rejected what seemed the best chance for an arms control accord with the USSR and that the green light was given to SDI research.

No manoeuvres of those given to "star wars" can conceal the fact that their actions are aimed at upsetting strategic stability, launching another round of the arms race and escalating the danger of nuclear catastrophe.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR: COMMENTS ON SHEVARDNADZE 'STAR PEACE' PROPOSAL AT UN

Foreign Ministry Press Conference

LD250842 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] New York, September 25 TASS -- The approach of the Soviet Union to the current session of the U.N. General Assembly has been explained in the statement by the minister for foreign affairs of the USSR, Eduard A. Shevardnadze. This was stated at a press conference conducted by Vladimir Lomeyko and Vladimir Petrovskiy, members of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. We attach great importance to this forum and intend to make every effort so that the 40th session is crowned with substantial and tangible results contributing to the elimination of the threat of nuclear war.

It is precisely this that takes priority in the work of the Assembly in view of the fact that the danger of war continues to increase. The spiral of the arms race continues to ascend. New programs of development of strike weapons and of placing them in outer space have been initiated.

If these weapons get into space, the race in all types of arms on earth will accelerate and the threat of nuclear war will sharply increase. It was pointed out at the press conference that enormous material and intellectual resources would be thrown into the furnace of military industries. The existence of weapons in space would destroy arms control agreements concluded in the past and the hopes for the cessation of the nuclear arms race in the future.

The "star wars" plans are nothing but a new attempt to achieve military superiority. They would mean in reality the development of a space shield to be used for protection in the hope of launching a first nuclear strike with impunity.

We are offering a path worthy of the space age which our planet has entered on, to counter "star wars" with a program of "star peace," joining the efforts of states in the peaceful renunciation of the militarization of outer space and the cessation of the nuclear arms race can bring us closer to the time when nuclear weapons will "wither away."

More specifically, the Soviet representatives said, we believe that the current session of the General Assembly should call for the adoption of effective measures aimed at preventing an arms race in space and call for the establishment of a world space organization in conditions of non-militarization of space. The organization would serve to pool the efforts of all states in peaceful space activities and, at the same time, help in verifying compliance with agreements on the prevention of an arms race in space.

The General Assembly could, already at the current session, establish a committee for the preparation of an international conference, to be convened in 1987 at the latest, to consider the problem of outer space in its entirety.

The USSR-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms, which are conducted on a bilateral basis, and the conference on disarmament, in which 40 countries participate -- both are examining the problem of preventing an arms race in outer space, it was said at the press conference. And there is, of course, the United Nations, which is, however, not a negotiating body but a forum for exchanging views, discussing problems and drawing up recommendations. The international conference that we are proposing will involve many more participants than the ongoing negotiations and, furthermore, will consider space issues in their entirety, i.e. including peace cooperation.

It is obvious that a U.N. decision on developing international cooperation in the exploration of outer space in conditions of its non-militarization could only help create a favourable climate for the Soviet-American negotiations if, of course, the two sides really set as their goal, as was agreed, the prevention of an arms race in space and its termination on earth.

Our proposal on making non-militarization of outer space a pre-condition for the development of broad cooperation in its exploration reflects an objective fact that international cooperation in peaceful space can develop unimpeded in conditions of its non-militarization, the Soviet representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR said answering questions put by correspondents. Today, when there are no strike weapons in space, such conditions do exist. That is why we propose that practical measures leading to the convening of an international conference should be taken already now and that the conference itself should take place in 1987 at the latest.

Conditions for broad cooperation of states in outer space will continue to exist provided the U.S. does not enter space with weapons, and agrees to a ban and, as a first step, to a moratorium on the development (including research), testing and deployment of space strike systems.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the "research" which is being conducted within the framework of the Strategic Defense Initiative, is nothing but the beginning of an arms race in space and that it does represent a real threat to the preservation of peace and international security, the members of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R. said. Work is underway on specific types of weapons for anti-missile defense, both kinetic energy and directed energy. About 60 billion dollars are to be spent on that in the next ten years. You realize that quite a lot can be built with that kind of money. So the experience thus far is rather grim if you recall that the "Manhattan Project", which cost one-fourth this amount, produced the atom bomb.

Furthermore, one cannot ignore that if "research" work contracted by Pentagon is to continue as planned, the result will be secrecy in scientific space activities. In such conditions cooperation among scientists and experts of different countries in the peaceful exploration of outer space is simply inconceivable.

Contrasted With 'Star Wars'

LD251534 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 25 Sep 85

["'Star Peace' and Not 'Star Wars'"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Sep, (TASS) -- TASS observer Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

As a counterbalance to the ominous "star wars" plans the USSR is putting forward before the international community the concept of "star peace." These words from yesterday's speech by Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, at the UN General Assembly session have literally flown around the whole world -- have truly taken flight. These words express the very essence of Soviet efforts: to reliably cut off all channels for the militarization of outer space; not to allow space to be turned into a source of lethal danger which threatens our planet.

Since the first Soviet artificial earth satellite was launched inaugurating the space era, the USSR has consistently come out in favor of banning the use of outer space for military purposes and in favor of international cooperation in its research and use. The international agreements concluded with the active participation of the Soviet Union, including the 1967 treaty, created preconditions for securing a peaceful regime in space.

The USSR proposes a radical solution to this task, leaving no loopholes for the militarization of space. The USSR has submitted specific proposals on the basic direction and principles of broad international cooperation for studying and using space for peaceful purposes for examination by the current jubilee session of the UN General Assembly.

Washington asserts that the U.S. "star wars" program is capable of "making the world safe." This is precisely what U.S. Secretary of State Shultz asserted at the UN General Assembly session on Tuesday. But the next day, the U.S. Congressional Office of Technology Assessment published a report saying something quite different. The Strategic Defense Initiative, it points out, is fraught with the danger of causing a fresh round in the arms race and creating serious instability in the world.

Les Aspin, chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, noted with justice in this connection that the "United States, having spent thousands of millions of dollars, could find that they have acquired the greatest instability since the first atomic bomb was created."

It is quite clear that the supports of international peace become shakier the higher the level of military confrontation, and that the transfer of the arms race into space raises this level, speaking figuratively, to cosmic heights. And whoever tries to do this undermines the possibility of stopping the arms race altogether.

Preventing the militarization of space is a task of paramount importance. The USSR has proposed ways of solving it, of achieving a goal common for all states for international cooperation in the peaceful mastering of space. Such cooperation would open enormous possibilities for scientific and technical progress for the good of peace and progress, in which all mankind has an interest.

Soviet Initiatives Praised

LD262156 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Sep 85

[Boris Andrianov commentary]

[Text] Particular attention was drawn at the General Assembly session to the words uttered by Comrade Shevardnadze about the fact that in counterbalance to the "star wars" plans the Soviet Union is putting forward to the world community the concept of "star peace." One can say that in his clear-cut formula, not "star wars" but "star peace," the noble aim of the Soviet Union's persistent efforts not to let space become a source of mortal danger for our planet but rather to let it serve the improvement and living conditions of all humanity is set out simply and clearly. Space, after all, is the common property of all peoples, and its peaceful exploration promises them truly limitless prospects. It was our country that opened up the space age, having launched the first artificial earth satellite. Since then it has invariably opposed the use of space for military purposes and has advocated international cooperation in its research and peaceful exploration.

Suffice it to recall that 4 years ago the Soviet Union introduced a draft treaty on banning the siting of any type of weapon in space at the United Nations. This proposal was further expanded in 1983, when our country presented a draft treaty on banning the use of force in space and from space in relation to earth. At the same time, the Soviet Union unilaterally adopted the decision not to put anti-satellite weapons into space until such time as the United States should take that step. And last year, our country came forth with an initiative on using space exclusively for peaceful purposes for the good of mankind.

This set of Soviet initiatives was supplemented by new important proposals for international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space in conditions of its non-militarization. These initiatives were included in the agenda of the current UN General Assembly session. That is precisely how the question has been put, because space is one and indivisible and there should be room for all states in its peaceful exploration, so that their peoples may make use of the fruits of space research. Such a humane task may only be accomplished in the event that all the channels for militarizing space are blocked, without leaving any loopholes.

But, in the meantime, Washington is increasing its aspirations to implement its program for so-called "star wars," asserting that it is allegedly capable of securing peace. Counting on calming down an anxious world community, the White House head announces that he imagines offensive space weapons to be something like a gas-mask, that is a means of defense rather than attack. However, such attempts to present things in a distorted form are meeting with a rebuff from the world community: It supports the Soviet concept of "star peace."

Speakes Response Criticized

LD261951 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 26 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 26 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

Deputy White House spokesman Larry Speakes said at a briefing that the United States has long been a major proponent of the idea of peaceful cooperation in space.

Undoubtedly, if Speakes had been able to back this claim with facts, it should have been recorded in the world list of discoveries. However, the White House spokesman obviously failed in substantiating his statement. For instance, he mentioned the space shuttle programme -- but it was an unlucky example. Speakes "ignored" facts testifying to the contrary. Space shuttle reusable spacecraft are used extensively to carry out missions for the Pentagon. The United States conducts with their help experiments with components of space-based laser weapons. The Pentagon has planned 15 top secret missions for ships of that series and it is they that are going to lift to near-earth orbits attack space weapons developed by the USA under its "star wars" programme.

And what is Speakes' idea of the functions and tasks of the just established joint space command of the U.S. Armed Forces? Perhaps, it will be the "prime mover" of the U.S. idea of cooperation in space? Touching upon the "star wars" program, the White House spokesman said that he saw no linkage between the Soviet proposal for international cooperation in space research and the possibility of research into effective strategic defence systems.

Neither does the USSR see any linkage between the two. Conversely, the Soviet proposal stands in direct opposition to the sinister U.S. plans to militarise space. It envisions international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space under conditions of its non-militarization. The Soviet Union counters the "star wars" programme by offering to the world community the concept of "star peace." In view of this fact, Speakes' claim that research into space weapons is being carried out by both countries is absurd. Moreover, it is a patent lie. The Soviet Union is not developing attack space weapons or anti-missile defences for the territory of the country but is consistently advocating the absolute prevention of the militarisation of space. So, we tell Mr Speakes straight: Include us out!

One more point in the statement made by Speakes attracts attention. According to him, the White House has no comment on the report on the technology assessment bureau of the U.S. Congress on the "Strategic Defence Initiative." This is quite natural because, as the London TIMES points out, the conclusions of the report put the U.S. Administration into a very awkward position. The conclusions, indeed, are critical of Washington because the report says directly that the implementation of the "Strategic Defence Initiative" will undermine U.S. security since most of the systems based on advanced technology cannot be developed, tested and deployed under the ABM Treaty and since the deployment of the system will create strategic instabilities. The release of the report, the Western mass media stress, will seriously influence the position of the U.S. Congress on the "star wars" programme and heighten suspicion of it.

However, officials of the Reagan administration disregard the conclusions of researchers, calculations and logic and continue stubbornly to claim that the United States will go ahead with the development of attack space weapons, getting ready for "star wars." To all appearances, "peaceful cooperation in space," in the view of those officials, should boil down to fencing with deadly laser rays and to exchanges of salvos from electromagnetic guns and particle beam weapons. The proponents of "star wars" are actually against "star peace".

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR: U.S. SDI STANCE'S IMPACT ON GENEVA TALKS

Reagan Instructions to Delegation

LD132152 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1946 GMT 13 Sep 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov; announcer-read report]

[Text] On 19 September, the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments will be resumed. As a telegram from Washington says, President Reagan met leaders of the American delegation at these talks in the White House today. Following the meeting, Reagan made a special statement. This statement, along with elucidations given by White House speakers, show that the United States is coming back to the Geneva conference table without any intention to assume a really constructive and flexible position, which could have led to the speediest possible reaching of accords. The President asserted that he had given unprecedented--as he said--authority to the American delegation. But if one is to judge by pronouncements of Reagan himself, this authority can be reduced to assuming a temporizing position by the U.S. delegation, so as under no circumstances it should come forward with their own proposals and initiatives on behalf of the United States. As a White House speaker has confirmed, the United States does not intend to relinquish their Star Wars program and to conduct serious talks on the issue of preventing space from being militarized. The Strategic Defense Initiative, he said, is not something the United States is going to give up.

Kampelman Interview Noted

LD182057 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] New York, September 18 TASS -- The Reagan administration does not intend to give up its overtly obstructionist stand at the Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space armaments in Geneva. That was reaffirmed once again by the head of the U.S. delegation at the negotiations Max Kampelman.

In an ABC television interview he said that termination of explorations within the framework of the Strategic Defence Initiative would not be in line with the U.S. interests. The American delegation, he said, is not going to conduct negotiations with a view of concluding an agreement which would signify termination of research within the "star wars" programme or its reduction.

U.S. Attempts 'To Poison' Talks

LD191206 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 19 Sep 85

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vladimir Beloshapko]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades. Today, the third round of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons starts in Geneva. As you know, comrades, in connection with the forthcoming round of talks in Geneva, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev held a conference in which the Soviet delegation took part. This conference was still more proof of the great attention our country is paying to solving the problems of curbing the arms race, strengthening stability, and improving Soviet-American relations.

It is, however, clear that progress at the talks can only be ensured through the efforts of both sides. Unfortunately, so far the United States's position, above all on the key issue of the nonmilitarization of space, has not made it possible to solve the tasks the talks are confronted with. Of course, only the talks themselves will show whether the United States has adjusted its position. At the same time, one cannot ignore a number of circumstances which, to put it bluntly, put one on one's guard. Here are only two of them:

Speaking at a press conference in the White House, President Reagan declared that research and testing within the framework of the Strategic Defense Initiative which, as is known, is aimed at gaining the capability to make a nuclear first strike with impunity, would not be the subject of any kind of agreement whatsoever with the USSR. The President made it clear that development of American space weapons would be continued. The American delegation in Geneva will apparently be conducting affairs from this position as well.

And the second event: Literally 2 days before the start of the Geneva talks, the Pentagon announced that on 6 September, the first test, under simulated combat conditions, of a power laser installation was carried out on the missile firing grounds at White Sands, New Mexico. Its beam destroyed a Titan-1 missile placed in a vertical position above the earth. In reporting this, Washington is clearly trying to poison the atmosphere at the talks.

And into the bargain, the ABC TV company also points out that the Reagan administration is linking this laser weapons test with the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting.

'Key Issue' in Talks

LD191543 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] A new, third, round of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms began in Geneva on Thursday [18 September]. Here's what Radio Moscow commentator Yuriy Soltan writes.

The key issue is nonmilitarization of outer space. It would indeed be naive to believe that one side agrees to disarm while the other gains the possibility to deliver the first strike with the help of space weapons, and before the talks started it was agreed that all problems will be discussed in Geneva as interrelated so as to prevent the arms race in space and stop it on earth. However, the first two rounds failed to produce any results. What is the reason for that?

The talks in Geneva are confidential. The details are kept secret but one can judge about what's going on by public statements of its participants and by what the leaders of the two countries say. The Soviet Union has proposed in Geneva banning fully strike space weapons including antisatellite systems, and in that context radically reducing nuclear arms, both strategic and medium-range. That referred not only to delivery vehicles but also nuclear warheads. It was also proposed to introduce a moratorium on nuclear and space weapons while the talks are going on. Besides, long before the talks started, the Soviet Union pledged unilaterally not to put antisatellite systems into space. It also suspended the deployment of SS-20 missiles in its western regions and ended all nuclear explosions as of 6 August.

As for the reaction of official Washington to the Soviet proposals in Geneva and to the Soviet peace initiatives in general it was one and the same. This was a negative reaction. And that is the reason for the lack of progress at the talks. So what next? Representatives of the Washington administration say that the United States is ready not only to cover its part of the way but to go even further to meet the Soviet Union. In reality however, things are different.

The American delegation has brought no new proposals to Geneva. That has been admitted by President Reagan at a news conference in Washington. He made it clear that the United States doesn't intend to discuss seriously the problem of nonmilitarization of space either at the Geneva talks or at the coming Soviet-American summit. The president said the Strategic Defense Initiative, that is the American program of preparing for "star wars," is not a subject of bargaining.

But one would like to hope that common political sense will prevail in Washington, since the stakes are too high. Last Monday the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev held a special meeting on the new round of the Geneva talks at the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. On arriving in Geneva the chief Soviet delegates Viktor Karpov said the Soviet delegation had been instructed to work for significant mutually acceptable decisions. It is ready for constructive and businesslike talks in all three fields: space, strategic arms and medium range weapons. And if our partners, he said, show readiness to seek mutually acceptable decisions, we too shall do everything we can in this respect.

Progress Depends on U.S.

PM201818 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 85 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent B. Dubrovin dispatch: "Geneva: Breaking the Vicious Circle"]

[Text] Geneva, 20 Sep -- The third round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons began here in Geneva on 19 September after a 2-month "holiday."

It is well known that the second round -- as incidentally, the first -- ended virtually without any result. So far, during the discussions on the three interconnected issues on the agenda -- space strike arms, strategic offensive arms, and medium-range nuclear means -- the American side has not displayed the slightest desire to examine soberly and realistically the most important problem of the present time -- the ending of the nuclear arms race and the prevention of its extension into space, nor to seek paths toward the radical reduction of strategic nuclear weapons and medium-range missiles. Moreover, the past two rounds of talks provide grounds for considering that the U.S. Administration does not want to follow the accord on the subject and aims of the talks which was arrived at in Geneva in January at the meeting between the USSR foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state.

It is evidently worthwhile at the start of the third round to take another look at the sides' positions at the talks. Why has an impasse emerged here; what is hampering the attainment of progress; is it possible to expect changes for the better?

From the very outset of the Geneva talks the Soviet side has followed strictly and in full the aims and tasks defined by the January accord. At the negotiating table the Soviet side has put forward an integral program of specific measures which, in the first place, accorded fully with the principle of equality and identical security of the sides and ruled out the acquisition of military advantages by either of the participants in the negotiations. Second, in the event of their implementation they would make it possible to halt the further buildup of nuclear arsenals, reduce them, and ultimately scrap them. And third, they would preserve space exclusively for peaceful use for the benefit of all mankind.

The problem of the nonmilitarization of space is a key question at the talks. And this is understandable. The plans for the militarization of space being elaborated in Washington are jeopardizing even further the security of the peoples and are creating a crisis situation in international relations. Aware of the whole danger of the extension of the arms race into space which has arisen with regard to the "Strategic Defense Initiative" program being implemented in the United States, the Soviet Union proposed that agreement be reached on the mutual prohibition of the creation [sozdaniye], (including research work) [nauchno-issledovatel'skiye raboty], testing, and deployment [razvertyvaniye] of this class of armaments. The antisatellite means that the sides possess would be subject to destruction. At the same time the Soviet Union advocates the strict and rigorous observance of the Antiballistic Missile Treaty of 1972. All these specific and constructive proposals were made by the Soviet delegation at the negotiating table.

