

SOVIET SECTOR

Soviets explain why SALT must work

Exclusive: Novosti blasts Britain for war confrontation

Last week Soviet President Brezhnev warned that if the current international situation continued to go without a SALT agreement, it would be "worse than a return to the Cold War."

This week, the official Soviet foreign news agency Novosti, has released three articles exclusively to this news agency which elaborate the urgency of President Brezhnev's commitment to SALT. As described below in Novosti's review of the Guadeloupe meeting, the Soviets are clearly aware that SALT is most threatened by the proponents in the Carter Administration of the doctrine of "limited nuclear war."

In the Novosti commentary on the newly-released Winston Churchill documents — in which it is revealed that Churchill advocated a preemptive nuclear strike against the Soviets following World War II — the Soviets make clear for the first time that they recognize that the inspiration for nuclear war confrontations and the Cold War emanates from Britain. How do the Soviets view British responsibility for disruption of East-West relations at key points in the post-war years? This is described below in "Macabre Documents." "I hope very much ... that these papers ... (will be known) to wide circles in England and in other Western countries ... soon," writes author J. Korshin.

has been hinted by some highly-placed person in the Pentagon, at the Capitol, and in NATO. Third, any temptation on NATO's part to secure so-called compensations in the forward theater — whether it be through the proliferation of neutron weapons, including cruise missiles, etc. — will only rebound to the advantage of the proponents of so-called limited nuclear warfare. The danger of an outbreak of such a war is increased by the blatantly provocative character of this doctrine.

Put another way, it is vitally important that the future SALT III negotiations are steered in a direction which guarantees that they do not serve to entrench this suicidal strategy, but on the contrary promote the qualitative reduction of the danger of a nuclear war and at the same time open up the possibility of successful negotiations in Vienna on the limitation of troops and conventional arms in Central Europe.

Iran and other "hot spots"

Should the "united Western strategy" agreed upon in Guadeloupe turn into an escalation of the North Atlantic bloc countries' intervention in the spirit of an imperialist "police action," then this will be a mistake comparable in its magnitude and consequences to the USA's blunder in Indochina in 1964, which led to the "dirty war" in Vietnam and to its ignominious fiasco. The present dramatic turn of events in Iran illustrates how the "politics of strength" produces results contrary to their intention. For 25 years — ever since the CIA conspiracy and the toppling of Mossadegh's national government — the USA has pumped dollars and arms into this country and has monopolized all channels through which the shaping of its domestic and foreign policy could be influenced, in order to turn Iran into a model Western "client" and "deputy sheriff" for the protection of the oil interests. And now this entire edifice, supported on its numerous pillars, is collapsing before the eyes of the whole world.

Any attempt to justify the West's new intervention by citing stories of "Moscow's hand" in Iran would not be simply a triumph of lies over the truth. People in Washington, London, Paris, and Bonn should really be clear — even if they are still unable to tell the truth at least to themselves — that the Soviet Union's motives and intentions proceed solely from its concern that the people of Iran should decide their own destiny and that, in the future, nothing will prevent it from not only maintaining good neighborly relations with Iran, but also improving these relations. The Western powers, should they decide upon a new show of force, would therefore bear the entire responsibility for the creation of a new crisis spot.

The West at the crossroads

... The participants at the Guadeloupe meeting were not mistaken when in their evaluation of the Soviet Union's attitude they proceeded on the assumption that our country is ready to do everything necessary so that the SALT II agreement, after it is signed, will have maximum success in achieving military detente. Similarly, it would be fair to expect from the West a full account of the following considerations, which are extremely important for the agreement's success.

First, the USA and the West need the agreement on a limiting of strategic arms just as much as the Soviet Union and its allies do. Second, this agreement, which has been planned as an understanding on curtailing armaments, should work in precisely this direction, and not as a pretext for the development of new, even more sophisticated weapons systems — as

China and detente.

