

# What The Socialist Sector Is Really Saying

## Accurate Translations Of Statements That Have Been Distorted By The Western Press

*May 22 (IPS) — This week's IPS Weekly inaugurates a new regular feature — the publication of accurate translations of important articles and speeches from the press of the Socialist sector. At this moment, the Atlanticist-controlled media outlets in both the United States and Western Europe are engaged in a deliberate black propaganda distortion of almost every significant statement coming from the spokesmen for the socialist sector. This campaign of deliberate misinformation is aimed at confusing the people of the West about Soviet strategic military doctrine.*

*As should be clear to anyone reading the translations printed here, the Soviet Union stands committed to a policy of political detente. However, if provoked past a clear discernible point by Lower Manhattan-directed forces, the*

*Soviet Union is prepared and willing to launch a thermonuclear first strike against U.S. and NATO population centers to defend its strategic interests.*

*We print such information to give our readers the opportunity to face those facts — an opportunity which is impossible from even an intelligent reading of the Western press on such matters. At this point, therefore, IPS represents the only accurate source of information about the socialist sector outside that sector itself, a source that you can ill afford to do without.*

*In future editions, we will present accompanying press grids of the Western press, as we did last week on the Ustinov appointment, to show how the stories we are reporting are being deliberately distorted and for what purpose.*

### Excerpts From GDR Defense Minister's Speech

*May 22 (IPS) — The following are excerpts from German Democratic Republic Defense Minister Heinz Hoffmann's speech May 19 to the Ninth Congress of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) in East Berlin. Minister Hoffmann's remarks are translated from the German excerpts printed in the May 20 Neues Deutschland, the official SED daily.*

It is worth living and working for socialism, devoting (the army's) sweat and if need be their blood. (The army) does not only talk this way. They also act this way....Based on the lessons of the century-long struggle of the German workers' movement against imperialism and militarism, our party has made it a guiding rule that the forces of peace must be stronger than the war-bent imperialists....This holds for every country on the globe in which the working class, allied with the peasants and other laboring elements, holds power; it also holds for the developing countries, and even for the capitalist states, since in that sector it is above all the cold warriors who fear a warming of the international climate caused by the growing influence of socialism. It is the extreme reactionary forces of imperialism who are interested in tension and war, who gain from the arms race. If these forces were reined in and pressed back, it would serve peace and progress.

In constant contact with the brother parties — especially with the central committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, with the Soviet Army leadership and with the unified armed forces command — our party and state leadership has contributed its share to make the armed securing of socialism and peace in the heart of Europe proportional to the current military-political situation and the concrete imperialist threat.

We educate conscious fighters who fulfill the commands of

their class comrades out of conviction...(so that) the unity of a communist world-view with high military qualification is transmitted and made into the standard of political work in the armed forces.

Because our party has viewed and implemented work with human beings, their political education and physical training, as the alpha and omega of the fighting capacity of the troops, therefore and only therefore were we able to keep step with the modern military standards applied by Soviet military science and the armed forces of the USSR, and able to fulfill our obligations in the socialist defense coalition....

These constant and reliable executions of service by the members of the National People's Army and the border troops are a thorn in the eye of the class enemy. And if in the past weeks and months we have experienced a whole series of deliberate attacks by imperialist circles against detente, the socialist community of states and their unyielding policy of defending social progress and securing peace, it was in no way accidental that our republic (the GDR) and the military policy of the SED represented one of the most important targets of the psychological warfare attacks by NATO and the imperialist mass media.

These centers of mass manipulation are constantly cooking up new distortions and falsifications to slander our justified defense alliance and vilify the National People's Army as well as other Warsaw Pact armies as a species of Red steamroller which will sweep tomorrow morning over West Germany and all of Western Europe unless the taxpayers and governments immediately increase NATO's armaments expenditures. The cold warriors sow hatred in the hearts and minds of citizens of the NATO states, hatred against all those fighting for peace and progress, especially against socialists and Communists in their own country and in the socialist

states. We in no way underestimate the degree of anti-Communist and nationalistic incitement to which, in particular the officers, sub-officers and soldiers of the West German Bundeswehr are exposed — following the example of the Greater German Wehrmacht (the Nazi Army — ed.).

