

Moscow goes on a global rampage

by Christopher White

While Soviet officials—including Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko at the meeting of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSCE) in Madrid on Sept. 7—have continued to brazen out their barbaric massacre of 269 Korean Airlines passengers, officials from around the world began calling on the United States to protect world peace with an all-out program for beam-weapons defense against ballistic missiles.

The beam-weapons calls have surfaced with a new urgency not only because of the barbarism of the Soviet actions, but because of a growing recognition that it is the way the Russians are handled internationally that has to be changed, if nuclear war is to be avoided. Among those who have already urged the United States to develop the ABM defense program of President Reagan are two leaders of government political parties in Italy, the largest-circulation newspaper in West Germany, and the former dean of defense studies at Japan's National Defense College (see below).

Gromyko, now acting out the role assigned to Ribbentrop by Adolf Hitler, dismissed what has been publicly documented by the President of the United States, and by Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, in presenting tapes of monitored conversations between Soviet pilots and their ground controls. Gromyko maintained that U.S. reports are "lies and slanders," and continued the discredited Goebbels lie that the Boeing 747 passenger liner was a "spy plane" and therefore the cold-blooded Soviet attack was justified. "No matter who resorts to provocations of that kind, he should know that he will bear the full brunt of responsibility for it," he declared.

Without ever citing the actual content of Reagan's March

23 speech, in which the U.S. President offered to approach arms reduction from the standpoint of "Mutually Assured Survival" made possible by the beam-weapons defense technologies, Gromyko again charged that the West has been building "their military policy on doctrines which do not at all exclude being the first to deal a nuclear blow"—the lying charge that has been the U.S.S.R.'s only response to the ABM defense policy.

"The Soviet Union's appeal for an immediate freeze on the nuclear arsenals of all nuclear states and above all those of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. fully preserves its applicability," Gromyko then stated. "This would create more favorable preconditions for a turn toward a radical improvement of the political atmosphere in the world and serve as a point of departure for the stopping of the build-up of nuclear arms and their subsequent reduction and eventually complete liquidation. The Soviet Union has committed itself to not being the first to use nuclear weapons. How the degree of trust among states possessing these weapons would increase, if those of them that have not yet done so assumed a similar commitment."

Gromyko also reiterated Andropov's frantic "offer" to ward off U.S. development of beam defense, saying that "Militarization of space poses a real threat to peace. Implementation of the new Soviet initiative, the proposal to conclude a treaty banning the use of force in space and from space with respect to earth, would facilitate the task of preventing this threat."

Gromyko's speech in Madrid made it clear, even for all the whorish types in the U.S. press corps who insist on attempting to retail rationalizations for the Soviet action which

the Soviets themselves disdain to make, that the decision was made and is backed by the Moscow central command. Those who have argued for a split between so-called political and military sections of the command must also admit that they are wrong.

Moscow lies to Russians

The same top Soviet circles who are arguing that their attack on a defenseless civilian airliner was a pre-planned U.S. provocation, have taken a similarly shameless approach internally, using their lies to whip a deceived Russian population into shape for further confrontation crises. For example, it is reported that since the massacre, one of the internal radio stations of the Soviet military, Radio Volga, has been broadcasting transmissions designed to shape the climate of readiness for such further actions.

One such was by Gen. Dmitri Volkogonov, who is also said to be a commentator for the news agency Novosti, and close to the Soviet political leadership. The general is reported to have declared: "We have to bring up every soldier for readiness and glorious deeds, for sacrificing his life for the motherland to fight the coming Third World War, should the imperialists force it on us."

Soviet Chief of Staff Nicolai Ogarkov presented the press on Sept. 9 with a lengthy justification for the attack on the KAL aircraft, concluding darkly: "It is the sovereign right of every state to defend its borders, including its air space. The Soviet Armed Forces, standing guard and peaceful watch over the Soviet people, are constantly in high combat readiness throughout the history of the Soviet state. They have been discharging their duties with honor, and in the future if need be they will also perform their combat tasks."

The Soviets are deployed worldwide to provoke such confrontations themselves, with their allies among Israeli forces associated with the new prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir and former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, and with Libya's Nazi-loving Muammar Qaddafi.

On the same day the Korean airliner was downed, Colonel Qaddafi hosted a conference to celebrate the 14th anniversary of his seizure of power in Libya. With Soviet officials participating, plans were worked out to escalate the attacks on Chad and to overthrow U.S.-allied governments in the Sudan and Egypt.

Among those in attendance at the Libya conference were George Habbash and Ahmed Jabril, whose Palestinian terrorist units have worked both with the Israelis and with the Soviets, and which are now being reorganized from Libya together with the Armenian ASALA terrorists and the networks of Abu Nidal, for terrorist operations, including assassinations.