Those participants in the Guadeloupe meeting who warned their colleagues against going too far in playing the so-called China card cannot be faulted for a lack of perceptiveness. But if one can believe the reports in the London press, Prime Minister Callaghan has announced his sale of Harrier aircraft to China, which leads one to conclude that the British are in great haste to part with their major asset which has sustained them in the past, namely from their sense of reality. I believe that not only London, but also in Washington, Paris and Bonn people are excellently informed on the Soviet Union's standpoint: Those who arm China are endangering detente overall.

The logic of the Soviet warning is indisputable. The West wants to firm up the military potential of a country whose doctrine is founded on the "unavoidability of a new war" and the preparation for this war. At the same time, not one responsible Western politician — as was demonstrated especially at the Guadeloupe meeting — speaks about the necessity of drawing Peking towards detente, toward nuclear disarmament and toward solving international disputes. Might this not be because they know that such an attempt would be in vain? But when one considers that Peking is playing its own game, it seems particularly unintelligent to create a new area of tension and a generator for the arms race — and to do so with the sole purpose of pursuing the politics of strength against the Soviet Union, the entire socialist world, as well as the national liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

"Games" such as these are particularly dangerous at a time when the world, as Leonid Brezhnev has said, is still at a crossroads which will lead either to the growth of trust and cooperation, or to the growth of mutual terror and suspicion and the accumulation of weapons — a crossroads ultimately leading either to a lasting peace, or at best, to teetering on the abyss of war. The Soviet Union's appeal to follow the former course remains in force.

— *Spartak Beglov, Novosti commentator*

SALT II is important for everyone

The Soviet Union and the United States, in their negotiations over the second phase of the limitation of strategic armaments, are at present closer to their goal than they have ever been since the Vladivostock understanding of 1974. This understanding paved the way for a new agreement, since it laid down as the major measuring rod of any future agreement the mutually acceptable balance of the interests of both powers.

Nevertheless, in the subsequent period certain circles in the USA succeeded in making the negotiations more difficult. New obstacles kept on turning up, which then had to be overcome. The Soviet Union was ready to make a new agreement immediately after the Vladivostock understanding. In the following period as well, the Soviet side, which resolutely represented a constructive standpoint, announced its continual readiness to conclude the SALT II agreement.

This realistic approach on the USSR's part had great importance in the progress achieved at the negotiations held in Geneva. As a result, the negotiations over the conclusion of the SALT II agreement have proceeded with particular intensity over the past year. Thus, in the course of the year the USSR's Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, met six times with his American colleague Cyrus Vance — an unprecedented record in the post-war history of Soviet-American relations.

The last in this series of meetings has just recently ended. After concrete and detailed discussions, the remaining differences on a number of important questions were cleared away or else substantially narrowed. The Soviet and the American sides announced their readiness to solve the still unresolved questions through normal diplomatic channels or else in the context of the Geneva negotiations. "The differences over the SALT agreement," President Carter said on Christmas Day, "have been overcome to a considerable extent. I believe that the prospects are good for a meeting between President Brezhnev and myself, more or less in the near future." It has thus become possible that in 1979 an agreement will be con-

cluded which will be enormously important for ensuring security in the entire world, and especially in Europe.

For Europe, this agreement will in fact be especially significant for a number of reasons. Firstly, its conclusion will be a proof that detente is bearing tangible fruits. Detente originally began and developed in Europe, and Europe also depends more on ensured detente than any other part of the earth. It is indicative that even the annual conference of the North Atlantic Assembly, held in Lisbon at the end of November and the beginning of December, adopted in their plenary session a resolution to support the current draft of the SALT II agreement.

Secondly, the conclusion of such an agreement would effect a certain reduction of the arms race and of the military confrontation between the two world powers as well as between the two military pacts — an especially important development for continuing to ensure European security.

Thirdly, the SALT II agreement would demonstrate that both powers have attained a degree of mutual trust such that one can already speak of joint steps towards limiting the arms race. Highlighting this trust would contribute to progress at other important negotiations in which Europe is directly involved, namely at the negotiations on the reduction of troops and conventional armaments in Central Europe.