In full accordance with the January accord that all issues of the talks must be examined and resolved on a comprehensive, interconnected basis, the Soviet side submitted a proposal, along with resolving the problem of the nonmilitarization of space, that agreement be reached on a radical reduction of strategic offensive means -- intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM's); submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM's), and heavy bombers.

At the same time the USSR proposed that the sides renounce the program of creating [sozdaniye] and deploying [razvertyvaniye] new forms and types of strategic arms, or strictly limit such programs.

The Soviet Union also submitted a proposal that long-range cruise missiles of all basing modes be totally renounced. Even earlier (before the Geneva talks) the USSR had proposed that the level of strategic arms be reduced by 25 percent, whereas now -- during the first and second rounds -- the Soviet side has expressed readiness to implement a more radical reduction of the nuclear arsenals of the United States and USSR. Naturally, in so doing, account must also be taken of how the question of medium-range nuclear arms in Europe would be resolved. It is no secret that the American Pershing II missiles deployed in West European NATO countries, whence they can reach targets on USSR territory, are a serious addition to the strategic arsenal of the United States.

Regarding medium-range nuclear arms in Europe, the Soviet Union proposed a sharp reduction of their level with, of course, the strict observance of the balance of forces between the Soviet Union and NATO. The USSR displayed readiness to undertake a more radical solution, too: to free Europe completely of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical. The Soviet Union backed up its constructive proposals with specific steps aimed at creating a favorable atmosphere of trust at the talks for drawing up mutually acceptable solutions. Thus, in April the USSR unilaterally suspended until November of the current year the deployment of its medium-range missiles and the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe. In 1983, a unilateral Soviet moratorium had been announced on the placing of antisatellite means in space. The unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions introduced 6 August this year was a major new Soviet initiative.

The list of peaceful Soviet initiatives, the aim of which is to diminish the danger of nuclear catastrophe, consolidate universal security, and at the same time to draw the Soviet-American talks out of their impasse, could be continued. They have all deservedly received the support of millions of people.

But how did the Washington administration respond to these earnest, specific, and weighty proposals of the Soviet Union? What has it done to lead the talks out of their impasse? The answer to these questions is plain and simple: For the moment it has, unfortunately, done nothing. Not a single businesslike, practical, constructive proposal has been forthcoming from the American side. The impression has formed among local observers that the chief task of the American delegation is not to seek mutually acceptable solutions on the three areas of negotiation, but to seek to drive them as deeply as possible into an impasse, to win time for for the implementation of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" program, and finally to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

It has become a tradition for the heads of the Soviet and American delegations to address journalists at the airport upon their arrival in Geneva. And although these statements are extremely brief, the character of the statements provides food for reflection. This time, too, there was no break with tradition.

The statement by the head of the U.S. delegation, according to the generally held view, demonstrated once again the patent reluctance of Washington officialdom to display realism and sobriety of political thinking, and to sensibly assess the situation that has taken shape at the talks.

He tried to prove what cannot be proved: that the United States has not, supposedly, led the talks into an impasse and that the Soviet side has, allegedly departed from the accord reached in January on the subject and aims of the talks.

However, unsubstantiated allegations will not help the head of the American delegation. After all, the peace-loving Soviet initiatives are known to the whole world just as the people are familiar with the persistent efforts by the Soviet Union aimed at averting an arms race in space and at ending it on earth. The whole world knows that it is the United States and not the USSR that is continuing underground nuclear explosions; it is the United States and not the Soviet Union that conducted a test of an antisatellite weapon a week ago and is planning to hold more tests in the future.

As for the American appeals for talks "without prior conditions," the explanation is quite straightforward: The United States, crudely violating the January accord, does not want to conduct any discussions on the key issue of the talks -- the prevention of an arms race in space. The White House does not intend to renounce the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

The first joint session of the two delegations has taken place. The procedure for work has been agreed. Time will tell what the results of the work will be.

In the opinion of observers, the talks can be led out of the impasse and the dangerous vicious circle of the nuclear arms race can be broken. It is clear, however, that progress at the talks can be ensured only by the efforts of both sides. Today this depends to a great degree on whether Washington will be able to renounce its unrealistic intentions to gain military superiority over the USSR and bring its stance at the Geneva talks into line with the realities which exist in the world.

U.S. Actions Pose Obstacles

PM231258 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Vladimir Sukhoy article under the rubric: "Our Commentary": "Following a Course of Militarization"]

[Text] It has been officially announced in the United States that the U.S. Armed Forces combined Space Command, with headquarters at Colorado Springs (Colorado), will begin operating from 23 September.

A command has been set up on the U.S. President's personal instructions and will be directly subordinate to the U.S. defense secretary and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Military systems deployed in outer space will come under its jurisdiction.

While ceaselessly repeating that the "star wars" program is a "nonnuclear defense system," the White House is accelerating its military space preparations with maniacal obsession. Virtually every day brings new evidence of the actual implementation of its dangerous plans to militarize outer space. Contracts have been concluded with seven military-industrial corporations, which will spend a year carrying out studies during the second stage of research under the "star wars" program with the purpose of creating a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements. An experiment has been carried out at the White Sands test range (New Mexico) during which a Miracle laser, designed for use in outer space, hit a stage of a Titan rocket maintained in a stationary position. The first test of the ASAT antisatellite system in outer space has been held. And now, we have this statement about the organization of the combined Space Command, which, as Britain's DAILY TELEGRAPH makes clear, will become the center controlling all military flights by shuttle craft and will be concerned with launching spy satellites into orbit and receiving information from them.

What, then, does the future hold? A Pentagon spokesman has stated that a second ASAT test will be held "in the months ahead." An extensive program of experimental nuclear explosions required for the creation of a new space weapon, the Xray laser, has been elaborated. The leading military corporations have been promised even larger contracts directly bound up with the development and creation of space strike arms.

There can be only one conclusion: The United States has returned to the Geneva negotiating table without any serious intention of adopting a truly constructive, really flexible stance capable of leading to the very rapid achievement of accords on the whole range of items on the agenda. Judging by its practical steps, the White House not only does not intend to abandon the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative" but does not wish to hold any kind of concrete discussion on preventing the militarization of outer space. "The 'Strategic Defense Initiative' is not something that the United States can abandon as a result of talks," they say along the banks of the Potomac. By thinking in those terms and acting accordingly, the U.S. Administration remains deaf not only to the USSR's constructive proposals, but also to the appeals of many sensible Americans, who describe the "star wars" plans as obstacles to strengthening peace.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON SPACE MILITARIZATION ISSUE

PM281407 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Let Space Be Peaceful"]

[Text] Time flies. Some 25 years or so ago space for us inhabitants of earth was an immense and exciting mystery. But in 1957 mankind made the first step outside the atmosphere by placing a Soviet artificial satellite in near-earth space. Less than 4 years later the first earthman, Yuriy Gagarin, was in space. Since then people have been constant visitors to that region which previously they had dared touch only with their thoughts and their gaze.

Near-earth space is becoming increasingly bound up without day-to-day life. Truly boundless horizons for the utilization of space in common interests are opening up for mankind.

But the expanses of space also present another possibility--the possibility of their transformation into a bridgehead for a devastating strike against our planet. This alternative is being created by Washington which has set a course toward the creation [sozdaniye] and deployment [razvertyvaniye] of space strike armaments.

Terrestrial civilization is now at an important and very crucial point in its development, where mankind must either enter the era of large-scale exploration and utilization of near-earth space for the benefit of all the peoples or place it at the mercy of forces who want to transform space into a source of mortal peril for the inhabitants of the earth.

Our people chose long ago. In response to the appeal by the U.S. public organization "Union of Concerned Scientists," Comrade M. S. Gorbachev stressed: "On behalf of the Soviet leadership I want to make it quite clear that the Soviet Union will not be the first to take weapons into space."

The militarization of space would be a fateful step, inevitably resulting in an intensification of the threat of nuclear war and an unbridled arms race in all spheres. That is why the USSR is persistently and consistently struggling to turn near-earth space into a "territory" intended for man's peaceful and creative development. The Soviet Union has just submitted a detailed and substantive program of concrete actions in this sphere for discussion by the

international community in the document entitled "Basic Guidelines and Principles of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration in Conditions of Its Nonmilitarization."

In proposing the consideration of this question at the forthcoming 40th session of the UN General Assembly, the USSR expresses the belief that space is mankind's common property and should serve creation, not destruction; economic and social progress, not degeneration; peace and security, not war. And this task can be solved through joint efforts by all the states of the world. On one essential condition. That the question of space weapons is closed immediately and once and for all.

This goal is attainable. Attainable given the political will and sincere desire to aim to prevent an arms race in space as well as stopping it on earth. Our country has the desire and the will.

We are displaying these at the United Nations, for whose examination the Soviet Union has submitted, in particular, a draft treaty on prohibiting the use of force in space and from space in respect of the earth, which has met with very wide support. We are also displaying the will and desire to save space from militarization in the sphere of bilateral relations--at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, where we are seeking an accord on the total prohibition of the creation, testing, and deployment [sozdaniye, ispytaniya i razvertyvaniye] of space strike systems.

Moscow's proposal to Washington as for a complete halt to work on the creation [sozdaniye] of new antisatellite facilities and the destruction of the facilities that the USSR and the United States already possess. In an effort to prevent space from being turned into an arena of military confrontation, the Soviet Union will even go as far as to take unilateral action, such as the moratorium, now 2 years old, on putting antisatellite weapons into space.

The moratorium on nuclear explosions, which the Soviet Union has been implementing unilaterally since 6 August, is also part and parcel of the nonmilitarization of space.

The USSR's purposeful and consistent course toward delivering the earth from the threat of thermonuclear conflict brings the solution of this vitally important task within arm's reach. But the United States is refusing to shake the hand of peace extended by Moscow. Washington's immediate and ostentatious response to the Soviet Union's decision to halt nuclear explosions and to the proposal that the United States follow our example was a new nuclear explosion. The U.S. reply to our proposals on international cooperation in the peaceful exploration in conditions of its nonmilitarization was in the equally unequivocal form of a decision to test an antisatellite weapons in the immediate future.

In other words, on the banks of the Potomac they still prefer great-power egotism, aimed at achieving military superiority over the USSR and then establishing U.S. diktat over the entire planet, to cooperation in safeguarding peace and security.

This approach and these goals are unacceptable to the USSR. Every step we take and every proposal we make is filled with the conviction that it is vital to place a reliable barrier in the way of the arms race in space and stop it on earth. The new Soviet initiative submitted for discussion at the United Nations is also permeated with concern for peace.

The Soviet program submitted to the United Nations is extensive, concrete, and feasible. Feasible if the advocates of "Star Wars" put away their banners, send their plans to the museum, and at last give mankind, as he enters space, the right to use confidently and without that element of anxiety the greeting: "Peace to our celestial home!"

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

SOVIET PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OPPOSITION IN U.S. TO ASAT TEST

Criticism in Washington

LD070827 Moscow TASS in English 0747 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] New York September 7 TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Makurin reports:

The Reagan administration's decision to start tests of a new combat anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon system is being condemned by many U.S. political figures and specialists in the field of arms control.

In an interview with the NBC TV network, Democratic Congressman George Brown emphasised that the administration's actions are aimed at spreading the arms race over to outer space and at further speeding it up. He pointed out that the Soviet Union sincerely strives for the conclusion of an all-embracing treaty in this field. Two years ago the Soviet Union unilaterally undertook not to launch anti-satellite weapons into space. He said that if the United States does not heed the reasonable calls of the USSR for an end to the creation of an ASAT system, the Soviet Union will have to take reply measures. This is why U.S. actions are destabilizing.

Mr. Steinbruner, director of the Department of Foreign Policy Studies of the Brookings Institution, has told the same TV network that the forthcoming tests will do an irreparable damage to efforts aimed at establishing control over arms. Moreover, that may put in jeopardy the holding of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting.

James Bush, deputy director of the Washington Defence Information Centre, in an interview with the Cable News Network has stressed that if the administration is interested in earnest in a ban on anti-satellite weapons, as its spokesmen have repeatedly stated in public, it is essential to abandon the announced tests. Mutual restraint is the best means to ensure the national security of both the United States and the USSR. In this matter the Soviet Union has displayed a positive initiative by announcing a moratorium on the launching of anti-satellite weapons into space and by urging Washington to follow suit.

U.S. Congressmen Cited

PM101101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov dispatch: "Congressmen Indignant"]

[Text] New York, 7 Sep--Immediately following the TASS statement warning that if the United States conducted its planned tests of anti-satellite weapons the Soviet Union would no longer consider itself bound by the moratorium it has unilaterally introduced on launching any anti-satellite means into space, a Pentagon spokesman pointedly stated that the tests would nonetheless be held sometime "after this week."

Meanwhile, many congressmen are expressing acute opposition and indignation over this adventurist step by the Washington administration. In their opinion, this challenging act on the eve of the Geneva summit is further grist to the arms race mill.

In his unwillingness to reach agreement on anti-satellite weapons, L. Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, believes, the President is opposing the legislators' will.

The tests, which were not planned in advance, G. Brown, chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee, stated, "were necessary to force the Russians into compromises at the Geneva meeting, but their reaction to this will be the exact opposite." At the same time the legislator recalls that the Soviet Union has persistently called on the United States to conclude an all-embracing agreement banning anti-satellite weapons. Moreover, the USSR has unilaterally undertaken not to be the first to launch such weapons into space. But the administration is refusing to follow this example.

"The White House," E. Markey, member of the House of Representatives, says, "has not carried out the Congress demand relating to the procedure concerning the start of these tests. The administration has thus been unable to show that abandoning them would threaten our national security or that they would not harm the talks. Yet the opposite is perfectly obvious--this program will play an extremely negative role at the talks."

IZVESTIYA Cites U.S. Opposition

PM111421 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The Protest Campaign Is Broadening"]

[Text] Washington, 9 Sep--The upcoming test of a second-generation anti-satellite weapon system, involving the use of a real target in space, is just a part of the Reagan administration's large-scale plans for the militarization of near-earth space known as the "star wars" program.

According to the BALTIMORE SUN, the Pentagon intends to procure in Fiscal 1985-1986 four more missiles, costing more than \$42 million each, as part of the ASAT aerospace anti-satellite complex. According to specialists' estimates, the total cost of the ASAT program will exceed the original "ceiling" of \$4 billion.

Writing in THE WASHINGTON POST, Vice Admiral (retired) Noel Gayler, former commander of U.S. Forces, Pacific, and prominent expert in the sphere of armaments, calls on the U.S. Administration to consider the dangerous consequences of transforming space into yet another battlefield. Space, he recalls, is the common asset of all mankind.

Among U.S. scientists who fully appreciate the danger to the cause of peace inherent in the plans for the militarization of space, a campaign of protests against Reagan's "star wars" is intensifying. At the University of Illinois 100 scientists have signed a pledge not to take part in so-called "research" under this program, pointing out that its implementation will entail a dangerous escalation of the arms race. Signatures under petitions protesting against plans for the militarization of space are being collected at many of the country's higher educational establishments, including Cornell, Michigan, and Purdue universities. The Union of Concerned Scientists, which comprises in its ranks 700 members of the National Academy of Sciences, including 54 Nobel Prize Winners, has circulated a petition in which it emphasizes that the development of space weapons intensifies the threat of an outbreak of nuclear war and encourages dangerous rivalry in the development of nuclear weapons. The Federation of U.S. Scientists has warned that Reagan's "star wars" are fueling the arms race. Dozens of staffers at the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island (New York state) have come out against the signing of a \$4 million contract for "research" under the "star wars" program.

The TASS statement in connection with Washington's decision to conduct in the near future an ASAT anti-satellite system test involving the use of a real target in space is an "extremely timely and important document," Carol Rosin, president of the Institute for Space Security and Cooperation, told TASS correspondent A. Lyutyy. The TASS statement, she said, represents a severe warning to the U.S. side that an operational test of the ASAT system will entail serious consequences for the international situation. In particular, it will greatly damage attempts to achieve progress at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

N. Gayler WASHINGTON POST Article

LD101344 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Washington September 10 TASS--The newspaper WASHINGTON POST has published an article by prominent arms control expert Vice Admiral (retired) Noel Gayler who was commander-in-chief of U.S. forces in the Pacific, in which he strongly criticizes the Reagan administration's intention to test an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon at a real target in space.

"Many observers think this move is part of a new get-tough offensive on the part of the United States, to get a leg up on the Geneva negotiations" on nuclear and space armaments, Gayler points out. "It seems more likely, however, that the timing was determined by the weapon program itself--never mind the consequences."

"It's time to take a look at the consequences of making space still another battle area. We are shooting ourselves, not in the foot, but a lot closer to the head," the writer observes.

In his opinion, the development of anti-satellite weapons by the United States will compel the Soviet Union to catch up with the U.S., which "they inevitably will."

All this, he notes, will "hurt us (Americans) far more than it will hurt them (Russians)." He urges the administration to do its utmost to conclude an agreement with the Soviet Union that would prevent "the further development of satellite killers by either side", which "would be so much in our own American interest."

Gayler stresses that "a treaty stopping anti-satellite development would be readily verifiable."

Testing the ASAT system in advance of another round of the Geneva talks makes no sense, the writer points out. "We have so much to lose and so little, relatively, to gain. Testing now won't compel the Soviets to shape up at Geneva to our liking," Gayler stresses.

"Nor is space the exclusive property of the Soviets and ourselves, or of East and West or even of the developed nations," he writes. "No one of us has an exclusive right to control it, and no one of us is likely to own the effective means to control it, however, hard and recklessly we may try."

"If we will look, we can see two roads in the future: one road perilous to ourselves and all others, the other leading to the peaceful use of space for all mankind," Gayler writes in conclusion.

"If we will listen, we can hear the voices of sanity here, in Russia and around the world saying, 'Put an end to the arms race in space.'"

"And if we will stop--we and the Soviets--we can set an example that will keep space free of threat. Now is the time."

More Congressmen Opposed

LD110652 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Washington September 11 TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko reports:

Members of the House of Representatives George Brown (Democrat, California), Joe Moakley (Democrat, Massachusetts), John Seiberling (Democrat, Ohio), and Matthew Mchugh (Democrat, New York), jointly with representatives of an influential public organisation, the Union of Concerned Scientists, have filed a suit in the district court on Tuesday with a view to preventing a U.S. test of an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon, scheduled for September 13. Congressman George Brown has pointed out at a press-conference here that "the President's position is that no ASAT arms control agreement is in the national interest."