The Soviet fleet had meanwhile just completed maneuvers of an unprecedented nature in the Tyrrhenian sea off the coast of Italy, while reports continue to come in of another Soviet submarine being tracked in Swedish coastal waters.

At the same time, the Israelis were wrapping up the de-

cision, despite U.S. pressure, to pull out of the Chouf Mountains in Lebanon. This decision was just as surely made between the Israelis, the Soviets, and the Soviets' Syrian allies, as part of a broader package to drive the United States out of the Middle East, and threaten the oil supplies of Europe and Japan.

The Israelis refrained from informing the Lebanese government ahead of time about the intended troop withdrawal, giving the Druse secret-society militiamen time to take over abandoned Israeli positions in the Chouf.

Moscow's side of the deal was made clear when on Sept. 6 Druse leader Walid Jumblatt declared to the Syrian press that "Lebanon will be another Vietnam" for the United States.

Jumblatt is a well-known asset of Syria and Syria's ally, the Soviet Union. For over three months now the entire Soviet-built SAM surface-to-air missile system, which surrounds Damascus and shields Syrian forces in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, has been directly hooked up to Moscow's centralized PVO Strani, the National Air Defense Command computer system—the same system of air defense believed to have been activated Sept. 1 when the Korean Air jetliner was shot down by a Soviet MIG fighter.

Jumblatt's maniacal militiamen, working closely with Moscow-run factions in the Palestine Liberation Organization and with Lebanon's Amal Shiite sect (cult brethren of the Shiite rulers of Iran), are running a military offensive to wreck the U.S.-backed central government of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel. With Syrian artillery behind them, the Druse are bombarding Lebanese Army positions, the Christians in east Beirut, and Christian villages in the Chouf Mountains, as well as the bunkers of U.S. peacekeeping forces in west Beirut. Four American marines were killed there between late August and the first week of September.

On Sept. 6, the Chouf Mountain town of Bhamdun, strategically situated along the Beirut-Damascus highway, fell to Druse fighters. The pattern of Druse attacks conforms to Syria's strategy of strangling Beirut by seizing all points of access to the capital. The Syrians hope to thereby destroy Gemayel's control over the country, fulfilling the prophecy of the government-controlled media in Damascus of the "partition" of Lebanon.

As for "America's ally" Israel, one Israeli source says flatly: "The Israeli withdrawal from the Chouf was coordinated with Syria." Former Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, the architect of Israel's invasion of Lebanon and a sponsor of covert Israeli operations to arm the Druse Muslims in the Chouf, is known to have pushed for the rapid Israeli troop pullback over the objections of the Reagan administration.

"We'll pull back to our withdrawal lines, and there will be a de facto partition of Lebanon," said another Israeli source. "There will be an agreement with Syria, not a formal one as such, but covering the 'red lines' and all that." This source admitted that Israel has been pumping extensive support into the Soviet-backed militias of Walid Jumblatt.

Western Europeans call for beam weapons

On Sept. 4, West Germany's leading Sunday newspaper, Bild am Sonntag, endorsed the U.S. President's energy-beam defense policy as a way out of strategic confrontation. Bild am Sonntag, published by the leading conservative daily Bildzeitung,, which is part of the Axel Springer publishing conglomerate, has a circulation of 4.5 million, the largest in the Federal Republic.

The article followed a Sept. 2 statement to EIR by Christian Social Union parliamentary deputy Ekkehard Voigt urging West German support for Mr. Reagan's strategic doctrine in the wake of the Soviet air attack. "This act of the Soviet Union in shooting down the South Korean airliner was by no means accidental; rather it must be seen as part of total Soviet strategy. . . . We in the West must at this time stand together and follow the leadership of the United States, politically, but also with respect to technologies, by which I mean in particular the U.S. policy of developing beam weapons for defense against nuclear missiles," stated Voigt (See EIR Sept. 13, page 64).

Excerpts from the Bild am Sonntag article:

While Heinrich Böll, Pastor Heinrich Albertz, Pastor Soelle and Petra Kelly [leaders of the West German ecologist-disarmament movement] were blocking the entrance to a U.S. military facility in Mutlangen, sitting on their folding chairs, it turned out they were at the wrong party.

The Soviets had just committed their mass murder of 269 harmless civilian passengers, and once again proven their policy of contempt for human beings. Let the Americans do such a thing just once—immense demonstrations would have erupted, and the peace-loving Russians would have been standing there ready to hand out their comradely embraces and kisses.