Moreover, the agreement on strategic arms limitation would reach far beyond the framework of both powers' self-interests. After its conclusion there are plans for a still more radical limitation of strategic arms. We only stand to gain from the resulting curtailment of the arms race and the ensuring of peace and security in the whole world.

—*Dmitri Ardamatski, Novosti Commentator*

'Macabre documents'

It is said that Englishmen have good nerves and would react calmly to even the most extraordinary events. This is just how many of them seem to have received news of the contents of the secret British government documents just released to the public after the expiration of their 30-year term of secrecy. It's hard to say whether the most important of these papers are known to wide circles in England and in other Western countries. I hope very much, however, that this will happen soon.

One particularly interesting paper from the Foreign Office contains statements made by the former leader of the Conservative opposition, Winston Churchill, in April 1948. Only three years after the Second World War, which cost 50 million people their lives and left many millions crippled, orphaned and homeless, this politician called upon the governments of the USA and England to wage nuclear war against the Soviet Union. His special motivation was his assertion that the Russians did not yet possess any nuclear weapons.

Thirty years earlier Churchill had demanded, in his capacity as British Minister of War, that the state just born in Russia

following the October Revolution should be obliterated through military intervention — "The baby must be strangled in its cradle." He made a great personal contribution to the "crusade" of the imperialist states against the young Soviet Republic. During the last weeks of the Second World War and immediately following the capitulation of Hitler's Reich, Churchill harbored the intention of terminating his coalition with the Russians and, with the aid of captured German Wehrmacht soldiers, throwing his forces back toward the East. On Churchill's orders, divisions and regiments of Hitler's Wehrmacht in the British occupation zone were not dissolved, and captured weapons were stockpiled at depots not far away from prisoner-of-war camps.

This British politician's transformation into a herald of the offensive nuclear war therefore has its own inner logic and consequence. But it is not enough to say only that.