Mr. Brown pointed out that an ASAT system is in point of fact a component of the notorious "strategic defence initiative" which is aimed at creating a large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements. George Brown stressed that tests of anti-satellite weapons are illegal under the treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems. At the same time he recalled that the Soviet Union strictly observed its unilaterally assumed obligation not to hold tests of anti-satellite systems.

Congressman Joe Moakley, for his part, pointed out the dangerous consequences of the creation of an ASAT system by the United States. He warned that the deployment of an anti-satellite system would lead to a situation when any malfunction or failure of a satellite would turn into a cause for war, and when people would find themselves within a hairbreadth of a nuclear disaster.

Howard Ris, executive director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, pointed out the obstructionist stand of the Reagan administration in the question of ASAT weapons. He said that the organisation holds that "the United States is not endeavouring to negotiate in good faith and is, in fact, unwilling to begin negotiations regarding limitations on anti-satellite weapons". The scientists warned that if the United States carries out an ASAT test, the Soviet Union will take reply measures. Moreover, the participants in the press-conference pointed out that the new step by the USA towards militarising outer space will have a negative effect on the state of Soviet-U.S. relations. Ambassador Jonathan Dean, arms control adviser of the Union of Concerned Scientists, stressed that the Soviet Union will regard such a test on the eve of the summit meeting as a challenge.

Congressman Coughlin

LD120941 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Washington September 12 TASS--House member Lawrence Coughlin has urged President Reagan to call off the testing of an ASAT system against a target satellite planned one of these days. According to him, this test may seriously undermine the chance of reaching an accord with the Soviet Union. The congressman says in a letter to Reagan that the testing of the U.S. ASAT system will trigger an absolutely unrestrained race in anti-satellite weapons. He points out that a mutual moratorium on the testing of such weapons against space targets would be the best way to reach an accord in that field.

Suit Filed Against Test

LD131618 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Four American Congressmen and the Union of Concerned Scientists have filed a suit in the Federal Court to block a test of an anti-satellite weapons scheduled for Friday 13 September. Representative from California, George Brown, has told a news conference in Washington that anti-satellite weapons tests are in conflict with a treaty limiting anti-missile defense systems.

The United States has not dared to openly start (?live) tests of anti-missile defense systems because it has to honor the anti-missile defense treaty of 1972 which prohibits developing, testing, and deploying anti-missile defense systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based, or mobile land-based. The American administration has been claiming that it is complying with the agreement. However, in reality Washington is going to bypass the treaty on the pretext of ASAT tests. Representative George Brown stressed this at the news conference. There have been other violations of the treaty Washington is reluctant to discuss.

For instance the American Armed Forces have been developing an anti-missile defense system for about 20 years. In June of last year a test was carried out in which one missile warhead was intercepted by another. A special mirror reflecting laser beams was tested in June during the flight of an American space shuttle. Such mirrors can be used in a large scale anti-missile defense system. Radar stations are being built to provide radar anti-missile defenses for United States territory. This is prohibited by the treaty. The United States, in violation of the treaty, is developing mobile anti-missile defense radars, and the list can be prolonged. These actions can create a situation when it will impossible to reach new agreements.

The Soviet Union will have to retaliate. It is not accidental that the news conference in Washington noted that the Soviet Union would regard the ASAT tests on the eve of a summit meeting as a challenge and that Washington's violation of its pledges and the beginning of the militarization of space would start an unbridled arms race in all directions.

Suit Rejected

LD122302 Moscow TASS in English 2230 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, September 12 TASS -- Having yielded to the pressure from the U.S. Administration, the District Court has rejected the action which had been brought by a group of congressmen and American scientists in order to prevent the U.S. test of anti-satellite weapons. "Motivating" its decision, the district judge stated that the action was "political" and therefore should not be considered in court.

The ruling came just a few hours after the administration demanded that the judicial bodies should take appropriate steps. The action reflected the growing anxiety in the United States over plans of militarisation of outer space. Now that the action was rejected, the administration paved the way to testing the ASAT system, planned, according to some data, for September 13.

U.S. Public Not 'Deluded'

PM171057 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov report: "Dangerous New Step"]

[Text] New York, 14 Sep -- A test of the ASAT antisatellite system has just been carried out in the United States. A high-altitude F-15 fighter took off from Edwards Air Force Base in California. It launched a two-stage missile, the nose section of which hit a Pentagon Solwind satellite 290 miles from earth. As a Pentagon spokesman said, new tests will be carried out in the near future.

Alongside ASAT, the White House is also urging on other developments within the framework of the President's "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI). As Lieutenant General J. Abrahamson, director of the organization for implementing SDI, reported, a few days previously a Titan-II missile was hit by the beam of a laser device at the White Sands test site in New Mexico. The Pentagon has already created a special group to develop computer programs and technology for which contracts have been secured by major arms concerns.

In an attempt to delude public opinion, an administration spokesman announced that these tests were allegedly necessary in order to..."preserve the strategic balance with the Soviet Union." This, for example, was stated on Wednesday [11 September] in Congress by K. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. However, what kind of "balance" can they be talking about when L. Speakes, White House deputy press secretary, openly stated that Washington needs antisatellite weapons in order to expose to attack Soviet communications and navigation satellites and satellites warning of missile attack?...

Nor do suggestions that the new system is necessary to "catch up" with the Soviet Union stand up to criticism.

In making such statements, the White House for some reason prefers to keep quiet about the fact that since 1959 the United States has been developing and carrying out tests of such weapons and in the sixties was the first to create two ground-based antisatellite systems in the Pacific Islands. Recently, a series of tests of fundamentally new strike systems was carried out.

As sober-minded politicians warn, the White House's new militarist venture can lead only to a new round in the arms race and an increased threat of nuclear war. As already reported, this was stated by 98 congressmen who appealed to the President on Thursday [12 September] demanding that he abandon testing.

Many representatives of the academic world also condemn the new "adventure in the sky." They warn that further U.S. development of antisatellite weapons and the creation of other space strike systems, which would be impossible to monitor, would be a destabilizing factor in Soviet-American relations.

A press conference given in Boston by scientists from various universities and higher educational establishments across the country was just such a reflection of growing concern. It was announced that the campaign to collect signatures for an appeal to refrain from participating in work in the SDI field is being expanded. Hundreds of well-known specialists are already taking part in this protest campaign. Thus, in a message to U.S. and USSR leaders, more than 700 members of the U.S. National Academy of Science, including 54 Nobel prizewinners from the Union of Concerned Scientists, state: "The development of antisatellite weapons and ABM defense systems with space-based elements will increase the threat of nuclear war and serve as a stimulus to very dangerous rivalry in the area of offensive nuclear weapons... For this reason, we appeal to the United States and the Soviet Union to negotiate a complete ban on testing and deploying weapons in space."

"M.S. Gorbachev's response to our appeal," (G. Ris), executive director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, told your correspondent, shows that your country advocates an irrevocable political decision which would prevent the militarization of space. As for the White House, it has not replied to us."

The Reagan administration's provocative action and Washington's determination -- confirmed by its official spokesmen -- to continue to follow the path of militarization of near-earth space have aroused profound indignation and alarm among many American politicians and public figures.

"The testing of the ASAT system," Congressman G. Brown said, "is the prelude to unleashing an arms race in space. The Soviet Union sees this action as an official repudiation by Washington of the Soviet Union's proposal to halt the development of antisatellite weapons systems."

Commenting on the Pentagon's reports, the ABC television company notes that, by carrying out the ASAT test, the United States has ignored the USSR's warning about canceling the unilateral moratorium on deploying antisatellite systems. Only last week, the CBS television company recalls, the USSR warned that, if the United States carried out tests of antisatellite weapons against targets in space, the USSR would consider itself released from the pledge not to launch antisatellite facilities into space.

Certain American observers note that the F-15 which took off from California's Edwards Air Force base produced a volley aimed at fueling tension. Some circles in Washington are patently set on definitely deadlocking the talks on nuclear and space weapons.

CSO: 5200/1008

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR: U.S. PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO GAIN SDI SUPPORT SEEN

Conservative Campaign in Support

LD132308 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, 14 Sep (TASS)--Conservative circles in the USA have joined in the campaign launched by the Reagan administration to put the "star wars" program through. At a press conference in the Capitol building, members of the recently founded Coalition in Support of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) announced the beginning of a large-scale propaganda offensive for the purpose of making the U.S. public believe in the "need" to create space arms. As was clear from pronouncements of Lieutenant General Daniel Graham, the coalition's chairman, the organization intends to press for the allocation of funds for work within the framework of the SDI.

U.S. Steps Up Propaganda

LD161502 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 16 Sep 85

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Georgiy Alekseyev]

[Text] Ignoring the wide protests by international public opinion against the U.S. plans for the militarization of space, Washington intends to carry a whole series of tests on a new class of space strike weapons, antisatellite systems. According to UPI, the Pentagon is planning to deploy an operating ASAT antisatellite system by 1987. The next test on antisatellite weapons, as was confirmed by the deputy chief of the U.S. Air Force research programs, will take place in the next few months. At the same time, with the blessing of the White House, attempts are being stepped up to win over U.S. and international public opinion and convince them of the need to carry out the "star wars" program. The start of a large-scale propaganda offensive was announced by a recently-created coalition for support of the Strategic Defense Initiative. Its main proposition is the absurd allegation that the militarization of space guarantees the preservation of world peace.

Wick, USIA Criticized

LD182217 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1059 GMT 18 Sep 85

[TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Sep (TASS) -- As reported from Washington, the U.S. Administration has engaged the USIA news agency to publicize the SDI program. On instructions from the White House, the USIA has organized a special 10-day trip to the United States for a group of "necessary journalists and political observers" from the countries of Western Europe. As a personal letter from USIA Director Wick reads, this trip was organized following "complaints that the foreign mass media covers events and activities connected with the 'star wars' program in an improper manner." He expressed the hope that after the visit "these European journalists will better understand and report these complicated matters in question in the correct direction."

What "correct" coverage of the Reagan program of preparations for "star wars" means from Washington's viewpoint is not a secret. Impudently distorting the facts, the Washington administration, and also in its wake the bourgeois American-NATO propaganda, has long been trying to depict the most dangerous U.S. line of militarizing space as virtually "an alternative to the nuclear threat," although it is more than evident that the creation of space strike weapons can only undermine stability in the world, and open channels for an unbridled, primarily strategic, nuclear arms race.

The fact that the USIA is now exerting special efforts to try to turn white into black is no accident. After all, the USIA (staff of over 8,000, budget for the 1986 fiscal year of over \$970 million) is a true headquarters of misinformers, the main mouthpiece of American foreign policy propaganda. It is precisely the USIA which, fulfilling the commands of the White House, while closely interacting with the State Department, the Pentagon, and the CIA, acts as the organizer of psychological war against socialism, and, attempting to create "provision of propaganda" for Washington's aggressive military-strategic concepts, wages massive ideological attacks on the forces of peace and progress. In 6 years, almost 27,000 people who visited the United States at the invitation of the USIA were subjected to a sophisticated working over. In 1985 alone, it is proposed to spend over \$120 million on "educating foreign guests." It is typical that among those who come especially willingly to the United States for training by the ideological subversives from Mr Wick's department are representatives of the Salvadoran military, fascist thugs from Chile, adherents of the "American way of life" from Haiti and Guatemala -- countries where there are antipopular juntas which usurped power thanks to U.S. support.

Of course, the USIA is not only organizing the ideological working over of its "clients" in the United States -- it is systematically and profusely publishing and disseminating different kinds of material aimed at misinforming the public. Examples of this? Here are just two.

First, the mass-produced brochure "Nuclear Forces of Intermediate Range: Questions and Answers". The cornerstone of this opus is the argument -- as false as it is infuriating -- about "the peace-loving attitude of the United States and NATO," which is allegedly confronted by an "aggressive Moscow." The second example: A series of brochures and booklets under the common title "The Policy of the United States in Central America and the Caribbean Basin," and as an example of such "support"...U.S. aggression against Grenada is cited.

U.S. President Reagan, giving a speech at a ceremony on the occasion of the establishment of the so-called "National Endowment for Democracy," which is under the jurisdiction of the USIA, announced that, in his words, "Since Americans are the heirs of the Yankee traders who knew how to sell their goods so well," so Washington should just as deftly "sell the principles of American democracy," and in this matter (?he) "will show no inhibitions." And the newly-appeared "crusaders" of the USIA certainly have no inhibitions -- right now, as we see, they are industriously working on the "necessary journalists" from Western Europe, trying to justify Washington's dangerous course toward turning space into an arena of militaristic adventures. The misinformers of the USIA do not spare resources or hard work, but they are clearly forgetting one thing: A lie remains a lie, no matter how many times it is repeated.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR: PERLE STATEMENTS TO CONGRESS ON SDI EXAMINED

'Confusion, Uncertainty'

LD191737 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 19 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

There is an old tale in which a silly bear, with the best intentions, swipes with a boulder at a flay which has landed on the forehead of his sleeping friend. The Pentagon, it appears, has the best intentions as it is seeking to "strengthen the allies' trust" in the USA -- with nuclear explosions.

Addressing members of a special panel on arms control and disarmament of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, Richard Perle, U.S. assistant defence secretary, said that the United States must carry on testing out of considerations of ensuring the dependability of nuclear weapons, out of security considerations and to strengthen the allies' trust.

Following Reagan's absurd slogan of proceeding to nuclear arms reductions through a U.S. massive nuclear arms buildup, Perle characterized as an absurd piece of legislation that proposal by a group of U.S. Congressmen to ratify the 1974 Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of the yield of nuclear explosions and to freeze nuclear weapon tests would only meet the interests of the Soviet Union.

Perle frankly admitted that the present U.S. Administration banked on raising the dependability of nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, all the sensible and unbiased experts agree that it is a reduction in their dependability through ending nuclear tests that would help sober "hotheads" among the apologists of the first nuclear strike.

Indeed, even arch adventurists would think thrice before unleashing a war with untested and hence unreliable means of mass destruction.

The statement of the official Pentagon spokesman, who is considered -- and with good reason -- one of the most fierce opponents of any agreements on the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments, testifies to confusion and uncertainty in the U.S. Administration, which has to resort to cheap propaganda tricks in order to justify its obstructionist stand on the prohibition of nuclear tests.

The White House's negative reaction to the exceptionally important decision of the Soviet Union to halt all nuclear explosions from August 6 and to the Soviet appeal to the United States to follow that good example shows that Washington's problem still is not to find by joint efforts a way back from the nuclear abyss, to which the world has been pushed through the fault of the United States, but more artfully to "work over" world public opinion and make it reconcile itself to the continued uncontrollable arms race.

The peoples of the world have the right to demand that Washington drop its illusory but very dangerous plans to achieve military superiority and at long last join the Soviet Union in looking for ways to strengthen world peace. Indeed, it is only together that we will survive or perish.

Evidence of U.S. Intentions

LD192056 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 19 Sep 85

[By TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] The USSR's recent initiative, the introduction of a moratorium on nuclear explosions accompanied by a call on the United States to join in this action, has been greeted with approval in the world. This is logical, since this is a case of an exceptional important and definite step, which, if positively received in Washington, would mean a slowing-down and then a halt in the nuclear arms race.

However, those circles in the United States which have linked their policy to the further spiralling of this arms race do not want an end to nuclear tests. As is known, Washington's reply to the Soviet initiative for a moratorium was the sinister thunder of the latest nuclear blast in Nevada. Striving to camouflage its course toward achieving military superiority, Washington refers, as Perle does, to the imaginary difficulties or verification. These difficulties are entirely invented by those who are banking on force and do not wish the conveyor belts of nuclear armaments to come to a halt.

What are the facts? What is the evidence?

Let us merely refer to such a well-known example as the statement by Palme, Sweden prime minister, in Geneva in June of this year. The work done by my country's experts in this field, said Palme, long ago permitted me to be convinced that the scientific and technical knowledge and experience accumulated thus far make it possible to provide the necessary verification of observance of a treaty banning any tests of nuclear weapons. End of quotation.

Many other political figures, and prestigious scientists and experts, including some in the United States, have spoken and are speaking in the same spirit. So, the essence of the matter does not lie in some imaginary "difficulties of verification." The crux of the matter is that U.S. ruling circles, who bank on force; set course for "star wars" preparations and toward developing new nuclear warheads for MX, Trident, and Pershing II missiles; and so on, regard intensive nuclear tests as an essential component part of the process of developing new types of nuclear weapon.

Perle's inventions are yet further evidence of the fact that Washington, flying in the face of reason, intends to continue this aggressive and extremely dangerous course.

10 October 1985

Nuclear Testing Stand

LD190905 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, September 19 TASS -- The Reagan administration which has launched a massive programme for military preparations is unwilling to ratify the already concluded arms control agreements and is cold-shouldering the idea of concluding a treaty on a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons testing. Another evidence of that has been provided by the pronouncements of Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defence, at hearings in Congress. Setting out the stand with regard to the proposal on a freeze on nuclear arsenals and on a ban on nuclear tests, he maintained that those measures are not ostensibly fit for a reasonable national strategy. As regards the treaty on the limitation on underground nuclear weapon tests, Perle stated that the USA should go on testing nuclear weapons.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

TASS HITS CREATION OF U.S. MILITARY SPACE COMMAND

Announcement Noted

LD131629 Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, September 13 TASS -- The Pentagon has officially announced that on September 23 a new U.S. space command headquartered in Colorado Springs will go into action. The command has been set up on President Reagan's personal orders and will report directly to the U.S. defense secretary and to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It will be given the functions now shared by the space commands of the Navy and the Air Force. The military space systems already deployed in near-earth space will be taken over by the new command.

The British DAILY TELEGRAPH says that the U.S. space command will be the control centre for all the military missions of space ships under the space shuttle program and coordinate the operations of all the military spy satellites, including their launching and the reception of information from them.

The engines of a new reusable space ship, Atlantis, were tested at Cape Canaveral. According to provisional data, a NASA spokesman said, the tests were a success and the space ship is ready for lift-off scheduled for October 3. In addition to the three engines, REUTER reports, the entire electronic control complex of the power plant has been checked. Atlantis will carry five Pentagon crewmen and a secret cargo.

Offensive Purposes Seen

LD250858 Moscow TASS in English 0841 GMT 25 Sep 85

["Washington: Following the Course of Militarizing Space"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Sep (TASS)--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

A united space command has been set up in the United States.

It comprises, and will oversee, the corresponding legs of the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Army and Marine Corps connected with military space programs as well as the military missions of space shuttles.

As had to be expected, spokesmen for the Pentagon and for the newly-founded united "'star wars" staff" claimed hypocritically at a special ceremony marking the event that the military space command would serve exclusively defensive purposes and even make a contribution of its own to averting war.

But even those solemn speeches did not conceal that, when the "star wars" system had been developed and deployed, the united space command would get down to the business it had been really formed for, that of masterminding and carrying out combat operations in outer space.