But now, all of the detente utopians, all of the Petra Kellys and Heinrich Bölls in the world, have lost a battle. . . .

The Communist Party in Russia still has to heel at the side of the military. It could not be any different in a regime which keeps itself in power solely by means of tanks and missiles, at home as well as in the satellite countries.

The circle is clear: since power in Moscow does not issue from free elections, and so does not derive from the people,

they can only prop themselves up with weapons; but the military needs the party, too, because it is the party which covers for the military in the factories and on the farms. . . .

How one should deal with this great power, which has once more revealed its true face, is a difficult question. It is true that moral outrage the world over has become torrential. But it cannot divert attention from the crucial question: What does one do about such a ruthless power, which does not stop short of mass murder of civilians even in peacetime?

Is not President Reagan right when he demands that the advocates of freedom and humanity should have superiority in order to be able to defend these values of humanity? Can one possibly permit the Soviets to get away with such violations of the most elemental international law? But what steps would make sense?

President Reagan's appeal to the scientists to come up with new, purely defensive weapons, capable of turning all attacking missiles into scrap, is probably the right way. Laser-beam weapons cannot be used for an attack; but they can condemn all attacking missiles to impotence.

Discussions about such defensive weapons are probably more useful than disarmament talks accompanied by the act of shooting down civilian airliners.

The question of how to deal with the brutal and equally thick-headed political elders of the Kremlin will unfortunately preoccupy us for a long time to come.

But the Soviets have delivered a hard blow against the so-called peace movement: Böll, Albertz, and Kelly were at the wrong party. . . .

Italy: political, army figures

The national vice-secretary of the Italian Social Democratic Party (PSDI), Ruggero Puletti, declared Sept. 6 in an interview with EIR that his party believes the West should launch an immediate crash program to develop the beam weapons defense system announced by President Reagan on March 23. The PSDI, a member of the current five-party governing coalition, is a small party traditionally important within Italian cabinets, whose members are influential in the Italian armed forces and intelligence establishment. The editor of the official organ of the PSDI, L'Umanità, Focolari, told EIR, "We are absolutely fully aligned with the doctrine of President Reagan." Excerpts from the Puletti statement:

We give our full support to the beam weapons defensive system, the more so because we are convinced that when the Soviets say that they want to destroy their missiles they have no intention at all of doing so. At this point the only thing that will work is a technological challenge, because the Soviets have overwhelming conventional forces in Europe and the only thing they understand is the logic of strength. No

one will believe any longer in the Soviets' good faith. The East is composed of totalitarian countries based on a chauvinistic ideology.

I consider the shooting down of the South Korean airliner an extremely serious act, consistent with the Soviet logic. It is an act of war. The Soviets are now moving step by step to state the truth. This proves the unreliability of the Soviet leaders, and it doesn't make the least difference whether that decision has been taken, as some say, by the military or by the political leadership. How can anyone discuss seriously at this point with that leadership?

We hope that this will open the eyes of the one-way pacifists. Peace cannot exist without security. It is even more important at this point to respect the deadline for the installation in Europe of the cruises and Pershing missiles. We need a re-equilibrium of the military forces. . . .

Italian Liberal Party (PLI) parliamentarian and editor of the party's official organ, L'Opinione, Paolo Battistuzzi, in a Sept. 7 interview with EIR, endorsed the proposal by EIR founder Lyndon LaRouche for a crash program to develop Western beam weapons defense systems. The PLI is also part of the current government coalition. The dominant Italian party until the early 1920s, it is "conservative" in the American sense, with a strong presence in the diplomatic corps and banking circles as well as the military. Battistuzzi is a member of the Parliamentary Defense Committee. His statement to EIR:

We are absolutely in favor of both the installation of the cruise and Pershings and the development of the beam weapons defensive system. Only a new technological effort can lead the West to overcome military inferiority and to re-establish equilibrium. We cannot build up tanks; the Soviets will copy them and will keep their advantage. We can compete only by means of a technological effort. That's what is necessary today.

The shooting down of the South Korean airliner was an extremely serious occurrence. We should ask ourselves at this point whether the Soviet machine went crazy, or whether we are facing a Soviet apparatus that, confident of its military superiority, began to commit one insane act after the other. The Soviets are calculating the interval of time until the West gets the Pershings and the cruises, and the new defensive system announced by President Reagan.

They could do crazy things in the meantime because they fear the loss of their superiority. As for the shooting down of the plane, there are no words strong enough to condemn it—but we wonder if this is the beginning of such a crazy escalation. The PLI considers the situation very, very serious and therefore fully supports the necessity of the installation of the missiles and the development of the new defensive system.