...This modernized and strengthened imperialist military potential is intended to be activated. Foreign and military experts announce with total openness today that the strategic balance offers greater possibilities for the exercise of regional pressure. It is a matter of confining the power of the Soviet Union and its allied states around the world through a combination of political, military and economic means, while drawing China into parallel measures in the Far East.

The Bundeswehr leadership is rashly developing the corresponding European concept for this new variant of anti-socialist U.S. global strategy. With reference to the growing American presence in Europe, the West German defense minister emphasized the necessity of strengthening the muscle of the Bundeswehr divisions through injections of quality. According to Herr Leber, not only the number of divisions will affect the balance of forces in the next five

years, but also technical performance and ability to transform technical advances into military defensive strength.

The Bundeswehr leadership is of course walking in the footprints of their historical predecessors from the fascist Wehrmacht leadership when they overlook the most vital factor and seriously believe they can attain a military-technological superiority over the Soviet army and the other armed forces of the Warsaw Pact. The wars in Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East have reinforced the great experience of World War II; that the imperialists cannot crush any population which rallies around its governing party and resolutely defends its freedom; and that progress commands the better weapons.

...We have the most important things we need to fulfill our task: distinguished people — in education, conduct, and qualities of will, superior weapons, faithful allies, and a wise political leadership proven in decades of class struggle. Our greatest strength, however, is the consciousness of the masses. Our workers and soldiers today know precisely what they have to defend and how to defend it. And they have even more to defend than before: an abundant present and an auspicious future, whose contours can be clearly discerned.

## Pravda Attacks Rockefeller's War Mongering

*May 22 (IPS) — The following article appeared under the headline "Nonsensical and Dangerous" in the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda May 19. The article appeared on page 8 and was signed by senior Pravda editor Tomas Kolesnichenko. The full text is reprinted here.*

"The relaxation of international tensions has recently become the target of intense attacks from the international bloc of enemies of peace. Most zealous in this are representatives of the USA military-industrial complex and imperialist reaction, who do not want to be reconciled to the changed configuration of forces in the world and the failure of the adventurist foreign policy of playing 'world policeman,' which in the not too distant past non-unknown foreign circles were trying to conduct.

"One after another come campaigns of lies and slander against the Soviet Union and its peace policy. There are frequent statements which recall the times of the 'Cold War.' Reactionary politicians such as Reagan, Wallace and Jackson, and also the U.S. mass media, make a sort of 'contribution' to the American domestic discussion of what American foreign policy should be and what kind of relations the United States should have with the Soviet Union now and in the future. For them, detente is a 'one way street' to the advantage of the USSR. Unwilling to reject the militarist dogmas of the past, these forces call for 'increasing the might' of the United States, and conducting a 'hard line' in Soviet-American relations, which in their opinion will make it possible to instill a 'military spirit' in the NATO allies.

"Unfortunately it is necessary to state that U.S. Vice-President N. Rockefeller has also found it possible in the present situation to play up to the war-mongering forces. This is the only possible evaluation of his recent statements in West Berlin and Frankfurt-am-Main. In the former, the stress was on 'the resolution of the USA to maintain its forces,' and that 'there can be no compromises' in the area of military and political detente. In Frankfurt-am-Main, the Vice-President went further and tried to convince his listeners that, supposedly, the Soviet Union intends 'to create a new empire over the globe, on which the Soviet sun will never set.' Especially piquant on the lips of a representative of the Rockefeller family (oil magnates, who have struck their fingers into countries in Latin America, the Mideast and elsewhere) was the statement that this is 'a new form of imperialism.'

"This sort of propaganda will hardly yield any dividends. It is well known that attempts to bring about a rebirth of the cold war cause serious alarm on the part of the American public, the majority of which is for detente and the improvement of Soviet-American relations.

"In the nuclear age there is no rational alternative to peaceful coexistence. Therefore any attempt to return to the past, to cause mistrust among peoples and create a situation of tension in relations among states is nonsensical and dangerous — dangerous for everyone, including the USA itself."