Washington leaders continue hoodwinking world public opinion by maintaining that the "Strategic Defense Initiative"(SDI), the formal name for "star wars", is nothing more than a "research" pursuit.

But do they really need to have a military space command, with the latest additions to the U.S. strategic offensive forces placed under it, to oversee research?

Washington's cover story about the "defensive" thrust of its plans to militarize outer space cannot conceal the obvious reality that even at the present stage the SDI effort involves trying out specific kinds of space-strike weaponry, and not just in laboratories, but at ground testing ranges and in outer space. The facts are so telltale that the Washington leaders will not be able to take in anybody.

In the Soviet Union it is realized clearly that the "star wars" program is ushering in a new phase in the arms race, which will be dangerous also to the United States. All the slick claims that, once they've raised space-strike forces, U.S. leaders will embark on consultations with their allies on the expediency of deploying the relevant arms are propaganda gimmickry.

When, at the latest news conference in the White House, the U.S. President was asked why, right after the recent U.S. testing of an anti-satellite (ASAT) system, he didn't try and come to terms with the Soviet Union to ban such weapons, he began talking of the need for extensive verification and the like, while leaving the question actually unanswered. The ASAT system, in the meantime, is just part of the SDI program and it is easier to prevent its deployment while the effort is yet in its initial stage.

The matter, however, is that in Washington they do not even think of forgoing the militarization of space. It is there that the administration leaders are now keen to gain military superiority over the USSR. But such hopes are illusory, they only put international security in still greater jeopardy and are bound to produce a crisis situation.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

TASS: FURTHER REPORTS ON SDI DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

Laser Contract to Boeing

LD071844 Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, 7 Sep (TASS)--The United States has taken another step toward the creation of strike space arms. The Pentagon announced that a contract to a sum of about \$11 million was concluded with the "Boeing Aerospace" corporation in the framework of the implementation of the programme of "Star Wars." The corporation has been assigned the task to design and stage an experiment for hitting a target in space by free-electron laser beam. In accordance with the "Strategic Defence Initiative" laser weapons should become an important composite part of a large-scale system of anti-missile defence with elements of space basing.

Final Group of Contractors

LD120909 Moscow TASS in English 0849 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, 12 Sep (TASS)--The United States is embarking on a new phase in the practical implementation of Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" project.

According to the Pentagon, the final fifth group of military-industrial corporations to engage in research and development related to the space-based anti-missile defence system has been determined. It includes Rockwell International, LTV Aerospace Defence, Titan Systems, BDM, Sperry, Planning Research, and Blime and Orion. They are given one year to submit the results of their research to the Pentagon.

White Sands Laser Test

PM191406 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS Report: "Laser Installation Tested"]

[Text] Washington, 18 Sep--The United States has taken yet another step down the road of implementing Reagan's "Star Wars" program. The Pentagon has reported that the first test of a powerful laser installation under what

approximate to real combat conditions was held 6 September at the White Sands, New Mexico test range. The laser beam destroyed a Titan-1 missile standing vertically on the ground. It is worth noting that the Pentagon announced the holding of the test only 2 days before the start of the next round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva. It is clearly a question of attempts by Washington to poison the atmosphere surrounding the talks. ABC TV also notes that the Reagan administration is linking this test to the forthcoming summit meeting.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

SOVIET GENERAL CHERVOV INTERVIEWED ON SDI

AU161433 Sofia ZEMEDELSCO ZNAME in Bulgarian 13 Sep 85 pp 1, 6

["Specially arranged" "APN" interview with Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, head of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff: "Washington's 'Star Wars' Program--An Attack on Mankind's Future"]

[Text] [Unidentified interviewer] A lot has recently been written in the United States and elsewhere about "star wars". For many ordinary people the question naturally arises: Why is the Pentagon striving to move into space?

[Chervov] First of all, we should note that within the United States itself there exists a large camp of critics and opponents of the "star wars" program. They all come to the identical conclusion that the new category of strike weapons, which have acquired the name of space weapons, are a fearful threat hanging over mankind, an attack on its future.

The question is indeed fully justified: Why are the Washington strategists striving to move into space? Why is the American program for the militarization of space camouflaged under the untrue title of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI)?

The answer is obvious: Washington does not like the historically established military-strategic parity which is now in existence between the USSR and the United States, between the Warsaw Pact and NATO or, according to the accepted expression, between East and West. It is difficult for Washington to acknowledge it has to negotiate on an equal footing with a state like the socialist Soviet Union. The United States has attempted many times, and is attempting now, to restore its past military supremacy over the USSR.

With this aim, the United States is creating a potential for a first "disarming" nuclear strike and is increasing its conventional armaments, which in their destructive power approach that of nuclear weapons. The American "star wars" plans, that is, the creation [suzdavane] of large-scale systems for antimissile defense and space strike weapons, serve the purposes of blackmail.

It is precisely through space that Washington now proposes to achieve its unrealizable mindset of obtaining military supremacy over the Soviet Union. But, it is generally known the nuclear (and primarily strategic) arms race that has been instigated by the United States in recent years has not given them superiority.

The facts show that in the United States one strategic weapon system has succeeded another (heavy bombers, missile-carrying submarines, independently targeted multiple nuclear warheads, cruise missiles, etc.), but none of these has consolidated, nor will consolidate, their own security. Rather the reverse. Due to the lack of far-sightedness on the part of Pentagon strategists, their country's security is suffering serious damage because, in response to every provocation and every action to improve or create [suzdavane] new forms of weapons, the Soviet Union makes the appropriate reply in the shortest possible time. Everyone must realize that Washington's calculations for victory in the nuclear war lose their meaning, due to the inevitability of nuclear retribution.

In these conditions, space has been chosen as a new area in which the United States plans to achieve superiority over the socialist countries. In Washington they are plotting to create an "antimissile" shield over the United States, that is, to screen the territory of America with a multistage antimissile defense and thus deprive the USSR of the opportunity to make a return strike.

At the same time, the United States is also planning to possess an "irresistible" sword -- that is, to increase its nuclear first-strike potential -- and to develop new strategic forces based in space, designed to attack earth, sea, air, and space targets. In the final analysis, the task has been set of acquiring the opportunity through space of making a first strike with impunity and thus achieve a decisive military superiority. This is the essence of the American "star wars" plans.

The USSR vigorously objects to the risky "star wars" concept, because it is aimed at upsetting the strategic balance, undermines the agreements in the field of nuclear weapons, and destabilizes the international situation. Therefore, the Soviet Union has been insistently proposing that space should not be made a new source of military threat and that space strike weapons should not be developed [suzdavati].

The Soviet Union, as we have declared on many occasions at the highest level, does not strive for military supremacy either on earth or in space. It is doing everything possible to halt the arms race. However, if the "star wars" preparations continue, then, as M.S. Gorbachev has noted, we will have no choice but to take retaliatory measures, including, of course, the reinforcement and improvement of offensive nuclear weapons. Therefore, the question of whether the Soviet Union will succeed in not permitting the deployment [razgrushtani] of space strike weapons and averting the arms race acquires paramount importance at the present time.

The future development of the world military-political situation hangs on the solution of this question:

[Interviewer] Through the "star wars" program, the Pentagon strategists are planting a mine underneath the Soviet-American Salt II treaty. In order to justify its actions, the United States is trying to present this as a "response" to certain "breaches" on the part of the USSR. What is the matter at issue? How will American actions of this kind, which undermine the SALT II treaty, affect the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons?

[Chervov] All insinuations about certain "breaches" by the Soviet Union of its obligations under the SALT II treaty are completely without foundation. The USSR approaches its accepted obligations with the greatest responsibility and fulfills them precisely.

The United States has no facts concerning the Soviet Union's breach of its obligations. America has more than once gone to absurd lengths in an attempt to accuse us. For example, it claims that the USSR has encoded certain telemetry data in missile tests, which is allegedly essential for monitoring the execution of the SALT II treaty. But, this is not true. The USSR has not encoded data needed for monitoring the SALT II treaty. Showing our good will and in order to resolve the problem, we invited the United States to give details of the parameters which in their view should not be encoded. The American side declined to do so. This indicates the groundlessness of their claims.

The U.S. Administration claims that a second new type of IBM has appeared in the Soviet Union, the SS-25. But the White House is well aware of the fact that no second new type of Soviet strategic missile exists in reality. The United States considers the new missile to be the old SS-13 missile, which has been updated in strict accordance with the SALT II treaty. Washington's reference to this missile was made to provide them with a pretext to claim the "right" to develop [suzdade] a further type of strategic missile, the Midgetman, as well as the MX. Washington resorts to falsifications and fabricated charges in order to justify its militaristic policy in the eyes of the public and make the Soviet Union take the blame for U.S. actions which are causing the breakdown of the system of treaties. In other words, the old, well-tried method of transferring the blame is being applied.

As far back as 1981, the present U.S. Administration described the SALT II treaty as "fatally flawed". The treaty was a constant source of irritation to the White House, because it establishes strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. If it recognizes the necessity of observing the treaty, the White House is deprived of the opportunity of talking about Soviet military superiority, which in fact has not and does not exist.

However, the United States cannot renounce the treaty. If it does so, it will be unmasked before the whole world. Therefore, the White House has chosen the path of rejecting the articles which hinder the fulfillment of military programs. In its fulfillment of the SALT II treaty, the United States has left a long trail of most flagrant contraventions. In the beginning, they vetoed its ratification. Later, they refused to leave the protocol to the treaty in force, as a result of which a new class of strategic weapon made its appearance, the thousands of cruise missiles, and a serious blow was struck to the whole SALT process. Later, they proceeded to directly evade Articles 12 and 13 of the treaty when they deployed medium-range missiles in Europe and attempted to disrupt the strategic balance which the countries agreed to maintain. The United States rejected the principle of equality and identical security which is embodied in SALT II and other Soviet-American documents (for example, they camouflaged their ICBM launch installations, thus hindering their monitoring).

We cannot omit mentioning that at the same time the White House is also pursuing a line of undermining the Antimissile Defense Treaty (ADT). "Star wars" and the ADT are not compatible; they are mutually opposed, either - or. Here, there is no alternative. SDI is a mine under the ADT. If the United States destroys this treaty, the negotiations will lose all sense and the SALT process will be disrupted. The situation will become acutely critical. This should not be forgotten by the authors of "star wars" and their accomplices in this provocation.

CSO: 5200/1016

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

BRIEFS

ITALY'S SPADOLINI, GEN ABRAHAMSON DISCUSS SDI--Rome, 27 Aug (AFP)--Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini today discussed the possibility of Italian collaboration with the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) with the project's coordinator, General James Abrahamson. A communique said they had examined the "intellectual property, security of scientific know-how and possible technological repercussions in the civilian sector" of the programme. It said they had also exchanged views on how this technology might be used in European defence, including conventional weapons. General Abrahamson emphasised that SDI was a research programme into new technologies, with possible applications in the military domain in the early 1990s. Yesterday the general had talks with government officials and representatives of industry on possible Italian collaboration in the fields of lasers and opto-electronics, computers and space industry components. A technical U.S. delegation is due to visit Italy in the near future. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 27 Aug 85]

CSO: 5200/2760

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

USSR: COMMENTARIES ASSAIL U.S. ATTITUDE BEFORE THIRD ROUND

U.S. Diplomat Hit

PM061115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep First Edition p 5

[B. Orekhov "Rejoinder": "See Nothing, Hear Nothing..."]

[Text] At a meeting with the press, a U.S. State Department spokesman said that the Soviet Union is "putting forward preliminary conditions for the start of serious talks on the reduction of existing weapons." This unsubstantiated claim was followed by a demagogic appeal to our country to "turn its public statements into real proposals" and an all but sworn, but no less hypocritical for that, assurance of the U.S. side's readiness to "carefully consider any serious Soviet proposals."

Perhaps we can start with this assurance, since as a result of it the senior U.S. diplomat had taken on a resemblance to the well-known monkeys of the Indian epic one of whom covers his ears and another covers his eyes: "See nothing, hear nothing...."

As is known, the Soviet Union's moratorium on nuclear tests, which we urged the United States to join, has been in operation since 6 August.

Some months earlier, our country introduced another moratorium--on the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe and on the adoption of countermeasures connected with the sitting of U.S. Pershing-2 missiles on the European continent.

It is 2 years now since the Soviet side placed a moratorium on putting anti-satellite weapons in space. And it suggested to the United States that they should both halt all work on the creation of anti-satellite facilities and liquidate existing facilities.

A proposal was put forward that the USSR and the United States should impose a moratorium, for the duration of the Geneva talks, on the creation, including scientific research, testing, and deployment, of space weapons and freeze their strategic offensive armaments.

It looks like the State Department spokesman is pretending that not even a whisper about any of these initiatives has reached his ears. There is nothing new about this device. After all, only recently Washington called all the

Soviet Union's concrete and tangible actions "propaganda." So why not revert to the device of omitting to mention them, pretending that they have never existed at all?

In the same speech the U.S. Diplomat announced that the United States was ready to start "bargaining" with the USSR at the Geneva talks. It gets really awkward for people who turn politics into bargaining and matters on which the fate of peace literally depends into the elements of a political game. The Soviet Union wants honest dialogue and talks in which the sides are guided by a sense of great responsibility to the peoples for the cause of peace on earth.

It is only to be deplored that the State Department spokesman said what he did. Certainly, he would have wiser to follow the example of the last of the three famous monkeys--"I will say nothing to anyone...."

U.S. Plans No Initiatives

PM161012 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "U.S. Position at the Geneva Talks"]

[Text] Washington, 14 Sep (TASS) -- President Reagan had a meeting in the White House yesterday with the leaders of the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. As was shown by the statement made by the President after this meeting and also by the explanations given by a White House representative, the United States is returning to the Geneva conference table without any intention of taking up a really constructive and flexible position capable of leading to the rapid reaching of understanding.

The President, in particular, asserted that he had granted the U.S. delegation "unprecedented powers" in order, as he put it, to reach "our primary goal" in Geneva. But, judging from the remarks made by Reagan himself, these "powers" in fact amount only to an instruction that during the third round of the talks beginning on 19 Sept, the U.S. delegation should play a waiting game and not come up with any proposals and initiatives of their own. The United States, the President asserted, had already had its say and it was now up to the USSR which was, allegedly, totally responsible for whether the talks would be successful.

Particular attention is being paid here to the fact that, as the White House representative confirmed, the United States not only does not intend to renounce the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" but also does not intend to conduct serious talks on the question of preventing the militarization of space. "The Strategic Defense Initiative" is not something that the United States plans to give up as a result of the talks.

10 October 1985

U.S. 'Sabotage, Delays, Confrontation'

LD140707 Moscow TASS in English 0705 GMT 14 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 14 TASS -- "The Soviet Union proves by deeds, rather than by words its aspiration and determination to see to it that the Soviet-American summit meeting at Geneva be constructive and resultative, demonstrating its bold and principled approach to the solution of most complicated international problems of our time," political news analyst Gennadiy Shishkin writes in the newspaper SELSKAYA ZHIZN today, analysing foreign comments on Mikhail Gorbachev's replies to American TIME magazine.

"Washington's frantic attempts to conceal its confusion and unwillingness to meet halfway the Soviet peace initiatives by claims that Moscow's peace offensive was through and through propaganda ended in failure. The vain efforts by White House officials to justify the total absence of constructiveness in the U.S. official stance failed to convince anyone. Moreover, the Washington administration is gearing up its campaign hostile to the Soviet Union in a bid to whitewash the United States' aggressive foreign policy and Washington's desire to launch another round of the arms race, including by spreading it into outer space.

The U.S. President and vice-president joined the campaign in recent days."

"Indignation is mounting throughout the world, including in the United States," the article says, "over the fact that Washington responds by the tactics of sabotage, delays and enhanced confrontation to the demonstration of good will, to the immense potential of constructiveness on the part of the Soviet side."

"The public in Western Europe, as well as in the United States," the news analyst points out, "were alarmed by the reports on the test of an anti-satellite (ASAT) system at a real target in space on September 13." "Washington is thus making yet another step towards the escalation of the arms race and its spread into outer space. This step is being undertaken despite the fact that the Soviet Union's unilateral pledge not to launch anti-satellite systems into space has been in effect for nearly two years. This step is being undertaken by the American Administration in the conditions when the USSR's far-reaching proposal on a total ban on strike space weapons, including anti-satellite systems, and the elimination of such systems, is on the negotiating table in Geneva."

The news analyst writes that "the American side responds by the demonstration of its unwillingness to come to accord and display mutual restraint to the Soviet Union's restraint in practical actions on matters of armaments, to constructive Soviet proposals at the talks. The U.S. stance is not accidental. The obvious calculation is not only to acquire shortly anti-satellite weapons, but also to master under the disguise of the testing of anti-satellite systems its anti-missile systems, based in the air and elsewhere, banned by the 1972 ABM Treaty."

All this, Gennadiy Shishkin writes, reflects Washington's true attitude to talks on nuclear and space armaments in Geneva, its unpreparedness and unwillingness to agree on real steps on preventing the arms race in space and ending it on earth.

"The question is : How does it tally with Washington's hypocritical assurances about its adherence to arms reduction, about its striving for constructive dialogue at the Geneva meeting? It is obvious that such declarations are aimed at calming down American and world public opinion which demands

that Washington undertake concrete steps in response to the Soviet initiatives. As a matter of fact, Washington proceeds from the premise that there can be even no talk about any accords with the Soviet Union."

"Despite the intrigues by opponents of international detente and normalization of Soviet-American relations," the article says, "the Soviet Union is fully resolved to continue its vigorous campaign against the arms race, for the elimination of the nuclear threat."

U.S., USSR Moves Contrasted

LD182130 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons will resume in Geneva tomorrow [19 Sep]. Our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver comments:

Let me remind you that this will be the third round of talks which are conducted in three basic directions: on space, on strategic arms, and on medium-range means. What are the two sides bringing to the new meeting? In the course of the 2 month summer break, the Soviet Union has more than once confirmed its good will and efforts to curb the arms race. Let me point to, above all, the unilateral halt of all nuclear explosions by our country. The USSR has also unilaterally halted the deployment of medium-range missiles. And concerning outer space, our country has not only proposed to the United Nations Organization an extensive program of international cooperation for its peaceful use in conditions of nonmilitarization, but has also been supporting this by concrete deeds; flights of Soviet cosmonauts and the active participation in such a large international space project as the study of Venus and Halley's Comet.

What has the United States been engaged in during these 2 months? It has started a new series of nuclear explosions at the Nevada test ground and the testing of various types of space weapons from the ASAT antisatellite system to laser tests on earth and with the shuttle-type space ships. To add to this, there was the launch of the next, the eighth American submarine with Trident nuclear missiles on board and the newly announced schedule for the deployment of a further 96 American cruise missiles in the FRG in addition to the already deployed Pershings there. And so, the arms race continues and even accelerates, in all directions.