[Battistuzzi, who on Sept. 6 intervened in Italy's Parliamentary Defense Committee on the Lebanese situation, expressed "perplexity" about the position of Socialist Prime

Minister Bettino Craxi, who is willing to "negotiate" and "mediate" among the Lebanese forces, including the Druzes of Walid Jumblatt (see article above)].

The following statement by Gen. (ret.) Giulio Macrì of the Italian Army was issued on Sept. 6 from Rome. General Macrì has been long-time collaborator with the U.S. armed forces command.

With the shooting down of the South Korean airliner on Sept. 1 in the skies over Sakhalin, which provoked the death of 269 passengers, the Soviets have opened a new phase in the strategy of confrontation with the West.

Already on Aug. 16, in the Soviet magazine *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, the analyst Fyodor Burlatskii warned that the Soviet Union considered a *casus belli* the fact that the United States was prepared to develop a laser and particle-beam anti-missile defense system.

With this willful act of murder, the Kremlin leadership wanted to show that they are not simply bluffing.

I call on President Ronald Reagan and on the European heads of state to show, in this crucial moment, the firmness necessary. Nothing less than a crash program for the development of the new ABM systems can bring the Soviets back to reason.

France: military specialist

Jean Brocard, parliamentarian from Annecy-le-Vieux (Haute Savoie), and a member of the National Assembly's defense committee, made the following statement to EIR on Sept. 8. Jean Brocard has been Controleur General des Armées since 1967 and has been Commissaire de la Marine (1942-56), Controleur de l'Administration de l'Aeronautique (1957-63), financial adviser to the French ambassador to NATO (1963-67), Controleur of the Army Reserve (1971), elected deputy for Haute-Savoie (1968), president of the Association Nationale du Groupe des Republicains Independants (1974), vice-president of the Association Nationale (1976-81), and president of the Rhône-Alpes Regional Council since 1981.

I condemn this act from two standpoints. Morally, the destruction of the Boeing is an act of international piracy: I condemn the Soviet Union. As for sanctions, other than expressing universal disapproval, I don't see their usefulness. I would rather see a military strengthening in the United States and Europe, a show of force towards the Soviets.

Economic sanctions are useless. The boycott decided upon by the pilots' associations is a good decision. But we must respond militarily, and beam weapons, in particular, represent an effective means toward which we should advance.

Japan: defense policy expert

Makoto Mamoi, formerly the dean of defense studies at Japan's National Defense College, has endorsed President Reagan's proposal for defensive beam weapons in an exclusive interview with EIR. This is the first time any senior Japanese personage has made a public statement endorsing the Reagan strategy. The Japanese government has not made public its view. The interview took place during the Sept. 2-4 closed-door Shimoda conference among U.S. and Japanese policymakers in Virginia. Excerpts from the interview:

EIR: What is your response to Reagan's March 23 proposal for defensive beam weapons?

Momoi: In terms of concept, the Russians have been putting emphasis on strategic defense, anti-missile capabilities, etc., for many years. But also technologically, it was the Russians who started to spread rumors that they were developing charged beam particles and so on. But the U.S. congress and Pentagon under Carter denied this, and denied the contentions by Gen. George Keegan.

The United States is always late on this kind of thing. I suspect that the U.S. has pride in its technology and thinks, "Oh, the Russians cannot do it." Then they find out that it [the Soviet achievement] is true.

Now the United States is putting emphasis on defense and lasers. This is good. But don't underestimate the Soviet technology.

EIR: Mr. Reagan proposed changing the strategic concept from MAD to a defensive orientation. Do you think that is better?

Momoi: I think it's good, particularly from the standpoint of reassuring the allies. It's very reassuring for us to learn the United States is not trigger-happy, and has a defensive orientation. One fear that has existed in Japan and Europe is that a nuclear war might occur between the superpowers, but it would be theatre nuclear war, fought in Japan and Europe, with the Russians and Americans affected less. This kind of fear is eased with the emphasis on defensive weapons.

EIR: But I have heard no comment from the Japanese government.

Momoi: No. We are discussing it inside. Perhaps what I'm telling you is the first time it's been disclosed. Of course, now I'm out of government, so I can speak.

EIR: Is your position a minority or a consensus, regarding beam weapons?

Momoi: I think it's a majority opinion among enlightened people. Amateurs say it's "Star Wars"—maybe the United States is bluffing." In the absence of detailed analysis this idea has been ridiculed.

EIR: Do you think Soviets might agree to joint or parallel development? . . .

Momoi: That's a good question. If you look back at the history of arms controls proposal, the Russian tactic has been: if they are ahead, they say nothing. If they see the U.S. catching up, then they say let's have agreement to force Americans not to move too quickly.

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