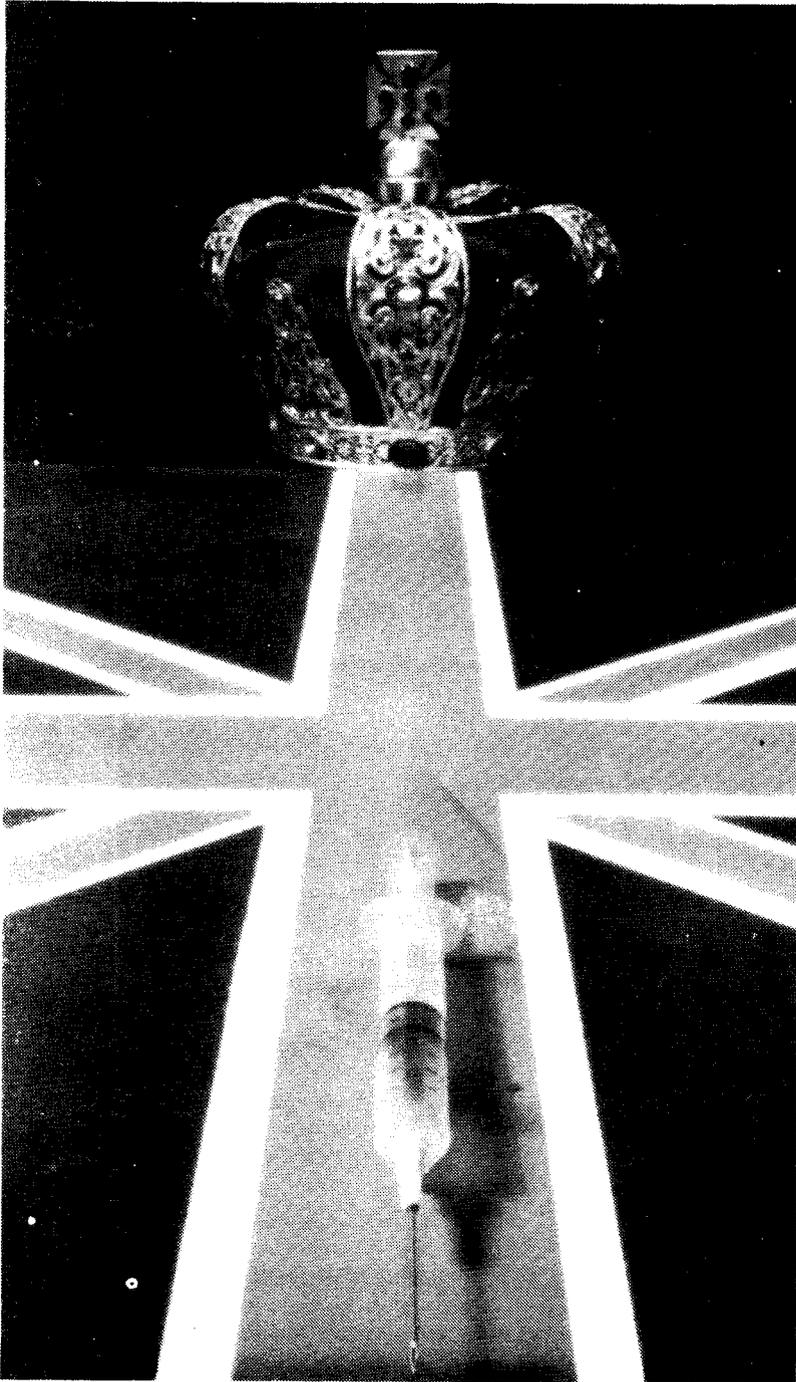
Churchill's appeal began circulating at a time when President Truman's government in the USA, Clement Atlee's British government, and even the French leadership had brusquely broken off their cooperation with the USSR in shaping the postwar environment in Europe and in other regions of the world, and had instead set off on a course toward cold war against their ally, which only shortly before had had to bear the major burden of the successful war effort. This was a course toward torpedoing and sabotaging the treaties made in Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam by the powers of the anti-Hitler coalition. This shift coincided in time with the three Western powers' measures to complete the division of Germany and of Berlin, as well as with the formation of the North Atlantic bloc which was directed against the USSR and the people's democratic countries.

Fortunately, Churchill's demand did not turn into a government decision. The leading Western statesmen were still perceptive enough to comprehend the consequences of a nuclear adventure. But the anti-Soviet hysteria fed by Churchill and his ilk contributed to creating in the West a climate in which the political decisions made repeatedly brought the world to the very brink of the Third World War and led to the emergence of acute crisis areas. The total Cold War declared by the West against the Soviet Union, as well as the attempts to intimidate Communism by the "politics of strength," resulted in an arms race unparalleled in magnitude (including in the area of the especially dangerous nuclear weapons), and prevented a reasonable solution of the Germany question—a definite possibility until the formation and acceptance of the Federal Republic and the DDR into opposed military-political groupings.

Gigantic material and mental resources were required to produce the mountains of weapons and war material, and these resources were therefore uselessly wasted while a significant portion of humanity suffered from undernourishment, disease and backwardness.

"You should only speak well of the dead." I believe that this time around, humanity's conscience and its right to a peaceful existence demand that we do not keep to this saying, and that we objectively judge the monstrous plans of this British politician.

—*J. Korshin,*
Novosti Press Agency



The Story of the Century!

DOPE INC.

*Britain's Opium War
Against the United States*

AN EXCLUSIVE REPORT by U.S. Labor Party investigators on the who, how, and why of the British Oligarchy's centuries-old control of the multibillion dollar "hidden economy" of the international illegal drug trade.

A 416-page paperback with over
40 pages of charts and pictures.

\$5.00

Plus \$1.00 postage and handling

Prepublishing bulk rates available on request from:

Campaigner Publications

P.O. Box 1920 G.P.O., New York, N.Y. 10001