Of course, people throughout the whole world can compare these two courses. And the comparison hardly favors the United States. Even members of the American delegations in Geneva, in a conversation with THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondents, have expressed their anxiety about the propaganda success achieved by the Soviet Union in recent months, to the detriment of the Americans. No, the case here is not propaganda, of course, but a realistic, constructive, and peaceloving policy. And now again, after arriving in Geneva, the Soviet delegation has confirmed that it has instructions to work for significant, mutually acceptable solutions which will correspond to the task of preventing the arms race in outer space and halting it on the earth.

CSO: 5200/1001

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

USSR: REPORTAGE ON OPENING OF THIRD ROUND

Gorbachev Holds Meeting

LD161501 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1449 GMT 16 Sep 85

["At the CPSU Central Committee -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Sep (TASS) -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, held a conference today, at which issues linked with the regular round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments that begin in Geneva on 19 September were examined.

Taking part in the conference were Andrey Gromyko, Viktor Chebrikov, Eduard Shevardnadze, and Sergey Sokolov; as well as Viktor Karpov, Yuliy Kvitsinskiy, and Aleksey Obukov, leaders of the delegation of the USSR at the talks.

The Soviet delegation received the necessary directives.

USSR Delegation Arrives

LD171123 Moscow TASS in English 1101 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Geneva September 17 TASS--TASS correspondent Vladislav Shishlo reports: The Soviet delegation arrived here today for the third round of talks with the delegation of the United States on nuclear and space arms.

Viktor Karpov, the head of the delegation, made a statement for the press at Geneva Airport.

Karpov Statement

LD171234 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Geneva, September 17 TASS -- The Soviet delegation arrived here today to conduct the third round of talks with the United States delegation on nuclear and space arms.

In a statement made at the airport on arrival, the head of the delegation Viktor Karpov stressed that the new round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms will take place on the eve of the meeting between the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the President of the United States Ronald Reagan. This imparts a particularly responsible nature to the forthcoming round of talks considering the substance of the questions under discussion, their importance for curbing the arms race, strengthening stability and also improving Soviet-American relations. The

conference conducted by Mikhail Gorbachev at the CPSU Central Committee on September 16 in connection with the forthcoming round of talks is an indication of the big attention given in the Soviet Union to the solution of these problems.

The USSR delegation has been instructed to press for substantive mutually acceptable solutions that would accord with the task of preventing an arms race in space and stopping it on earth. It is prepared for constructive, businesslike talks on all the three directions of the negotiations -- space, strategic arms and medium-range systems, which, as it was agreed, should be studied and solved in complex.

It is clear, however, that progress at the talks can be ensured only by the efforts of both sides. So far, unfortunately, the position of the United States, first of all on the key question of the non-militarization of outer space, has not made it possible to achieve the tasks set to the talks. But if our partners in the talks display readiness to search for mutually acceptable solutions, we, too, will exert all our efforts to this end. This was clearly stated by Mikhail Gorbachev in his conversation with representatives of the American TIME magazine.

In conclusion the head of the Soviet delegation expressed gratitude for hospitality to the residents and authorities of the canton and city of Geneva.

Space Arms Group 24 September

LD241107 Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Geneva, September 24 TASS--The space arms group has met for a session here today within the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

Plenary Session 19 September

Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Geneva September 19 TASS--Another round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms began here today with a plenary meeting of the delegations. The delegation of the USSR is led by Viktor Karpov, the U.S. delegation--by Max Kampelman.

CSO: 5200/1001

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

BRIEFS

SOVIETS 'CUT SHORT' TALKS--Geneva, Sept 25 (AFP)--Soviet negotiators will cut short the third round of U.S.-Soviet disarmament talks which opened here last Thursday, in what sources close to the Soviet delegation said was an expression of their dissatisfaction with the talks. Sources close to the U.S. delegation claimed however that the Soviets were cutting short the two-month session on medium-range missiles and strategic space weapons in order to heighten tension before the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting here on November 19 and 20. Soviet negotiators told their U.S. counterparts they would head home on November 5 or 6 for festivities commemorating the revolution in Moscow, and that they did not plan to return for the last week of scheduled talks since the summit was so close. Sources close to the Soviet delegation said this decision was taken because the Soviets felt discussions were leading nowhere. But sources close to the U.S. delegation said that the Soviets were pushing away from the bargaining table in hope that U.S. President Ronald Reagan would make concessions about his "star wars" program, or Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). [Text] [Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 25 Sep 85]

CSO: 5200/1001

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

SOVIET GENERALS' PRESS CONFERENCE ON U.S. BINARY ARMS PLANS

TASS Report

LD190814 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 19 Sep 85

["Binary Weapons--A Danger to Europe and the Whole World"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 19 TASS -- After testing nuclear weapons and holding real-target tests of an anti-satellite ASAT system the American Administration is now starting large-scale production of binary weapons, a qualitatively new deadly variety of chemical weapons, said Major General Anatoliy Kuntsevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, expert of the USSR Defence Ministry. He was speaking today at a press-conference at the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry. The matter concerns concretely the production of "Big Eye" chemical bombs and 155-mm binary artillery shells.

Washington's step as regards binary weapons is a direct continuation of its militaristic policy. Under U.S. military strategy binary weapons are intended for offensive operations and for first-strike use, Anatoliy Kuntsevich stressed. So this weapon becomes a strategic one in the American arsenal of means for waging a war.

Even when used in very small quantities, binary chemical mixtures affect deep-going processes in man's organism, particularly his nervous system, and thus kill or cripple people. Binary means are designed exclusively for exterminating manpower and civilian population while leaving material values untouched.

The danger of binary weapons also lies in the fact that there appears now a realistic possibility for developing new types of toxic agents, up to ethnic weapons, by secretly varying components of binary munitions.

Implementation of the programme for "large-scale equipment" of the American Army with a new generation of chemical weapons, binary ones, will almost double the stocks of this "noiseless" weaponry of death in the U.S. arsenal -- from 3 million to 5 million units of chemical munitions (artillery shells, missiles, bombs, etc.).

The U.S. binary program constitutes a particular threat to Europe. Washington does not bother to conceal that it is planned to deploy binary weapons in Western European countries, first of all in West Germany, Britain, Italy and Turkey. This would threaten Europe with its potential transformation into a theater of chemical warfare in which, by the logic of things, the civilian population would become the main victim in the first place, Anatoliy Kuntsevich said. Thus, Western Europe becomes a dual hostage of the Pentagon, first a nuclear one, and now -- a chemical one as well.

At the same time binary chemical weapons constitute a real threat to the countries and peoples in other regions of the world.

Although the production of a new generation of chemical weapons has not started yet, NATO strategists are already making plans for the deployment of binary munitions and have even begun trying out modes of its combat use. The autumn Forge-85 exercises are in progress in West German territories these days. During these exercises U.S. and West German formations and units are training how to perform missions involving the use of chemical weapons, including binary weapons.

The U.S. decision is being taken in the conditions, Anatoliy Kuntsevich stressed, when delegations attending the Geneva Conference on Disarmament began practical efforts to formulate articles of a future convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and the elimination of their stockpiles.

Thus, another serious barrier is being put up in the way of the effort to draft an international agreement on that matter.

The Soviet Union resolutely condemns plans of production and deployment of binary chemical weapons. It was and is doing everything possible to ensure an early prohibition of chemical weapons of all types and the elimination of the existing stockpiles of such weapons. The Soviet Union has never handed them over to other countries. Having been one of the first to accede to the 1925 Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use of chemical weapons, the USSR has been consistently advocating its strict observance by everyone.

At the conference on disarmament the USSR is consistently working for the drafting of an international convention that would ban chemical weapons the world over. At the same time, the Soviet Union is prepared to resolve that problem on a regional basis as well, proceeding from the premise that the implementation of such partial measures would promote efforts made on a world-wide scale. At one with other Warsaw Treaty member-states the Soviet Union actively comes out in favor of freeing Europe of chemical weapons and supports the idea of the establishment in Europe of a zone free from such weapons.

Moscow TV Report

LD192140 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Report of 19 September Moscow news conference given by Academician Aleksandr Vasilyevich Fokin, Major General Kuntsevich, Ministry of Defense expert and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Major General Lebedev, representative of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; and (Kutovoy), deputy chief of the International Organizations Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

[Text] [Announcer] A news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists has been given in Moscow. It was held in connection with the danger of U.S. plans to produce binary weapons and site them in Western Europe. [Video shows medium shot of platform with following seating plan: Lebedev, Kuntsevich, Fokin, unidentified civilian, and (Kutovoy) seated, left to right on screen, followed by close up shots of Lebedev, Kuntsevich, Fokin and (Kutovoy)]

Those who took part in the conference were: Academician Aleksandr Vasilyevich Fokin; Major General Kuntsevich, a Ministry of Defense expert and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Major General Lebedev, a representative from the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; and (Kutovoy), deputy chief of the International Organizations Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Major General Kuntsevich delivered a statement at the news conference.

[Begin Kuntsevich recording] During its examination of the U.S. military budget for 1986, the U.S. Congress Conference Committee, under strong pressure from the Reagan administration, and especially from the Pentagon, recommended the allocation of \$155 million to ensure the beginning of production of binary chemical weapons. Thus a dangerous step is being made, which opens up one more direction in the escalation of the arms race, increases the threat of war, and aggravates international tension.

The step being undertaken by Washington in relation to binary weapons is a direct continuation of the overall militaristic course of the United States. The strike space weapons now being produced; the intercontinental ballistic missiles, the ballistic missiles on submarine vessels; the strategic air force, the long-range cruise missiles, the super-accurate conventional means of strike; as well as, now, binary chemical weapons -- these are called upon, in the plans of the Washington strategists, to secure for the United States the military superiority over the Soviet Union which it has been persistently trying to attain in order to dictate its will to other states and peoples.

The implementation of a program of equipping the U.S. Army with a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary weapons -- will lead to an almost two-fold increase in the stocks of this noiseless weapon of death in the U.S. arsenal: from 3 million units to 5 million rounds of chemical ammunition -- artillery shells, rockets, bombs, and so forth.

But even this does not suit the Washington strategists, who are clamoring for an even greater buildup of the U.S. chemical arsenal. In the town of Dine Bluff, Arkansas, the first factory calculated to produce 70,000 items of binary ammunition, artillery shells and bombs, is ready. The U.S. binary program holds a particular danger for Europe. In Washington, they do not hide the fact that it is planned to site binary weapons on the territory of West European countries, first in the FRG, Britain, Italy, and Turkey. This would threaten to convert Europe into a potential theater of chemical war, in which, according to logic, the main victim would be, first and foremost, the civilian population. Thus West Europe becomes a double hostage for the Pentagon: first nuclear, and now chemical. And here, once again, the insidiousness of Washington's plans reveals itself as -- wishing to draw a counterstrike away from its own territory -- it offers up the territories and populations of its allies.

The U.S. decision is being adopted in conditions where the delegations at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament have commenced a practical formulation of the clauses of a future convention on banning chemical weapons and eliminating their stocks. Thus, yet another serious obstacle is being erected on the road to working out an international accord on this account. One gains the impression that someone is deliberately trying to drive this important work into an impasse, to remove binary chemical weapons from any sort of control, to begin their production, and to stockpile them in areas where sudden and massive use can be made of them.

The Soviet Union resolutely condemns the plans to produce and site binary weapons. It has done and does everything possible for the speediest ban of chemical weapons in all varieties and the destruction of existing stocks. At the disarmament conference, the USSR is steadfastly trying to achieve drafting of a international convention that would ban chemical weapons throughout the world. At the same time, it is also ready to attain a solution to this problem on a regional basis, proceeding from the fact that the implementation of such partial measures would contribute to the efforts being undertaken on a world-wide scale. Securing durable peace and strengthening international security demand, with particular insistence, that all channels of the arms race should be blocked, including chemical arms, and that a solid barrier be placed on the path of building up means of mass destruction.

[Announcer] The participants in the press conference then replied to journalists' questions.

[Begin recording] [Fokin] There is a question from Vladimir (Kuzar), correspondent of the paper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. What position is allocated to the new generation of chemical weapons in the U.S. military programs? I invite Yuriy Viktorovich Lebedev to reply to this question.

[Lebedev] Binary chemical weapons occupy one of the most important positions in the overall rearmament program of the United States of America. And these weapons and the program for creating them are a national priority. It must be said that chemical weapons in general, and binary weapons in particular, are offensive weapons. Furthermore, U.S. specialists believe that binary chemical weapons could become the main weapons in conducting combat operations with the use of nuclear weapons. But, as with any U.S. offensive weapon, the U.S. is attempting to bring this weapon closer to the borders of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries. And, of course, as has occurred with other weapons, in doing this, the Pentagon is calculating that not only U.S. troops but the armies of its NATO allies will be equipped with chemical ammunition. This, approximately, is the role and the position of chemical weapons, including binary chemical weapons, in the military programs of the United States of America.

[Fokin] Zagorskiy, a correspondent of PRAVDA, asks: What effect could the appearance of binary weapons and their deployment in Europe have on the course of the talks on banning chemical weapons?

[(Kutovoy)] The transition to the mass production of binary chemical weapons, as envisaged by the United States, contradicts, of course, the efforts of states, of many states, to place an effective international ban on chemical weapons. The creation of binary weapons would potentially extend the circle of chemical components which can be used for the production of chemical weapons. And this would, in turn, increase the danger of the proliferation of chemical weapons, and draw into their production a great number of firms and transnational corporations. Consequently, it would make the problem of control considerably more difficult.

Finally, there is one more important aspect: Experience of holding talks shows that it is far easier to ban a weapon which has not yet been created, which, to be more precise, has not yet become a part of a country's arsenal. It is far more difficult to withdraw it from a country's arsenal, to take it out of production, to exclude it, to remove it from the equipment of the respective armies.

[Kalyagin] Kalyagin, Central Television. The United States frequently gives the assurance that binary chemical weapons are no different from traditional chemical weapons and, consequently, that their deployment would bring no new elements into the present military balance. How do you evaluate this assertion? [end recording]

[Announcer] Major General Kuntsevich replies to the question.

[Begin Kuntsevich recording] American political and military figures are publicizing binary weapons as a normal variety of chemical weapons. I should like to stress that this is a premeditated evaluation. Binary weapons are, in fact, a fundamentally new type of chemical weapon. The binary concept springs from the possibility of obtaining quickly new molecular structures of poisonous substances; that is, of changing the final poisonous substances, overcoming intelligence, treatment, and protection systems. This means putting the opponent in a defenseless position in the face of the new weapon. Finally, it is possible to strike individual ethnic groups selectively.

In principle, it is possible to carry out a strike against ethnic groups according to command. The possibilities of producing and possessing these weapons are facilitated significantly. Undoubtedly, all this leads to a violation and overestimation of the present balance of forces.

[David, in English with superimposed Russian translation] Mike David, of DAILY WORLD, United States. [end recording]

[Announcer] DAILY WORLD, United States. What consequences, in your opinion, will the decision to produce binary weapons in the United States have on the Geneva talks? Yevgeniy Grigoryevich (Kutovoy) replies.

[Begin recording] [Kutovoy] First of all, of course, it is difficult to foretell what issues will make up the agenda of the coming summit-level conference in Geneva. At the same time, issues of guaranteeing security occupy a central place in the policy of the Soviet Union, and these issues are connected with the solution of the problem of the reduction and the limitation of all forms and all types of armaments. Thus one can expect that at the forthcoming meeting the set of problems of strengthening security, including the issues of reducing armaments, will be examined.

[Name indistinct of NEWSWEEK, in English, with superimposed Russian translation] Could you please tell us what kind of chemical weapons the Soviet Union produces? [end recording]

[Announcer] Could you tell us what chemical arms are being produced in the Soviet Union? Are you planning the production of new forms of chemical arms in the USSR?

[Begin recording] [Kuntsevich] The Soviet Union, in reply to the escalation of chemical weapons, will certainly have to think about having a corresponding equivalent. But the Soviet Union is a powerful state, which possesses a high scientific-technical and production potential, and, therefore, its equivalent does not obligatorily have to belong to the chemical sphere. It could be conventional or other types of arms.

[Name indistinct, CTK correspondent, in Russian] Czechoslovak Press Agency. Could you please talk in more detail about the Soviet Union's position in relation to the proposal from the Governments of the GDR and the CSSR to set up a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe?

[Kutovoy] The Soviet Union supports the initiative of the Governments of the GDR and the CSSR to set up a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe. It regards this initiative as a contribution to the joint efforts aimed at delivering the peoples of the European Continent from the chemical threat. I would remind you once again that the Soviet Union -- as was emphasized by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his talk with Rau, deputy chairman of the SPD and minister president of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia -- would be ready, in the event of such a zone being set up in Central Europe, and in conformity with its foreign policy principles, to guarantee and to respect the status of this zone. Such a guarantee would come into effect were the United States, for its part, to act in an analogous manner. [end recording]

[Announcer] The participants in the press conference replied to other questions from the journalists.

IZVESTIYA, Army Paper Reports

PM201039 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by Captain 2d Rank V. Kuzar and Major V. Nikanorov under the rubric: "Press Conference in Moscow": "To Halt the Planet's Poisoners"]

[Text] The United States' intention to embark on the production of binary nerve gas charges -- one of the most terrible and dangerous types of chemical weapon -- has caused serious concern among representatives of our country's scientific circles and the Soviet public and among all people of goodwill in the world.

A news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center 19 September.

A statement by USSR Defense Ministry expert Major General A.D. Kuntsevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, noted: In the course of considering the U.S. military budget for 1986 the Congress Conference Committee, under strong pressure from the Reagan administration, recommended the allocation of \$155 million for purposes of ensuring the start of binary chemical weapons production in the United States. Specifically, this means production of the Big Eye chemical bomb and a 155 mm artillery shell in binary form.

Following the nuclear weapon tests and the testing of the ASAT antisatellite system against a real target, the American Administration is now embarking on the large-scale production of a qualitatively new lethal variety of chemical weapon. Thus, a dangerous step is being taken, which opens up one more avenue for escalating the arms race, increases the threat of war, and exacerbates international tension.

The step being taken by Washington with regard to binary weapons is a direct continuation of the overall U.S. militarist course. The space strike means which are being created, ICBM's, SLBM's, strategic aircraft, long-range cruise missiles, superaccurate conventional means of destruction, and now binary chemical weapons are designed, according to the Washington strategists' plans, to give the United States the military superiority over the Soviet Union which it has been stubbornly seeking in order to dictate its will to other states and peoples. In accordance with the U.S. military strategy, binary chemical weapons are designed for conducting offensive operations and for use in a first strike.

Thus, these weapons acquire strategic significance in the American arsenal of means of waging war.

What are American binary weapons?

Unlike the currently existing unitary chemical ammunition, binary ammunition is equipped with two or more chemical components housed in separate containers. As the shells, aerial bombs, or missiles fly toward the target, these components are mixed together inside them, and a highly toxic lethal substance capable of striking down everything living is formed as a result of the reaction.

Even in very small quantities binary chemical mixtures kill or cripple people by acting on deep-seated processes taking place in the human organism and, first and foremost, on the human nervous system. Binary means are designed exclusively to wipe out personnel and the civilian population, leaving material assets untouched. Binary weapons are also dangerous because the real possibility is now emerging of obtaining new types of toxins and even ethnic weapons by secretly varying the components of binary ammunition. All this would complicate the organization of defense, including detection and treatment. This is why the U.S. attempts to present the new kind of weapon as "safer" or even "humane" can mislead no one.

The implementation of the program for equipping the U.S. Army with a new generation of chemical weapons, binary weapons, on a large scale will lead to almost a doubling of the stocks of these "silent" weapons of death in the U.S. arsenal, from 3 million units to 5 million items of chemical ammunition (artillery shells, rockets, bombs, and so forth). Not even this suits the Washington strategists campaigning for a still greater buildup of the U.S. chemical arsenal. The first plant, designed to produce 70,000 units of binary ammunition, artillery shells and aerial bombs, a year, is now ready to start production in the city of Pine Bluff (Arkansas).

The U.S. binary program poses a special danger to Europe. Washington does not hide the fact that it plans to deploy binary weapons on the territories of West European countries, primarily the FRG, Britain, and Italy, as well as Turkey. This would threaten Europe with being turned into a potential theater of a chemical war, in which, according to the logic of things, the chief casualty would primarily be the civilian population. Thus, West Europe is becoming a dual hostage of the Pentagon -- first a nuclear hostage and now a chemical one, too. Once again this reveals the insidiousness of the plans of Washington which, in wishing to divert a counterstrike from its own territory, is laying the territories and the population of its allies open to one.

At the same time, binary chemical weapons also pose a real threat to states and peoples in other parts of the world.

Although they have not yet embarked on the production of the new generation of chemical weapons, the NATO strategists are already planning the deployment of binary combat ammunition and have even started elaborating methods for its use in combat. In the "Autumn Forge-85" exercises currently underway on FRG territory, U.S. and West German units and formations are rehearsing combat tasks with the use of chemical weapons, including binary weapons.

The U.S. decision has been made under conditions when delegations at the Geneva Disarmament Conference have embarked on practical formulation of the articles of a future convention to ban chemical weapons and liquidate stockpiles. Thus, yet another serious obstacle has been raised in the way of elaborating an international agreement on this account.

One gets the impression that someone is deliberately attempting to deadlock this important work, free binary chemical weapons from any control, and start their production and accumulation in regions where they can be used suddenly on a massive scale.

It was noted in the 11 July 1985 TASS Statement that the U.S. plan to start production of binary chemical weapons cannot fail to cause serious alarm and indignation. The U.S. Government will bear total responsibility for all the consequences of such a step.

The Soviet Union resolutely condemns the plans for the production and deployment of binary weapons. It has done and is doing everything possible for the earliest possible prohibition of chemical weapons in all their varieties and for the destruction of all existing stockpiles. The Soviet Union has never transferred such weapons to other countries. Being among the first to join the 1925 Geneva Protocol banning the use of chemical weapons, the USSR consistently advocates that this protocol be strictly observed by everyone.

The USSR is persistently striving at the Disarmament Conference for the elaboration of an international convention banning chemical weapons throughout the world. At the same time, it is also prepared to resolve this problem on a regional basis, proceeding from the premise that the implementation of such partial measures would contribute to efforts on a worldwide scale. Together with the other Warsaw Pact states, the Soviet Union actively advocates that Europe be freed of chemical weapons and supports the proposal to establish a zone free of such weapons in Europe.

As M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted a few days ago, "in the event that a zone free of chemical weapons is established in central Europe, the Soviet Union, adhering to its fundamental foreign policy principles, would be prepared to guarantee and respect the status of such a zone. Such a guarantee would come into force provided the United States, for its part, acted in a similar fashion."

The ensuring of lasting peace and the strengthening of international security demand with particular persistence the blocking of all channels of the arms race, including the chemical arms race, and the raising of a firm barrier in the way of building up means of mass destruction. [Kuntsevich ends]

Journalists' questions were answered by Academician A.V. Fokin; Major General Yu.V. Lebedev, USSR Armed Forces General Staff spokesman; and Ye.G. Kutovoy, deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry International Organizations Department.

Question: Where does the danger of the U.S. decision to start producing binary chemical weapons lie?

Answer: The Reagan administration's program for producing binary chemical weapons opens up a broad path for a new U.S. strategic line in the field of chemical weapons. It is aimed at almost doubling existing chemical weapon stockpiles in the next few years, and over 10 billion dollars is being allocated for the entire program.

The concept of the binary program involves varying the components of binary mixtures to achieve greater toxicity and essentially new mechanisms for the action of the ultimate toxic substances in order to overcome the system for detecting, treating, and defending the troops and population of the country or countries against which aggression is targeted.

The relative ease with which binary components can be produced will lead to the proliferation of chemical weapons throughout the world with unpredictable consequences for mankind. The binary program is a way of circumventing the verification provisions of a future convention on banning chemical weapons. The danger of the binary program lies in the unleashing of another spiral in the development of offensive types of weapons of mass destruction at a qualitatively new and higher level.

The decision to produce binary chemical munitions is being taken at a time when the talks in Geneva are entering a decisive stage. It is obvious that the United States is striving at any price to create difficulties in the work of the conference on banning chemical weapons and wreck the talks.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian in its 20 September Morning Edition on page 4 in a similar report adds at this point:

["Question: The United States claims that its program to "upgrade" chemical weapons is geared to eliminate a U.S. lag behind the Soviet Union in the chemical weapons sphere. Does the Soviet Union go along with this?

["Answer: There is not a grain of truth in these claims. "Upgrading," "lag" -- this is the Pentagon's well-worn method of whipping up the arms race. The United States is trying to deceive world public opinion and Americans themselves by claiming that the U.S. military chemical potential is obsolete.

["The U.S. arsenal of chemical munitions comprises more than 3 million units. Stocks of ultratoxic nerve gases alone amount to 55,000 metric tons. The United States is now armed with chemical munitions for all modern weapon systems: artillery shells, mortar shells, mines, missiles, and aerial bombs (more than 90 different types in all). According to U.S. experts, from the technical viewpoint, these lethal agents and chemical munitions are practically entirely fit for immediate use.

["Since 1969 the United States has been carrying out intensive scientific research and experimental design work to create new and even more effective types of chemical weapons. The Big Eye binary aerial bomb has been developed and is in service and the M687 binary artillery shell has been tested. Final work is being done on the warhead for a surface-to-surface missile and on warheads for rocket salvo systems, including the MRLS system. The first chemical warhead has been created for a cruise missile. A number of these weapons came into service in the early eighties."]

Question: Why is the United States particularly interested in binary chemical weapons?

Answer: The fundamental difference between chemical weapons and other types of weapons is that fact that the toxic agents affect the deepest and most delicate processes of the organism which constitute the essence of life. For that reason the sole purpose of these weapons is to kill people.

In 1914 it took more than 1,000 milligrams of mustard gas to kill a human being. In the sixties it became 10,000 times more effective with the use of the U.S. VX, and the U.S. botulism toxin is 1,000 times more effective than VX. Since it possesses the most powerful chemical arsenal, the United States, in its aggressive plans, has never proposed abandoning and, as events have shown, has not abandoned chemical weapons. President Ronald Reagan defined the development of chemical weapons as a priority national program. An assistant under secretary of the Army explained the plan as follows: "The United States must view chemical warfare as an integral part of any conflict." That is why chemical weapons are necessary.

Question: What part do binary chemical weapons play in U.S. military programs?

Answer: [unidentified speaker] The development, production, and stockpiling of binary chemical weapons have a very important role in the overall program for the development of U.S. offensive armaments, and they are defined as a priority national program. They are offensive weapons. According to U.S. experts, binary chemical weapons should not only be placed in forward Army dumps but also in the firing positions of missile and artillery units, at airfields, and on naval ships; opportunities have been widened for the use of binary chemical weapons by all types of modern delivery vehicles (warheads are being developed for cruise and operational-technical missiles, as are aircraft and artillery munitions). U.S. military experts figure that binary weapons will be the main means of waging combat without using nuclear weapons.

In their plans for the combat use of chemical weapons in Europe, U.S. military experts have already drawn up reference documents that define the aims and tasks relating to their use and the methods of delivering strikes as well as elaborate on the means for supplying chemical munitions to the forces, both from stocks in Europe and from stocks on the other side of the Atlantic.

And the Pentagon representatives are expecting to supply chemical munitions to the armies of the other NATO countries too.

Question: In what way is the deployment of binary chemical weapons in Western European countries dangerous?

Answer: The deployment of binary chemical weapons in Europe clearly means that a future war, if there is one, would be chemical. The victims of binary chemical weapons, in the event of their being used, would be primarily the civilian population. According to Western experts, civilian losses would be 20-30 times greater than military losses.

If just those stocks of toxins which are already in the FRG at present were used in combat operations, at least 1 billion people in Western Europe would suffer. American and other Western specialists come to this conclusion.

If the United States deployed its binary weapons in the FRG and other countries, Europe would be transformed into a "binary gas chamber." This is what U.S. politicians and military figures are seeking.

The FRG, which is being turned into a combat arena for chemical warfare in Europe, is assigned a special role in the U.S. plans. It is planned to create another five combat chemical dumps with binary chemical weapons on FRG territory in addition to the existing dumps. The FRG is the Pentagon's first chemical hostage in Europe. It is no accident that, even in the U.S. combat manuals on the use of chemical weapons, targets on FRG territory are being considered.

At present, U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles targeted against the USSR and the other socialist countries are deployed on that country's territory, and the largest U.S. stocks of lethal chemical weapons abroad are also deployed there. If the FRG Government granted West German territory for U.S. binary chemical weapons, it would naturally assume major responsibility for a dangerous new twist in the chemical arms race in Europe.

Question: What is the danger of binary chemical weapons for the developing countries?

Answer: There is a serious danger of the deployment of U.S. binary means not only in Western Europe but also in other regions of the globe. The so-called U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces are preparing specially to conduct combat actions using chemical weapons. There is also the threat of binary chemical weapons production being organized in third countries, and, consequently this significantly increases the likelihood of their being used, especially in local conflicts.

Question: How does the emergence of binary weapons and their deployment in Europe affect the progress of the talks on banning chemical weapons?

Answer: The planned U.S. shift toward mass production of binary means directly contradicts the efforts of many states to place chemical weapons under an effective international ban. The creation of binary means potentially expands the range of chemical components able to be used to produce chemical weapons. This would greatly increase the danger of the proliferation of this type of weapon, making the problem of control much more complicated.

The experience of disarmament talks shows that it is easier to ban a new type of weapon that has not yet entered the armories than to withdraw it from military arsenals.

Developing large-scale production of a new breed of chemical weapons at the same time as elaborating an international convention on banning and liquidating them naturally undermines confidence in the statements by U.S. representatives of their interest in putting an end to chemical weapons.

Question: What is the Soviet Union's reaction to the joint initiative by the GDR and CSSR Governments, in which they appealed to the FRG Government for the creation of a chemical weapon-free zone in Central Europe?

Answer: The initiative of the GDR and CSSR Governments on the creation of a chemical weapon-free zone in Central Europe follows the same course as the well-known proposal put forward by the Warsaw Pact states in January 1983 on freeing Europe of chemical weapons.

The Soviet Union supports the initiative of the GDR and CSSR Governments, seeing it as a contribution to the joint efforts aimed at ridding the peoples of the European continent of the chemical threat. If a chemical weapon-free zone were created in Central Europe, the USSR would be ready to guarantee and respect the status of that zone. Such a guarantee would come into force if the United States, for its part, acted likewise.

Answers were also given to other questions from journalists.

CSO: 5200/1019

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

TASS: INCREASING MANUFACTURE OF BINARY WEAPONS

LD172046 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 17 Sep 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; A. Fedorovich video interview with Academician Yu. A. Buslayev]

[Text] [Fedorovich] The U.S. Congress gives a green light to binary chemical weapons. As early as July, the conference committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives sanctioned the resumption of manufacture of nerve-paralyzing binary charges. They had been banned in 1969. Now, the congressmen are examining the question of appropriations for the U.S. binary program. The adventurists from the Pentagon say with tenderness that the new toxic substance is safe and almost humane. [video shows the Capitoldome, congressmen speaking in the Congress, soldier on the ground in a protective suit, firing self-propelled guns]

[Buslayev] In my opinion, the word humane cannot be applied to weapons at all and especially to chemical weapons. Chemical weapons are the most antihuman weapons as they evidently affect the population to the greatest extent and the population becomes a guiltless victim. Chemical weapons are probably the most barbaric and evidently barbarians, cannibals, and pirates could appear Sisters of Mercy as compared to that which can be contributed by the American militarists in the form of chemical weapons.

[Fedorovich] We are talking about Big Eye aviation bombs and artillery shells with binary filling. According to experts' estimates, in the event of their use, civilian population losses would be 20-30 times greater than military losses. [video shows women on a production line assembling shells]

[Buslayev] I think that the reversion to chemical weapons arises because profits from this become great. That is, in essence, chemical weapons spread death at a low price. Here it is impossible not to recall Bernard Shaw's words, who said that the greatest profits are made by feeding people to the killing machine.

[Fedorovich] Let us recall that the U.S. Congress decision envisages that in the 1986 financial year, which begins on 1 October, more than \$160 million will be allocated for the purposes of chemical war preparations. And over 5 years, the entire program of modernization of the U.S. military-chemical arsenal will absorb more than \$10 billion. Already every 10th piece of chemical ammunition from the Pentagon's arsenal is in Europe. [video shows soldiers in protective suits, armed with M-16 rifles, running through smoke clouds in a forest; a column of soldiers in protective suits marching, what appears to be T-54 tank with open hatches in a field; several unidentified pieces of hardware in a field with a truck in the background; soldiers spraying an M-113 APC.]

[Buslayev] The only solution is to adopt, at the Geneva conference or at the next conference in Stockholm, the Soviet proposal on unconditional banning of the development, manufacture, accumulation, and storage of chemical, toxic substances, and their unconditional destruction. This absolutely and clearly follows the theses expressed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his answers to TIME magazine. Europe should be nuclear-free and free from chemical weapons.

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

MOSCOW DISCUSSES U.S. BINARY WEAPONS PRODUCTION

LD071339 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] For about 3 years the Pentagon has been pressuring the American Congress on the binary weapon issue. Later this month Congress is to hold the final vote on the issue. If the bill is passed \$163 million will be provided in the next fiscal year for the chemical weapons programs.

The United States has the world's largest chemical arsenals, with more than 3 million weapon units. This is enough to kill mankind several times over. The Pentagon has a dozen large chemical depots in the United States and overseas. In Federal Germany it has stored 4 million liters of highly toxic chemicals (?Ferrin) and (?BX). A big storage facility is currently under construction in Johnson atoll, in the Pacific. It is designed for 13,000 tons of chemical bombs so toxic that American laws forbid them to be brought to the United States. The atoll is being turned into a potential epicenter of chemical warfare in the Pacific.

The binary weapons project is part of a large-scale program of chemical rearmament which is to cost \$10 billion. It provides for increasing the number of chemical weapon units to 5 million. Under the program a factory is being built at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to produce 70,000 binary shells a month. These preparations for producing binary weapons clash with Washington's professed interest in drafting an international convention to ban chemical weapons. According to the director of the American Disarmament Agency, Kenneth Adelman, the administration is conducting talks within the disarmament conference in order to conclude a treaty banning chemical weapons throughout the world. In the meantime the United States keeps on trying to involve the allies in its preparations for chemical warfare. It intends to deploy binary cruise missiles, aviation bombs and shells at its bases in Britain, Federal Germany and Italy and later in other West European countries. Binary bombs will also be deployed on board American aircraft carriers in the east Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

The planned production of binary weapons has been condemned by the Soviet delegation at the Geneva disarmament conference, the delegation pointed out that the decision to this effect has been made at a time when talks were in progress at the Geneva forum to draft a convention to ban and destroy chemical weapons. A convention of this kind is supported by the overwhelming majority of countries.

CSO: 5200/1018

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

SOVIET SCIENTIST ON U.S. CHEMICAL REARMAMENT

LD172031 Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 17 TASS -- The Soviet Union has never used anywhere chemical means of warfare and has never handed them over to other hands, a TASS correspondent had been told by prominent Soviet chemist, academician Oleg Reutov.

The scientist recalled that the Geneva Protocol of 1925 remains the most thorough document on that question. The Soviet Union is one of the first to have signed it. The United States signed it 50 years later. That document prohibits the use of asphyxiating gas, toxic or such other gas and germs. But these bans were repeatedly violated by the United States.

Negotiations on full prohibition of chemical weapons have been underway between the USSR and the USA for 15 years now. There is now every scientific-technological ground to conclude a convention on its full prohibition, said the academician.

But the United States is delaying the conclusion of a new international document on that question on the ground that the control apparatus has not been finally elaborated. The stand of the Reagan administration could be compared with that of a man who refuses to use an umbrella when it is raining, saying that it is not strong enough, the scientist noted.

The United States puts forward deliberately unacceptable conditions on full control for the Soviet Union and incomplete -- for the United States. The United States proposes that only state enterprises be controlled and knows full well that in the Soviet Union there are no other but state enterprises, whereas in the United States private firms are in the majority. Resorting to that subterfuge, the United States is simultaneously deploying on the territory of Europe binary chemical weapons. That weapon consists of two components, and either could be produced practically at any chemical enterprise. The scientist explained that only at the moment of their being put together that it becomes poison. The appearance of such nerve gas weapons will make more difficult the control over production, the scientist noted.

Binary weapons are particularly dangerous to Europe with its very dense population. Besides, according to scientists' estimates, the chemical weapons stockpiled in the United States are enough to destroy the whole of mankind several times. Nevertheless, Washington conducts the course of production, realisation and deployment of binary weapons. It is being conducted within the framework of the five year broad-scale programme of "chemical rearmament" of the United States which was launched in 1983.

CSO: 5200/1018

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

MOSCOW CITES AP ON PENTAGON PLACEMENT OF CW CONTRACTS

LD141326 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 14 Sep 85

[Text] According to an AP report, the Pentagon has begun to place contracts with U.S. chemical concerns in connection with the Washington administration's decision to begin mass production of so-called binary neuroparalytic ammunition. Our commentator Sergey Pravdin is at the microphone:

Among the Pentagon's contractors are such major chemical concerns as Atomic Chemicals, Olin-Mattison-Crow, (Ford and Russell), and others.

In all, about 200 companies have already applied to produce various components of binary shells and bombs. The Pentagon is banking on precisely this barbarous weapon in its preparations for chemical warfare. Under pressure from the administration, Congress has adopted a special resolution making provision for the expenditure by the United States in the coming fiscal year of \$155 million on preparations for chemical warfare, and over the next 5 years Washington is planning to spend over \$10 billion for these purposes.

The Pentagon's chemical rearmament program makes provision for an increase in the amount of chemical ammunition from the present 3 million units to 5 million.

This program is closely linked with Washington's other plans to build up its military muscle, plans, which, in the view of Washington's strategists, guarantee the United States military superiority over the Soviet Union and give U.S. imperialism the opportunity to dictate its will to the peoples of the world.

But what is this binary ammunition? According to U.S. press reports, it contains two or several chemical components, each of which, individually, present no danger. However, when a binary shell has been fired from a gun, or when a bomb has been dropped, these components combine, forming a lethal mixture. Like any other chemical weapon, binary ammunition can be used only on enemy territory, which means that it is an offensive weapon, designed for the invasion of foreign territory.

It is planned to use this ammunition, whether in capsules, aerial bombs, or long-range artillery shells, extensively against the civilian population of other countries. It is for this reason that Washington rejects the idea of creating zones free of chemical weapons, and is drafting dangerous plans to deploy binary death in West European countries.

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

PRAVDA ASSAILS U.S. PLANS TO DEPLOY CHEMICAL ARMS IN EUROPE

PM171540 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Tomas Kolesnichenko "Commentator's Column": "Caution, Gases!"]

[Text] Yet another crime against humanity is being prepared in Washington. The United States is accelerating the production of toxic agents, one of the most terrifying and dangerous types of weapons, and placing them in the Pentagon's armory. Furthermore, in order to establish its NATO allies even more firmly as its hostages and make it possible to operate with impunity from their territory, the United States is preparing to deploy new types of these weapons in West Europe.

Specifically, it is now a matter of binary neuroparalytic toxic agents [Moscow PRAVDA 14 September Second Edition has "charges" instead of "agents"]. After a semblance of "serious struggle," in July the Senate and House of Representatives Conference Commission approved the resumption of production of these toxic agents (they were banned in 1969). The question of appropriations for the production of these inhuman weapons is now under discussion on Capitol hill. Initially, the administration demanded about \$160 million for the Pentagon. But these are just the "flowers." The poisonous "berries" are yet to come. The entire program for the modernization of the U.S. military-chemical arsenal will, according to U.S. specialists themselves, cost taxpayers more than \$10 billion over a 5-year period.

It is perfectly obvious that Washington is seriously preparing for chemical warfare. And the most cynical point is that it is preparing to wage it from other people's territory. Already 1 out of 10 chemical munitions in the Pentagon's arsenal is stationed in Europe. The FRG, for example, is literally crammed with thousands of tons of chemical munitions. In the same way as with the neutron bomb in the past, Washington is now preparing to turn Europe's cities into lifeless sites with neuroparalytic toxic agents.

But the Europeans have no intention at all of allowing their continent to become Washington's "theater of chemical warfare." In the FRG itself, the Social Democrat, Free Democrat, and Green factions have already spoken out in the Bundestag against the deployment of binary toxic agents. Protests are also spreading in other West European countries.

Attention everywhere has focused on the position of the Soviet Union, which, in the event of a zone free from chemical weapons being established in central Europe, would be prepared to guarantee and respect the status of such a zone. According to a U.S. television commentator, the Soviet approach "strikes at the very core of the Reagan administration's arguments in favor of resuming the production of chemical weapons."

The sinister plans of the U.S. military cannot be tolerated. The hand of the poisoners must be stopped. It must be stopped before it is too late.

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

PRAVDA SCORES U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPON PLANS FOR FRG

PM061025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Aleksandr Lukyanov's "Commentator's Column": "Unceremonious Pressure"]

[Text] West Europe has again been subjected to pressure by the United States, which is attempting to introduce qualitatively new chemical weapons in the continent. Addressing a press conference in Belgium, General Rogers, herald of the Pentagon's sinister plans and NATO supreme allied commander Europe, unceremoniously demanded from the United States' allies "not to go against" Washington's will.

What the U.S. general had specifically in mind was the large-scale program of U.S. "chemical rearmament," recently approved by Congress. Among other things, it envisages the production of such barbarian varieties of chemical weapons as binary ammunition charged with nerve gases.

It is understandable that these dangerous plans cause justified indignation among the democratic public in West European countries, in other words among those who would be forced to live right next door to the "chemical death." Incidentally, experts have calculated that just one U.S. base in West Germany--in Fischbach (Rhineland-Palatinate)--contains enough toxic substances to poison Europe's entire population.

Defending the buildup of the arsenal of toxic substances, Rogers frightened the allies with fabrications concerning a "Soviet chemical threat."

"Arguments" like this are nothing new, and they would not have attracted any attention had it not been for the FRG Government's stance. Hiding behind demagogical deliberations, Bonn's official spokesmen are pushing matters increasingly toward agreement with the American demands. Recently one of these spokesmen unambiguously declared that "the new U.S. chemical weapons can be stockpiled on FRG territory following consultations within the NATO framework and the federal government's consent." The West German public has correctly interpreted these words as direct indication of Bonn's intention to again live up to its reputation as "the most diligent pupil in the Atlantic class" by supporting the "chemical rearmament" program.

It is perfectly obvious, however, that this approach to a most dangerous plan differs radically from the opinion of all sober-minded people who are unwilling to accept the position of U.S. hostages and are demanding the liquidation of chemical weapons in the continent. Convincing proof of this is provided by the broad support gained by the initiative of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the SED on the establishment of a zone free of chemical weapons in Europe.

Liquidation of the barbarian weapons instead of complicity in the Pentagon's criminal schemes--this is the demand of those who hold peace and security in Europe precious.

CSO: 5200/1018

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

TASS CALLS BINARY WEAPONS THREAT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

LD232155 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 23 TASS -- By TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov

The Washington administration intends to start the production of components of binary chemical weapons at a manufactory built specially for that purpose at Pine Bluff, Arkansas. However, the relative simplicity with which these components can be manufactured may spell the spread of that new U.S. mass annihilation weapon to the world's hot spots, as a result of which it may well be used in regional conflicts.

Components of or the equipment for the production of binary chemical weapons in the hands of enterprising transnational companies lined with the U.S. military-industrial complex may well be exported under the guise of commercial products to "third" countries which at the present time have a limited modern chemical weapon production capability. And then chemical weapons in its binary variety will become accessible to such countries as Israel, South Africa and Pakistan, which blindly copying Washington's methods of doing things on the international scene, will be in a position to threaten "undesirable" countries in their respective regions with the "silent death."

The U.S. Congress repeatedly discussed the question of banning or limiting different hazardous chemical production processes on the territory of the United States, showing a "touching" concern for the fellow-Americans. U.S. chemical companies willingly build their manufacturing facilities in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the more so that low wages they pay the local workforce promise them additional profits. It is important that there they will be able to turn out intermediate products which at any moment can be converted into the components of binary chemical weapons.

Binary chemical weapons are dangerous also inasmuch as they give an opportunity to choose different combinations of their components and thus produce new types of toxic agents, right down to ethnic weapons -- a long-time dream of South African racists.

The tragedy of the Indian city of Bhopal, where a leak of gas from a manufacturing facility of Union Carbide killed thousands and injured scores of thousands of people, serves as a stern warning to the developing countries.

Many times the United States chose emergent states as a target of their barbarous actions. The victims of the chemical war started by Washington in Vietnam are dying to this date. There is evidence that U.S.-made chemical weapons were used in Afghanistan and Grenada. Israel employed toxic agents in Lebanon and Palestine. The dictatorial regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala used U.S.-made phosphorous bombs.

Pretoria racists sprayed Agent Orange defoliant to destroy vegetation in the frontline zone to make it easier to conduct combat operations against Namibian patriots.

This means that the new binary threat coming from Washington is a reality which affects the vital interest of all peoples of the world.

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: C. EUROPE CHEMICAL-ARMS-FREE ZONE PROPOSAL, FRG RESPONSE

FRG Defense Minister Opposed

LD062107 Moscow TASS in English 2053 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Bonn, 6 Sep (TASS)--Manfred Woerner, FRG's defence minister, said in Bonn on Thursday [5 September] that the creation in Europe of any non-nuclear zones or zones free from chemical weapons is, as he put it, only an "illusion of security," the DPA agency said. It is noteworthy that this statement has been made literally in the wake of a similar statement in the West German newspaper DIE WELT, by American General Bernard Rogers, NATO Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

NATO brass hats see in the nuclear free zones a threat to their positions of strength policy. That is precisely why they are trying to block any plans aimed at restricting this policy, at restricting the possibility to intimidate and blackmail political opponents.

In keeping with the decisions of municipal authorities, more than 60 nuclear weapons free zones have been created in the cities and townships of the FRG alone. The Federal Government disregards these decisions. Yet official Bonn's policy does not reduce the moral and political significance of these actions. They symbolize the non-acceptance of the arms race by the population of the FRG, in the first place of the race of nuclear weapons.

The struggle waged by West Germany's progressive forces for the creation of nuclear free zones is an important contribution to resolving the main problem of the president--reducing the threat of a third world war and then totally eliminating it. These activities are by no means illusory from the viewpoint of universal security. Hence it is not fortuitous that the movement of supporters of denuclearized zones, which is gaining momentum, meets with fierce reaction among the militaristic circles of the North Atlantic bloc.

Gorbachev in Favor

LD101426 Hamburg DPA in German 1403 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, 10 Sep (DPA)--Johannes Rau, north Rhine-Westphalian prime minister and deputy SPD chairman, "repeatedly" expressed his hope during his meeting with the Soviet party chief Mikhail Gorbachev that the Kremlin chief

might accept the Federal Government's invitation to visit the Federal Republic. Gorbachev did not indicate this time either whether he intends to come to Bonn. As early as last March the Kremlin chief had not given any concrete reply to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's invitation during his visit to Moscow for Chernenko's funeral.

According to Rau's words, Gorbachev welcomed the creation of a chemical-weapon free zone in Central Europe. The SPD politician told journalists that a draft treaty worked out by the SPD together with the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) of the GDR for such a zone with the Federal Government, but the realization of these plans now required the action of the Federal Government. It is stated in a TASS report on this that the Soviet Union would guarantee and respect such a zone if the United States were also ready for this.

U.S., Soviet Attitudes Contrasted

LD121947 Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 12 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The Soviet Union has authoritatively and firmly stated that if a zone free from chemical weapons is established in central Europe, the USSR, in line with its basic foreign-policy principles, would be ready to guarantee and respect the status of such a zone. Such guarantee would enter into force if the USA, for its part, acts similarly.

However, Washington is unwilling to act similarly. This is evidenced by a statement made by White House spokesman Larry Speakes. According to him, "an attempt to negotiate a chemical weapons ban that applies only to central Europe would undercut these ongoing international efforts to negotiate a total, worldwide ban". Strange logic, indeed. Moreover, according to Washington, verification of such an arrangement in a limited area would prove, it turns out, to be more difficult than on a world scale. A sober-minded person will hardly deny that verification in a limited region is doubtless much simpler.

Of course, the point is not in a desire to achieve a worldwide ban on chemical weapons and not in verification difficulties but in quite another thing. In this case when a zone in central Europe free from chemical weapons is being suggested, the cause of Washington's categorical refusal is a "binary", i.e. dual, one, so to say.

Firstly, the U.S. military-strategic concepts envisage interaction of conventional, nuclear, chemical and electronic means of warfare during the conduct of combat operations. U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger once stated that the USA would constantly threaten the Soviet Union with the use of chemical weapons and would consider a possibility of the use of chemical weapons in any military conflict. It is these concepts that the USA is unwilling to abandon. How can Washington speak of any agreement on a "worldwide" ban on chemical weapons?

Secondly, chemical weapons and above all their most barbarous variety -- binary munitions -- are meant to be used, along with nuclear weapons, at the very beginning of military operations precisely in the European Continent. This has been repeatedly and without any embarrassment stated by General Bernard Rogers, NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe. How then can a zone free from chemical weapons be established in any part of Europe? No, this obviously does not suit Washington.

When reading pronouncements by the White House spokesman, one recalls another press conference when in April 1984 the President of the United States announced a "bold initiative" which was ostensibly aimed at achieving a "comprehensive global ban on chemical weapons." Already at that time the statement was regarded by journalists with undisguised pessimism. One of them asked the President whether his proposal was a new way to make U.S. Congress allocate funds for chemical weapons. A clear-cut reply to this question has been received: Under the administration's pressure, the House-Senate Conference Committee has decided to allocate funds for the production of binary munitions on neuro-paralytic effect. Thereby yet another step has been made along the lines of the programme for "chemical rearmanent" of America.

As for the statement by Larry Speakes that the USA is taking an active part in the discussion of the question of chemical weapons at the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, it should be specified what the activity manifests itself in. Just like in other directions of the limitation of armaments, the USA acts on this question in Geneva in the role of a solution blocker. The draft convention submitted by the United States in April 1984 pushed the talks backwards and led only to an intensification of contradictions between the negotiators.

The chemical arms race which Washington is now starting again will push back the prospect for a ban on chemical weapons, will poison the international situation still more and will sharpen military confrontation as a whole. No "binary" stratagems will help Washington to evade accountability to the future.

U.S. 'Reasoning' Suspect

LD122049 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1321 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, 12 Sep (TASS) -- TASS observer Vasiliy Kharkov writes: Washington is conducting active preparations for chemical warfare, ignoring the strivings of the world community to do away with chemical weapons once and for all. This conclusion follows naturally from the statement made by an official White House spokesman at a briefing with journalists on 11 September. Having expressed the administration's negative reaction to the proposal to create a zone in central Europe free from chemical weapons he then replied in the affirmative to the question: Does the President wish to continue to build up U.S. chemical arsenals?

This, to put it figuratively, gives a reflection in miniature of the U.S. position on the question of banning such barbarous mass annihilation weapons as chemical ones.

The White House spokesman tried to justify Washington's negative attitude to the creation of a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe by saying that discussion of this question "would undermine the efforts to achieve a worldwide ban by way of talks."

But such "reasoning", if one can call it that, is completely at variance with common sense. The proposal to free Europe from chemical weapons which the Warsaw Pact participants made to the NATO countries in January, 1984, stressed that the removal of the threat of chemical warfare for the European states and peoples would allow a considerable reduction in the risk of chemical warfare on the continent and, consequently, throughout the world. Such a step would mark the start of a reduction in chemical arsenals and would promote the strengthening of mutual trust.

It is perfectly clear that it would be easier to implement such measures on a regional scale than on a global one. In the first place, a smaller number of states would be participating; second, it would be easier to agree on practical solutions and implement them. Such measures would undoubtedly assist the efforts being undertaken on a worldwide scale with the aim of concluding as quickly as possible a convention on banning chemical weapons.

The fact that Washington is rejecting the very idea of creating a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe bears witness to its far-reaching plans to use such weapons alongside nuclear weapons as first strike weapons. While allocating West Europe the role of launchpad for U.S. Pershings and cruise missiles, the Pentagon is also counting on flooding it with binary nerve-paralyzing mixture -- this new and even more barbaric type of chemical weapons.

The increased amount of chemical weapons on the territory of West Europe, which is what Washington is heading toward, is deadly dangerous for this densely populated continent. Even the storage of such highly toxic poisonous substances as binary munitions, not to mention their possible use in the event of conflict, could lead to the contamination of large territories and to particularly severe consequences for peaceful inhabitants.

CSSR, GDR Propose Talks With FRG

LD131517 Moscow TASS in English 1452 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Text] Prague, 13 Sep (TASS)--Bohuslav Chnoupek, foreign minister of Czechoslovakia, today received Werner Schattmann, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany in Czechoslovakia, and handed to him a letter by Lubomir Strougal, chairman of the Czechoslovak Government, addressed to Helmut Kohl, federal chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. The letter contains a proposal to start talks with Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic on the creation of a chemical weapons free zone in Central Europe.

10 October 1985

Honecker Letter to Kohl

LD131742 Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 13 Sep 85

[Text] Berlin, 13 Sep (TASS)--The ADN news agency reports that Oskar Fischer, the GDR's minister of foreign affairs, today received Hans-Otto Braeutigam, the head of the FRG's Permanent Mission in the GDR, and delivered to him a letter from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the GDR's State Council. The letter which is addressed to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the FRG contains a proposal to the Federal Government of the FRG to hold talks with the GDR and Czechoslovakia on the establishment of a zone free from chemical weapons in Central Europe.

U.S. Opposition Assailed

LD151310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 15 Sep 85

[Text] According to a report from Washington, a White House spokesman has rejected the proposal concerning the creation of a zone free of chemical weapons in central Europe. Here is a "Mayak" commentary. At the microphone is Boris Andrianov:

Recently, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev declared that if a zone free of nuclear weapons is created in central Europe, the Soviet Union, following its basic foreign policy principles, would be prepared to guarantee and respect the status of such a zone. Such a guarantee, the Soviet leader stressed, would come into effect if the United States for its part did the same thing.

However, judging by appearances, this proposal has gone against the grain with the Washington administration, because it rejected it out of hand, so to speak, without even bothering to get acquainted with it. This is hardly the first time the American authorities have just brushed aside important peaceful initiatives and justified themselves with clearly forced arguments extracted from the hackneyed arsenal of propagandist demagoguery. This time they have behaved in exactly the same way. That is because Washington is aware of that tremendous alarm generated throughout the world by the issue of chemical weapons. Therefore, those across the ocean are generous about declarations of their desire to impose a ban on this weapon. But how can the world public fail to doubt the sincerity of such assurances since the United States has treated the idea to create a zone free from chemical weapons in central Europe in an abruptly negative way? That is why the White House was in a hurry to justify such an approach to this topical international issue. So-called arguments, whose groundlessness is quite clear, have been cited in this regard.

However, judge for yourselves: a personal spokesman of the American President was seriously trying to prove that monitoring adherence to a ban on chemical weapons is only possible if this ban is of a global nature, so to speak.

On the other hand, it should not be introduced in one region only, because it could not only be checked but also it would supposedly undermine the effort directed at reaching a global ban. Such inverted logic only shows the absurd nature of Washington's arguments, which in fact is not even thinking of global chemical disarmament, while intensively mounting up its stocks of chemical death.

10 October 1985

FRG CDU/CSU Aide

LD170208 Moscow TASS in English 2316 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, September 16 TASS -- By TASS commentator Petr Parkhitko

Lies have short legs, as the well-known saying goes. But Jurgen Todenhoefer, the spokesman of the CDU/CSU grouping in the West German Bundestag on disarmament policy, is of an entirely different opinion: The more improbable a lie seems, the more likely it is that someone will believe it.

In an interview to the DPA news agency Todenhoefer once again vehemently attacked the peace initiatives of socialist countries on the issue of chemical weapons. He alleged that the proposals of the Government of the GDR and Czechoslovakia to the West German Government concerning the establishment in central Europe of a zone free from such weapons was "Moscow's new propaganda ploy devised to preserve its immense (80-fold, according to Mr. Todenhoefer) advantage over the West in such weapons."

It doesn't take much to guess where Jurgen Todenhoefer gets such figures from. He simply invents them. There's little wonder considering the fact that he has won quite a reputation in West Germany as an expert in "uncovering Moscow's underhand scheming." The aim of his latest "disclosures" is to try and justify the deployment of binary munitions -- the new generation of U.S.-manufactured chemical weapons -- in West Germany.

It appears that Jurgen Todenhoefer has little concern, if any, for the security of his own country which he would like to see stuffed both with nuclear weapons and the latest in chemical weapons as well. It is much more important for him to come up with another anti-Soviet "disclosure" which is too much for the credulity of even those people in the West who would like his allegations to be true.

The end justifies the means, in Mr Todenhoefer's logic. And really, to achieve it, he is ready to use anything, including an outright lie.

GDR, CSSR Send Letters to FRG

PM181601 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS dispatches under general heading: "A Constructive Initiative"]

[Text] Berlin, 16 Sep -- The GDR press publishes a letter sent by E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, to FRG Chancellor H. Kohl which contains a proposal to the FRG Government to enter into talks about the creation of a chemical weapons-free zone in Europe.

The letter says in particular that the question of banning and eliminating chemical weapons has long been the subject of international discussion. Warsaw Pact member-states as well as other states have put forward proposals to this effect.

The letter notes that after appropriate consultations the Governments of the GDR and the CSSR have decided to turn to the FRG Government. They believe that real opportunities exist for eliminating chemical weapons and especially for creating a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe. This would make it possible to achieve the elimination of stockpiles of chemical weapons in this region and to prevent the siting of new, extraordinarily dangerous types of such weapons, especially binary weapons, on the continent of Europe.

The letter points out that chemical weapons are second only to nuclear weapons as the most dangerous means of mass destruction. Their banning and complete elimination is an exceptionally urgent matter. Energetic efforts are needed on both a global and a regional scale.

The Governments of the GDR and the CSSR are convinced that negotiations about the creation of chemical weapon-free zones would be a specific step toward confidence-building and the banning of these weapons throughout the world. Proceeding from this premise, they are ready to conclude an agreement with the FRG Government which would lead to the elimination of chemical weapons from the territory of countries on either side of the line dividing the two military-political alliances. Such an accord would make an important contribution to the strengthening of security in Europe and to joint efforts aimed at ridding Europe of the threat of chemical weapons, the letter notes.

Prague, 16 Sep -- According to the CTK news agency, CSSR Premier L. Strougal sent FRG Chancellor H. Kohl a letter of similar content.

PRAVDA Hails GDR-CSSR Proposal

PM181310 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Aleksy Ivkin "Commentator's Column": "A Topical Proposal"]

[Text] Socialist states have launched an important new peace initiative -- to establish a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe.

Identical letters from the GDR and CSSR Governments containing a proposal to the FRG Government to enter negotiations on the formation of such a zone have been handed to the FRG chancellor.

This proposal is exceptionally topical. The question of chemical weapons has long alarmed European peoples, including the West Germans. It is, after all, on the territory of the FRG, which plays second fiddle to the United States in the NATO bloc, that many thousands of metric tons of U.S.-made combat toxins are concentrated. These weapons, together with nuclear weapons, are perceived by Pentagon strategists as first-strike means.

Chemical weapons are assigned the same role in their plans as neutron weapons: to destroy people while leaving material objects intact. Should a military conflict arise, one of the most ancient seats of civilization would be turned into an uninhabited desert. The question of chemical weapons in Europe is also particularly acute now because the United States has embarked on the production of a new type of toxic munitions, binary ones, actually intended for waging war, in the Pentagon's expression, in the "European theater." They intend to deploy these toxins primarily on FRG territory, with all the ensuing consequences for this country.

The socialist countries' proposal is aimed at reaching an agreement with the FRG on eliminating all stocks of chemical weapons within the borders of the zone, in other words the territory of the three neighboring states, and precluding the further deployment of new and extremely dangerous types of these weapons, primarily binary weapons, on the European Continent.

The Soviet Union fully supports this idea. Should such a zone be established, the USSR is prepared to give guarantees that it will respect its status provided the United States does the same.

The initiative of the GDR and CSSR Governments meets the requirements of common sense and the aspirations of the broadest strata of the European public. Noteworthy, in this connection, are this summer's contacts between representatives of the SED and the Social Democratic Party of Germany, whose working group dealt particularly with the project for establishing a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe.

So a specific proposal to enter upon negotiations is now on the table in Bonn. What will be the reaction to it? Will it be independent and consonant with the realities of our alarming time, or will people there once more look over their shoulder to the other side of the Atlantic? Are the FRG leaders capable of perceiving all the danger posed by the calculations to deploy new chemical weapons there in addition to the nuclear ones?

Europe must not be an arena of confrontation, but an arena of mutually advantageous cooperation between states and peoples. The ardent desire to make it such an arena dictated the socialist states' proposal.

FRG Public's Response

LD171742 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Bonn, September 17 TASS -- The proposal of the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia that a zone free of chemical weapons be set up in Europe is supported by the West German public and has aroused its interest. Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), has urgently appealed to the West German Government to declare in favour of the concrete proposal and to open respective talks with the governments of those countries. Control over chemical arms, he told the BADISCHE ZEITUNG newspaper in an interview, if achieved, would be a key component of strengthening East-West peace.

Karsten-Dietrich Voigt, a prominent SPD expert in disarmament questions, told the press bulletin PARLAMENTARISCH-POLITISCHER PRESSEDIENST in an interview that Bonn is duty bound to revise its first negative reaction to the proposal of the GDR and Czechoslovakia. A chemical weapons free zone could gradually involve also other European countries. The process of this kind would undoubtedly make it easier to achieve the principle objective, namely, a global ban on chemical weapons, Karsten-Dietrich Voigt said.

He referred, in part, to the recent conference of representatives of social-democratic parties of the Common Market member countries, which discussed the proposal on setting up a chemical weapons free zone in central Europe. This initiative has won broad support and this is understandable, since West Europeans do not wish nuclear and conventional arms, which have already been deployed in their countries, to be supplemented with sophisticated chemical weapons, namely, binary chemical munitions, Karsten-Dietrich said.

TASS Praises Proposal

LD180119 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1603 GMT 17 Sep 85

["Talks Which Ought To Be Held"--TASS headline; by TASS commentator Yevgeniy Verlin]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Sep (TASS) -- The GDR and Czechoslovak Governments' appeal to Bonn to enter talks on establishing a zone free from chemical weapons on the territory of the three central European countries, has aroused considerable response from European political circles. In the opinion of observers, the proposal put forward by Berlin and Prague to conclude an appropriate treaty, which other interested countries could subsequently join, has become a genuine touchstone for testing the sincerity of Bonn's assurances of its desire for disarmament.

SPD Chairman and ex-FRG Chancellor Willi Brandt has called on the FRG Government to adopt the GDR/CSSR proposal. According to public opinion polls, his party is supported in this by an overwhelming majority of the population of the country, where American chemical weapons are sited in sufficient quantities to destroy all living things in Europe.

The reaction in Belgian and Dutch political circles to the proposal to create a zone has, in general, been positive.

And although there has so far been no official reaction from Bonn to this proposal, the declarations made about its "unacceptability", made on Saturday and today by senior representatives of the ruling CDU/CSU coalition, put one on one's guard. For the CDU/CSU politicians' arguments reproduce with amazing accuracy what has been repeated for many months by senior officials at the Pentagon and in NATO, striving to justify the need to deploy the most up-to-date binary chemical weapons in Western Europe. Their chief premise is that chemical weapons can be "easily and secretly redeployed," and this apparently means that any attempts to achieve agreement at a regional level are useless.

10 October 1985

Of course, the solution of the chemical weapons problem on the global scale should proceed via the conclusion of an appropriate international convention, negotiations on which are being conducted at the Geneva committee on disarmament. But this by no means precludes steps being taken for a reduction and elimination of the chemical threat within the frameworks of separate continents as well as particular states. Hindering other countries in getting rid of the deadly chemical stocks, Washington, through demagoguery and hypocrisy, blocks concrete steps on the path of chemical disarmament.

The United States is doing this with special zeal at the moment because, in expectation of a congressional approval, there is a plant, just built in the town of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, whose future production -- nerve-paralysing binary munitions -- are assigned a key role in the Pentagon's "chemical re-armament".

Experts long ago drew attention to the extremely ruinous consequences of the possible utilization of modern, highly toxic means of waging war in densely populated central Europe. Like nuclear weapons, they are capable of killing almost instantaneously millions of peaceful inhabitants. These millions, while they are alive now, can hardly agree with General Rogers, commander in chief of NATO forces, in his praise of the "merits" to the Europeans of binary weapons, which, so it goes, are needed to ensure their security.

As for the socialist countries, the proposal which they made last year on the question of ridding Europe of chemical weapons remains in force. The appeal of the GDR and CSSR, if it is carried out, could be the first step on the road to this goal.

The Soviet Union, for its part, as was stated recently by Mikhail Gorbachev, would be ready to guarantee and respect the status of a zone free of chemical weapons. This guarantee would come into force if the United States acted in the same way.

FRG Rejection Criticized

LD182139 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1240 GMT 18 Sep 85

["On a Dangerous Course"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Sep (TASS) -- TASS commentator Lev Aksenov writes:

It has become the 'norm' for senior representatives of official Bonn to welcome any move by the United States or NATO leading to a further spiralling of the arms race and whipping up tension in central Europe. The result of this course has been that, in addition to the U.S. Pershing II's already sited in the FRG, a further 96 cruise missiles will shortly appear in that country. Thus one more step has been taken toward saturating a West Germany that has already been turned into a gigantic NATO nuclear-missile arsenal with weapons of mass destruction.

Also indicative in this connection is Bonn's benevolence toward the highly dangerous plans to stockpile U.S. chemical weapons in the country.

While giving the green light for implementation of military programs drawn up across the ocean, official Bonn, at the same time is, rejecting out-of-hand practically all the peace initiatives of the socialist countries aimed at military detente in the old world. Wolfgang Schaeuble (Christian Democratic Union), a minister in the Federal Chancellor's Office, made a statement in Bonn on 17 September in which he turned down the proposal of the GDR and the CSSR that negotiations should begin with the FRG regarding the formation of a chemical weapons-free zone in central Europe.

According to Schaeuble, the Federal Government does not detect in this proposal "an opportunity to strengthen FRG security and to increase stability in Europe." In the minister's logic it is precisely a constant build-up of armaments that is determined by the "optimum path", which leads to a strengthening of FRG security. Schaeuble's statement that the FRG authorities are, it turns out, striving for a ban on chemical weapons on a global scale indeed looks quite strange.

But this "striving", as Bonn's real deeds show, does not go beyond words. It is clearly not ready for concrete actions in a constructive spirit, as proposed by Berlin and Prague. But to travel in the wake of U.S. and NATO policy is quite another matter and is "Bonn's fashion".

TASS Cites Bulgarian Paper

LD181121 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Sofia, 18 Sep (TASS)--Despite U.S. and NATO efforts to aggravate the international situation, the socialist countries unflinching maintain their constructive policy aimed at reducing arms and ensuring detente, the newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO said.

It said this far-sighted policy has again been strikingly reaffirmed by an important proposal made by the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia for establishing a zone free of chemical weapons in Central Europe. This initiative is especially significant now that Washington is putting pressure on its West European allies to launch the production and stockpiling of chemical warfare agents on a large scale.

By its very essence, the latest initiative of the socialist countries is a logical continuation of their unremitting efforts to normalize the international situation. This proposal is permeated with highly humane considerations and a constructive spirit and calls for fair and reason-guided dialogue in the heart of Europe, which is decisive to the security of states in Europe. There are no doubts that provided the presence of good will, this move can have exceptionally wholesome influence on the political climate not only in Europe but also across the whole world, the newspaper stressed.

Further on FRG Response

LD201643 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 20 Sep 85

["A Constructive Approach Is Necessary"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 20 TASS -- TASS commentator Lev Aksenov writes:

The proposal by the GDR and Czechoslovakia to the FRG Government to start talks on the creating on the territory of these central European countries of a zone free of chemical weapons is in the centre of attention of the West German public and politicians. But statements made by high-placed Bonn officials so far do not have even a hint of a positive reaction to this initiative of Berlin and Prague. More than that, there is also no sign of desire to display a serious approach to studying this important and concrete proposal.

Precisely this characterises the statement made in Bonn on Thursday by the State Minister of the FRG Foreign Ministry Juergen Moelleman, a Free Democrat. According to him, the GDR's and Czechoslovakia's proposal "does not go far enough".

But on his part the state minister did not propose any positive programme and limited himself to general discourses on the theme of "the need to ban chemical weapons on a global scale under appropriate control".

Another thing attracts attention as well. On putting everything upside down Herr Moelleman made an interesting discovery: It turns out that proposals to create zones free of chemical arms all but undermine the work of the conference in Geneva which studies, among other items, also the question of this type of weapons of mass annihilation.

This is a strange stand, to say the least, for a high-placed official of a country which is bursting with weapons, including chemical ones, as it is.

Specialists have estimated that the toxic agents already deployed in the FRG are sufficient for causing the death of at least 100 million people. The threat to universal peace and security, first of all to the FRG itself, will grow immeasurably if the plans to deploy now also binary munitions on West German territory are implemented.

Prominent members of the Social Democratic Party of Germany are criticising the non-constructive stand in respect of the GDR's and Czechoslovakia's initiative taken by officials in Bonn. Thus, when speaking in Lubeck on Thursday [9 September] Deputy Chairman of the social Democratic Faction in the Bundestag Horst Ehmke warned against dismissing this proposal as "not meriting attention".

Berlin's and Prague's initiative is in line with the known proposal by Warsaw Treaty member states to free Europe of chemical weapons. At the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe the Soviet Union welcomed the proposal made by the GDR and Czechoslovakia.

USSR CDE Delegate Support

LD201706 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Stockholm, September 20 TASS -- At the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe the representatives of the GDR and Czechoslovakia acquainted its participants with their government's proposal to the FRG Government to open talks on the creation in central Europe of a zone free of chemical weapons. Special envoy Oleg Grinevskiy, the head of the Soviet delegation, stated that the GDR's and Czechoslovakia's proposal to create such a zone is in line with the known proposal by Warsaw Treaty member states to free Europe of chemical weapons.

He drew attention to the recent statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev that in the event of the creation in central Europe of a zone free of chemical weapons the Soviet Union, in pursuance of its fundamental foreign policy principles, would be prepared to guarantee and respect the status of this zone. This guarantee would be effective if the United States, on its part, acted likewise.

FRG Adheres to U.S. Policy

LD260449 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 25 Sep 85

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] Moellemann, a minister of state of the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has announced that the proposal made by the GDR and Czechoslovakia for the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe is inadequate because of its limited nature. Moellemann, who is essentially the second in line in the West German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to give his statement a little more weight even added that any regional or worldwide ban on chemical weapons without corresponding measures to verify its observance, is simply a farce. As you see, the FRG is rejecting the GDR and Czech proposal for the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe and is doing so very pointedly. What is this all about? I ask our commentator, Viktor Levin to answer this question:

When I read the remarks of the minister of state in the FRG Foreign Policy Department, I was reminded of the ancient dictum: Jupiter, you are angry, which means you are wrong. This wise dictum is generally fair and particularly fair when talking about representatives of the diplomatic service, for whom by the nature of their work sharp words are not advisable.

Seeing as Moellemann has scorned these rules, one can say directly that there must have been a compelling reason for this. The GDR and Czechoslovakia aimed at creating a zone free from chemicals weapons in central Europe, the place where NATO and the Warsaw Pact closely confront each other, has received the widest support from the public, in many countries.

The Soviet Union, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, announced in a conversation with Johannes Rau, the dominant West German political figure, would in the event of the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons in central Europe be prepared to guarantee and respect the status of this zone. Such a guarantee would come into force if the United States for its part did the same. However, as the remarks of high-ranking representatives of the U.S. Administration testify, in Washington they will not hear of the creation of a chemical weapons-free zone in central Europe. For in the U.S. capital they are, as the saying goes, dreaming of stocks of binary chemical weapons being created in this very region; stocks on which the Pentagon is making an open stake. Since in the United States the implementation of plans for the stockpiling of binary chemical weapons has already begun, they see the proposal of the GDR and Czechoslovakia only as an annoying obstacle.

But the question arises: Surely West Germans are not gladdened by this prospect which the Americans have prepared for them? Public opinion on this matter leaves no doubt. The majority of the population is protesting angrily against the plans to deploy stocks of binary weapons on the territory of the FRG, and is demanding that the stockpiles of U.S. poisonous substances already created be removed. According to available figures it is in the FRG that the largest stocks of chemical weapons outside the United States created by the Pentagon are to be found. But the government, as was the case regarding the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles, is ignoring public opinion, neglecting the security interests of the country and blindly following Washington's dangerous course. It is revealing that even the arguments, if one can call them that, used by Moellemann are completely and fully drawn from the vocabulary of the U.S. representatives. In exactly the same way they talk about the inadequacy of the measures, about the farce, and this is all merely to get away from the question put by life itself and dictated by interests of security and consolidating peace.

The hypocrisy of Washington is revealed primarily by the fact that it is the United States that is putting a spoke in the wheel of the talks for the complete banning of chemical weapons. Seeing as the FRG minister of state had repeated the hackneyed argument of U.S. propaganda about verification, it is worth recalling that the United States is trying to avoid verification. For in binary chemical weapons there is a combination of two relatively nontoxic substances which, when mixed, become extremely toxic. Since these components are nontoxic they can even be manufactured at ordinary chemical plants in the civilian sector. So here there can be no question of reliable verification. Through its negative position regarding the proposal of the GDR and Czechoslovakia the present FRG Government is once again showing that in matters of security it does not proceed from the interests of its own country, but from the demands of the United States. Such a course is fraught with a serious threat, primarily to West Germany.